

Appeal to General Conference 2025

Platform

Encouraging

Autonomy,

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SDAPearl@yahoo.com



Appeal A:

2015 Immunisation Statement

The single union, three conferences and 100 churches from 14 countries listed in this appeal express grave concern with the false claim, that “peer-reviewed scientific literature” is a basis of the Adventist health emphasis, found in the Official Statement on Immunisation published April 2015.

We hereby move to add to the agenda a request for delegates to consider the GC ADCOM 2015 statement encouraging immunisation, specifically this claim that the Adventist health emphasis is based on peer-reviewed scientific literature in addition to the Bible and the writings of EGW. This claim is contrary to the fundamental beliefs, for the following reasons: the Adventist health emphasis is a matter of fundamental belief (belief 22), the introduction to the fundamental beliefs state “Seventh-day Adventists accept the Bible as their only creed...” and therefore only the Bible (belief 1) and the writings of EGW (belief 18) are acknowledged as basis for SDA beliefs.

To elaborate on this matter, here follows a written statement:

Whereas the GC ADCOM Official Statement of 15 April 2015 which encourages immunisation, makes a claim: *“The Seventh-day Adventist Church places strong emphasis on health and well-being. The Adventist health emphasis is based on biblical revelation, the inspired writing of E.G. White (cofounder of the Church), and on peer-reviewed scientific literature.”*

Whereas the “Adventist health emphasis” is a matter of fundamental belief (FB), contained in FB22: *“... our bodies are the temples of the Holy Spirit, ... we are to adopt the most healthful diet possible and abstain from the unclean foods identified in the Scriptures.”*

Whereas ‘science’ is not mentioned as a basis for FB22 (or any other belief), if it were, it would violate the Introduction to the Fundamental Beliefs which states that: *“Seventh-day Adventists accept the Bible as their only creed and hold certain fundamental beliefs to be the teaching of the Holy Scriptures.”*

Whereas the only sources acknowledged by the FBs are: i) biblical revelation (FB1) and ii) the inspired writing of E.G. White (FB18). In contrast, “peer reviewed scientific literature” (PRSL) is an uninspired and fallible source, fraught with frequent change, contradiction and compromise.

Whereas testing the claim of the 2015 Immunization statement, namely that *“The Adventist health emphasis is based on ... on peer-reviewed scientific literature”*, against the FBs, it is found to be a false claim. Also noting that, should PRSL as a claimed source be removed from the statement, then there would be no surviving statement, since the encouragement

to immunise is based on PRSL alone. Therefore, remedial action is required to restore harmony between the statement and the FBs.

Thus, one of the following actions is to be resolved by the delegates of the GC Session:

A) The 2015 Immunisation statement should be withdrawn.

or

B) The “Adventist health emphasis” should be removed from the 22nd FB, specifically: “... *For the Spirit to recreate in us the character of our Lord we involve ourselves only in those things that will produce Christlike purity, health, and joy in our lives ... It also means that because our bodies are the temples of the Holy Spirit, we are to care for them intelligently. Along with adequate exercise and rest, we are to adopt the most healthful diet possible and abstain from the unclean foods identified in the Scriptures. Since alcoholic beverages, tobacco, and the irresponsible use of drugs and narcotics are harmful to our bodies, we are to abstain from them as well.*”

or

C) PRSL should be disclosed as a basis for FB22, and the Introduction to the FBs be restated as follows to acknowledge the inclusion of science as an additional basis for one or more of the FBs:

i. “Seventh-day Adventists accept the Bible [and peer-reviewed scientific literature] as their only creed and hold certain fundamental beliefs to be the teaching of the Holy Scriptures [and peer-reviewed scientific literature].”

or

ii. “Seventh-day Adventists accept the Bible as their only* creed and hold certain fundamental beliefs to be the teaching of the Holy Scriptures. [*Peer-reviewed scientific literature is accepted as an additional (be it standalone or supplementary) basis informing the belief on health]”

Appeal B:

Official Statements

It has been noted that the General Conference President, Executive Committee (EXCOM) and Administrative Committee (ADCOM) has produced 59 (to-date) so-called “Official Statements” (OS) claiming to have done so on behalf of the SDA church.

Whereas the SDA Church Manual 2022 edition (CM) on p30 states, *“Thus, Church organizations around the world recognize the General Conference in Session as the voice of the Church.”* [A]

The historic practice and precedent of publishing OS seems contrary to this sentence of the CM which reassures the church membership that the GC session is the exclusive voice of the church, speaking on behalf of the SDA church body.

Whereas the CM is silent on the existence and process governing the producing, publishing and ongoing maintenance of OS, leading to questions regarding the validity of process, the robustness in formulating, and the applicability of these statements.

Thus, I hereby move that the GC Session consider the mechanism of OS and resolve to:

1. Should the GC session delegates determine that [A] implies that the GC session **exclusively** constitutes the voice of the church, then all OS must be withdrawn.
2. Should the GC session delegates deem that OS should be accommodated, then [A] should be removed or updated accordingly, to acknowledge the existence of the secondary voices (Presidents, EXCOM, ADCOM), and the relevant sections be inserted into the CM to ensure sufficient governance to avoid OS that, contradict the Fundamental Beliefs, or are not germane to the vision, mission and message of the SDA Church.

Appeal C:

United Nations

It has been noted that the General Conference of the SDA Church has entered into Consultative Status with the United Nations (UN) Economic and Social Counsel (ECOSOC) since 1985.

Whereas this status is of questionable gain to the vision, mission and message of the SDA church, and detracts from the identity of the remnant church, especially considering the biblical counsel:

*2Co 6:14 **Be ye not unequally yoked** together **with unbelievers**: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? 2Co 6:15 And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? 2Co 6:16 And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 2Co 6:17 Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, 2Co 6:18 And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.*

I hereby move that the GC session delegates consider this status, whether to terminate it.

Number	Division	Country	Union		Congregation	Motion Result	Letter Received
1	SID	Namibia	SAU	Namibia South	Suiderhof	Passed	Yes
2	SID	South Africa	SAU	Northern South Africa	Eloffsdal	Passed	Yes
3	SPD	Australia	AUC	Tasmania	Burnie	Passed	Yes
4	SPD	Australia	AUC	Tasmania	Devonport	Passed	
5	SPD	Australia	AUC	Tasmania	Ulverstone	Passed	
6	SPD	Australia	AUC	NNSW	Wauchope	Passed	Yes
7	SPD	Australia	AUC	NNSW	Dora Creek	Passed	Yes
8	SPD	Australia	AUC	QLD	Gin Gin	Passed	
9	SPD	Australia	AUC	QLD	Childers	Passed	
10	SPD	Australia	AUC	NNSW	Boolaroo	Passed	Yes
11	SPD	Australia	AUC	NNSW	Newcastle Uni	Passed	Yes
12	SPD	Australia	AUC	QLD	Roma	Passed	Yes
13	SPD	Australia	AUC	Northern Australia	Mossman	Passed	Yes
14	SPD	Australia	AUC	Greater Sydney	Concord	Passed	Yes
15	SPD	Australia	AUC	NNSW	Kyogle	Passed	Yes
16	SPD	Australia	AUC	SNSW	Parkes, Orange, Cobar	Passed	
17	SPD	Australia	AUC	NNSW	Warner's Bay	Passed	
18	SPD	Australia	AUC	NNSW	Murwillimba	Passed	
19	SPD	Australia	AUC	NNSW	Avondale Memorial	Passed	
20	SPD	Australia	AUC	Greater Sydney	Guildford	Passed	Yes
21	SPD	Australia	AUC	NNSW	Camden Haven	Passed	Yes
22	SPD	Australia	AUC	NNSW	Grafton	Passed	
23	SPD	Australia	AUC	NNSW	Hamilton	Passed	Yes
24	NAD	United States of America	PUC	Northern California	Covelo	Passed	Yes
25	NAD	United States of America	NPU	Upper Columbia	Sandpoint	Passed	
26	NAD	United States of America			Newport	Passed	
27	SID	South Africa	SAU	Cape	Silverleaf	Passed	Yes
28	NAD	United States of America	CUC	Ohio	Bowling Green	Passed	Yes
29	NAD	United States of America	NPUC	Washington	Bonney Lake	Passed	

30	NAD	United States of America	SUC	Southern Central	New Covenant	Passed	
31	NAD	United States of America	PUC	Northern California	Red bluff	Passed	
32	SPD	Australia	AUC	SQLD	Gympie	Passed	
33	SPD	Australia	AUC	SNSW	Bega	Passed	
34	NAD	United States of America	SAU	Georgia Cumberland	Three Angels in Carnesville, GA	Passed	
35	NAD	United States of America	NPU	Upper Columbia	Stateline , Oregon	Passed	
36	SPD	Australia	AUC	SQLD	Thuringowa	Passed	Yes
37	NAD	Canada	SDACC		Calgary Central Seventh Day Adventist	Passed	Yes
38	NAD	Canada	SDACC	British Columbia	Enderby	Passed	
39	SPD	Australia	AUC	SNSW	Narromine	Passed	Yes
40	NAD	United States of America	NPUC	Idaho	Enterprise Oregon	Passed	
41	NAD	Canada	SDACC	British Columbia	Chilliwack	Passed	Yes
42	SPD	New Zealand	NZPUC	Northern New Zealand	Orewa	Passed	
43	NAD	Canada	SDACC	British Columbia	Williams Lake	Passed	
44	NAD	United States of America	SUC	Florida	North Naples	Passed	Yes
45	SPD	Australia	AUC	Northern Australia	Home Hill	Passed	
46	SPD	Australia	AUC	Northern Australia	Ayr	Passed	Yes
47	SPD	Australia	AUC	South Australia	Naracoorte Group	Passed	Yes
48	SPD	Australia	AUC	NNSW	Hillview	Passed	
49	NAD	United States of America	LUC	Michigan	Village	Passed	
50	SPD	Australia	AUC	Northern Australia	Edmonton	Passed	

51	NAD	United States of America	NPUC	Upper Columbia	Diamond Lake	Passed	
52	NAD	United States of America	SUC	Carolina	Mocksville	Passed	
53	NAD	United States of America	CUC	Potomac	Hampton Roads	Passed	Yes
54	NAD	United States of America	NPUC	Oregon	Yacolt	Passed	Yes
55	NAD	United States of America	CUC	Ohio	Blooming Grove	Passed	Yes
56	AUC	Australia	AUC	South Australia	Millicent	Passed	
57	NAD	United States of America	SUC	Gulf States	Lineville	Passed	Yes
58	SPD	New Zealand	NZPUC	North New Zealand	Papakura	Passed	Yes
59	NAD	Canada	SDACC	Alberta	Stettler	Passed	
60	EAD	Ethiopia	EEU	Central Ethiopia Field	Filwoha	Passed	
61	NAD	United States of America		Potomac	Stuart	Passed	
62	NAD	Canada	SDACC	Ontario	Madoc	Passed	Yes
63	SAIOD	South Africa	SAU	Kwa-Zulu Natal Free State	Pinetown	Passed	
64	NAD	United States of America	SWUC	Arkansas Louisiana	Benton	Passed	Yes
65	NAD	Canada	SDACC	British Columbia	Mount Hope	Passed	Yes
66	SID	South Africa	SAU	Cape	ZOAR GROUP - Ladismith (Western Cape)	Passed	Yes
67	NAD	United States of America		Oklahoma	Ardmore	Passed	Yes
68	NAD	United States of America	LUC	Michigan	Clare	Passed	Yes

69	SPD	Australia	AUC	Northern Australia	Mackay	Passed	
70	WCAD	Nigeria	ENU	Rivers west central	Odiokwu	Passed	
71	IED	Germany	SGU	Bavarian	Sendling ,	Passed	
72	SPD	Australia	AUC	Greater Sydney	Galston	Passed	Yes
73	SPD	Australia	AUC	NNSW	Coffs Harbour	Passed	Yes
74	SID	South Africa	SAU	Northern South Africa	Bloemhof:Die hoek gemeente	Passed	Yes
75	SAPD	Philippines	SPUC	Southern Mindanao Mission	Tupi Central	Passed	
76	NAD	United States of America	LUC	Indiana	Tell City , Tell City, Indiana	Passed	Yes
77	IAD	Costa Rica	CarrU	Caribbean Mission	Turrialba Central	Passed	Yes
78	NAD	United States of America	NPUC	Upper Columbia	Living Hope	Passed	Yes
79	NAD	United States of America	CUC	Ohio	Lancaster	Passed	Yes
80	NAD	United States of America	NPUC	Oregon	Rogue River	Passed	Yes
81	NAD	United States of America	LUC	Michigan	Tecumseh	Passed	Yes
82	NAD	Canada	SDACC	Manitoba Saskatchewan	Prince Albert	Passed	Yes
83	IED	Bulgaria	BU	Bulgarian Union of Churches	Medovo	Passed	Yes
84	NAD	United States of America	MAUC	Iowa-Missouri	Gladstone Congregation	Passed	Yes
85	NAD	United States of America	NPUC	Upper Columbia	Farmington Adventist	Passed	Yes
86	SPD	New Zealand	NZPUC	North NZ	Kaikohe	Passed	
87	TED	Slovenia	Adriatic	Slovenian	Koper-Capodistria	Passed	Yes
88	NAD	Canada	SDACC		Smoky Lake Alberta	Passed	

89	NAD	United States of America	MUAC	Dakota	Pierre	Passed	
90	NAD	United States of America	MUAC	Rocky Mountain	Pagosa Springs	Passed	Yes
91	NAD	United States of America	LUC	Michigan SDAC	Ionia	Passed	Yes
92	Spd	Australia	AUC	Sqld	Salisbury (Brisbane)	Passed	
93	Nad	United States of America	Atlantic	NNEC	Norridgewock	Passed	Yes
94	NAD	United States of America	MUAC	Kansas-Nebraska	Holland Seventh Day Adventist	Passed	Yes
95	TED	Austria	Austrian		Weyer	Passed	
96	SPD	New Zealand	NZPUC	SNZC	Blenheim	Passed	Yes
97	NAD	United States of America	PUC	Oregon	Bandon, OR .	Passed	
98	NAD	United States of America		Central California	North Fork, CA.	Passed	Yes
99	Nad	United States of America	LUC	Michigan	Lowell Riverside Fellowship of	Passed	
100	NAD	United States of America	NPUC	Upper Columbia	All Nation Center Seventh-day Adventist	Passed	Yes

Sewendedag Adventiste Kerk Suid-Namibië Konferensie

SUIDERHOF GEMEENTE

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General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
12501 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Spring Maryland 20904
United States of America

Your Ref. :

Our Ref. : SKR2022-03

Enquiries : Br Chris Viljoen

05 May 2022

Dear SDA General Conference ADCOM and EXCOM,

"Grace be to you and peace from God the Father, and from our Lord Jesus Christ,..."

