

2017 COUNCIL ON RESOLUTIONS OF ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

REPORT OF ACTION

15 October-15 November 2017





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December 2017

Dear Rotarians:

The Council on Resolutions of Rotary International met online from 15 October to 15 November 2017. In accordance with section 9.150.2. of the RI Bylaws, I am issuing this report on the actions taken by the Council.

38 resolutions were transmitted to the Council. The Council adopted 17 resolutions, of which 15 were recommendations to the RI Board and two were recommendations to The Rotary Foundation Trustees. The Board and the Trustees will consider these items at their upcoming meetings.

Should you have any questions about the Council on Resolutions or the adopted items, please contact Council Services at council services@rotary.org. The deadline for submitting resolutions to the next Council on Resolutions is 30 June 2018.

Sincerely,

John Hewko General Secretary

Table of Contents

Council Number	Title	Page Number
17R-01	To request the RI Board to consider recommending that each club have a strategic planning committee	1
17R-04	To request the RI Board to consider retaining original membership information for returning members	2
17R-05	To request the RI Board to consider that terminated clubs secure endorsement from the district	4
17R-06	To request the RI Board to consider researching the impact of club flexibility	5
17R-07	To request the RI Board to consider releasing information on the pilot programs	6
17R-10	To request the RI Board to consider reaffirming the Object of Rotary	7
17R-12	To request the RI Board to consider proposing legislation to a future Council adding core values and mission of Rotary	8
17R-16	To request the RI Board to consider supporting ecologically- sustainable initiatives	9
17R-17	To request the Trustees to consider adding sustainable development and environmental protection as an area of focus	11
17R-21	To request the RI Board to consider revising the Rotaract club certification form	12
17R-23	To request the Trustees to consider including a water project application template in the global grant application	13
17R-29	To request the RI Board to consider disclosing its deliberative process on enactments that are referred to the RI Board	14
17R-30	To request the RI Board to consider sending the five-year financial forecast prior to the Council	15
17R-31	To request the RI Board to consider not increasing Rotary's per capita dues at the 2019 Council	16

17R-36	To request the RI Board to consider adding editorial marks to updated versions of the Rotary Code of Policies	17
17R-37	To request the RI Board to consider publishing the annual presidential theme in Hindi	18
17R-38	To request the RI Board to consider training Council representatives on how to use voting equipment	20
Adopted Re	solutions Vote Tallies	21

To request the RI Board to consider recommending that each club have a strategic planning committee

Proposer(s): Rotary Club of Chiba, District 2790, Japan

Endorsed by: District 2790 through a ballot-by-mail, 21 June 2017

WHEREAS, the strengthening of individual clubs is critical for ensuring their continued existence in changing societies and continued implementation of service activities in their respective areas, and

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WHEREAS, strengthening each club's organization and reassessing the club's operations from a long-term perspective, by finding new ways to operate, is beneficial to the club's continued existence

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9 IT IS RESOLVED by Rotary International that the Board of Directors of Rotary
10 International consider amending the Recommended Rotary Club Bylaws to
11 include that each club should have a club strategic planning committee that

leverages the club's characteristics and sustains its development.

(End of Text)

FINANCIAL IMPACT

To request the RI Board to consider retaining original membership information for returning members

Proposer(s): Rotary E-Club of 9790 Latrobe, District 9790, Australia **Endorsed by:** District 9790 through a ballot-by-mail, 12 June 2017

WHEREAS, many past Rotarians who have resigned in good standing have since
 been sought out and encouraged to rejoin as members, and

WHEREAS, these members have shown themselves to be a valuable resource based upon their experiences and expertise, with a willingness to take on leadership roles, and

WHEREAS, although club records may contain initial membership numbers and starting dates, these are not included in records provided to ClubRunner, and

WHEREAS, as a consequence, it appears that we do not recognize and, therefore, appreciate their past service, although past records are retained and provided for Rotary Foundation contributions and recognitions

15 IT IS RESOLVED by Rotary International that the Board of Directors of Rotary
16 International consider collecting and retaining initial membership numbers and
17 starting dates of returning members and then making these available for use in
18 ClubRunner.

