

re STRUCTURE OF WORKING COMMITTEE OF A.C.W.

(Ref. National Committee Meeting 1979 Minutes P.5 Par.2)

Following are three possible structures and some possible advantages and disadvantages of each.

STRUCTURE No.1

As at present, with entire committee changing from State to State every two years, moving to the State which is to host the next National Committee Meeting. In this structure the Working Committee is responsible for Administration, Fellowship of the Least Coin, Winifred Keik Scholarship, "Women at Work", Special Days, anything to do with ACWC, arranging National Committee meetings, and any other matters that arise.

Advantages: There is no doubt that the State (or responsible persons within the State) gain a knowledge of and interest in the whole work of ACW far greater than would occur if they did not have to do all the work necessary for the two years. There is merit in members of each State sharing this responsibility, and privilege.

Disadvantages: a. As has been agreed in former years, a good deal of the two years is spent in getting to "know the ropes", as it seems that much information and experience gained during each biennium is not passed on with the files etc. Every two years a new and possibly inexperienced committee undertakes this ever increasing administrative responsibility.

b. Most States must find, and certainly the smaller ones do, that it is extremely difficult to get together a sufficient number of dedicated women (with adequate facilities with which to work) to carry out, completely satisfactorily, the work of all the committees, viz. Executive, FLC, WKS, Special Days, "Women at Work", not to mention other possible areas of service, such as promotion at a national level, aid to migrant women, a great variety of social concerns - such as those referred from the NCM in Perth in 1977. At that same meeting ^{Fran. Bailey} shared with us something of her great concern for the women of Burma. We believe these and many other areas need more attention and coordination than at present.

STRUCTURE No. 2

Each State could be responsible for one area of service permanently, or for a number of years, - E.G. State No.1 - Executive (administration) requiring a chairman, national secretary, national treasurer. This committee would be located permanently in one State (or until such time as members felt it desirable for a change). State No.2 - say FLC - all work concerned with this project would be carried out by a committee permanently in one State and channelled through FLC State conveners. Similarly with other States and other committees - WKS, Special Days, "Women at Work", etc. It may be found desirable for all committees to come up for review each quadrennium (ie whilst working under the present system of biennial NCMs).

An alternative to this system could be for administration to remain in one State, but project committees to rotate between States.

If this Structure was adopted, the National Committee Meetings could still be held biennially in different States with the National President resident in the State which would next host the NCM. This State would also need to have a local 'Arrangements Committee' for the purpose of arranging everything to do with the NCM.

Advantages: As each State undertakes the work of its particular committee, it would achieve certain expertise in handling various aspects of its responsibilities - invaluable expertise, and, as time went on, would thus be able to disseminate news etc. much more effectively to the States, and achieve more in the way of promotion.

A further advantage would be that a greater number of women across Australia would be involved and contributing according to their particular abilities.

Disadvantages: The opposite of the Advantage in Structure No.1 - i.e. that, by not sharing the whole work around the States (and under the present Structure each State has a 'turn' only every 10 or more years!), fewer women have the privilege and experience of sharing in the responsibility and work involved in all programmes and projects.

(NOTE - The Federal Conference of Churches of Christ have used this or a similar structure for many years, seemingly satisfactorily)

STRUCTURE No. 3

That the Committee, with all its sub-committees (or departments) be located permanently (or for a number of years) in one State. In this case, biennial NCMs could still be held in other States, if required, with a local arrangements committee, as suggested under Structure No. 2.

An Advantage of this structure would be that the State responsible would certainly achieve expertise in all areas of work.

Disadvantage: Obviously, that other States would have no part to play at a National level and could, in time, lose interest as a result.

There are possibly other structures and other advantages and disadvantages to the ones^w have listed.

This paper is submitted for consideration and comment by State Units. The Committee would be pleased to receive replies as soon as possible so that the matter may be further considered at its meeting on 11th February 1981.

Dorothy Hartam
(for Working Committee
Australian Church Women)

10th September, 1980.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EXECUTIVE</u>	<u>W. at W.</u>	<u>Spec. Days</u>	<u>F.L.C.</u>	<u>W.K.S.</u>
1981	VIC	VIC	VIC	VIC	VIC
1982	VIC	VIC	VIC	VIC	VIC
1983	VIC	VIC	VIC	W.A.	Qld
1984	VIC	VIC	VIC	W.A.	Qld.
1985	Qld	Qld	Qld	N.T.	S.A.
1986	Qld	Qld	Qld	N.T.	S.A.
1987	Qld	Qld	Qld	N.T.	S.A.
1988	Qld	Qld	Qld	N.T.	S.A.
1989	S.A.	S.A.	S.A.	A.C.T.	W.A.
1990	S.A.	S.A.	S.A.	A.C.T.	W.A.
1991	S.A.	S.A.	S.A.	A.C.T.	W.A.
1992	S.A.	S.A.	S.A.	A.C.T.	W.A.
1993	W.A.	W.A.	W.A.	TAS	NSW
1994	W.A.	W.A.	W.A.	TAS	NSW
1995	W.A.	W.A.	W.A.	TAS	NSW
1996	W.A.	W.A.	W.A.	TAS	NSW
1997	NSW	NSW	NSW	VIC	N.T.
1998	NSW	NSW	NSW	VIC	N.T.
1999	NSW	NSW	NSW	VIC	N.T.
2000	NSW	NSW	NSW	VIC	N.T.
2001	N.T./A.C.T.	N.T./A.C.T.	N.T./A.C.T.	S.A.	TAS
2002	N.T./A.C.T.	N.T./A.C.T.	N.T./A.C.T.	S.A.	TAS
2003	N.T./A.C.T.	N.T./A.C.T.	N.T./A.C.T.	S.A.	TAS
2004	N.T./A.C.T.	N.T./A.C.T.	N.T./A.C.T.	S.A.	TAS
2005	TAS	TAS	TAS	Qld	VIC
2006	TAS	TAS	TAS	Qld	VIC
2007	TAS	TAS	TAS	Qld	VIC
2008	TAS	TAS	TAS	Qld	VIC

We refer you to the pink pages "THE STRUCTURE AND COMPOSITION OF THE WORKING COMMITTEE" page No.2 Northern Territory.

The above list is a possible practical application of the Northern Territory's proposal, for your information only.