– Gal 1:3 KJV

PROTEST: SDA SUIDERHOF CHURCH OBJECTION TO SDA GC ADCOM's STATEMENTS ON IMMUNISATION

We write to you from SDA Suiderhof Church, of Namibia South Conference (NSC), of Southern Africa Union Conference (SAU), of Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division (SID). At our Business Meeting of 9 April 2022, the following statements of SDA General Conference (GC) ADCOM were critically reviewed and considered:

1. ADCOM statement dated 2015 as available at: <https://www.adventist.org/official-statements/immunization/>
2. ADCOM statement dated 2021 as available at: <https://adventist.news/news/reaffirming-the-seventh-day-adventist-churchs-response-to-covid-19-1>

These statements are of questionable origin, not voted in GC, and may therefore not be representative of, nor published as official statements of, the SDA Church.

We petition the GC EXCOM to publicly withdraw these statements and apologise for allowing such statements to be published and the subsequent harm caused. In our view these ADCOM Statements have severely impacted and undermined the foundation and principles of Religious Liberty as practiced and upheld by our Church Members.

Thank you for your cooperation and assistance in this regard.

Christian greetings,

C. J. Viljoen

Elder

cc: SDA Suiderhof Church
NSC President and Executive Secretary
SAU President and Executive Secretary
SID President and Executive Secretary
GC President and Secretary

Kerkraad: Lr. J. Gawaseb (Voorsitter), Br. C. J. Viljoen (Ouderling), Sr. S. M. Keet (Kerkklerk),

Sr. M. J. Viljoen (Tesourier), Br. M. J. Viljoen (Hoofdiaken)

News

AUC requests review of immunisation statement

Kymberley McMurray

June 25, 2025

11:10 am

865

The Seventh-day Adventist Church in Australia has formally requested a review of the General Conference's official statement on immunisation.

In response to this request, the Executive Committee of the Australian Union Conference (AUC) carefully considered the matter during its recent meetings.

The committee dedicated significant time to prayerfully reflecting on the implications of the [2015 and 2021 immunisation statements](#)—particularly regarding the reference to “*peer-reviewed science*” alongside the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy. Concerns were raised about the potential unintended consequences of this wording for the Church's theological clarity and authority structure.

Following respectful and thoughtful discussion, the Executive Committee voted to send a letter to the leadership of the General Conference. This letter outlines the committee's concerns and formally requests a review of both the current immunisation statement and the processes used in its development.

“The Executive Committee recognised the importance of supporting public health while also ensuring that the distinct authority of Scripture and the Spirit of Prophecy is upheld within our Church,” said Pastor Terry Johnson, AUC president. “We remain committed to ongoing, constructive dialogue with the General Conference on this important issue.”

The Seventh-day Adventist Church in Australia reaffirms its commitment to promoting the wellbeing of its members and the wider community. It looks forward to continued conversations that honour both the Church's health principles and its theological foundations.



Freikirche der Siebenten-Tags-Adventisten in Baden-Württemberg KdöR
Firnhaberstraße 7 70174 Stuttgart

To
General Conference Administration
Biblical Research Institute
General Conference Health Ministries
Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Department
General Conference Office of General Counsel
Loma Linda University Health

Request to revise or withdraw the statements "COVID-19 Vaccines: Addressing Concerns, Offering Counsel", dated 12/18/2020, and "Reaffirming the Seventh-day Adventist Church's Response to COVID-19", dated 10/25/2021

Stuttgart, February 19, 2023

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

over the past three years, the Corona crisis has been a challenge to all of us on various levels. Many people have been infected with SARS-CoV-2. Although most of them had mild symptoms, others experienced great distress in going through the disease. Our sympathy goes to all who were, or still are, struggling with the effects of the Corona virus, are suffering from adverse events of the vaccinations, or have lost loved ones during that time. Furthermore, we don't want to overlook those who are negatively impacted by other diseases and epidemics (Luke 22:11), or have to cope with the financial impact of the corona crisis.

People had different views on the Corona crisis, the measures adopted by governments, and the Corona vaccinations. Unfortunately, in many cases, critical thinkers in the medical, public health and epidemiological sectors who were not following the official political and media position were vilified, censored, or ostracized. This is fatal, since science thrives on critical discourse, and a willingness to re-evaluate yesterday's hypothesis in the light of today's evidence.

Meanwhile, across the EU many politicians are beginning to change their mind, and a critical evaluation of some anti-Corona measures is taking place.

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Ihr Ansprechpartner (Präsident)
Eugen Hartwich | Tel: +49 711 16290-12 | E-Mail: eugen.hartwich@adventisten.de



In your service for the Seventh-day Adventist Church you, too, were facing multi-faceted challenges during the Corona crisis. We want to thank you with all our hearts that in your pastoral ministry of preaching, counselling, and praying as well as in your administrative leadership your focus has ever been on the well-being of the worldwide membership.

On December 18, 2020, your statement "COVID-19 Vaccines: Addressing Concerns, Offering Counsel" was published. This statement reads:

"As a church, while we support evidence-based public health recommendations, we are also careful not to make pronouncements that may be construed as replacing national and international public health guidelines. For this reason, it is important for our comments to be understood within the framework of our official church position on immunization."¹

The official church position on immunization was published on April 15, 2015 by the Administrative Committee of the General Conference. There we can read:

"We value the health and safety of the population, which includes the maintenance of herd immunity."²

It has now become evident that the novel mRNA vaccines that since 2020 have been strongly recommended and in many cases mandated by employers and national authorities around the world do not contribute to herd immunity, and therefore cannot maintain it.

Today, many of the supposedly scientific claims about the corona vaccinations made in 2020-2021 have turned out to be false:

- Corona vaccinations do neither prevent infection, transmission, hospitalization, nor death.³
- A basic immunization of two shots on 75 – 80 % of the population does not produce herd immunity.⁴
- The assumption that new variants of the virus cannot neutralize the protection of the vaccination has been disproven.

¹ tinyurl.com/4527j3hp

² adventist.org/official-statements/immunization

³ Dr. Anthony Fauci: "When people are vaccinated, they can feel safe that they are not going to get infected." May 17, 2021, <https://tinyurl.com/4wumd9j7>

Joe Biden: "You're not going to get COVID if you have these vaccinations." July 21, 2021, tinyurl.com/2cdxa275

⁴ Dr. Anthony Fauci, as paraphrased by *The Harvard Gazette*: "If 75 percent to 80 percent of Americans are vaccinated in broad-based campaigns likely to start in the second quarter of next year, then the U.S. should reach the herd immunity threshold months later." December 10, 2020, <https://tinyurl.com/mrx78sw8>



- Corona vaccinations are not "without side effects,"⁵ nor are they the only safe way out of the pandemic.⁶
- The argument of "Love Your Neighbor" has been reduced to absurdity by the lack of protection against infection provided by Corona vaccinations.

There are claims in your statement that are contrary to current reality. For this reason, we officially request that the General Conference Officers and ADCOM either revise or withdraw the document "COVID-19 Vaccines: Addressing Concerns, Offering Counsel".

The same motion applies to the publication "Reaffirming the Seventh-day Adventist Church's Response to COVID-19"⁷ from October 25, 2021.

Corona vaccinations do not prevent transmission. However, your statement conveys just the opposite:

"In weighing the various options, we should also take into consideration that the benefits of vaccination extend beyond oneself and help to protect the local and global community at large."

In some countries, this assertion has been the ground for bringing enormous pressure on many church members who for conscientious reasons would not take the Corona vaccines. Many were slandered, marginalized, discriminated against, or even lost their jobs, both in wider society and within their local SDA congregations and Conferences.

Against this backdrop, we see the following statement as a matter of great concern and kindly ask you to change your position:

"The Seventh-day Adventist Church, in consultation with the Health Ministries and Public Affairs and Religious Liberty departments of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, is convinced that the vaccination programs that are generally being carried out are important for the safety and health of our members and the larger community. Therefore, claims of religious liberty are not used appropriately in objecting to government mandates or employer programs designed to protect the health and safety of their communities."

We are convinced that God has given every mature person the liberty of conscience to decide responsibly, and without any pressure or compulsion, upon the medical treatment of his / her body. We therefore believe that no Church committee, Officer,

⁵ Prof. Karl Lauterbach, German Federal Minister of Health, August 14, 2021, tinyurl.com/2p8m2eba

⁶ Dr. Anthony Fauci, September 11, 2021, tinyurl.com/yckmy9y8

⁷ tinyurl.com/48hka5mn



Departmental Director, or group thereof should have authority to withdraw or deny another member's liberty of conscience, including the freedom of a mature person to not comply with a state mandate on medical drug treatment (cf. 1 Corinthians 10:29).

For the years ahead, we encourage you to place a special emphasis on liberty of conscience and to defend it on all Church levels. Ellen G. White summarizes the value of liberty of conscience with the words: **"Nothing is dearer or more fundamental."** (*The Great Controversy*, 564)

We thank you for your service and wish you much wisdom in carrying out your tasks in our church.

In heartfelt fellowship

The Executive Committee of the Baden-Württemberg Conference in the South German Union

21 May 2025

TO: BETHLEHEM SDA CHURCH
FROM: KNFC SECRETARIAT

RE: BETHLEHEM SDA CHURCH CONCERNS

Maranatha!

The purpose of this letter is to share with you the EXCOM decision regarding the concerns of Bethlehem SDA Church, which were raised by Pastor E.J Torlage.

The EXCOM in its meeting on Tuesday, 22 April 2025 considered the concerns of Bethlehem SDA Church and voted to note them. It was further voted to forward them to the SAU for possible escalation to the GC.

This EXCOM resolution has since been forwarded to the SAU.

Yours Sincerely
For and Behalf of KNFC



PR MS RANTSOABE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
0760216218



Seventh-day
Adventist® Church



24 September 2024

Re: GC Statement on Immunisation

Boolaroo SDA Church

Dear Danny Milenkov,

In view of the request from the Boolaroo SDA Church, the NNSW Executive at their meeting on the 24 September 2024 took the following action:

RESOLVED To approve that we communicate to the Australian Union Conference the following:

In the light of the dynamic and evolving nature of peer-reviewed literature often at odds with itself and the Bible, the NNSW Conference Executive asks the AUC Executive to move a motion:

- a) appealing to the General Conference to retract the 2015 Immunisation statement in its entirety*
- b) and refrain from making statements on behalf of the world church that have no basis in Scripture or inspired writings*

Should you require further information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me at abeliorgulescu@adventist.org.au

Thank you for your faithful work.

Yours sincerely,

Pr Abel Iorgulescu

General Secretary

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All Nation Center Seventh-day Adventist Church
2030 W Wapato Rd
Wapato, WA 98951

Date: April 25, 2025

Pastor E C Köhler
Executive Secretary
General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
12501 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Spring, MD 20904

Dear Brother Köhler,

With the intent of humility, we, the church board of All Nation Center Seventh-day Adventist Church in Wapato, Washington, write as a wounded congregation, grieved by actions of the General Conference's Executive Committee (EXCOM) and Administrative Committee (ADCOM). After prayerful review, our board voted to present this to our business session on April 25, 2025, and it was voted in business session to reject the statements made by the aforementioned committees tainted with non-biblical arguments. These statements stray from our foundation in Scripture and Ellen White, relying instead on worldly sources that weaken our trust in God's pure guidance.

Our concerns:

1. The 2015 Immunization Statement, 2021 Reaffirming Response to COVID-19, and 1990 Dangers of Climate Change Statement rely on peer-reviewed scientific literature, which lacks the authority of Scripture or Ellen White. We trust only God's Word (Psalm 12:6, NKJV).
2. By addressing personal health, EXCOM exceeds its administrative role, impacting our liberty of conscience.
3. The 2021 statement cites submission to authorities (Romans 13:1-7, NKJV), but we hold that obedience belongs first to God (Acts 5:29, NKJV).

We humbly petition EXCOM to:

1. Rescind statements based on peer-reviewed science, including but not limited to the 2015 Immunization Statement, 2021 Reaffirming Response, and 1990 Dangers of Climate Change Statement, respecting individual conscience.
2. Refrain from issuing beliefs or doctrines, as EXCOM's role is administrative.
3. Avoid peer-reviewed science in future statements, honoring biblical authority.

We seek healing and unity in God's truth, standing separate from worldly wisdom (2 Corinthians 6:17, NKJV).