(End of Text)

PURPOSE AND EFFECT

Individual clubs can energize Rotary with the return of past members, who are now seen as an important field for membership acquisition. Many of these will have left Rotary in good standing but were unable to retain membership due to past attendance rules and expectations or were frustrated with both the previous lack of change within clubs and the inability of clubs to adapt to the needs of society. Many of these past members are still vibrant and self-motivated citizens with great Rotary experience, keen to make a contribution. Now is not the time to ignore their past service with the allocation of a new membership number and a joining date commensurate with their re-entry into Rotary. To publish their original details via ClubRunner will give due recognition to them and enhance their standing, motivation, and self-worth; it will be fair to all concerned.

- If implemented, this resolution could have a financial impact on RI which cannot be determined at this time. Cost would be dependent on the scope and extent of support provided by the RI Board to accomplish this goal.
- 4
- 5 If there is an increase in membership, there could be an increase in revenues.

To request the RI Board to consider that terminated clubs secure endorsement from the district

Proposer(s): District 3860, Philippines

Endorsed by: District 3860 through a district legislation meeting, Cebu, Cebu,

Philippines, 28 June 2017

WHEREAS, a terminated club may be reinstated as a member of RI upon payment of fees and charges, and

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WHEREAS, causes for termination may not be limited to non-payment of fees, but may also include other untoward acts and activities inimical to RI, and

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WHEREAS, the district concerned should ensure the rectification of acts unbecoming a Rotarian and should seek a resolution from the club to refrain from and avoid the repetition of such acts

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- IT IS RESOLVED by Rotary International that the Board of Directors of Rotary
- 12 International consider requiring that terminated clubs secure clearance and
- endorsement from the district, as well as attend a basic orientation session, to be
- 14 conducted and/or recommended by the district.

(End of Text)

PURPOSE AND EFFECT

- 15 This resolution proposes to unify the vision of each club and to ensure the
- preservation of integrity, unquestionable reputation, and genuine humanitarian
- efforts of RI through a stringent screening process of errant but remorseful
- 18 Rotarians.

- 19 If implemented, this resolution would have no substantial financial impact on RI.
- 20 Currently, clubs can only be reinstated if they are terminated due to unpaid dues
- or other financial obligation to RI or approved contributions to the district fund.

To request the RI Board to consider researching the impact of club flexibility

Proposer(s): District 2840, Japan

Endorsed by: District 2840 through an annual district conference, Maebashi,

Gunma, Japan, 16 April 2017

WHEREAS, the 2016 Council on Legislation adopted legislation introducing great flexibility into the operation of clubs. It is important to research and analyze what changes this flexibility has generated, and what effects it has produced relative to RI's membership development and club revitalization initiatives, which are the objectives of the increased flexibility

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- 7 IT IS RESOLVED by Rotary International that the Board of Directors of Rotary
- 8 International consider conducting yearly research on the condition of those clubs
- 9 that have introduced flexibility and disclosing the results to all clubs.

(End of Text)

PURPOSE AND EFFECT

- 10 Under the current circumstances where Rotary's membership is stagnant
- worldwide, the 2016 Council on Legislation adopted revolutionary changes to the
- constitutional documents of RI that would allow for the introduction of
- 13 significant flexibility in club management. Many Rotary clubs, however, are
- 14 cautious about introducing such flexibility. Appropriate disclosure of the
- effectiveness of those clubs that have introduced flexibility will encourage more
- 16 clubs to tackle club reforms.

- 17 If implemented, this resolution could have a financial impact on RI which cannot
- be determined at this time. Cost would be dependent on the scope and extent of
- support provided by the RI Board to accomplish this goal.

To request the RI Board to consider releasing information on the pilot programs

Proposer(s): District 2680, Japan

Endorsed by: District 2680 through a district legislation meeting, Kobe,

Hyogo, Japan, 20 May 2017

WHEREAS, RI, in order to strengthen Rotary's activities, implements pilot programs, such as the 2015-2017 Innovative and Flexible Rotary Club pilot program, and collects data on their intermediate progress and results, and

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WHEREAS, if clubs are able to access the data related to these pilot programs, the clubs' efforts and ingenuity for vitalizing and strengthening their activities will become more effective

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9 IT IS RESOLVED by Rotary International that the Board of Directors of Rotary 10 International consider regularly releasing information on Rotary's website 11 regarding the intermediate progress and the results of these pilot programs,

along with data that is as detailed as possible, in all official languages of RI.

