



A MESSAGE

FROM THE 2011 GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE
The Group Conscience of our Australian Fellowship.

The 2011 General Service Conference affirms that:

- 1) It appreciates that all AA members share a great passion for our Fellowship.
- 2) It has a duty to support all members and Groups across Australia. It operates according to a body of principles and relationships by which AA can function as a whole. This may require it to express a view on vital AA policy matters or on any hazardous deviation from AA Traditions.
- 3) AA Groups are autonomous and the primary source of authority for the Fellowship. Accordingly, Groups can decide to which AA service entity they donate member contributions.
- 4) It is the guardian of AA world services for Australia and accepts its custodianship of the Twelve Steps and the Twelve Traditions and its obligation to assist in carrying the message in Asia and Oceania.
- 5) Separate General Service and Central Service structures are essential to carry the message in Australia.
- 6) The most effective way to carry out the function of Conference is through a single National Office.
- 7) The General Service Board is empowered to act on its own responsibility, within the provisions of its own charter and by-laws.
- 8) Carrying the AA message in Australia is substantially funded from profits made from the sale of AA literature. This requires the General Service Board to hold the Australian copyright, protect AA trademarks, approve, publish and supply AA literature to members and the public.
- 9) The existing AA public liability insurance continues to protect group office bearers against being sued in the event that damage occurs at a meeting. A single national public liability policy reduces the risk of that insurance cover becoming the subject of dispute.
- 10) It understands that Conference is not a seat of power, but needs to act in the best interests of all members attending the 1,938 AA meetings listed on the AA website.
- 11) Any issue that significantly affects the Australian Fellowship must in future receive at least a two-thirds majority vote at Conference, and
- 12) It will do everything possible to avoid any punitive action on members or create public controversy.

Conference is issuing this statement so that all members can share in the principles of recovery, unity and service that Conference embodies. This message summarises Conference's commitment to the long term health of our Fellowship.

Related Links:

Twelve Steps: <http://www.aa.org.au/members/twelve-steps.php>
Twelve Traditions: <http://www.aa.org.au/members/twelve-traditions.php>
Twelve Concepts: <http://www.aa.org.au/members/twelve-concepts.php>