

# *Joint Declaration of Commitment*

by the  
General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and Three Angels Broadcasting Network

The General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and Three Angels Broadcasting Network are committed to faithfulness to God's Word and loyalty to Bible truth as formulated in the 27 Fundamental Beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. We believe that our shared commitment to world evangelism through media compels us to seek ways to cooperate in the task of reaching the world for Christ. We believe that much more can be accomplished to hasten the Lord's return through cooperation in an atmosphere of mutual trust and confidence.

## **As leaders of Three Angels Broadcasting Network (3ABN), we commit ourselves to:**

- A. Offer our resources in accordance with 3ABN's operational policies to support the mission of, and work in cooperation with, the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the proclamation of the everlasting gospel to the entire world.
- B. Proclaim the gospel in its purity and simplicity while being sensitive to the unique cultures of people in countries around the world.
- C. Reiterate our endorsement of the concept of the Seventh-day Adventist Church organization as set forth in the book *Seventh-day Adventists Believe*, Chapters 11-13, and in the writings of Ellen G. White.
- D. Recognize the local and regional constituent responsibility and leadership in administering activities and operations of the Church in their territory.
- E. Restate our support for integrating new members into the body of Christ and, more specifically, encouraging membership in the Seventh-day Adventist Church around the world.

## **As administrators of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists (GC), we commit ourselves to:**

- A. Reaffirm the profound spiritual truth that God calls and empowers both individuals and supporting ministries who are committed to the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, to join with the Church, its institutions and organizations in the proclamation of the gospel.
- B. Establish such official communication and planning forums, including supporting ministries such as 3ABN, with world and divisions leaders as may be appropriate.
- C. Encourage General Conference departments, world divisions, and Church institutions to utilize the services of 3ABN for production and distribution of programming as may be appropriate, with the understanding that the agreements between the applicable Seventh-day Adventist organizations and 3ABN, include—at a minimum—that the financial arrangements and copyright ownership be documented in writing.
- D. Encourage Seventh-day Adventist Church organizations to submit programming for distribution on 3ABN with the recognition and understanding that 3ABN will review all programming.
- E. Encourage the fostering of a spirit of unity and cooperation between all organizations of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and 3ABN.

## **Our Common Vision:**

Includes strategic planning sessions, counseling on matters of common interest, praying, dreaming and planning together. We welcome the opportunity to join together in coordinating and executing the global mission of reaching every nation, kindred, tongue and people with the message of the saving grace of Christ and His soon coming in the context of the Great Controversy and the Three Angels' Messages of Revelation 14.

**Issues Resolution:**

We recognize that as Christians, even with the best of intentions, differences can arise. We agree to the following Issues Resolution Process in harmony with the counsel of Matthew 18 to keep the cooperative spirit between us healthy.

In the event of a disagreement between 3ABN and a world Division of the Seventh-day Adventist Church regarding programming which the the Division Executive Committee believes is detrimental to the mission of the Church, then;

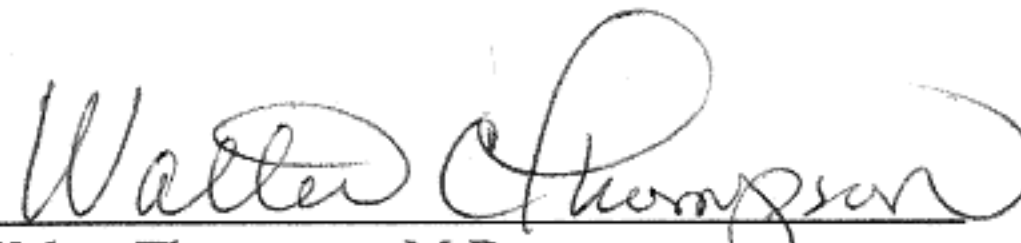
**Step One:** Representatives of both entities will communicate informally and, in a spirit of cooperation, attempt to resolve the issue.


**Step Two:** If the issue is not resolved informally, the parties can request the appointment of a mediator, jointly selected by the Chairman of the Board of 3ABN and a representative of the General Conference Administrative Committee (GCADCOM) on behalf of whatever entity of the Seventh-day Adventist Church is involved. The mediator will carefully examine and consider the matter and report the recommendations and conclusions to both the representative of the GCADCOM and the Chairman of the Board of 3ABN.