(End of Text)

- 13 If implemented, this resolution would have a financial impact on RI which cannot
- be determined at this time. Currently, we do not report the progress of pilot
- programs; therefore, additional expenses would be incurred to compile, translate
- and post pilot program results.

To request the RI Board to consider reaffirming the Object of Rotary

Proposer(s): Rotary Club of Takayama Chuo, District 2630, Japan **Endorsed by:** District 2630 through a ballot-by-mail, 30 May 2017

WHEREAS, the principles of Rotary that are upheld in RI's Strategic Plan, and the principles that are included in the RI Constitution, the Standard Rotary Club Constitution and the 2016 *Manual of Procedure*, need to be reexamined in light of unity and consistency, and

5 WHEREAS, the main clause of the Object of Rotary, in particular, is the principle of Rotary 8

9 IT IS RESOLVED by Rotary International that the Board of Directors of Rotary 10 International consider reaffirming that the Object of Rotary is to encourage and 11 foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise.

(End of Text)

PURPOSE AND EFFECT

Once an organization is constructed to practice a philosophy, the organization's core values are defined, and operating rules are formulated on the basis of those core values, so that the organization can develop into the future. However, there is a slight lack of consistency among the principles upheld by RI's Strategic Plan and the principles stated in the RI Constitution and the Standard Rotary Club Constitution.

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- 19 It would be extremely helpful to organize and consolidate these sets of principles
- 20 in accordance with the Object of Rotary and include the result in the
- 21 constitutions with systematic explanations that can be easily understood by all
- 22 members. This will further clarify the spirit of Rotary and will not only
- encourage Rotarians to focus their efforts in service activities but also increase
- 24 support for Rotary.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

To request the RI Board to consider proposing legislation to a future Council adding core values and mission of Rotary

Proposer(s): District 2650, Japan

Endorsed by: District 2650 through an annual district conference, Echizen,

Fukui, Japan, 9 April 2017

IT IS RESOLVED by Rotary International that the Board of Directors of Rotary
International consider proposing legislation to a future Council on Legislation
adding the core values and mission of Rotary, as promoted in Rotary's strategic
plan, to both the RI Constitution and the Standard Rotary Club Constitution, in a
way that is consistent with the Object of Rotary.

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IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED by Rotary International that the Board of Directors of Rotary International consider using the official wording of the Object of Rotary – "to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise" – as the mission statement of RI.

(End of Text)

PURPOSE AND EFFECT

A mission, a vision, and core values are necessary for any type of organization. In recent years, RI has announced its strategic plan and attempted to improve on its philosophical system, but these aren't consistent with the RI Constitution and the Standard Rotary Club Constitution.

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It is extremely important to organize Rotary's principles, including its objectives, to reflect its theoretical system, and incorporate these into the constitutions.

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- This will lead to improvements in Rotary's philosophical system, which will help
- 20 Rotarians to devote themselves to Rotary activities with greater focus and
- 21 confidence. As a result, we expect further increases in the activities of RI.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

To request the RI Board to consider supporting ecologically-sustainable initiatives

Proposer(s): Rotary Club of Tampere International, District 1390, Finland

Endorsed by: District 1390 through a ballot-by-mail, 16 June 2017

WHEREAS, local efforts are needed by Rotary leaders and thought-shapers from all over the world who are able to influence their own communities. Together, we commit with our actions to the common welfare to ensure sustainable

4 development, and

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WHEREAS, human thinking about using resources linearly is not sustainable. Similar to how nature itself does not produce rubbish or waste but, rather, reuses resources, humans should strive to reach a level of consumption that does not expend natural resources, and

WHEREAS, "Less is more" design thinking should be encouraged to reduce waste at all stages of product lifecycles, from initial creation of the product, during use, and at the end. Recycling and reusing various types of materials throughout the lifecycle can be increased with ecological product design, and

WHEREAS, end-of-life thinking is needed for products and materials to ensure an ecologically clean process at the end of their useful life, to reuse valuable raw materials, and to prevent potentially dangerous substances from escaping into nature. The Pacific Ocean garbage patch is a visible example of the consequence of plastics being freely released into nature, and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to increase public awareness of sustainable solutions in order to attain the goal of ensuring that the earth's natural resources will be sufficient for generations to come, and

WHEREAS, by creating a sustainable initiative at the global level in Rotary, involvement can be expanded to all current clubs, as well as future younger members, by showing that Rotary cares and wants to support important initiatives for future generations

IT IS RESOLVED by Rotary International that the Board of Directors of Rotary International consider giving attention and support towards ecologicallysustainable initiatives and programs, as well as aim to increase investment in businesses that produce "clean" technology or improve the "circular economy."