Sincerely,
The Church Board of All Nation Center Seventh-day Adventist Church
Wapato, Washington
Upper Columbia Conference
North Pacific Union Conference
North American Division

cc: Upper Columbia Conference EXCOM, North Pacific Union Conference EXCOM, North American Division EXCOM



**ARDMORE SEVENTH-DAY
ADVENTIST CHURCH**

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AN APPEAL TO THE LAITY AND LEADERSHIP OF THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

To : THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

12501 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Spring Maryland 20904
United States of America

Recipients: president@gc.adventist.org, secretary@gc.adventist.org
CC: Division President, Union President, Conference President

Dear General Conference Executive Committee and Administrative Committee,

The Seventh-day Adventist Church organizational structure is not a top down system, but rather a system that is organized as an assembly of believers with the highest local authority and delegation resting in the hands of the local church in business meeting (SDA Church Manual, p. 134). Among the obvious responsibilities of the organizational structure of the Seventh-day Adventist Church is the protection of the individual rights duly recognized as belonging to all members.

The same governance structure exists at the highest levels of the organized church—with the World Church in General Conference Session constituting the highest authority above that of any Conference, Union, Division or even General Conference Executive Officers (General Conference Working Policy B 10 22). We support the General Conference Executive Committee in their duly elected role in carrying out the mission and vision of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in harmony with the Fundamental Beliefs and decisions of the World Church in Session.

In harmony with our authority as a local constituency, the Ardmore Seventh-day Adventist Church would like to address concerns regarding proper delegated authority and church governance.

We believe that Fundamental Beliefs are inextricably linked to any Official Statements made on behalf of the organized Seventh-day Adventist Church. Language such as "Seventh-day Adventists believe..." appears throughout the Official Statements. Quoting from the introductory paragraph to the Official Statements as found on the website of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists we read: "From time to time, Seventh-day Adventists find it important to articulate their understanding of certain important topics in light of their understanding of biblical values and teachings. Below is a collection of these statements on issues ranging from religious freedom to assault weapons." (<https://gc.adventist.org/official-statements/>) This is a clear link to how Official Statements can shape the beliefs of Seventh-day Adventists worldwide.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual states: "The Bible is the foundation and source of belief and practice; on this basis, **the General Conference in Session determines the stated Fundamental Beliefs of the Church**" (SDA Church Manual, p. 30). Only the General Conference in Session has the authority to ratify statements of belief which are representative of the World Church.

Continuing in the Church Manual: "In the Church today the General Conference Session, and the General Conference Executive Committee between Sessions, is the highest ecclesiastical authority **in the administration** of the Church" (SDA Church Manual, p. 31). We fully recognize the delegated authority from the World Church to the Executive Committee in between Sessions *in the administration* of the Church's business, mission, vision, and methods of worldwide ministry.

According to the Official Website of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists we read under the title: "What is the GC Executive Committee?: [It is] The second highest governing body of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, **after General Conference Session**, which occurs every five years." (<https://gc.adventist.org/about-us/governance/executive-committee/>)

Official Statements have been published without the ratification of the World Church in General Conference Session over the past 40 years. Prior to this the Fundamental Beliefs, as voted by the World Church in Session, were sufficient in answering questions of belief. During this time we have seen an increasing number of Official Statements released by the General Conference Executive Committee, the Administrative Committee, and acting General Conference Presidents and Vice Presidents all without the due process of ratification by the World Church in Session. To date these unlawful statements are as follows:

GENERAL CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE STATEMENTS:

Sexual Behavior: October 12, 1987

Historic Stand for Temperance Principles and Acceptance of Donations Statement Impacts Social Change: October 11, 1992

Caring for the Environment: October 12, 1992

Child Sexual Abuse: April 1, 1997

Theological and Academic Freedom and Accountability: October 11, 1997

Meeting the Challenges of Sexually Transmitted Diseases: June 27, 1998

Ethical Considerations Regarding Human Cloning: September 27, 1998

Activities With Elements of Competition: October 7, 1998

Religious Minorities and Religious Freedom: September 29, 1999

Call for Peace: April 18, 2002

Response to and Affirmation of Creation: October 13, 2004

Commitment to Health and Healing: October 14, 2009

Ending Violence Against Women and Girls: June 24, 2010

Nurture and Protection of Children: June 24, 2010

Global Poverty: June 24, 2010
Freedom of Speech and Defamation of Religion: June 24, 2010
Creation: The Bible's Worldview: June 24, 2010
Statement of Tithe and Its Destination: October 16, 2012
Homosexuality: October 17, 2012
A Statement of Consensus on Care for the Dying: May 9, 2013
Consensus Statement on a Seventh-day Adventist Theology of Ordination: October 14, 2014
Mission Statement of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church: October 15, 2018
Statement on the Biblical View of Unborn Life and Its Implications for Abortion: October 16, 2019

GENERAL CONFERENCE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE STATEMENTS:

Birth Control: July 26, 1994
Tolerance: June 29, 1995
Smoking and Tobacco: June 29, 1995
The Holy Scriptures: June 29, 1995
Environment: June 29, 1995
Religious Freedom: June 29, 1995
Women's Issues: June 29, 1995
Statement on Abuse and Family Violence: July 8, 1995
Literacy: July 29, 1995
Human Relations: July 29, 1995
The Dangers of Climate Change: December 19, 1995
Marriage: April 23, 1996
Spiritual Renewal Impacts Social Change: October 1, 1996
Smoking and Ethics: October 1, 1996
Family Violence: October 1, 1996
Stewardship of the Environment: October 1, 1996
How Seventh-Day Adventists View Roman Catholicism: April 15, 1997
50th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights: November 17, 1998
Well-being and Value of Children: June 29, 2000
Religious Liberty, Evangelism, and Proselytism: June 29, 2000
Gambling: June 29, 2000
Immunization: April 15, 2015
One Humanity: A Human Relations Statement Addressing Racism, Casteism, Tribalism, and Ethnocentrism: September 15, 2020

GC PRESIDENT AND THE 16 VICE PRESIDENT STATEMENTS:

Drugs: June 1, 1985
Racism: June 27, 1985
Peace: June 27, 1985
Ban on Sales of Assault Weapons to Civilians: July 5, 1990
Pornography: July 5, 1990
Homelessness and Poverty: July 5, 1990
Chemical Use, Abuse, and Dependency: July 5, 1995

GENERAL CONFERENCE COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT STATEMENTS:

War in Iraq: March 20, 2003
War in Congo: December 2, 2008

DOCUMENT RECEIVED BY GENERAL CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Affirmation of Creation: October 11, 2004

UNCLAIMED OFFICIAL STATEMENT:

Statement on Transgenderism: April 12, 2017

OCTOBER 25, 2021 REAFFIRMATION STATEMENT:

One recent statement from the General Conference ADCOM in particular, has had profound and disastrous impact upon religious liberty for Seventh-day Adventists during the 2020 COVID-19 Pandemic:

"The Seventh-day Adventist Church, in consultation with the Health Ministries and Public Affairs and Religious Liberty departments of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, is convinced that the vaccination programs that are generally being carried out are important for the safety and health of our members and the larger community. **Therefore, claims of religious liberty are not used appropriately in objecting to government mandates or employer programs designed to protect the health and safety of their communities."**

(<https://adventist.news/news/reaffirming-the-seventh-day-adventist-churchs-response-to-covid-19-1>)

The certainty of prophecy is fast fulfilling, and soon the consciences of men will be bound to that unholy decree: that "no man may buy or sell save he have the mark, name, or number of the beast" (Revelation 13:17). In consideration of this most solemn warning to mankind, the members and leadership of the Ardmore Seventh-day Adventist Church wholeheartedly reject any measure by any man or system of man that would force, coerce, manipulate, misrepresent, or stifle the individual conscience and the sacred right of freedom of choice.

As the Ardmore Seventh-day Adventist Church we see a troubling historical pattern emerging within the leadership of the General Conference, namely projecting Official Statements (which are statements of belief) on behalf of the World Church without due process and regard for the safety of wider counsel during the General Conference in Session. This leads to troublesome Official Statements that are problematically intertwined with the political rhetoric of the day such as: Assault Weapons, Birth Control, Dangers of Climate Change, How Seventh-day Adventists View Roman Catholicism, War in Iraq, War in Congo, and the statement on Immunization to name a few. Many statements appear to be made from the best intent—**but good intent does not replace best practice** and the principle of proper delegated authority.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual contains vague language in regard to the proper authority of the General Conference Executive Committee: "Therefore, all subordinate organizations and institutions throughout the Church will recognize the General Conference Session, **and the General Conference Executive Committee between Sessions, as the highest ecclesiastical authority, under God, among Seventh-day Adventists**" (Church Manual, p. 31). We again agree with the delegated administrative authority of the General Conference Executive Committee, but cannot agree with the granting of equal ecclesiastical authority along with the World Church in Session. In the governance of the World Church the General Conference Executive Committee is in fact subject to the World Church in Session.

In addition we also take issue with the bylaws of the General Conference, specifically Article XIII Section 1.a which states: "During the intervals between sessions of the General Conference, the General Conference Executive Committee is delegated the authority to act on behalf of the General Conference in session...The authority, therefore, of the General Conference Executive Committee is the authority of the World Church." While we understand the need to delegate administrative authority in between General Conference Sessions, we see a danger in the vague wording that has been demonstrably used to make Official Statements (statements of belief) on behalf of the World Church. There appears to be a great lack of clearly defined authority which opens the way for a relatively small group of denominational men to make vast underrepresented Official Statements that significantly impact the World Church.

The Spirit of Prophecy warns of this very danger:

"At times, when a small group of men entrusted with the general management of the work have, in the name of the General Conference, sought to carry out unwise plans and to restrict God's work, I have said that I could no longer regard the voice of the General Conference, represented by these few men, as the voice of God... The error that some are in danger of committing is in giving to the mind and judgment of one man, or of a small group of men, the full measure of authority and influence that God has vested in His church in the judgment and voice of the General Conference assembled to plan for the prosperity and advancement of His work" (Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 9, p. 260).

Therefore, because we desire to see the proper role of authority restored to its rightful place within the laity of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, we as the Ardmore Seventh-day Adventist Church request the General Conference Executive Committee to refer all previous and future Official Statements to the General Conference in Session to be carefully studied, discussed, and ratified. If these statements cannot be reviewed and ratified by the World Church in Session then we reject them as Official Statements of the Ardmore Seventh-day Adventist Church.

In addition, we request all General Conference ADCOM Official Statements to be immediately removed as they clearly do not have the delegated authority from the World Church in Session. All Official Statements made by the GC President in

consultation with the 16 World Vice Presidents should also be immediately removed. In principle, any other Official Statements not reviewed and ratified by the World Church in Session should also be removed.

In addition we wholeheartedly reject the involvement of the Seventh-day Adventist Church with the United Nations in any particular. This includes membership, consultative status, or as a participant in the programs, ethos, or initiatives of the United Nations. As a distinct and peculiar people we are not to enter into any league with the surrounding nations (Exodus 23:31-33; 34:12-15; James 4:4)—but are to give a loud cry and warning to the world that Babylon is fallen (Revelation 18:1-4). The eternal salvation of the nations, kindreds, tongues, and peoples are dependent upon a clear and distinct separation from Babylon. The world will soon be brought to the fearful decision to reject or accept the mark of Babylon (Sunday Sacredness) in contrast to the Seal of God which is the seventh day Sabbath.

After 40 years of Consultative Status with the United Nations we implore the General Conference Executive Committee to end any and all relationships with the United Nations. If the General Conference Executive Committee refuses to sever the relationship with the United Nations we appeal to the highest authority in the Seventh-day Adventist Church—the delegates of the World Church at a General Conference in Session—to vote to end any and all relationships including our Consultative Status with the United Nations. We have not been called to make a league with the United Nations but rather we have been called to be a united witness to the nations.

As the Ardmore Seventh-day Adventist Church we uphold our duly elected officials at every level in as much as they carry out the mission, method, and vision of the Seventh-day Adventist Church as stated:

“Mission: Make disciples of Jesus Christ who live as His loving witnesses and proclaim to all people the everlasting gospel of the Three Angels’ Messages in preparation for His soon return (Matt 28:18-20, Acts 1:8, Rev 14:6-12).

Method: Guided by the Bible and the Holy Spirit, Seventh-day Adventists pursue this mission through Christ-like living, communicating, discipling, teaching, healing, and serving.

Vision: In harmony with Bible revelation, Seventh-day Adventists see as the climax of God’s plan the restoration of all His creation to full harmony with His perfect will and righteousness” (A 05, General Conference Working Policy).

Furthermore, we reaffirm our commitment to uphold the 28 Fundamental Beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, while looking for and hastening the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. May we be found faithful even as He is faithful.

Maranatha!

Respectfully Signed,

Pastor Bailey Schmidt:

Bailey Schmidt

Head Elder Greg Simpson:

Greg Simpson

Elders:

David Troyer
Rory Meidell
Brock Mayer

Secretary Norma Hutson:

Norma Hutson

Church Board Members:

Stella Tealust William Tealust
Rose Simpson

Church Members:

Robert Kendrick
Mendell Ford
Mary Jo Lema Harris
Patricia Marshall
Lynn Kach
Dylan McWilliams
Shane McWilliams
Mark Liden
Laina Lonnstrom
Carol Agan
Cindy Troyer
Buddy J Withers
Karissa Schmidt
Jim

Voted Unanimously by the Ardmore Seventh-day Adventist Church in Business Meeting
on the 15th of May 2025.

