

Dear Conference Members:

The purpose of the text changes to the "World Service Handbook" is to incorporate a non-geographically based Area into the World Service Conference Structure. The non-geographic Area is where the AI-Anon groups that meet electronically will belong. The process to change an AI-Anon group from one Area into a neighboring Area is already outlined on page 158, "Miscellaneous: Renaming an Area, Changing a group/District to a new Area." This section was also modified to incorporate the ability for an AI-Anon group that meets electronically to request admission to a geographic Area.

I have posted your original questions here and provided a response for each:

1. An area may accept any geographic group from anywhere. (Does this mean an area may accept a group from anywhere within the 67 areas?) **This is not correct; groups that are meeting outside your geographic Area but near the borders of your Area may request admission to your Area.**
2. An area may accept any registered electronic group. **This is an Area decision to make based on the 2021 WSC discussion.**
3. A group may belong to a geographical area or a non-panel area but not both. (I know this one is true.) **This is correct**
4. If the group wants to switch areas, they have to be released from the one they're in first and then be admitted to the other area. (I couldn't find a process in the manual where a geographic group petition to get released from an area. Do you know where that guideline is?) **See page 158: "Miscellaneous Renaming an Area, Changing a group/District to a new Area."**
5. There will be one non-panel area to start but later there may be more than one. (I think this one is true.) **This is correct**
6. WSO will not be able to register groups into the non-panel or geographic area until March 2022 or after WSC 2022 when the conference will vote to accept the non-panel area. (I'm pretty sure I got this right.) **AI-Anon Family Groups that meet electronically will continue to be registered through the current registration process. Groups do not register into an Area. Once a group registers, it is assigned to an Area and District based on the registration information.**

I hope this is helpful!

In grateful service,

Sue

Sue Pérez

Associate Director - Group Services