(End of Text)

- If implemented, this resolution would result in an increase in expenses for RI 1
- which cannot be determined at this time. Cost would be dependent on the scope and extent of support provided by the RI Board to accomplish this goal. 2
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To request the Trustees to consider adding sustainable development and environmental protection as an area of focus

Proposer(s): Rotary Club of Bourg-en-Bresse-Revermont, District 1710,

France

Endorsed by: District 1710 through an annual district conference, Châtillon-

sur-Chalaronne, France, 17 June 2017

- 1 IT IS RESOLVED by Rotary International that the Board of Directors of Rotary
- 2 International consider requesting the Trustees of The Rotary Foundation to
- 3 consider adding sustainable development and environmental protection as an
- 4 area of focus of The Rotary Foundation.

(End of Text)

- 5 If implemented, this resolution would result in an increase in expenses to The
- 6 Rotary Foundation which cannot be determined at this time. Annual
- 7 administrative expenses to support an additional area of focus are estimated at
- 8 US\$125,000. In addition, extensive modifications to existing software would be
- 9 required and project estimates are currently not available for this expense.

To request the RI Board to consider revising the Rotaract club certification form

Proposer(s): Rotary Club of Mumbai West Coast, District 3141, India **Endorsed by:** District 3141 through a ballot-by-mail, 29 May-28 June 2017

1 WHEREAS, Rotaract is one of Rotary's important partners in service, and

WHEREAS, it is important that Rotaract clubs be formed and monitored from
 the time of their inception, and

WHEREAS, as of today, Rotaract clubs are organized without the knowledge of the district Rotaract representative, making it difficult to provide such monitoring, and

9 10 WHEREAS, Rotaract districts should monitor these clubs so that proper 11 administrative support can be given

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13 IT IS RESOLVED by Rotary International that the Board of Directors of Rotary
14 International consider adding the endorsement of the district Rotaract
15 representative (wherever possible), along with endorsement of the district
16 governor, on the Rotaract club certification form.

(End of Text)

PURPOSE AND EFFECT

- The purpose of this resolution is to ensure that the district Rotaract representative and the Rotaract district are kept informed during the formation of Rotaract clubs. This will ensure administrative support by the Rotaract district before and during the formation of a new club. Every new club needs the support of an administrative structure to start and maintain its functioning. This will
- strengthen the hands of the Rotary district and the sponsoring Rotary club and will inculcate best practices in the newly formed Rotaract club.
- It would require the additional endorsement of the district Rotaract representative (wherever appointed) on the Rotaract club certification form.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

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To request the Trustees to consider including a water project application template in the global grant application

Proposer(s): Rotary Club of Creston, District 5080, Canada and USA **Endorsed by:** District 5080 through an annual district conference, Nakusp, British Columbia, Canada, 12-14 May 2017

WHEREAS, there are many global grant water projects, and

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WHEREAS, the generic global grant application process is too broad in scope to address water projects in an efficient and timely manner

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- IT IS RESOLVED by Rotary International that the Board of Directors of Rotary
- 7 International consider requesting the Trustees of The Rotary Foundation to
- 8 consider adding a link in the global grant application process that directs
- 9 applicants to an application template specific to water projects.

(End of Text)

- 10 If implemented, this resolution would have a financial impact on The Rotary
- Foundation which cannot be determined at this time. The global grant
- application process would require modifications to existing software and project
- estimates are currently not available for this expense.

To request the RI Board to consider disclosing its deliberative process on enactments that are referred to the RI Board

Proposer(s): District 2660, Japan

Endorsed by: District 2660 through a ballot-by-mail, 21 April 2017

WHEREAS, enactments 16-17, 16-18, and 16-20, "To amend the Object of
 Rotary," were referred to the RI Board by the 2016 Council on Legislation, and

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WHEREAS, consideration of enactment 16-41, "To revise membership criteria to prohibit those who have never worked from becoming members," was postponed indefinitely by the same Council, and

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WHEREAS, the issues addressed in these four proposals are very important in relation to the guiding principles of Rotary, and Rotarians worldwide closely watch the deliberative processes at RI Board meetings

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IT IS RESOLVED by Rotary International that the Board of Directors of Rotary International consider disclosing its deliberative processes and the results of its deliberations on these issues after each Board meeting on the Rotary website.

