

WELCOME!

Nurture and Retention Summit
Discipling, Retaining, Reclaiming



**2013 Nurture & Retention
Summit
Recommendations**

1. The GC to have a dedicated Associate Secretary whose responsibilities are to monitor implementation of the global church strategic plan in general and in particular to monitor progress in the area of nurture, retention, discipleship and reclamation; this Assoc. Secretary to be secretary of the GC Nurture & Retention Committee.

This recommendation has been partially implemented

2. Each division and union to have a designated N&R coordinator and an N&R committee chaired by one of the officers and including the following departmental directors: Children's Ministries, Education, Family Ministries, Ministerial, Sabbath School & Personal Ministries, Women's Ministries and Youth Ministries.

Effectively *four* recommendations

2a. Each division to have a designated
Nurture & Retention coordinator

Successfully implemented

2b. Each division to have a Nurture & Retention Committee chaired by one of the officers and with departmental representation

Uncertain: probably only partially implemented

2c. Each union to have a designated Nurture & Retention coordinator

No data: anecdotally this has been implemented by a few unions, but it mostly remains unimplemented

2d. Each union to have a Nurture & Retention Committee

No data: it's possible this has not been
implemented by *any* union;
certainly by very few

3. Each division to have an overall plan to improve the audited membership retention rate by x percent, the percentage to be selected by each division and then communicated to the General Conference.

No data: possibly not implemented by any division

4. Each division and union to have and implement an active discipleship plan, along the lines of the “Growing Fruitful Disciples” model.

Adopted as a KPI of the Reach the World 2015–2020 plan

Unachieved.

At division level, implementation uncertain;
there *has* been limited implementation
at union level, but no data are available

5. General Conference Departments, in collaboration with one another and consultation with division leaders, to create materials that meet expressed needs in the areas of nurture, retention and discipling, avoiding multiplicity of initiatives and approaches.

*Adopted as a KPI of the Reach
the World 2015–2020 plan*
No data on implementation

6. Each division to hold conferences on nurture, retention and discipling: one involving administrators and academics (along the lines of the global summit), then further conferences sharing data and good practice with pastors and elders.

Adopted as a KPI of the Reach the World 2015–2020 plan

Some progress towards implementation: IAD, NSD, SSD, and
TED held division-wide conferences—NSD annually;
unions in IAD and TED (and perhaps elsewhere)
Have held conferences for pastors

7. Comprehensive, widespread and practical training in conflict resolution and reconciliation to be implemented throughout the worldwide Church.

Adopted as a KPI of the Reach the World 2015–2020 plan

No data on implementation;
anecdotally: very few unions;
possibly *none*

8. Approved membership software to be used in all fields to improve records of local church membership.

*Adopted as a KPI of the Reach the World 2015–2020 plan—
but as “Widespread adoption of membership software”*

**KPI achieved.
Summit recommendation not yet achieved,
but implementation taking place, gradually,
throughout world field**

9. Specific training in nurture, retention and discipling to be part of all ministerial and theological education programs.

No data; implemented by a few colleges on an ad hoc basis

10. A new section to be added to the Church Manual on discipleship at the local church level (and the Minister's Manual and Elder's Handbook subsequently to be amended appropriately).

Successfully implemented!
(Voted at 2015 GC Session)

Conclusions

Whatever recommendations are made by the 2019 Summit, they should **include a reporting mechanism**, since for many of the recommendations/goals, little or no data are available on implementation; but this reflects the fact that no reporting mechanism or responsibility was established.