

d. Guide in the development and maintenance of a comprehensive long-range master plan for the Seventh-day Adventist education program which shall be subject to regular updating and revision.

e. Communicate to the appropriate parties the actions of the Board.

f. Make an annual report to the Board and issue such other reports as the Board shall request or as may be required from time to time.

6. *Board Minutes*—Copies of the minutes of this Board shall be sent to all members. A copy of the minutes of each of the division boards of education shall be filed with this Board.

7. *Finances*—All appropriations and other moneys available to the Board shall be used for the objectives and purposes for which appropriated, subject to any terms, restrictions, limitations, or other requirements imposed. These funds shall be allocated by the Board.

8. *Right of Appeal*—Any action of the Board involving a specific institution or unit may be appealed by the same in writing within 120 days of notification of such action. Such an appeal may be supported by a representation of no more than three persons before a meeting of the Board. The Board/Executive Committee in closed session shall then render its decision. In extreme and far-reaching decisions, further appeal may be made to the General Conference Executive Committee.

9. *Changes and Amendments*—Any changes or amendments to the organization or working policies of the Board shall have a two-thirds vote of the members present at any duly called meeting. A vote to change or amend shall then be sent to the General Conference Administrative Committee for confirmation at a General Conference Annual Council.

FE 20 20 International Board of Ministerial and Theological Education—1. *Purpose*—The International Board of Ministerial and Theological Education (GCC-B) works in cooperation with the world divisions in providing overall guidance and standards to the professional training that Church-supported institutions offer to pastors, evangelists, theologians, teachers of Bible and religion, chaplains, and other denominational employees involved in ministerial and religious formation. Utilizing existing interconnected institutional boards, policies, standards, and procedures, the board seeks to achieve the following objectives in relation to graduate, undergraduate, and other types of ministerial and theological education:

- a. Foster a dynamic theological unity in the world Church.
- b. Sharpen the focus on Seventh-day Adventist message and mission.
- c. Support the spiritual and professional development of faculty involved in ministerial programs.
- d. Promote professional excellence in ministerial training and practice.
- e. Nurture strong collaboration between church leaders, educational institutions, and faculty engaged in the training of ministry.
- f. Energize the spiritual life of Seventh-day Adventist educational institutions through committed faculty.

2. *Composition of the Board*—a. The members of the International Board of Ministerial and Theological Education shall be designated by the first Annual Council following each regular General Conference Session. The Annual Council Nominating Committee, in counsel with administration, the General Conference Department of Education, and the Ministerial Association, shall nominate the membership of this board.

b. The International Board of Ministerial and Theological Education shall be composed of the following members, at least six of whom shall be women:

- *GC President or designee, Chair
- *GC Vice President (advisor for education), Vice-chair
- *GC Vice President (advisor for Ministerial Association),
Vice-chair
- *GC Department of Education Director, Secretary
- *GC Ministerial Association Secretary, Associate Secretary
- *GC Secretary
- *GC Treasurer
- *GC Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries Director
- *GC Biblical Research Institute Director
- Division Presidents
- *GC Department of Education Associate Director
- *GC Ministerial Association Associate Secretary
- Two chairmen of undergraduate programs in ministerial and religious formation

*See paragraph 4. for composition of Executive Committee.

Presidents/Deans of seminaries and universities offering denominationally recognized doctoral programs in ministerial formation

Two deans of graduate programs in ministerial and religious formation

Four faculty from institutions offering programs in ministerial and religious formation

Six individuals experienced and active in ministerial formation (pastors, chaplains, Bible instructors, etc)

Up to four additional members, as selected by the board

c. Board members shall hold office for five years

d. Vacancies on the board shall be filled by the board for the unexpired term.

e. Each world division shall designate one consultant to the board who will attend meetings as authorized by the employing organization.

3. *Meetings*—The board shall hold regularly scheduled meetings at least once each year. A quorum shall consist of one-third of the regular membership.

4. *Executive Committee*—The executive committee of the board shall consist of the members marked with an asterisk under paragraph 2. above, plus up to nine members selected by the board. The executive committee shall meet as necessary between the sessions of the board and shall operate within the powers designated to it by the board. A quorum shall consist of one-third of the members.