(End of Text)

PURPOSE AND EFFECT

- There is a need to consider the content of the enactments proposed for the 2019
- 16 Council on Legislation once the RI Board has concluded its deliberations on these
- 17 proposals. Moreover, because a new annual Council on Resolutions will be
- convened starting in 2017, in order to further promote the effectiveness of
- 19 legislative debate at the 2019 Council on Legislation, the substance of such
- 20 deliberations should be disclosed after future Board meetings.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

To request the RI Board to consider sending the five-year financial forecast prior to the Council

Proposer(s): District 1710, France

Endorsed by: District 1710 through an annual district conference, Châtillon-

sur-Chalaronne, France, 17 June 2017

- 1 IT IS RESOLVED by Rotary International that the Board of Directors of Rotary
- 2 International consider sending the five-year financial forecast to Council
- 3 representatives 15 days prior to the Council on Legislation.

(End of Text)

PURPOSE AND EFFECT

- 4 Having the documents at their disposal 15 days before the Council on Legislation
- 5 convenes, Council representatives will be able to review them and come to a
- 6 decision in full knowledge of the facts.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

To request the RI Board to consider not increasing Rotary's per capita dues at the 2019 Council

Proposer(s): District 2840, Japan

Endorsed by: District 2840 through an annual district conference, Maebashi,

Gunma, Japan, 16 April 2017

WHEREAS, enactment 16-99, proposed by the RI Board to the 2016 Council on Legislation, originally sought to increase the per capita dues amount by US\$1 a year. However, on the day of deliberation, it was quickly amended, resulting in a significant increase of US\$4 per year. Individual Rotary clubs are currently struggling to deal with this increase, and

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WHEREAS, the RI Board should make efforts to further improve the soundness of Rotary's financial situation and streamline and clarify Rotary's organizational structure, and the Board should be held accountable to the clubs

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- IT IS RESOLVED by Rotary International that the Board of Directors of Rotary International consider making efforts to avoid incremental changes to per capita
- dues at the upcoming 2019 Council on Legislation by further clarifying Rotary's

14 operations.

(End of Text)

PURPOSE AND EFFECT

- 15 This significant increase in the per capita dues amount is unprecedented, and
- many clubs are struggling to deal with it. They are also beginning to feel that the
- 17 RI Board is not providing sufficient explanation for the appropriateness of its
- 18 management of Rotary's operations. The RI Board should refrain from making a
- dues increase proposal that could not convince the clubs in the future.

- 20 If implemented, this resolution could have a financial impact on RI which cannot
- be determined at this time. The Board evaluates whether to propose a per capita
- dues increase to the Council on Legislation based on RI's five-year financial
- 23 forecast as well as the strategic plan and vision.
- 24 The RI Bylaws require a balanced budget; therefore, not increasing RI per capita
- 25 dues could have an impact on RI's operations and services.

To request the RI Board to consider adding editorial marks to updated versions of the Rotary Code of Policies

Proposer(s): District 2650, Japan

District 2680, Japan District 2840, Japan

Endorsed by: District 2650 through an annual district conference, Echizen,

Fukui, Japan, 9 April 2017

District 2680 through a district legislation meeting, Kobe,

Hyogo, Japan, 20 May 2017

District 2840 through an annual district conference, Maebashi,

Gunma, Japan, 16 April 2017

WHEREAS, when the Rotary Code of Policies is updated due to the decisions of 1 2

- the RI Board, Council on Legislation, etc., those decisions will be published on
- the Rotary website. However, these changes in the Rotary Code of Policies 3
- cannot be easily found due to the large number of pages that exist 4

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- IT IS RESOLVED by Rotary International that the Board of Directors of Rotary
- International consider indicating said changes in the Rotary Code of Policies with
- 8 deleted points marked by strikethrough lines and additions marked by
- underlining, as these allow for quicker and more accurate understanding. 9

(End of Text)

PURPOSE AND EFFECT

- For the administration of Rotary, it is critical to confirm any changes in the latest 10
- version of the Rotary Code of Policies. However, when Rotarians access the 11
- Rotary Code of Policies, they may feel confused searching for recently changed 12
- parts. If those changed parts are clearly indicated by deletion lines or 13
- underlining, the examination of the Code becomes more accurate and 14
- 15 expeditious.