Benton Seventh-day Adventist Church

145 Lifestyle Way, P.O. Box 238, Benton, Tennessee 37307

Phone (423) 338-0701

March 30, 2025

Dear Members of the General Conference Administrative Committee,

We, the Benton Seventh-day Adventist Church, of the Georgia-Cumberland Conference (GCC), of the Southern Union Conference (SUC), of the North American Division (NAD), are writing this letter to express our heartfelt Christian concern.

At a church business meeting on March 30, 2025, the following statements posted on the official church website were carefully reviewed and considered:

Official statement on Immunization - April 15, 2015

<https://www.adventist.org/official-statements/immunization/>

Reaffirming the Seventh-day Adventist Church's Response to COVID-19
- October 25, 2021

<https://adventist.news/news/reaffirming-the-seventh-day-adventist-churchs-response-to-covid-19-1>

These are the areas of special concern our church holds.

1. Using Peer Reviewed Scientific Literature (PRSL) as an authoritative source for Church belief and policy.

The 2015 official statement on immunization states:

...The Adventist health emphasis is based on biblical revelation, the inspired writing of E.G. White (co-founder of the Church), and on peer-reviewed scientific literature....

Our Seventh-day Adventist health emphasis is derived from Fundamental Belief #22 which outlines proper Christian Behavior. Like all Adventist Fundamental Beliefs, our health message is rooted in biblical principles (Fundamental Belief #1) and the writings of Ellen G. White (Fundamental Belief #18).

Claiming that peer-reviewed scientific literature (PRSL) is an authoritative basis for our Adventist health emphasis is, in our estimation, extremely dangerous, for it misrepresents Fundamental Belief #1 which states: **"Seventh-day Adventists accept the Bible as their only creed..."** while simultaneously ignoring the fact that every year, thousands of peer reviewed scientific studies are retracted due to egregious inaccuracies.

2. Making unauthorized statements of belief

The 2021 Reaffirmation statement states:

The Seventh-day Adventist Church, in consultation with the Health Ministries and Public Affairs and Religious Liberty departments of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, is convinced that the vaccination programs that are generally

*being carried out are important for the safety and health of our members and the larger community. Therefore, **claims of religious liberty are not used appropriately in objecting to government mandates or employer programs designed to protect the health and safety of their communities.***

We do not believe that this statement can legitimately be made as coming from "The Seventh-day Adventist Church", since it was written and "authorized" by only a small number of church administrators. The Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual states on page 30:

The Bible is the foundation and source of belief and practice; on this basis, the General Conference in Session determines the stated Fundamental Beliefs of the Church.

*...
Thus, Church organizations around the world recognize **the General Conference in Session as the voice of the Church.***"

Neither the Official Statement on Immunization, nor the COVID Reaffirmation statement were considered and approved in a regular GC session, guaranteeing world-wide representation.

These statements in essence opened a door for secular governments & employment organizations worldwide to trample upon the personal conscience of our church members. Many, under duress, were coerced into taking the COVID vaccine against their will and deeply held personal convictions. Many lost their jobs and suffered much. The last few years clearly demonstrated how these statements have severely impacted and undermined the foundational principles of religious liberty as practiced and upheld by our church.

We firmly hold that any matter not clearly stated by the Bible or the Spirit of Prophecy should be left up to the individual conscience of Adventist members, and not be made the subject of official statements published by Seventh-day Adventist leadership.

Therefore, at our church business meeting on March 30, 2025, as a congregation we voted:

1. To reject the Official Statement on "Immunization" dated 4/15/2015 and the ANN statement "Reaffirming the Seventh-day Adventist Church's Response to COVID-19", dated 10/25/2021.
2. To request the General Conference to publicly withdraw those two statements.
3. To request that this issue be added to the agenda to be voted upon at the General Conference 2025 Session in St. Louis, Missouri.

Sincerely,

Jeremy S. Allen Religious Liberty Leader

The Benton Seventh-day Adventist Church

cc:

President of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
Secretary of the General Conference
President of Georgia-Cumberland Conference
President of Southern Union Conference
President of North American Division

3 June 2025

SDA General Conference ADCOM and EXCOM
General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
12501 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Spring
Maryland 20904
United States of America

ATTN: President Pastor Ted Wilson,
Secretary Pastor Erton Kohler

CC: SNZ President, NZPUC President,
SPD President

Blenheim Seventh-day Adventist Church Objection to Peer-Reviewed Science

Dear SDA General Conference ADCOM and EXCOM,

The Blenheim Seventh-day Adventist (SDA) Church of the South New Zealand Conference, of the New Zealand Pacific Union Conference, of the South Pacific Division, greets you with Christian love.

At a special business meeting on 19 May 2025, we reviewed and discussed the inclusion of "Peer-Reviewed Science" in relation to official statements of the SDA General Conference (GC), ADCOM, and the following action was taken:

"That we publicly reject, through a letter to the governing bodies of our church, the inclusion of peer-reviewed science as an authority for church beliefs. This includes voicing our rejection of official statements on immunization in 2015 and 2021, and the official statement on climate change in 1995."

We reject the inclusion of 'Peer-Reviewed Science' in any Church statement on the following grounds:

1. Our Church was founded on the Bible - Fundamental Belief 1 and the Gift of Prophecy – Fundamental Belief 18.
2. As a Church, we uphold that all Church position and belief statements must be based on the Bible and the Gift of Prophecy alone.

Blenheim Seventh-day Adventist Church

83 Arthur Street Blenheim, New Zealand 7201

Postal PO Box 1178 Blenheim 7240, Marlborough, New Zealand

Email: BlenheimChurch@Adventist.org.nz **Web:** blenheim.adventist.org.nz

3. Fundamental Belief 22 relates to our health message and the pivotal role of the Holy Spirit. Introducing 'Peer-Reviewed Science' as a basis for our health message (Official Statement on Immunization, 2015) is contrary to this belief.
4. We believe official statements should be approved by the General Conference (GC) in session. The GC in session is the highest decision-making body that represents the global voice of our Church. These statements were not made by the GC in session and are therefore not the voice of the global Church.
5. Unlike the Bible, which is complete and infallible, science is incomplete and fallible.

Science:

- a. Does not acknowledge the leading of the Holy Spirit in spiritual and physical matters
 - b. Is subject to man's endeavours
 - c. Is movable, incomplete and evolving, and subject to change as new discoveries are made
 - d. Is at worst used to promote falsehoods which can be "proven" and peer-reviewed according to man's persuasion and 'bent'
6. These ADCOM Statements have introduced an uninspired source as a basis for our health message.
 7. These statements impact and undermine the foundation and principle of Religious Liberty as upheld and practised by our Church Members.
 8. When the church takes a position on 'science' in opposition to the Holy Spirit and Religious Liberty, it creates disunity.
 9. Issues not directly addressed by the Bible or Spirit of Prophecy should be left to the individual conscience as directed by the Holy Spirit without coercion, condemnation or criticism.

Therefore, our business meeting rejects the ADCOM 1995, 2015 and 2021 statements (as referred to above), and recognising that our church members have a sincere religious objection, request that the GC Executive Committee publicly withdraw these statements.

Blenheim Seventh-day Adventist Church

83 Arthur Street Blenheim, New Zealand 7201

Postal PO Box 1178 Blenheim 7240, Marlborough, New Zealand

Email: BlenheimChurch@Adventist.org.nz **Web:** blenheim.adventist.org.nz

This letter was approved by a special business meeting of the Blenheim Seventh-day Adventist Church on 3 June 2025.

We thank you for the opportunity to bring our concerns and protest before you and look forward to your response.

In Christian love,

Jonathan Higgle
Church Clerk

On behalf of the Blenheim Seventh-day Adventist Church
South New Zealand Conference
New Zealand

Blenheim Seventh-day Adventist Church

83 Arthur Street Blenheim, New Zealand 7201

Postal PO Box 1178 Blenheim 7240, Marlborough, New Zealand

Email: BlenheimChurch@Adventist.org.nz **Web:** blenheim.adventist.org.nz



General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

12501 Old Columbia Pike

Silver Spring, Maryland 20904

Dear SDA General Conference ADVOM and EXCOM,

RE: Bonney Lake SDA CHURCH OBJECTION TO GC ADCOM's STATEMENT ON IMMUNIZATION

We write to you from Bonney Lake SDA Congregation, of the Washington Conference, of the North Pacific Union Conference (NPUC), of Noth American Division (NAD). At our Business Meeting on February 8th, the following statements of SDA General Conference (GC) ADCOM were critically reviewed and considered:

1. ADCOM statement dated 2015 as available at: <https://www.adventist.org/official-statements/immunization/>
2. ADCOM statement dated 2021 as available at: <https://adventist.news/news/reaffirming-the-seventh-day-adventist-churchs-response-to-covid-19-1>

Areas of concern:

1. Origin: These statements are of questionable origin, not voted in regular GC session by official delegates of the world church body, and may therefore not be representative of, nor published as official statements of, the SDA church.
2. Content: The 2015 statement contradicts the 28 Fundamentals by introducing "peer-reviewed scientific literature" as supposed basis for the SDA health emphasis. The SDA health emphasis is a matter of fundamental belief (Belief 22), and the 28 Fundamentals only recognize the Bible (Belief 1) and the Spirit of Prophecy, specifically the writing of Ellen G. White (Belief 18) as authoritative.

We petition the GC EXCOM to:

1. Publicly withdraw these statements
2. Apologize for allowing such statements to be published and the subsequent harm caused.

In our view these ADCOM statements have severely impacted and undermined the foundation and principles of Religious Liberty as practiced and upheld by our Church Members.

Thank you for your cooperation and assistance in this regard.

Christian greetings,

11503 214th Ave E
Bonney Lake, WA 98391

253-862-8620

Email: secretary@blsdachurch.org
Website: bonneylakewa.adventistchurch.org

BOOLAROO SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH



Pastor Danny Milenkov
Cnr. Lakeview & Brae Streets
Boolaroo, NSW 2284
Mob: 0403 344 360
Em: dannymilenkov@gmail.com

To: General Conference of Seventh-day Adventist
12501 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Spring Maryland 20904
United States of America

RE: Boolaroo SDA Church objection to GC ADCOM statements on "Peer-Reviewed Scientific Literature."

Dear SDA General Conference ADCOM and EXCOM,

This letter is written to you from the Boolaroo SDA Congregation, a member Church of (NNSW Conference), (AUC), (SPD). At our Business Meeting on 3rd March 2024 the following statements of SDA General Conference (GC) ADCOM were critically reviewed and considered:

- 1) ADCOM statement dated 2015 as available at: <https://www.adventist.org/official-statements/immunization/>
- 2) ADCOM statement dated 2021 as available at: <https://adventist.news/news/reaffirming-the-seventh-day-adventist-churchs-response-to-covid-19-1>

Areas of concern:

- 1) Origin: These statements are of questionable origin, not voted in at regular GC session by official delegates of the world church body, and may therefore not be representative of, nor published as official statements of, the SDA Church.
- 2) Content: The 2015 statement contradicts the 28 Fundamentals by introducing "peer-reviewed scientific literature" as supposed basis for the SDA health emphasis. The SDA health emphasis is a matter of fundamental belief (Belief 22), and the 28 Fundamentals only recognize the Bible (Belief 1) and the Spirit of Prophecy, specifically the writings of Ellen G White (Belief 18) as authoritative.

We petition the GC EXCOM to:

- 1) Publicly withdraw any such statements immediately.

In our view these ADCOM Statements have severely impacted and undermined the foundation principles of Religious Liberty as practiced and upheld by our Church Members, Worldwide. Thanks in advance for your cooperation and assistance on this urgent matter.

Faithfully in Christ,

Ross Wells (Head Elder Boolaroo Seventh-day Adventist Church)

General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
12501 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Springs, MD 20904
United States of America

Recipients: president@gc.adventist.org, secretary@gc.adventist.org, hmd@gc.adventist.org

CC: North American Division president, Columbia Union President, Ohio Conference President

RE: BOWLING GREEN SDA CHURCH REJECTION OF GC ADCOM'S OFFICIAL STATEMENTS NOT VOTED AT GENERAL CONFERENCE IN SESSION

We write to you from the Bowling Green SDA Church, of the Ohio Conference, of the Columbia Union, of the North American Division. At our recent business meeting of November, 10, 2024, the 59 official statements contained on General Conference World Church website, which were critically reviewed and considered. It was found that 57 of those statements were NOT approved by General Conference Session.

It was found that the following two statements were the only statements voted and adopted during a General Conference in session and are the only Official Statements which should remain as part of the Official Statements of the Church:

1. Peace Message to All People of Good Will, dated April 1, 1980;
2. Historic Stand on Temperance...dated October 11, 1992.

Our area of concern is that the Church Manual nor the Fundamental Beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church provide any authority for GC ADCOM, GC EXCOM, or any other agency or group of agencies, individual or group of individuals to create or execute Official Statements for the world church of Seventh-day Adventists.

To that end, the Church Manual on page 30 provides that the General Conference in session is the only authority that functions as the voice of the church as stated below:

"The Bible is the foundation and source of belief and practice; on this basis, the General Conference in Session determines the stated Fundamental Beliefs of the Church. The General Conference in Session also authorizes establishment of unions and the attachment of field units, revises the Church Manual, elects General Conference and division leadership, performs other functions as outlined in its Constitution and Bylaws, and considers items referred to it by its Executive Committee. The General Conference Executive Committee between Sessions is empowered by the Constitution and Bylaws to act on behalf of the constituents. Thus, Church organizations around the world recognize the General Conference in Session as the voice of the Church."