5. *Duties of the Board*—a. To establish the general goals and objectives for Seventh-day Adventist undergraduate and graduate education for pastors, evangelists, theologians, teachers of Bible and religion, chaplains, and other denominational employees involved in ministerial and religious formation in the world field.

b. To establish a basic series of subject areas and requisite content as well as to develop guidelines and core standards for faculty selection and student entry into programs that will meet the needs of the field and foster the mission of the Church through undergraduate and graduate programs for denominational employees involved in ministerial and religious formation.

c. To provide guidelines to be used by the division boards of Ministerial and Theological Education to endorse faculty, including the

design of the faculty application procedure for denominational endorsement.

d. To arrange for surveys and to grant recognition to new programs designed to prepare denominational employees involved in ministerial and religious formation, as recommended by the respective division Board of Ministerial and Theological Education, and then to recommend the new programs to the Accrediting Association of Seventh-day Adventist Schools, Colleges, and Universities.

e. To facilitate the exchange of endorsed faculty from among the recognized programs offered in the world divisions.

f. To affirm the faculty authorized to teach in these programs at General Conference educational institutions through the process of denominational endorsement voted by this board. This endorsement may be valid for up to five years, as long as the faculty member is teaching in the program for which he/she was endorsed, and may be renewed.

g. To recommend to the Accrediting Association of Seventh-day Adventist Schools, Colleges, and Universities the criteria for the accreditation of seminaries, schools, and departments offering undergraduate and graduate programs designed to prepare denominational employees involved in ministerial and religious formation, and to cooperate with the Association in conducting accreditation visits.

6. *Accreditation*—Seminaries, schools, and departments offering undergraduate and graduate programs for denominational employees involved in ministerial and religious formation shall follow the process of accreditation outlined by the Accrediting Association of Seventh-day Adventist Schools, Colleges, and Universities.

7. *Handbook*—The goals, objectives, standards, criteria, and procedures relating to the duties of this board are included in the *Handbook of Seventh-day Adventist Ministerial and Theological Education*.

8. *The Secretary*—Subject to the approval of the board, the secretary shall perform the following executive responsibilities:

- a. Administer all policies and activities prescribed by the board.
- b. Record and have custody of the official minutes.
- c. Communicate to the appropriate parties the actions of the board.

d. Advise in the development and maintenance of a comprehensive master plan for institutions and programs designed to

prepare denominational employees involved in ministerial and religious formation.

9. *The Associate Secretary*—Subject to the approval of the board and in consultation with the Secretary, the Associate Secretary shall assist him/her in the fulfillment of his/her duties.

10. *Staff of the Board*—The elected members of the General Conference Department of Education and of the Ministerial Association shall serve as the staff of the board.

11. *Right of Appeal*—Any action of the board involving a specific institution or program may be appealed by the same in writing, through the respective division Board of Ministerial and Theological Education, within 120 days of notification of such action. Such an appeal may be supported by a representation of no more than three persons before a meeting of the board. The board, in closed session, shall then render its decision. In extreme and far-reaching cases, further appeal may be made to the General Conference Executive Committee.

12. *Changes and Amendments*—Any changes or amendments to the organization or policies of the board shall have a two-thirds majority vote of all the members present at any duly called meeting. A vote to change or amend shall then be sent to the General Conference Administrative Committee prior to confirmation at an Annual Council.

FE 20 25 Division Boards of Ministerial and Theological Education—1. *Purpose*—The division boards of Ministerial and Theological Education provide, within their respective territories, oversight, supervision, guidance, and coordination to the preparation that Church supported institutions offer to pastors, evangelists, theologians, teachers of Bible and religion, chaplains, and other denominational employees involved in ministerial and religious formation. Working in cooperation with the International Board of Ministerial and Theological Education and educational institutions through interconnected boards, policies, standards, and procedures, these boards seek to achieve the following objectives in relation to graduate, undergraduate, and other types of ministerial and theological education:

- a. Foster a dynamic theological unity in the world Church.
- b. Sharpen the focus on Seventh-day Adventist message and mission.
- c. Support the spiritual and professional development of faculty involved in ministerial programs.