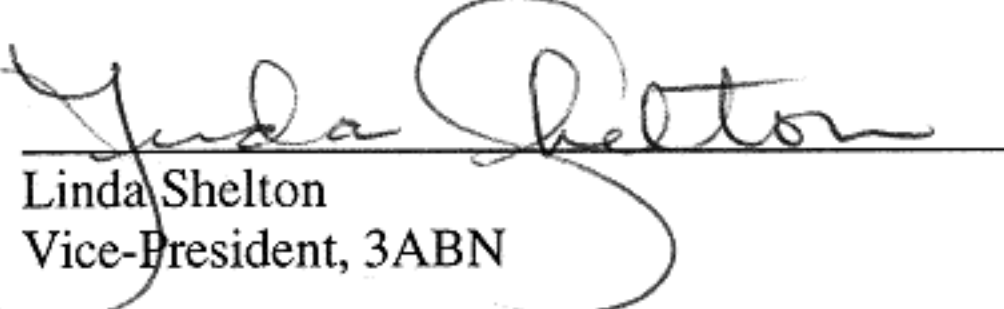
**Step Three:** Should the issue continue to be unresolved, then a Special Issues Resolution Committee (SIRC) will be established to examine, consider, and resolve the issue/s. 3ABN and the affected Church organization will each select three individuals to serve as members of the SIRC. These six members, meeting with a temporary facilitator provided by GCADCOM, will jointly select a chairperson, a seventh member of the SIRC, who must be agreed to by the representatives of all three parties. The SIRC will act in a timely manner, and the Chairperson will provide written recommendations and conclusions for presentation to the governing boards of all affected parties. The expectation is that all governing boards will agree to abide by the recommendations and conclusions of the SIRC. In the unlikely event that 3ABN or the affected organization chooses not to abide by the recommendations and conclusions of the SIRC, the cooperative efforts of the parties as indicated in this Joint Declaration will terminate and all parties agree that no civil court has jurisdiction in these matters.

With eager anticipation of God's rich blessing on our renewed commitment to work together in our mutual efforts, we execute this Joint Declaration of Commitment this 4th day of November, 1997.

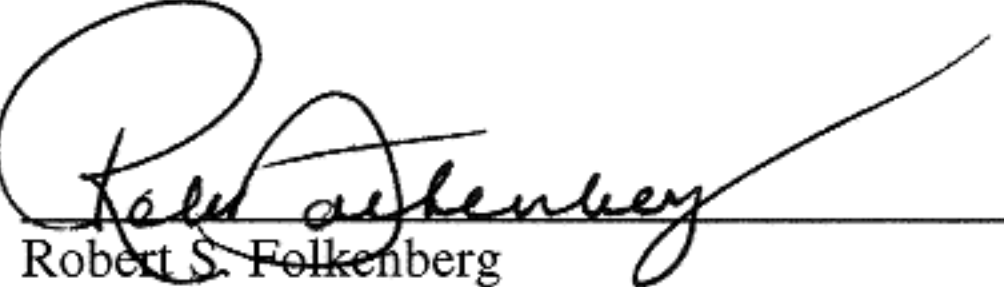
**Three Angels Broadcasting Network**

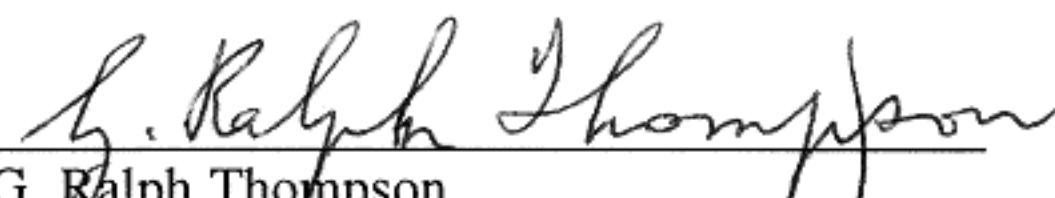
  
Walter Thompson, M.D.  
Board Chairman, 3ABN

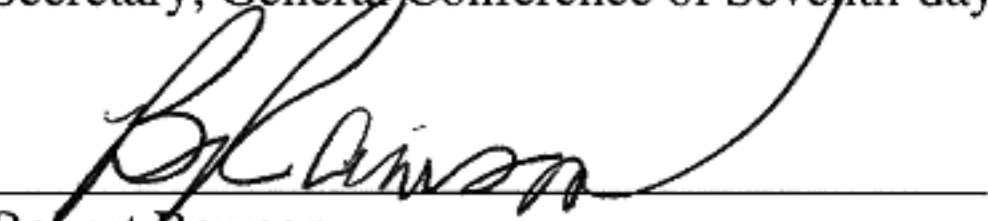
  
Danny Shelton  
President, 3ABN

  
Linda Shelton  
Vice-President, 3ABN

**The General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists**

  
Robert S. Folkenberg  
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