AUC Staff
AUC Executive Committee
Conference & Division Presidents, Secretaries and CFO's
Conference Aged Care CEO's
Conference Education Directors
CSR Church Governance Reference Group
CSR Aged Care Reference Group
CSR Schools Reference Group
CSR Consultative Forum
Conference Departmental Directors
National Education Council
School Principals

3 September 2020

Church Structure Review Update

The Church Structure Review process is looking at various model structures for the church in Australia, and investigating ways it can adapt how it currently operates to better use both human and financial resources for mission and in support of local churches. Last week the 1:4:1:1 model was presented, this week the 1:1:1 model will be explained.

The 1:1:1 model is one union of churches conference, one school system and one aged care system (See figure 1). The term *union of churches conference* is given to this particular type of model by the General Conference. The union of churches conference is not an amalgamation of the union and conferences as we currently know them, rather the current union and conferences would cease to exist and a completely new entity would be created. This new entity is something that has never been seen in Australia, but it can be found in various regions around the world. As of December 31, 2018, there were a total of 11 Union of Churches Conferences around the world. Here is a breakdown of how many types of unions and conferences/missions there are in the Seventh-day Adventist world-wide church.

Seventh-day
Adventist Church
Australia

Australian Union Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church
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Divisions	13
Union Conferences	63
Union Missions	58
Union of Churches Conferences	11
Union of Churches Missions	5
Local Conferences	405
Local Missions	293

Summary of Statistics as of December 31, 2018

The union of churches conference would primarily focus on enhancing the resourcing of local churches in all areas. The essential premise would be to consolidate the focus on effectively distributing resources for ministry and mission across the country while keeping a very clear focus on compliance and risk, as well as corporate governance for all of Australia. This model shows a flattened structure, having one administration team, which would be represented in a distributed manner through a few dedicated 'professional services hubs' at various locations around the country. This would mean that there would be less duplication which in turn increases efficiency, allowing extra resources to be placed in local churches and in opening new areas of mission around the country both demographically and geographically, in country and urban areas.

Since Australia is so large geographically, local districts and areas would be created to assist with ensuring local oversight, knowledge and representation as well as ensuring the distribution of resources and support to local churches. We will be explaining more on local districts and areas in upcoming weeks.

The 1:1:1 model proposes a single school system and a single aged care system, allowing for unity and efficiency in these ministries. Managers of these systems, such as school principals, aged care site mangers and ADRA project managers will be aligned with the local districts in which they are located, allowing these ministries to be connected and aligned for mission so that they can thrive and be as effective as they can.

The motivation of the Church Structure Review is to increase the churches focus on mission and ministry, minimising repetition to ensure that more resources are reaching those that need it in order to spread the Gospel. Figure 2 shows how simplified the 1:1:1 model is when compared to the current church structure which was presented a few weeks ago.