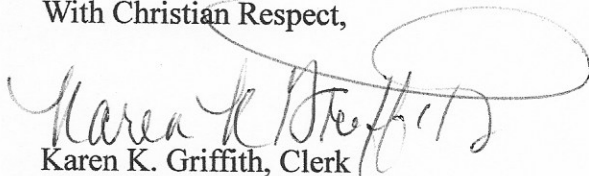
Upon motion at the business meeting of November 10, 2024, the Bowling Green Seventh-day Adventist Church has voted and seconded that we petition the GC EXCOM to:

1. Publicly withdraw the 57 Official Statements which were not voted during a General Conference in session;
2. Or, in the alternative, proceed to follow the mechanism as outlined in the Church manual, ie. take the statements to the General Conference in Session for approval on a statement-by-statement basis so that each topic addressed can be voted on its merits alone.

It is our belief that these 57 statements made by EXCOM, ADCOM and various other agencies and individuals and/or groups of individuals, have severely impacted and undermined the foundation and principles of Religious Liberty and usurped the stated authority that has been given to the General Conference in session only. Additionally, the basis for such statements should be the Bible and writings of Ellen G. White as stated in the 28 Fundamental Beliefs (#1 and #18). Any and all statements made without these authorities should not be published as official statements of the world church and should bear no weight without being voted, and adopted or rejected by the General Conference in session.

We appreciate your cooperation and assistance in this regard.

With Christian Respect,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Karen K. Griffith". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Karen K. Griffith, Clerk
Bowling Green



Seventh-day
Adventist Church

Burnie

PO Box 964, Burnie TAS 7320
85 West Park Grove, Burnie TAS 7320

7 November 2022

Dear GC ADCOM,

RE: BURNIE SDA CHURCH BUSINESS MEETING REAFFIRMS THAT THE BIBLE AND EGW ARE THE ONLY BASIS FOR THE SDA HEALTH EMPHASIS

We write to you from Burnie SDA Church, of the Tasmanian Conference, of the Australian Union Conference (AUC), of the South Pacific Division (SPD), to inform you of the outcome of a Church Business Meeting vote at the Burnie SDA Church held on 25th October 2022.

- 1) The Burnie SDA Church Business Meeting has critically considered the elevation of 'peer-reviewed scientific literature' as a basis for the SDA health emphasis;
- 2) And felt compelled to reaffirm that the SDA health emphasis has the Bible and EGW as its only basis, as per the SDA 28 Fundamentals.

Thus, any statement/s to suggest anything to the contrary may not be portrayed as representative of, nor published as official statements of, the global SDA Church.

Christian greetings,

Burnie Business Meeting Members



Seventh-day
Adventist Church
CALGARY CENTRAL

RE: CALGARY CENTRAL SDA CHURCH BUSINESS MEETING REAFFIRMS
THAT THE BIBLE AND EGW ARE THE ONLY BASIS FOR THE SDA
HEALTH EMPHASIS

We write to you from Calgary Central Seventh-day Adventist, Church of the Alberta conference of Canadian Union of the North American Division to inform you of the outcome of church business meeting vote at the Calgary Central SDA Church held on February 1, 2025

1. The Calgary Central SDA Church Business Meeting has considered the elevation of Peer Reviewed Scientific Literature as a basis for the SDA health emphasis;
2. and felt compelled to reaffirm that the SDA health emphasis has the Bible and inspired writings of EGW as its only basis, as per the SDA 28 Fundamental Beliefs.

We reject the 2015 Immunization Statement as it currently reads due to the fact it includes the wording "peer-reviewed scientific literature (PRSL)" implying that it is a basis for our belief in the health message. We recommend this statement be amended and to remove the words "peer-reviewed scientific literature" as well as the rest of the statement since it hinges on PRSL. We also reject 2021 Reaffirmation Statement that solely hinges on the 2015 Immunization Statement.

We look forward to your consideration and response.

With brotherly greetings,

Daniel Trconic
Lay Member



Camden Haven

Camden Haven SDA Church, 288-290 Ocean Drive, LAKEWOOD, NSW 2443, Australia

To: General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

12501 Old Columbia Pike

Silver Spring Maryland 20904

United States of America

Recipients: president@gc.adventist.org, secretary@gc.adventist.org,

cc: GlennTownend@adventist.org.au, TerryJohnson@adventist.org.au, CristianCopaceanu@adventist.org.au

**RE: CAMDEN HAVEN SDA CHURCH BUSINESS MEETING REAFFIRMS THAT
THE BIBLE AND EGW ARE THE ONLY BASIS FOR THE SDA HEALTH EMPHASIS:**

Dear SDA General Conference,

We write to you from Camden Haven SDA Church, of the Northern NSW Conference (NNSW), of the Australian Union Conference (AUC), of the South Pacific Division (SPD), to inform you of the congregational vote at the last Business Meeting of 22 May, 2024.

1. ADCOM statement dated 2015 as available at: <https://www.adventist.org/official-statements/immunization/>
2. ADCOM statement dated 2021 as available at: <https://adventist.news/news/reaffirming-the-seventh-day-adventist-churchs-response-to-covid-19-1>

Areas of concern:

1. Origin: These statements are of questionable origin, not voted in a regular GC session by official delegates of the world church body, and may therefore not be representative of, nor published as official statements of, the SDA Church.
2. Content: The 2015 statement contradicts the 28 Fundamentals by introducing "peer-reviewed scientific literature" as basis for the SDA health emphasis, where the 28 Fundamentals only recognize the Bible (Belief 1) and the Spirit of Prophecy, specifically the writings of Ellen G White (Belief 18).

We petition the GC EXCOM to:

1. Publicly withdraw these statements
2. Apologise for allowing such statements to be published and the subsequent harm caused.

In our view these ADCOM Statements have severely impacted and undermined the foundation and principles of Religious Liberty as practiced and upheld by our Church Members.

Thank you for your cooperation and assistance in this regard.

Christian greetings,

Pastor David W. Price

For the Members of the Camden Haven SDA Church Business Meeting



Chilliwack Seventh-day Adventist Church
46024 Riverside Drive
Chilliwack BC V2P 3K8

Dear SDA General Conference ADCOM and EXCOM,

Re: Chilliwack SDA Church Objection to GC ADCOM's Official Statement on Immunization

Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Corinthians 1:3

We write to you from the Chilliwack SDA Congregation, of the British Columbia Conference, of the SDA Church in Canada, of the North American Division. At our Church Business Meeting, March 1, 2025, the following statements of the General Conference (GC) ADCOM were carefully reviewed and considered and were **rejected** by a vote of 27 (to reject) to 0 (to accept) and with 6 abstaining:

1. ADCOM statement dated 2015 as available: Immunization - General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
2. ADCOM statement dated 2021 as available: Reaffirming the Seventh-day Adventist Church's Response to COVID-19[1] | Adventist News Network

Areas of concern:

1. Origin: These statements are of questionable origin, not voted in a regular General Conference session by official delegates of the world church body, and may therefore not be representative of, and should not be published as, official statements of the SDA Church.
2. Content: The 2015 statement contradicts the 28 Fundamentals by introducing "peer-reviewed scientific literature" as a supposed authoritative basis for the SDA health emphasis. The SDA health emphasis is a matter of fundamental belief (Belief 22), and the 28 Fundamentals only recognize the Bible (Belief 1) and the Spirit of Prophecy, specifically the writings of Ellen G White (Belief 18) as authoritative.

We petition the GC EXCOM to:

1. Publicly withdraw these statements
2. Apologize for allowing such statements to be published and the subsequent harm caused.

In our view these ADCOM Statements have severely impacted and undermined the foundation and principles of Religious Liberty as practiced and upheld by our Church Members.

Thank you for your cooperation and assistance in this regard.

Christian greetings,

Head Elder Rick Toombs

Elder Maurice Hinds

Elder Brandon Duke

Indigenous Ministries Leader Jenna Pitt



Clare Seventh-day Adventist Church

9875 Thomas Dr., Clare, MI 48617

March 2, 2025

To: General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

12501 Old Columbia Pike

Silver Spring Maryland 20904

United States of America

Recipients: president@gc.adventist.org, secretary@gc.adventist.org

CC: G Alexander Bryant, North American Division President; Ken Denslow, Lake Union President; Jim Micheff, Michigan Conference President

Dear SDA General Conference ADCOM and EXCOM,

RE: CLARE SDA CHURCH OBJECTION TO GC ADCOM'S STATEMENTS ON IMMUNIZATION

We write to you from Clare SDA Congregation, of the Michigan Conference, of the Lake Union, of the North American Division (DIV). At our Business Meeting of March 2, 2025, the following statements of SDA General Conference (GC) ADCOM were critically reviewed and considered:

GC ADCOM statement: <https://www.adventist.org/official-statements/immunization/>

Reaffirmation: <https://adventist.news/news/reaffirming-the-seventh-day-adventist-churchs-response-to-covid-19-1>

At our Business Meeting on March 2, 2025, the above statements of the General Conference Administrative Committee were reviewed and considered and were **rejected** by a vote of 15 (to reject) to 0 (to accept), 1 abstained.

Areas of concern:

Setting an uninspired source alongside the inspired sources: The Adventist health emphasis, found in Fundamental Belief 22, is based upon Fundamental Belief 1, the Holy Scriptures, and Fundamental Belief 18, the Gift of Prophecy. The 2015 immunization statement claims peer-reviewed scientific literature (PRSL) is an additional basis. This claim contradicts, not only the Introduction to the Fundamental Beliefs (FBs) which states: *"Seventh-day Adventists accept the Bible as their only creed"*, but also the substance since PRSL is not mentioned in the FBs.

Questionable Origin: These statements were not voted in a regular GC session by official delegates from the world church body, and are therefore not representative of the world church. The Church manual states, *"Church organizations around the world recognize the General Conference in Session as the voice of the Church."* GC ADCOM, EXCOM, or any SDA leadership body/person, should not claim to produce official statements on behalf of the Church, this is the remit of GC in session delegates.

Therefore, our congregation rejects the ADCOM 2015 and 2021 statements, recognizes that our church members may have a sincere religious objection, and petition the GC EXCOM to:



Clare Seventh-day Adventist Church

9875 Thomas Dr., Clare, MI 48617

Publicly withdraw these statements

Apologize for allowing such statements to be published and the subsequent harm caused.

These ADCOM Statements have introduced an uninspired source (PRSL) as a basis for our health message. Additionally, these statements have severely impacted and undermined the foundation and principles of Religious Liberty as practiced and upheld by our Church Members.

Thank you for your cooperation and assistance in this regard.

Christian greetings,

David Heeg, Head Elder



Seventh-day Adventist Church

Corner Pacific Hwy and Valley Street, Coffs Harbour, NSW 2450
Postal Address: PO Box 38, Coffs Harbour, NSW 2450

Seventh-day Adventist Church
North New South Wales Conference
582 Freemans Dr
Cooranbong NSW 2265

4th June, 2025

Dear Executive Committee,

On the 13th May 2025 at a Business Meeting at the Coffs Harbour Church the following Motion was passed.

Motion:

Coffs Harbour church to request the General Conference:

A) reject the 2015 Immunisation Statement by GC Adcom

and

B) reject the 2021 Reaffirmation Statement ("Reaffirming Adventist Church Response to COVID-19") by GC Adcom

and

C) request the GC Adcom refrain from making beliefs statements on behalf of the Seventh-day Adventist church in the future.

Motion Approved.

Would you please consider this and pass this motion on to the AUC.

Christian Greetings

Coffs Harbour Church

Pastor Ben Rea
Senior Pastor

Christine Mitchell
Church Clerk

From: Dani Piot <danielle.jp13@gmail.com>

Date: Wednesday, 1 November 2023 at 5:17 pm

To: president@gc.adventist.org <president@gc.adventist.org>, secretary@gc.adventist.org <secretary@gc.adventist.org>, hmd@gc.adventist.org <hmd@gc.adventist.org>, Glenn Townend <GlennTownend@adventist.org.au>, Terry Johnson <terryjohnson@adventist.org.au>, Alban Matohiti <AlbanMatohiti@adventist.org.au>

Subject: CONCORD SDA CHURCH OBJECTION TO GC ADCOM's STATEMENTS ON IMMUNIZATION

CAUTION: External email

We write to you from Concord SDA Church, of the Greater Sydney Conference (GSC), of the Australia Union Conference (AUC), of Southern Pacific Division (SPD). At our Business Meeting of 31st October 2023, the following statements of SDA General Conference (GC) ADCOM were critically reviewed and considered:

- ADCOM statement dated 2015 as available at: <https://www.adventist.org/official-statements/immunization/>

- ADCOM statement dated 2021 as available at: <https://adventist.news/news/reaffirming-the-seventh-day-adventist-churchs-response-to-covid-19-1>

These statements were not voted in GC, and elevate "peer-reviewed scientific literature" as a basis for the SDA Health Message. Given the questionable origin, and the conflict with the 28 Fundamentals which only acknowledge the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy, these statements may not be portrayed as representative of, nor published as official statements of, the SDA Church.

We petition the GC EXCOM to publicly withdraw these statements and apologize for: (1) allowing such statements to be published and (2) the subsequent harm caused. In our view these ADCOM Statements have severely impacted and undermined the foundation and principles of Religious Liberty as practiced and upheld by our Church Members. Thank you for your cooperation and assistance in this regard.

