[Title] —— Amendment to Deputies Duties 2023

[Meeting] – GBC Annual General Meeting (passed on February 10, 2023)
[Category] – Statement

Whereas the Deputies for decades have given the GBC valuable service in reviewing proposals before they are presented to the GBC;

Whereas the GBC resolution “Deputies Appointment Procedures — 2005” defines the responsibilities of the GBC Deputies Committee as:

> *All Deputies should attend the annual GBC Meetings in Sridham Mayapur and assist the GBC Body in its deliberations. This shall include:*
>
> *Meeting as a separate body to consider various proposals or topics referred to it by the GBC Executive Committee, as well as proposals from amongst its own members, and to prepare draft legislation for consideration and voting by the GBC Body; and*
>
> *Participating in various subcommittees and/or attending to other duties as assigned by the Executive Committee.*
>
> *All Deputies should, where possible, make themselves available to assist the GBC Executive Committee and Secretariat during the year in communicating with any ISKCON managers that an individual Deputy may be in contact with.*

Whereas the Deputies have saved the GBC time by reviewing proposals sent to the GBC;

Whereas the GBC Deputies Committee has proven effective in assisting the GBC to craft relevant legislation address the needs of ISKCON;

Whereas proposals from different Ministries, Committees and Offices should be treated equally, except for exceptional circumstances;

Whereas the GBC passed the following resolution in 2021:

> *1. That All proposals submitted to the GBC will be processed using GEM except where the GBC EC decides a different methodology is required.*
>
> *2. All proposals shall be lodged via the Proposals conference and processed by the Deputies.*

3. When the GBC Executive Committee decides that a proposal warrants bypassing the Deputies, due to considerations such as confidentiality or it being an emergency, etc, the proposal will be sent directly to the GBC First Review level on GEM.

Therefore, it is resolved that:

The resolution defining the responsibilities of the GBC Deputies Committee be amended to:

All Deputies should attend the annual GBC Meetings in Sridham Mayapur and assist the GBC Body in its deliberations. This shall include:

1. All proposals submitted to the GBC must first go through the Deputies for their review; exceptions to this rule may be made by a unanimous vote of the GBC EC or a majority vote of the GBC body for individual proposals.

2. The GBC Deputies Committee may also consider additional topics referred to it by the GBC Executive Committee, as well as proposals from amongst its own members, and to prepare draft legislation from these deliberations for consideration and voting by the GBC Body; and

3. Participating in various subcommittees and/or attending to other duties as assigned by the Executive Committee.

4. All Deputies should, where possible, make themselves available to assist the GBC Executive Committee and Secretariat during the year in communicating with any ISKCON managers that an individual Deputy may be in contact with.

[Title] —— Informed Decision-making by GBC Members is a Solemn Duty

[Meeting] – GBC Annual General Meeting (passed on February 11, 2023)
[Category] – Rule of Order

Whereas nearly every resolution passed by the GBC Body has potentially significant ramifications on ISKCON and its devotees;

Whereas it is the solemn duty of the GBC Body as a whole and of each GBC member individually to make informed decisions when voting on proposed resolutions;

Whereas each GBC member is expected to assimilate relevant and often vital information contained in submitted documents, oral presentations, and deliberations prior to voting;

Whereas, relevant and often vital documents are frequently not provided to GBC members sufficiently in advance of GBC meetings thereby impairing the ability of GBC members to attentively read and absorb the documentation in a timely fashion;

Therefore, it is resolved that:

1. Sufficient time in advance of each online GBC meeting, but in no case less than 10 (ten) days, shall be allocated by the GBC Executive Committee to enable GBC members and Ministers to read and assimilate all documentation, in excess of (10) ten pages, provided for that meeting;

2. Prior to any presentation, discussion or deliberation regarding any agenda item, each GBC member shall certify to the GBC Body by means of a “polling sheet” whether he or she has read and assimilated the attached documents pertaining to that agenda item;

3. Only members who have certified on the "polling sheet" that they have read and assimilated the attached documents will be allowed to vote on the matter.

4. If the number of GBC members making said certification to the GBC Body is less than the number required to constitute a quorum, then such agenda item shall not be taken up at that meeting but shall be postponed to the next meeting of the GBC Body at which time the certification process set forth above shall again be required.

5. If the GBC Body votes by a two-thirds supermajority that an agenda item is urgent, the requirements of this resolution may be waived, except for the requirement set forth in Section 2 above.

[Title] —— Formation and Recognition of the North American Governing Body

[Meeting] – GBC Annual General Meeting (passed on February 11, 2023)
[Category] – Administrative Order

Whereas the GBC body has encouraged the establishment of continental committees (GBC Resolution 404/2002. Regional and Continental Governing Bodies)

Whereas North America has been designated as a ’Region’ with 5 ’Zones’ encompassing the United States and Canada

Whereas the North American GBC members and other leaders have been functioning as a continental governance group prior to the 2002 resolution but have not formally applied for recognition as an RGB

Whereas the NAC has been working on a framework for the past 12 months, including soliciting and receiving feedback from GBC members active in North America, legal counsel, senior leaders, and temple presidents

Therefore, it is resolved that:

The GBC accept the application of the NAC, including the accompanying Rules and Regulations, to form the officially recognized North American Regional Governing Body.