



RI Board Meeting January 2008

Rotary International Zone Realignment History Approved Zone Realignment

Adopted from RI Board
presentation, October
2007

Current RI Bylaws (2008)

- **Section 12.010.1 Number of Zones.**

The world shall be divided into 34 zones that are approximately equal in number of Rotarians.

- **12.010.3 Zone Boundaries.**

The initial boundaries of the zones shall be approved by resolution of the council.

- **12.010.4 Periodic Review of Zone Boundaries.**

The board shall undertake, no less often than every eight years, a comprehensive review of the composition of the zones to maintain an approximately equal number of Rotarians in each zone. The board may also undertake, as necessary, interim reviews for the same purpose.

- **12.010.5 Realignment of Zones.**

Any new alignments can be made by the board.

1992 Council on Legislation

1992 COL recognized inequity in board representation

Requested Board to propose an enactment to 1995 COL

Realign regions and zones based on approximate equal number of Rotarians

Entitlement of zones to directorships based on approximate equal number of Rotarians

1995 Council on Legislation

Proposed enactment 95-91

Zones with approximately equal number of Rotarians for purpose of nominating Directors of RI and electing nominating committees for RI president

Reconfirm that Board shall be limited to 17 elected Directors, plus president and president-elect: (1989 Council increased Directors to 19: 17 elected by zones, President and President-elect)

Simplify nominating process for selecting RI Directors

Provide more frequent opportunities for Rotarians from currently under-represented areas to be selected as an RI Director

Rotate in fair manner directorships among various sections in certain zones

1995 Council on Legislation

Proposed enactment 95-91 also emphasized

Did not alter provisions for holding institutes for zones, which may be established on the basis of geographical location, language, or traditional practice

Did not establish an organizational structure within zones

Did not add costs to RI at any level

Did not make any changes in club or district operations

1995 Council on Legislation

Proposed enactment 95-91

- **Provided for 34 zones**
- **Each zone to nominate a director every 4 years**
- **Each zone would have a director on the board 2 out of every 4 years**

2001 Council on Legislation

2001 Council

Agreed Board can make new zone alignments without Council approval

November 2002: Board requested President to appoint 2002-03 Zones Review Committee to determine zone realignment for equality of numbers, geographical and political issues.

Requested report to Board in May 2003.

February 2003: Board requested Zones Review Committee to consider Rotary growth, leadership, district governance, training, cultural and ethnic factors, geographical distances, and financial and economic conditions.

2002-2003 Zone Review Committee

PRID Rudolf Hörndler, Chairman

PRID Francisco Creo

PRID John J. Eberhard

PRID P.C. Thomas, Board Liaison

PRIP Glenn E. Estess, Sr., Special Observer

Presented realignment plan to Board in May 2003.

Board asked for further study. Requested the 2003-04 President to appoint a geographically diverse committee of the Board to further study the issue. Requested report to Board in June 2004.

2003-2004 Zone Review Committee

PRIP Glenn E. Estess, Sr., Chairman

PRID Sushil Gupta

PRID Luiz Coelho de Oliveira

PRID Michael Pinson

PRID Samuel A. Okudzeto

PRID Constant A.G.M. Tempelaars

PRID Sakuji Tanaka

PRID John G. Thorne

Reported to Board in October 2003. Presented re-sectioning decision for zone 5 (from 3 to 2 sections).

2003-2004 Zone Review Committee

Committee met again in February 2004. Reported to Board February 2004.

Board asked for further input from Rotary senior leaders. Requested 2004-05 President to appoint a Committee of Senior Leaders to propose a realignment.

Realignment to be done in accordance with RI bylaws 12.010.4.

The board shall undertake, no less often than every eight years, a comprehensive review of the composition of the zones to maintain an approximately equal number of Rotarians in each zone. The board may also undertake, as necessary, interim reviews for the same purpose.

2004 Council on Legislation

2004 Council

Amended RI bylaws section 12.010.4

To require a review of zones composition every 8 years instead of every 12 years.

The board shall undertake, no less often than every eight years, a comprehensive review of the composition of the zones to maintain an approximately equal number of Rotarians in each zone. The board may also undertake, as necessary, interim reviews for the same purpose.

2004-2005 Zones Restructuring Committee

PRIP Bill Huntley, Chair
PRID Mike Pinson
PRID P. C. Thomas
PRIP Jonathan Majiyagbe
PRID Francisco Creo
PRID Umberto Laffi
PRID Rafael G. Hechanova
PDG Chris Offer
PRID In Sang Song
PRID John G. Thorne
PRID Keith Barnard Jones

2004-2005 Zones Restructuring Committee

Reported to Board, June 2005.