Christian greetings,

Signed Concord Church Clerk,

Danielle Piot



Covelo Seventh-day Adventist Church

**76261 PERRY STREET P.O. BOX 186 PHONE 707-983-6595
COVELO, CALIFORNIA
95428**

To: General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
12501 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Spring, Maryland 20904
United States of America

Recipients: GC Pres. Ted Wilson, GC Sec. Erton Kohler, GC Health Ministries Peter Landless
CC: NAD Pres. G. Alexander Bryant, NAD Press Asst. Maricel Pascual, PUC Pres. Bradford
Newton, NCC Pres. Marc Woodson

Dear SDA General Conference ADCOM and EXCOM,

RE: COVELO SDA CHURCH OBJECTION TO GC ADCOM'S STATEMENTS ON
IMMUNIZATION

We write to you from the Covelo SDA Congregation, of the Northern California Conference, of the Pacific Union Conference, of the North American Division. At our Business Meeting on October 28, 2024, the following statements of SDA General Conference (GC) ADCOM were critically reviewed and considered:

1. ADCOM statement dated 2015 as available at: <https://www.adventist.org/official-statements/immunization/>
2. ADCOM statement dated 2021 as available at: <https://adventist.news/news/reaffirming-the-seventh-day-adventist-churchs-response-to-covid-19-1>

Areas of concern:

1. Origin: These statements are of questionable origin, not voted in a regular GC session by official delegates of the world church body, and may therefore not be representative of, nor published as official statements of the SDA Church.
2. Content: The 2015 statement contradicts the 28 Fundamentals by introducing "peer-reviewed scientific literature" as a supposed basis for the SDA health emphasis. The SDA health emphasis is a matter of fundamental belief (Belief 22), and the 28 Fundamentals only recognize the Bible (Belief 1) and the Spirit of Prophecy, specifically the writings of Ellen G White (Belief 18) as authoritative.



Coveo Seventh-day Adventist Church

**76261 PERRY STREET P.O. BOX 186 PHONE 707-983-6595
COVELO, CALIFORNIA
95428**

We petition the GC EXCOM to:

1. Publicly withdraw these statements.
2. Apologise for allowing such statements to be published and the subsequent harm caused.

In our view these ADCOM Statements have severely impacted and undermined the foundation and principles of Religious Liberty as practiced and upheld by our Church Members.

Thank you for your cooperation and assistance in this regard.

Christian greetings,

John Osteen



Die Hoek Sewende-Dag Adventiste Kerk

Kerkstraat 64
Bloemhof, 2660
Noordwes Provinsie
South Africa

13 April 2025

To: SDA General Conference ADCOM and EXCOM

Re: Die Hoek SDACHurch Objection to GC ADCOM's Official Statements

To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them. Jes. 8:20

We write to you, from Die Hoek SDA Congregation of the Northern Conference, of the Southern Africa Union Conference, of the Southern Africa – Indian Ocean Division.

At our Church Business Meeting, April 12, 2025 the following statements of the General Conference Administrative Committee were reviewed and considered, and were rejected by a vote of 18 (to reject) to 0 (to accept).

1. ADCOM Immunization Statement 2015 - <https://gc.adventist.org/official-statements/immunization/>
2. ADCOM Reaffirmation Statement 2021 - [Reaffirming Adventist Church Response to COVID-19 - Adventist Health Ministries](https://gc.adventist.org/official-statements/reaffirming-adventist-church-response-to-covid-19-adventist-health-ministries)
3. ADCOM The Dangers of Climate Change Statement 1995 - <https://gc.adventist.org/official-statements/the-dangers-of-climate-change/>

Additional statements or articles that were reviewed and considered:

- a. Concerns regarding COVID-19, Church Governance, and Liberty of Conscience 2022 - <https://adventistreview.org/news-releases/concerns-regarding-covid-19-church-governance-and-liberty-of-conscience/>
- b. SPD Immunisation Statement - <https://record.adventistchurch.com/2020/12/16/spd-releases-statement-on-immunisation/>

Areas of concern:

- None of these statements were voted on, or approved, by the General Conference in Session.
- Regarding Statements 1 and 2: they add and elevate peer-reviewed scientific literature as a basis for the Adventist beliefs. Thus they are in conflict with the fundamental belief in the Bible (66 canonicle books) and God's clearly inspired prophecy as our only sources of inspired truth. Peer-reviewed science is not infallible nor inspired, but rather subject to error, retraction and manipulation.
- The "Official Statement on the Dangers of Climate Change" created and posted by ADCOM on December 19, 1995, contains no Scriptural truth, but rather elevates science as a moral

compass and prophet of future events. The statement falsely enacts "The world membership of the SDA church request that governments take steps necessary by..." to take actions for which there is no basis to be found in Scripture.


- It is evident that the GC ADCOM's relationship as a NGO with the United Nations has changed the Christian point of view from Sola Scriptura to Peer Reviewed Science Literature and every other wind of worldly doctrine.

We Petition the Executive Committee of the General Conference in Session to:


- Publicly withdraw **all** official statements made by GC ADCOM, because it creates disunity amongst believers. Issues not directly addressed by the Bible and the Spirit of prophecy should have been left to the individuals' conscience as directed by the Holy Spirit.
- Cease and desist from allowing GC ADCOM making statements on belief, doctrine or dogma, as GC ADCOM is meant to be entirely administrative.
- Revoke the Seventh Day Adventist Church NGO membership with the United Nations, as thereby GC ADCOM is officially proclaiming the agenda and directives of the UN, instead of proclaiming the message given to the church for a time as this - the Three Angels Message.
- To refrain from transforming biblical church doctrine to accommodate the favour of worldly governments and in order to be politically correct.

Thank you for your cooperation and assistance in this regard

Prayerfully



Head Elder (Brian Wiggins)



Church Clerk (Annie Wiggins)



To: General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

12501 Old Columbia Pike,
Silver Spring, Maryland 20904.
United States of America.

Attention: President Pr. Ted Wilson, Secretary Pr. Erton Kohler.

CC:

Southern Pacific Division President: Pr. Glenn Townend

Australian Union President: Pr. Terry Johnson

North New South Wales Conference President: Pr. Adrian Raethel

Dear SDA General Conference ADCOM and EXCOM,

RE: Dora Creek SDA Congregation OBJECTION TO GC ADCOM's STATEMENTS ON IMMUNISATION.

We write to you from Dora Creek SDA Congregation, of the North New South Wales Conference (NNSW), of the Australian Union Conference (AUC), of Southern Pacific Division (SPD). During our Business Meeting of 24 April 2023, the following statements of SDA General Conference (GC) ADCOM were critically reviewed and considered:

1. ADCOM statement dated 2015 as available at: <https://www.adventist.org/official-statements/immunization/>
2. ADCOM statement dated 2021 as available at: <https://adventist.news/news/reaffirming-the-seventh-day-adventist-churchs-response-to-covid-19-1>

Areas of concern:

1. Origin: These statements are of questionable origin, not voted in a regular GC session by official delegates of the world church body, and may therefore not be representative of, nor published as official statements of, the SDA Church.
2. Content: The 2015 statement contradicts the 28 Fundamentals by including "peer-reviewed scientific literature" as basis for the SDA health emphasis, whereas the 28 Fundamentals only recognize the Bible (Belief 1) and the Spirit of Prophecy, specifically the writings of Ellen G White (Belief 18).

In our view these ADCOM Statements have severely impacted and undermined the foundation and principles of religious liberty as practiced and upheld by our Church Members.

We petition the GC EXCOM to:

1. Publicly withdraw these statements.
2. Apologise for producing and publishing such statements, and the subsequent harm caused.

Thank you for your cooperation and assistance in this regard.

Christian greetings,

Rod Butler
Lead Elder



SEWENDE DAG ADVENTISTE KERK Eloffsdal

Leraar Roedolf Basson
Selfoon: 082 538 0006

H/v 8ste Laan en Fred Nicholsonstraat, Eloffsdal, 0084

www.eloffsdal.com
eloffsdal@gmail.com

7 October 2022

Dear Pastor Anderson

REQUEST FOR ADVICE REGARDING GC ADCOM STATEMENT INCLUDING PEER-REVIEWED SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE AS A BASIS OF THE ADVENTIST HEALTH EMPHASIS.

We write on behalf of the Eloffsdal Church Board as per item 22-109 of the Board meeting minutes of 20 September 2022 to ask the Conference for advice and guidance. A member of our congregation presented a number of concerns to the Church Board on 19 July 2022 and the Congregation Business Meeting on 23 July 2022 regarding a specific section within the GC ADCOM statement on Immunization of 15 April 2015 as found at <https://www.adventist.org/official-statements/>. The section in question is:

“The Adventist health emphasis is based on biblical revelation, the inspired writing of E.G. White (co-founder of the Church), and on peer-reviewed scientific literature.”

The primary concern, shared by the Board and Congregation, is *not* about immunization, but about the inclusion of “*peer-reviewed scientific literature*” (PRSL) as a third basis of the Adventist health emphasis alongside biblical revelation and the inspired writing of E.G. White. We know that PRSL holds significant advantages for society without which society would not be able to advance. We do however also know that PRSL very often supports multiple views on the same subject, changes its opinion over time based on new findings and often focusses its research based on the source of funding. The question we as Board and Congregation therefore has and would like to find an answer to for us to better understand the inclusion of PRSL, is simply this:

Given the fallacies found in PRSL, why does the church find it necessary to partly base its health emphasis on peer-reviewed scientific literature? Why is biblical revelation and the inspired writing of E.G. White not sufficient?

Most probably, the only body that can provide the answer is the one that wrote the statement, i.e. the GC ADCOM, unless such an answer already exists but which we could not find. Can the Conference leadership perhaps advise us as to how or where to find the answer to our question so that we can provide feedback to our congregation at our next business meeting on 26 November 2022?

We thank you in advance for your time and advice given.

My Lord keep you and guide you.

Dr. Werner Badenhorst (Head Elder)

Ps. Roedolf Basson

To: General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
12501 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Spring, Maryland 20904

Attention: Ted N.C. Wilson, General Conference President (president@gc.adventist.org)
Erton C. Köhler, General Conference Secretary (secretary@gc.adventist.org)

Dear General Conference Officers, GC Administrative Committee Members and Executive Committee Members,

During our church business meeting on April 26, 2025, it was discussed and voted to send you this petition.

1. We petition that the following General Conference (GC) Official Statements be discussed during the 2025 GC in Session:

- The 2015 Statement on Immunization
- The 2021 Reaffirmation Statement

We are concerned that the above statements do not align with Biblical principles, they undermine the religious liberty of members, and that they include a basis in “peer-reviewed science”. Specifically, they put forth that individual conscience in health choices (such as choosing to take or not take a vaccine) is not a “theological or religious liberty issue” (<https://adventistreview.org/news-releases/concerns-regarding-covid-19-church-governance-and-liberty-of-conscience/>), when the Bible clearly establishes health choices as an act of worship, since our bodies are the “temple of God” (1 Cor. 6:19), we are to offer our bodies as a “living sacrifice” in our worship of God (Rom. 12:1), and the Hebrew captives were right to refuse King Nebuchadnezzar’s mandated meal plan (Dan. 1).

2. We petition that all of the GC Official Statements be reviewed by the GC in Session, to be affirmed, revised or rescinded. Our mission is to spread the Everlasting Gospel in the context of the Three Angels’ Messages and not to focus on political statements.
3. We request that the way GC Official Statements are presented to the public be re-evaluated and modified. We are concerned that GC Official Statements are presented under the “Beliefs” heading of the Adventist.org website, which can give people the false impression that the statements are on equal footing with the Fundamental Beliefs.
4. We request that the church’s relationships with the United Nations be discussed during the 2025 GC in Session. The church’s involvement with worldly organizations (Rev. 18:3, Eph. 5:11) is spiritually problematic and continued involvement is an existential threat to our religious freedom. We request that any agreement or special status with the UN be withdrawn.

Thank you for your attention to these matters and your work on behalf of the church.

Sincerely,

Farmington Seventh-day Adventist Church, PO Box 187, Farmington, WA 99128

Pastor

Clerk

cc: G. Alexander Bryant (NAD President), John Freedman (NPUC President), David Jamieson (UCC President)

GALSTON SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

49 Arcadia Road, Galston 2159 NSW, AUSTRALIA

To: General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
12501 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Spring Maryland 20904
United States of America

Recipients: president@gc.adventist.org, secretary@gc.adventist.org

CC: glenntownend@adventist.org.au; terryjohnson@adventist.org.au;
albanmatothiti@adventist.org.au

Dear SDA General Conference ADCOM and EXCOM,

RE: GALSTON SDA CHURCH OBJECTION TO GC ADCOM's STATEMENTS ON IMMUNISATION
AS IT RELATES TO COVID-19

At our Galston Adventist Church business meeting on 24 February 2025, the following statements/documents from the General Conference were reviewed and considered. It was decided by a majority vote of 9 to 7 to reject these two documents and ask that they be rescinded in relation to Covid – 19 immunisations.

1. ADCOM Immunization statement dated April 15 2015: -
<https://www.adventist.org/official-statements/immunization/>
1. ADCOM reaffirmation statement dated October 25 2021: -
<https://adventist.news/news/reaffirming-the-seventh-day-adventist-churchs-response-to-covid-19-1>

It is our opinion that these statements/documents are not in accordance with the introduction to the Church's 28 Fundamental Beliefs (*Seventh-day Adventists accept the Bible as their only creed...*) because of the false claim that peer-reviewed science is a basis of SDA health emphasis (which is a matter of fundamental belief, namely #22). Therefore, we believe it should be withdrawn.

The document of 2021 states that – quote - "We are aware that the vaccines may have side effects, and these can be severe in a small percentage of cases, including death", and yet it is recommended that church members risk their lives or have serious side effects. This is not acceptable.

The documents have been mostly based on – quote “on peer-reviewed scientific literature” at the time the documents were written in 2015 and 2021. In 2024 and 2025 scientific literature is now showing that the ‘peer-reviewed scientific literature’ that may have been relied on was misleading and wrong. As a Church we believe that this is another reason why the previous recommendations should be rescinded.

