

Knowledge Based Decision Making, An Informed Group Conscience

Our founders taught us how to reason things out with one another, and encouraged us all to have an informed group conscience before decisions were made. Using the knowledge and understanding gained from the World Service Conference, here is a Knowledge Based Decision Making format to assist us all in the introduction of a topic for a discussion.

The Process:

- The presenter(s) complete the form, answering the applicable questions.
- Copies are made and distributed allowing all to review and reference.
- Topic is presented at the meeting.
- The Chair opens the floor for dialogue before deliberation.
- Information may be added to an incomplete form.
- Questions are asked. (Sentences begin with words such as “who, what, when, where, why?”)

Presentation may lead to a Motion:

- Motion is written and read
- Voices are heard (One time at the microphone, 2 minute limit, if your opinion has been stated, do not repeat.)
- Discussion is closed.
- Motion is reread and vote is taken

The Outcome:

- Everyone will have all available information needed to make an informed decision.
- Newcomers to a decision-making-body have the advantage of the background information.
- Receiving the information before the dialogue gives members time to digest and process.
- Access to the background information gives members the opportunity to understand the decision and participate in the discussion.
- Related issues come up before a decision is made.
- Decisions are not based on reactions, opinions or emotions. This is proactive, not reactive.
- The focus is on the dialogue of the topic rather than on the structure or wording of the motion or proper parliamentary procedure.
- The suggestion itself is more important than who made the suggestion.
- Trusted servants are not asked to make uninformed decisions.
- Trusted servants will be able to communicate and articulate the decisions made.