Again, we would invite you to join our Facebook page and use it to discuss this model. Please continue to pray for this process and pray that as a church in Australia we can be a blessing to those around us.
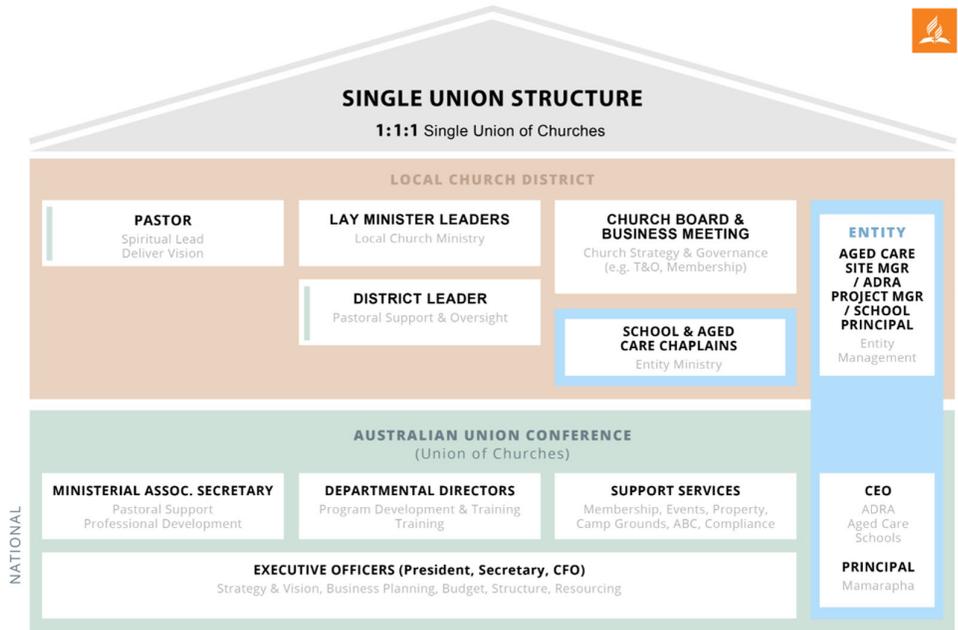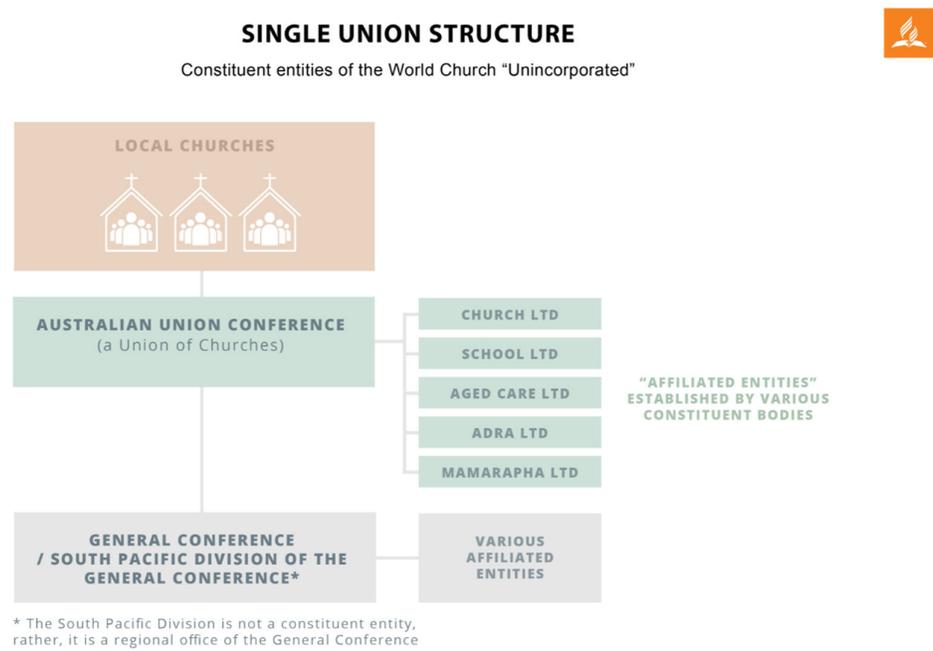
SINGLE UNION STRUCTURE

1:1:1 Single Union of Churches

LOCAL CHURCH DISTRICT

PASTOR
Spiritual Lead
Deliver Vision

LAY MINISTER LEADERS
Local Church Ministry

CHURCH BOARD & BUSINESS MEETING
Church Strategy & Governance
(e.g. T&O, Membership)

ENTITY
AGED CARE SITE MGR / ADRA PROJECT MGR / SCHOOL PRINCIPAL
Entity Management

DISTRICT LEADER
Pastoral Support & Oversight

SCHOOL & AGED CARE CHAPLAINS
Entity Ministry

AUSTRALIAN UNION CONFERENCE
(Union of Churches)

NATIONAL

MINISTERIAL ASSOC. SECRETARY
Pastoral Support
Professional Development

DEPARTMENTAL DIRECTORS
Program Development & Training
Training

SUPPORT SERVICES
Membership, Events, Property,
Camp Grounds, ABC, Compliance

CEO
ADRA
Aged Care
Schools

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS (President, Secretary, CFO)
Strategy & Vision, Business Planning, Budget, Structure, Resourcing

PRINCIPAL
Mamarapha

Figure 1

SINGLE UNION STRUCTURE

Constituent entities of the World Church "Unincorporated"

LOCAL CHURCHES

AUSTRALIAN UNION CONFERENCE
(a Union of Churches)

CHURCH LTD

SCHOOL LTD

AGED CARE LTD

ADRA LTD

MAMARAPHA LTD

**"AFFILIATED ENTITIES"
ESTABLISHED BY VARIOUS
CONSTITUENT BODIES**

**GENERAL CONFERENCE
/ SOUTH PACIFIC DIVISION OF THE
GENERAL CONFERENCE***

VARIOUS
AFFILIATED
ENTITIES

* The South Pacific Division is not a constituent entity,
rather, it is a regional office of the General Conference

Figure 2

Warm Regards from the Church Structure Review Team

Jorge, Michael, Peter, Cat and Tim