The documents also state “the Church affirms and recommends the RESPONSIBLE use of vaccines as important public health measures, especially during a pandemic.” In the light of the latest scientific information about Covid-19 vaccinations it is obvious that the Churches recommendations are no longer appropriate or responsible and they should be revoked.

We believe that the Seventh-day Adventist Church Religious Liberty Department should support members who have objections to government mandates or employer requirements about vaccinations on religious and health convictions. We cannot support the statement that “claims of religious liberty are NOT used appropriately in objecting to government mandates or employer programs designed to protect the health and safety of their communities.” We believe that the Church administration and the Religious Liberty Department should not be weak, or fear that, “If we use our religious liberty resources in such personal decision advocacy efforts, we believe that we will weaken our religious liberty stance in the eyes of the government and the public.” We encourage you to support Church members and show strong convictions on behalf of members, rather than just giving in to government or employer requirements.

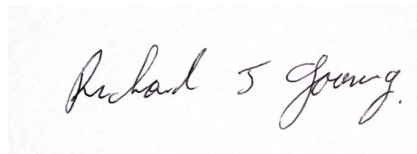
The Galston Seventh-day Adventist Church rejects the ADCOM 2015 and 2021 statements in relation to Covid-19 immunisation.

We believe that the ADCOM Statements have impacted and undermined the foundation and principles of Religious Liberty as practiced and upheld by our Church members.

We wish you God’s blessing and guidance in carrying out your SDA Church responsibilities.

We look forward to your reply.

Christian greetings,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Richard S. Young". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored, slightly textured background.

Richard Young

HEAD ELDER

To whom it may concern:

We write to you from the Gladstone SDA Church Congregation, of the IA-MO Conference, of the Mid-America Union Conference (MAUC), of the North American Division (NAD). At our Business Meeting of April 27th 2025, the following statements of SDA General Conference (GC) ADCOM were critically reviewed and considered:

ADCOM statement dated 2015 as available at:

<https://www.adventist.org/official-statements/immunization/>

ADCOM statement dated 2021 as available at:

<https://www.healthministries.com/reaffirming-adventist-church-response-to-covid-19/>

statements were not voted in GC, and elevate “peer-reviewed scientific literature” as a basis for the SDA Health Message. Given that PRSL is uninspired, and there is a conflict with the 28 Fundamentals which only acknowledge the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy, these statements are of, nor should be published as official statements of, the SDA Church. We petition the GC EXCOM to review and publicly withdraw these statements. In our view these ADCOM Statements have severely impacted and undermined the foundation and principles of Religious Liberty as practiced and upheld by our Church Members. Thank you for your cooperation and assistance in this regard.

Christian greetings,

The Gladstone SDA Church

3800 NE 80th St.

Kansas City, MO 64119

submitted by Michael Kelsey <him@mykalyce.us>, local church elder

GUILDFORD ITALIAN SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

40 Allison Road, Guildford 2161 NSW, AUSTRALIA

To: General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
12501 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Spring Maryland 20904
United States of America

Recipients: president@gc.adventist.org, secretary@gc.adventist.org

CC: glenntownend@adventist.org.au; terryjohnson@adventist.org.au; albanmatohti@adventist.org.au

Dear SDA General Conference ADCOM and EXCOM,

RE: GUILDFORD ITALIAN SDA CHURCH OBJECTION TO GC ADCOM's STATEMENTS ON IMMUNISATION

We write to you from Guildford Italian SDA Congregation, of the Greater Sydney Conference, of the Australian Union Conference (AUC), of Southern Pacific Division (SPD). At our Business Meeting of 25 May 2024, the following statements of SDA General Conference (GC) ADCOM were critically reviewed and considered:

1. ADCOM statement dated 2015 as available at: <https://www.adventist.org/official-statements/immunization/>
2. ADCOM statement dated 2021 as available at: <https://adventist.news/news/reaffirming-the-seventh-day-adventist-churchs-response-to-covid-19-1>

Areas of concern:

1. Origin: These statements are of questionable origin, not voted in a regular GC session by official delegates of the world church body, and may therefore not be representative of, nor published as official statements of, the SDA Church.
2. Content: The 2015 statement contradicts the 28 Fundamentals by introducing "peer-reviewed scientific literature" as supposed basis for the SDA health emphasis. The SDA health emphasis is

a matter of fundamental belief (Belief 22), and the 28 Fundamentals only recognize the Bible (Belief 1) and the Spirit of Prophecy, specifically the writings of Ellen G White (Belief 18) as authoritative.

We petition the GC EXCOM to:

1. Publicly withdraw these statements
2. Apologise for allowing such statements to be published and the subsequent harm caused.

In our view these ADCOM Statements have severely impacted and undermined the foundation and principles of Religious Liberty as practiced and upheld by our Church Members.

Thank you for your cooperation and assistance in this regard.

Christian greetings,

Marisa Cavalieri

Head Elder and Church Clerk



14th November 2024

Pastor E C Köhler
Executive Secretary
General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
12501 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Spring Maryland 20904
United States of America

Dear Brother Köhler

Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Cor 1:3

Re: 1. Gympie Seventh-day Adventist Church's rejection of the inclusion of peer-reviewed science as an authority for church beliefs.
2. The rejection of ADCOM Official Statements that are based on peer-reviewed science – Immunization in 2015 and 2021, and the Dangers of Climate Change 1995.

We write to you as a member of the General Conference Executive Committee (EXCOM) and Administrative Committee (ADCOM), and request that you present this letter to those committees, from the congregation of the Gympie Seventh-day Adventist church in the South Queensland Conference (SQC), in the Australian Union Conference (AUC), in the South Pacific Division (SPD).

At our Business Meeting on the 29th of October 2024 the following statements of the General Conference Administrative Committee were reviewed and considered and were **rejected** by a vote of 30 (to reject) to 4 (to accept):

1. Immunization Statement 2015 - <https://gc.adventist.org/official-statements/immunization/>
2. Reaffirmation Statement 2021 - <https://www.healthministries.com/reaffirming-adventist-church-response-to-covid-19/>
3. The Dangers of Climate Change 1995 - <https://gc.adventist.org/official-statements/the-dangers-of-climate-change/>

Additional statements or articles that were reviewed and considered:

1. Concerns regarding COVID-19, Church Governance, and Liberty of Conscience 2022 - <https://adventistreview.org/release/concerns-regarding-covid-19-church-governance-and-liberty-of-conscience/>
2. SPD Immunisation Statement - <https://record.adventistchurch.com/2020/12/16/spd-releases-statement-on-immunisation/>

Areas of Concern:

1. These statements are listed under our beliefs on the church website. These statements rely on the inclusion of peer-reviewed scientific literature (PRSL) as an authority for church beliefs.
2. The immunisation statements specifically reference the “doctrine and dogma of the church”.
3. The immunisation statements are not based on scripture or Ellen White writings, as both of these sources are silent on vaccinations. Therefore, the rest of these statements are based on peer-reviewed scientific literature alone.
4. The climate change statement contains no scripture and only peer-reviewed scientific literature. The climate change statement begins with “scientists warn” rather than “God warns”, which is the core teaching of our church.
5. The climate change statement uses the phrase, “The world membership of the Seventh-day Adventist Church requests that governments . . .” For this to be true, it would require a General Conference in Session to vote on this statement, but that did not happen.
6. The words that the church “request that governments” implies a desire for the church to have authority over government or political matters. Jesus said, “My Kingdom is not of this world”.

7. The climate change statement requests that world governments initiate “more forcefully public debate on the risks of climate change”. This is contrary to Seventh-day Adventist understanding of liberty of conscience, which allows choice versus the use of force.

The dangers if these statements are NOT rejected by the Seventh-day Adventist Church:

1. The inclusion of PRSL as a basis for matters of conscience or belief lays a foundation for accepting many errors that have no origin in the things of God. Not all the wonders of man’s science (knowledge) are surrendered to God, e.g. the science of evolution conflicts with God’s word. Paul writes on this issue: “. . . science falsely so called: Which some professing have erred concerning the faith . . .” I Timothy 6:20-21.

Ellen White writes:

- a. *“the study of the sciences is not to be neglected. Books must be used for this purpose: but they should be in harmony with the Bible, for that is the standard.”* (SpTEd 56.2.)
 - b. *“In the future, truth will be counterfeited by the precepts of men. Deceptive theories will be presented as safe doctrines. False science is one of the agencies that Satan used in the heavenly courts, and it is used by him today . . . Do not present theories or tests that have no foundation in the Bible. We have grand, solemn tests to present. “It is written” is the test that must be brought home to everyone. (Evangelism p.600).*
2. PRSL justifies climate Sundays as a legitimate method of dealing with the dangers of climate change. Science has already unified 2500 churches, 31 denominations (Catholic, Church of England, Methodist, Baptist, Salvation Army, etc) and charities (e.g. World Vision) in the United Kingdom (ClimateSunday.org). Science says any day of rest is the same, but God’s word identifies the seventh day.

Based on the Seventh-day Adventist understanding that all beliefs are to come from the Bible and the Bible alone, we petition the General Conference Executive Committee to:

1. Publicly withdraw all statements that use peer-reviewed scientific literature. When the church takes a position on one set of science versus another set, it creates disunity. Issues not directly addressed by the Bible or Ellen White should have been left to the individual conscience directed by the Holy Spirit.
2. Cease and desist from making statements on belief, doctrine or dogma, as the General Conference Executive Committee is meant to be entirely administrative.
3. Cease and desist from making any statements that are based on peer-reviewed scientific literature.

May we uphold God’s pure words - Psalm 12:6: The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tested in a furnace of earth, purified seven times.

Yours sincerely



Daniel de Bruyn
Ordained Elder of the Seventh-day Adventist Church
Business Meeting Representative Gympie Seventh-day Adventist Church

cc:
South Queensland Conference EXCOM
Australian Union Conference EXCOM
South Pacific Division EXCOM



SEVENTH-DAY
ADVENTIST®
CHURCH

Hamilton Church
NNSW Conference

September 17, 2024

To the Executive Committee of the NNSW Conference,

I write on behalf of our church at Hamilton with a request. In an August 10, 2024 Church Business Meeting the matter of the 2015 GC Adcom statement on Immunizations was discussed. While the portion on immunisations was not the part discussed, we did share a mutual concern for the section just before it which could open things up to affect many areas. This led to a vote for a recommendation that the GC change the wording. Please see below a section of our minutes from that meeting:

2. Health Message - GC Statement

Concerns have been raised regarding a 2015 GC Official Statement on Immunization, produced by the GC Adcom, stating the following: *"The Adventist health emphasis is based on biblical revelation, the inspired writing of E.G. White (co-founder of the Church), and on peer-reviewed scientific literature."* We would like to suggest amendments to the General Conference.

Our statement to [the NNSW Executive Committee and] the General Conference is the following:-

"We reject the statement as it currently reads due to the fact it includes the wording "peer-reviewed scientific literature," implying that it is a basis for our belief in the health message. We recommend this statement be amended and to remove the words "peer-reviewed scientific literature". While we recognise and value scientific research as a support for our Bible-based faith, we do not hold it to the same level of authority as The Bible and the writings of Ellen G White."

We greatly appreciate your consideration in communicating this recommendation, as it regards the question of what constitutes the foundations of our faith and practice.

Thank you for your ministry,

Justin Torossian

Pastor

Hamilton Seventh-day Adventist Church

105 Lindsay St,

Hamilton, NSW 2303



Holland Seventh-day Adventist Church Holland, Nebraska

Date: 6/17/2025

Pastor E C Köhler
Executive Secretary
General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
12501 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Spring Maryland 20904
United States of America

Re:

- 1. Holland Seventh-day Adventist Church's rejection of the inclusion of peer-reviewed science as an authority for church beliefs.**
- 2. The rejection of ADCOM Official Statements that are based on peer-reviewed science – Immunization in 2015 and 2021, and the Dangers of Climate Change 1995.**
- 3. Request for the GC to review and reject all ADCOM and EXCOM Official Statements that have not been ratified by the GC and are not in harmony with the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy.**

Dear Brother Köhler,

Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Cor 1:3

We write to you as members of the General Conference Executive Committee (EXCOM) and Administrative Committee (ADCOM), and request that you present this letter to those committees, from the congregation of the Holland Seventh-day Adventist church in the Kansas/Nebraska Conference, in the Mid-America Union Conference, in the North American Division.

At our Business Meeting on June 8, 2025, the following statements of the General Conference Administrative Committee were reviewed and considered and were **rejected** by a vote of 14 (to reject) to Zero (to accept):

1. Immunization Statement 2015 - <https://gc.adventist.org/official-statements/immunization/>
2. Reaffirmation Statement 2021 - <https://www.healthministries.com/reaffirming-adventist-church-response-to-covid-19/>
3. The Dangers of Climate Change 1995 - <https://gc.adventist.org/official-statements/the-dangers-of-climate-change/>

Additional statements or articles that were reviewed and considered:

1. Concerns regarding COVID-19, Church Governance, and Liberty of Conscience 2022 - <https://adventistreview.org/release/concerns-regarding-covid-19-church-governance-and-liberty-of-conscience/>
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Areas of Concern:

1. These statements are listed under our beliefs on the church website. These statements rely on the inclusion of peer-reviewed scientific literature (PRSL) as an authority for church beliefs.
2. The immunization statements specifically reference the "doctrine and dogma of the church".
3. The immunization statements are not based on scripture or Ellen White writings, as both of these sources are silent on vaccinations. Therefore, the rest of these statements are based on peer-reviewed scientific literature alone.
4. The climate change statement contains no scripture and only peer-reviewed scientific literature. The climate change statement begins with "scientists warn" rather than "God warns", which is the core teaching of our church.
5. The climate change statement uses the phrase, "The world membership of the Seventh-day Adventist Church requests that governments . . ." For this to be true, it would require a General Conference in Session to vote on this statement, but that did not happen.
6. The words that the church "request that governments" implies a desire for the church to have authority over government or political matters. Jesus said, "My Kingdom is not of this world".
7. The climate change statement requests that world governments initiate "more forcefully public debate on the risks of climate change". This is contrary to Seventh-day Adventist understanding of liberty of conscience, which allows choice versus the use of force.