Presented realignment plan.

Board noted other issues to be addressed included the:

- **Establishment of other criteria in addition to an ‘approximately equal number of Rotarians in each zone.’**
- **Zones used for administrative purposes for foundation, membership, governor-elect training, Rotary Institutes.**
- **Additional criteria to be proposed to 2007 Council.**
- **Requested President to establish a committee of Past RI Presidents for Report to Board in February 2006.**

2005-2006 Zones Restructuring Committee

PRIP Bill Skelton, Chairman

PRIP Jonathan Majiyagbe

PRIP Luis Giay

PRIP Raja Saboo

PRIP Bill Huntley

2005-2006 Zones Restructuring Committee

Report to Board submitted February 2006.

Overview:

- **Renamed Rotary Zone Institutes to Rotary Institutes.**
- **Agreed that the RI bylaws criteria for zones composition should be expanded to include membership trends, support to The Rotary Foundation, culture, language, geography and historical groupings, and that reference to an “approximate equal membership” of zones should be deleted.**
- **Requested Constitution & Bylaws committee to draft legislation to 2007 COL to provide for ‘additional director’ to serve in certain areas of world on rotating basis – increasing the Board from 19 to 20.**

Zone Realignment

2007 Council on Legislation Action

2007 Council

07-173: REJECTED

To increase the number of directors from 17 to 18 and revise the criteria for setting zone boundaries.

(Board to determine which zones or section within a zone the additional director shall be nominated.)

07-174: REFERRED TO BOARD

To request the RI Board to consider realigning the zones.

Board Zones Review Committee- 2007

Board Zones Review Committee Established, June 2007

RID Frank Goldberg, Chair

RID Michael McGovern

RID Noraseth Pathmanand

RID Barry Rassin

Reported to Board June 2007.

Noting actions of 2007 Council on Legislation agreed to review composition of Rotary's 34 zones in 2007-08.

Board Zones Review Committee- 2007

- **Agreed to proceed with a realignment of districts within zones.**
- **31 December 2006 membership to be used.**
- **Identified 3 regional groups: Asia, Europe, Americas**
- **Committee members to include: current directors, immediate past directors, directors-elect.**
- **Requested General Secretary to prepare rotation schedule that would provide for zone representation over 10-year period.**

Current Zone Alignment

31 December 2006 membership: zone distribution variations

Zone 14 (Europe)

59,556 Rotarians

1,340 Clubs

Zone 5 (Northern India & Nepal)

55,440 Rotarians

1,657 Clubs

Zone 9 (Korea)

50,981 Rotarians

1,315 Clubs

Current Zone Alignment

31 December 2006 membership: zone distribution variations

Zone 21 (Mexico, Central America)

26,383 Rotarians

1,308 Clubs

Zone 1 (Northern Japan)

26,710 Rotarians

727 Clubs

Zone 31 (USA)

27,674 Rotarians

684 Clubs

Zone Review Committee -2007

Zones Review Committee, Scheduled: January 2008

Criteria to be used for zone realignment

**Based on 31 December 2006 membership figures
1,204,694**

**Worldwide average per zone: 35,432
10% variance allowed per zone
+10% = 38,972
-10% = 31,888**

Zone Review Committee

Zones Review Committee, Scheduled: January 2008

Also to consider: RI bylaws, 12.010.06, Sections Within Zones

The board may create, modify, or eliminate sections in zones in order to rotate in a fair manner the directorship within a zone. These sections shall nominate RI directors on a schedule determined by the board that is based on an approximate equality of number of Rotarians. No such section shall be created, modified, or eliminated over the objection of a majority of the clubs in the zone.