- If implemented, this resolution could result in an increase in expenses for RI due 16
- 17 to additional administrative resources needed to add editorial marks to the
- Rotary Code of Policies. Cost would vary year to year contingent upon the 18
- frequency and volume of changes to the Code of Policies. 19

To request the RI Board to consider publishing the annual presidential theme in Hindi

Proposer(s):	District 3070,	India
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Endorsed by: District 3070 through an annual district conference, Amritsar,

Punjab, India, 19 March 2017

1 WHEREAS, there are approximately 1.23 million Rotarians across the globe, and 2 WHEREAS, nearly 12 percent of the total global membership is from India, and 3 4 5 WHEREAS, Hindi is the national language of India, and 6 WHEREAS, Hindi is already one of the Rotary languages, and 7 8 9 WHEREAS, the annual presidential theme is published in other Rotary languages, but not Hindi, and 10 11 12 WHEREAS, the presentation of the annual presidential theme in Hindi will be absorbed easily into the vast populace of this country and will lend recognition to 13 Rotary and its work, ultimately leading to its growth 14 15 IT IS RESOLVED by Rotary International that the Board of Directors of Rotary 16 International consider publishing the annual presidential theme in Hindi, one of 17

(End of Text)

PURPOSE AND EFFECT

the Rotary languages.

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India has a vast population of 1.3 billion. Hindi is the language which is 19 understood throughout the length and breadth of the country. To increase the 20 21 penetration of Rotary and help people understand the purpose of Rotary, it is profitable to have an annual presidential theme which is used in all public 22 relations exercises by the organization. The theme in the local language is more 23 comprehensible and accepted by a majority as their own. Publishing the annual 24 presidential theme in Hindi entails no major expenditure and yet can yield huge 25 benefits in terms of acceptability, enhanced public image, decent membership 26 growth, and strengthening of The Rotary Foundation. 27

FINANCIAL IMPACT

If implemented, this resolution would have no substantial impact on RI if the annual presidential theme were translated into Hindi.

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- RI currently provides support for Hindi based upon needs determined from surveying clubs and the local office. For example, club officer kits are provided in
- surveying clubs and the local office. For example, club officer kits are provided in Hindi. However, if all publications were translated into Hindi, this would result
- 7 in an increase in expenses for RI which cannot be determined at this time.

To request the RI Board to consider training Council representatives on how to use voting equipment

Proposer(s): Rotary Club of Kushiro, District 2500, Japan

Endorsed by: District 2500 through a ballot-by-mail, 23 June 2017

WHEREAS, in each Council on Legislation, votes are cast electronically, and

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WHEREAS, on the first day of the 2016 Council, nearly one hundred votes were not included in the vote count because representatives were unfamiliar with their voting equipment, and

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WHEREAS, such a system can lead to imprecise voting

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- 9 IT IS RESOLVED by Rotary International that the Board of Directors of Rotary
- 10 International consider holding a session on the proper handling of voting
- equipment, to be held during the rehearsal on the day before the 2019 Council on
- Legislation, and consider changing the Council's voting equipment to one that
- 13 enables easier casting of votes.

(End of Text)

PURPOSE AND EFFECT

- 14 The purpose of this proposal is as stated in the main body of the text. Its effect
- would be to produce more precise voting results, thus promoting confidence in
- the Council on Legislation among Rotarians around the world.

- 17 If implemented, this resolution would have no substantial financial impact on RI.
- 18 Prior to the start of each Council on Legislation, a training session is held for the
- representatives to learn how to use the voting equipment. Additionally, the
- 20 supplier of voting equipment is evaluated triennially.

ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS VOTING TOTALS

Council Number	Yes Votes	No Votes	Total Votes
17R-01	295	195	490
17R-04	331	152	483
17R-05	317	166	483
17R-06	341	146	487
17R-07	396	93	489
17R-10	280	204	484
17R-12	250	235	485
17R-16	279	208	487
17R-17	247	235	482
17R-21	281	194	475
17R-23	308	182	500
17R-29	284	196	478
17R-30	425	58	483
17R-31	300	189	489
17R-36	309	179	488
17R-37	305	175	480
17R-38	340	144	484