The dangers if these statements are **NOT** rejected by the Seventh-day Adventist Church:

1. The inclusion of PRSL as a basis for matters of conscience or belief lays a foundation for accepting many errors that have no origin in the things of God. Not all the wonders of man's science (knowledge) are surrendered to God, e.g. the science of evolution conflicts with God's word. Paul writes on this issue: "... science falsely so called: Which some professing have erred concerning the faith . . ." I Timothy 6:20-21.

Ellen White writes:

- a. *"The study of the sciences is not to be neglected. Books must be used for this purpose: but they should be in harmony with the **Bible**, for that is the standard."* (SpTEd 56.2.)
 - b. *"In the future, truth will be counterfeited by the precepts of men. Deceptive theories will be presented as safe doctrines. False science is one of the agencies that Satan used in the heavenly courts, and it is used by him today . . . Do not present theories or tests that have no foundation in the Bible. We have grand, solemn tests to present. "It is written" is the test that must be brought home to everyone. (Evangelism p.600).*
2. PRSL justifies climate Sundays as a legitimate method of dealing with the dangers of climate change. Science has already unified 2500 churches, 31 denominations (Catholic, Church of England, Methodist, Baptist, Salvation Army, etc) and charities (e.g. World Vision) in the United Kingdom (ClimateSunday.org). Science says any day of rest is the same, but God's word identifies the seventh day.

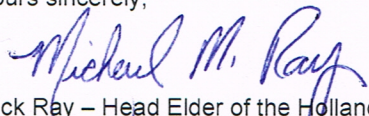
Based on the Seventh-day Adventist understanding that all beliefs are to come from the Bible and the Bible alone, we petition the General Conference Executive and Administrative Committee to:

1. Publicly withdraw all statements that use peer-reviewed scientific literature. When the church takes a position on one set of science versus another set, it creates disunity. Issues not directly addressed by the Bible or Ellen White should have been left to the individual conscience directed by the Holy Spirit.
2. Cease and desist from making statements on belief, doctrine or dogma, as the General Conference Executive Committee is meant to be entirely administrative.
3. Cease and desist from making any statements that are based on peer-reviewed scientific literature.
4. Review all Official Statements posted by the ADCOM and EXCOM to ensure they are based on biblical principles and reject those that are not.

We, the members of the Holland Seventh-day Adventist congregation, in Holland Nebraska, believe that as no person has jurisdiction over the conscience of another, and that therefore the General Conference (GC) ADCOM of the Seventh-day Adventist Church has exceeded its authority in issuing the 2015 Immunization Statement and the 2021 Reaffirmation Statement which presume GC jurisdiction over the consciences of individual members. As such, the Holland Seventh-day Adventist congregation rejects outright the jurisdiction and presumed authority of these Statements over any member of our congregation, and both defends and affirms the right of all members of our Holland Seventh-day Adventist congregation to honor their Body Temple according to the convictions of the Holy Spirit, without coercion, condemnation or criticism

May we uphold God's pure words - Psalm 12:6: The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tested in a furnace of earth, purified seven times.

Yours sincerely,



Mick Ray – Head Elder of the Holland Seventh-day Adventist Church on behalf of the membership of the Holland Seventh-day Adventist Church in Holland, Nebraska.

cc:

Pr. Ted Wilson – President of the Seventh-day Adventist General Conference - president@gc.adventist.org

Pr. Erton C. Kohler – Executive Secretary of the SDA General Conference - secretary@gc.adventist.org

Dr. Peter Landless – Health Ministries Director of the SDA General Conference - hmd@gc.adventist.org

Pr. G. Alexander Bryant – President of the SDA North American Division - presoffice@nadadventist.org

Pr. Gary Thurber – President of the Mid-America Union Conference - raylene.jones@maucsda.org

Pr. Ron Carlson – President of the SDA Kansas/Nebraska Conference - rcarlson@ks-ne.org

Do not Remove



From the Ionia Seventh-Day Adventist Church by consent of Business Meeting
To the Constituency of the Michigan Conference and the Constituents of the GC Session

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In consideration of the meetings taking place this year, and in recognition of the GC in session as the highest authority in the Seventh-Day Adventist Church, we (the Ionia SDA church) would like to request the GC sessions's consideration of certain questions. We will respectfully receive whatever is decided by the GC session. Thank you for your consideration of the following items.

1. Has the General Conference in Session considered the wording of the 2015 Immunization Statement, specifically surrounding the sources of Adventist health principles? If so, may there be a clarification of what the sources of our Adventist health principles are and in what order of importance are they held?
2. What is the purpose and position of the official statements of the General Conference Administration? How should they affect the world church? Do these statements reflect the positions of the General Conference in Session?
3. Has the General Conference recently looked over the Adventist Church's NGO/ observer status with the United Nations? Does are current participation as an NGO recognized by the United Nations hamper or improve our ability to conduct our mission of spreading the Three Angels Messages to the world?

We request clarity in these areas only out of desire to support the unity and mission of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church. Thank you again for your consideration of these questions.

Blessings,

Ionia SDA Church Family

Questions call PASTOR HOLD - 706-633-8789

Seventh-Day Adventist Church
Koper-Capodistria Local Church
Krpanova ul. 11
6000 Koper-Capodistria
Slovenia, EU

Koper-Capodistria, the 1st of July 2025

Dear brother Kohler!

We, the members of the Koper-Capodistria Local Church of Seventh-day Adventists, wish to fulfil our responsibility as part of the Body of Christ and to make known to our Conference, Union, Division and General Conference Executive and Administrative Committees the position, voted on a duly called business meeting, on matters relating to the direction in which we are moving as a world Church, and about which we have serious concerns.

In the pre-Covid-19 era, not many of our members were familiar with the official positions that Church leaders had been publishing for decades. During the recent global health crisis, the members of the Koper congregation were surprised and hurt to find that in the Official Statement on Immunization and its Reaffirmation, after acknowledging the free decision, whether or not to be vaccinated, a Church members would come to through sincere prayer for the influence of the Holy Spirit to guide our conscience, the Administrative Committee of the General Conference openly wrote that whoever would choose one of the permitted options (not to take the vaccine) can not count on the Church's help, if he/she tried to exercise his/her right to conscientious objection. We consider this position to be completely inappropriate, and unbiblical. Freedom of choice, i. e. **religious liberty**, (1) according to the source (Where the **Spirit of God** is, there is **liberty**; the Bible is **the Word of God**, inspired by the same **Spirit**, the **rule** and **test of beliefs and practice**; we shall be **judged** in relation to our **conscience**, which has a direct bearing on **salvation**; see 1 Tim. 1:19, which is denied by the same text), and (2) according to the effect of the operation of that source — our own **religious standpoint**, since we desire to treat our body, the **temple of God**, as we are persuaded the Lord guides us through our conscience. Convinced that human opinions can not and must not be stronger than the guidance we receive through the Spirit, we reject the statement which punishes what it has *permitted*, that is to say, it does not grant the possibility of conscientious objection to the those who have chosen one of the *legitimate* options.

Since, by presenting science as the foundation of the Adventist health emphasis, the Official Statement on immunisation contradicts the Bible-based Protestant principles of true godliness which justify the status of God's people, and are expressed in our Fundamental Beliefs, we ask that this statement be withdrawn.

Considering the fact that the official statements have God's authority only if approved by the General Conference in session, we invite our leaders to whom we have entrusted the guidance of the work to withdraw those statements that were not voted on in this way as well, until they will have been accepted by the representatives of the delegates from around the world at the General Conference in session.

As the basic cell of the Church organization, which has authority according to the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy (Every other power being delegated and proceeding from it), the Koper Local Adventist Church, at a duly convened business meeting that took place on 21 June 2025, gave its majority vote (without a single vote against) to ask the Church to return to the principle that God's Word is the supreme arbiter of every position, fundamental belief, statement, and practice, as well as of scientific insight. At the same time, we believe that science, which deserves this title, does not contradict God's revelation, since it does not fabricate, but merely discovers the truth. (See SpTED 56.2)

We also wish to express our complete disagreement with the reality that our movement that had worked hard to promote and protect religious freedom is now linked to the United Nations by our leadership, and in our name, but without our consent. It is now joining secular and political powers that are building the peace and security of the world on human foundations that are opposed to God's truth, and is leading humanity into the prophetically foretold scenario of the end. In doing so, the Church loses credibility and compromises the status of God's co-workers in the spreading of the pure gospel (the whole of the three angels' messages) and its right hand, too. This, practically, goes against our own belief in the need for separation of church and state in order for the church to be independent and accomplish its work.

Dear co-believers, our objection reminds us vividly of the general need for repentance in the Church. Each of us here, and our brothers and sisters throughout the world should humble ourselves. We, therefore, implore Jesus Christ, who is the Head of the Church, to help us unite, advance in genuine piety and allow Him to prepare us for His imminent coming. We are convinced that if we trust Him, surrender all our plans to Him and participate, under His guidance, in His grand plan for the salvation of the world, He will bring us to this lofty goal, He has set before us.

In love for God, for His truth, and for the Church, we wish you all the best!

On behalf of the Local Church in Koper-Capodistria

Stjepan Jurčić, head elder

Goran Glavaš, church board member,

Desa Pirjevec, church board member,

Members:

To:
General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
12501 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Spring Maryland 20904
USA



president@gc.adventist.org, secretary@gc.adventist.org
CC: SPD Division President, AUC Union President, NSW Conference President

3 March 2024

RE: Objection to General Conference Statement on Immunisation

Dear SDA General Conference Executive Committee,

We write to you from Kyogle SDA Church, of the North New South Wales Conference (NSW, AUC, SPD). At our Business Meeting of 19 February 2024, the following statements were reviewed and considered:

ADCOM Immunisation Statement of 15 April 2015, available at: <https://www.adventist.org/official-statements/immunization/>

Health Ministries statement of 22 December 2020, available at: <https://www.healthministries.com/covid-19-vaccines-addressing-concerns-offering-counsel/>

ANN article dated 25 October 2021, available at: <https://adventist.news/news/reaffirming-the-seventh-day-adventist-churchs-response-to-covid-19-1>

We shared our concerns about the 2015 Statement, specifically regarding:

Origin: The 2015 statement is of questionable origin. Although it was not voted at a GC session by delegates of the world church body, it is placed on our website under the banner of "Beliefs". We acknowledge that the Committee published this statement with the best of intentions, but it should not be representative of, nor published as, an official statement concerning the beliefs of the SDA Church.

Content: The 28 Fundamentals of the Seventh-day Adventist Church only recognise the Bible (Belief 1) and the Spirit of Prophecy, specifically the writings of Ellen G White (Belief 18), as the basis of our health message. The 2015 statement improperly elevates "peer-reviewed scientific literature" as a third basis for our SDA health emphasis. The obvious tension between the GC ADCOM statement and the 28 Fundamentals is clearly evident, and needs to be resolved.

Kyogle Seventh-Day Adventist Church

8-12 Bloore St, Kyogle NSW 2474

T 0414 909 630 E kyogleSDA@gmail.com W kyogle.adventist.org.au



We respectfully ask the General Conference Executive Committee to take the following actions:

- (1) Publicly withdraw the 2015 statement, and the subsequent statements,
- (2) Apologise for allowing such statements to be published, and
- (3) Apologise for the subsequent harm that this Statement has caused to Adventist members world-wide. In our view these three Statements have severely undermined the principles of Religious Liberty as upheld and practiced by our Church Members, and have resulted in employment and financial loss to our families and friends.

We thank God for carrying our Church through such a difficult time in our world. And we thank you for boldly protecting the religious freedom and for your cooperation and assistance with this matter.

Yours faithfully,

Gerard Sexton
Elder

Mob: 0431 541 966



Date: 16th March 2025

Pastor E C Köhler
Executive Secretary
General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
12501 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Spring Maryland 20904
United States of America

Dear Brother Köhler

Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Cor 1:3

**Re: 1. Ladismith Seventh-day Adventist Church's rejection of the inclusion of peer-reviewed science as an authority for church beliefs.
2. The rejection of ADCOM Official Statements that are based on peer-reviewed science – Immunization in 2015 and 2021, and the Dangers of Climate Change 1995.**

We write to you as a member of the General Conference Executive Committee (EXCOM) and Administrative Committee (ADCOM), and request that you present this letter to those committees, from the congregation of the Ladismith Seventh-day Adventist church in the **Cape Conference**, in the **Southern Africa Union Conference**, in the **Southern Africa – Indian Ocean Division**.

At our Business Meeting on the **16th March 2025** the following statements of the General Conference Administrative Committee were reviewed and considered and were **rejected** by a vote of

- 22 (to reject)
- to 0 (to accept).
- 1. Immunization Statement 2015 - <https://gc.adventist.org/official-statements/immunization/>
- 2. Reaffirmation Statement 2021 - <https://www.healthministries.com/reaffirming-adventist-church-response-to-covid-19/>
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