2008 Zones Realignment Committee Regional Groupings

3 regional groups

Group A: Zones 1 – 9

Asia, Australia, New Zealand, Philippines

Membership 31 Dec 06: 345,516

Current # zones = 9: 38,390 members/zone

Proposed # zones = 10: 34,551 members/zone

Group B: Zones 10 – 18

Europe, Middle East, Africa and RIBI

Membership 31 Dec 06: 351,926

Current # zones = 9: 39,102 members/zone

Proposed # zones = 10: 35,192 members/zone

Group C: Zones 19 – 34

North, Central & South America

Membership 31 Dec 06: 507,252

Current # zones = 16: 31,703 members/zone

Proposed # zones = 14: 36,232 members/zone

2008 Zones Realignment Committee Regional Groupings

3 regional groups

Group A: Zones 1 – 9

Asia, Australia, New Zealand, Philippines

Membership 31 Dec 06: 345,516

Current # zones = 9

Proposed # zones = 10 **GAIN ONE ZONE**

Group B: Zones 10 – 18

Europe, Middle East, Africa and RIBI

Membership 31 Dec 06: 351,926

Current # zones = 9

Proposed # zones = 10 **GAIN ONE ZONE**

Group C: Zones 19 – 34

North, Central & South America

Membership 31 Dec 06: 507,252

Current # zones = 16

Proposed # zones = 14 **LOSS OF TWO ZONES**

Zone Review Committee- 2008

Regional group committee members

Immediate Past Directors, Current Directors, Directors-elect

Group A: Zones 1 – 9: Director Ian Riseley, Chair

**A. Mahajan, K. Ozawa, Y. Watanabe, L. Kim, N. Pathmanand,
M. Shigeta, J. Hsieh, J. Lawrence**

Group B: Zones 10 – 18: Director Gordon McInally, Chair

**O. Balkan, K. Akesson, R. d'Acquapendente, B. Rosen, T. St. Dalmas,
H. Hellge, L. Fredriksson, C. Noyer-Riveau**

Group C: Zones 19 – 34: Vice President Michael McGovern, Chair

**B. Rassin, M. Audenart, P. Netzel, D. Mebus, T. Branum, T. Pinho,
M. Johns, F. Goldberg, J. Hall, C. Speroni, B. Stuart,
J. A. Sepulveda, P. Silvers, M. Colasurdo, E. Adamson**

Zone Realignment Plan Approved January 2008 RI Board Meeting

Group A: Zones 1 – 10
Asia, Australia, New Zealand, Philippines

Group B: Zones 11 – 20
Europe, Middle East, Africa and RIBI

Group C: Zones 21 – 34
North, Central & South America

**Specific plan details with zone and district realignments can be
accessed at www.rotary.org within the announcement.**

Zone Realignment Plan

RI Board Decision- January 2008

B-12. 2007-08 Zones Review Committee Report

DECISION: The Board

1. in accordance with RI Bylaws section 12.010.4. requiring the Board to periodically review the composition of zones to maintain an approximately equal number of Rotarians in each zone, agrees to realign the 34 zones and sectioning within zones as shown in Exhibit B-12-b;
2. recognizes that RI Bylaws section 12.010.6. provides that no section shall be created, modified, or eliminated over the objection of a majority of the clubs in the zone;
3. requests the general secretary to post the new zones structure and sectioning within zones on the RI Web site and on the Governors' Forum where available, so that districts and clubs have an opportunity to review the adjusted zones and sections within zones;

Exhibit B-12-b: Zone Realignment Plan can be accessed at www.rotary.org.

Zone Realignment Plan

RI Board Decision- January 2008

B-12. 2007-08 Zones Review Committee Report (continued)

DECISION: The Board

4. requests the president to appoint a three-member committee of the Board, with liaison trustee, to
 - a. establish an implementation schedule for changeover to the new zones structure, which schedule shall go into effect for membership on the nominating committee for the selection of directors-nominee to be elected at the 2010 convention;
 - b. consider other issues attendant to a revised zones structure, such as the future appointment of RRIMCs and RRFCs, including the timeline for making such appointments, and the organization of future Rotary Institutes and GETS; for report to the Board at its June 2008 meeting;
5. agrees that the new zone structure will first be applicable to the Nominating Committee for RI President that meets in August 2009.



Zone Realignment Plan

RI Board Decision

3 Member Board Committee

Per the RI Board decision, President Wilkinson has appointed a 3 member Board committee, along with a Rotary Foundation Trustee.

Committee charge for recommendation to the June 2008 Board meeting:

Confirm Zone pairings for director selections.

Establish an implementation schedule for changeover to the new zone structure, which schedule shall go into effect for membership on the nominating committee for the selection of directors-nominee to be elected at the 2010 convention.

Consider other issues attendant to a revised zones structure, such as the future appointment of RRIMCs and RRFCs, including the timeline for making such appointments, and the organization of future Rotary Institutes and GETS; for report to the Board at its June 2008 meeting.



For details of specific zone and district realignments access the RI Board approved plan within this section of www.rotary.org.