

# RESOLUTION 23R-26

To request the RI Board to consider proposing legislation to a future Council on Legislation clarifying the general secretary’s qualifications in RI’s constitutional documents

**Proposer(s):** Rotary Club of Tsuruga, District 2650, Japan

1 WHEREAS, in RI Bylaws section 6.050., qualifications are clearly provided for all  
2 officers of RI save the general secretary. RI Bylaws section 6.040. stipulates only  
3 that “the Board elects a Rotarian as general secretary,” and

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5 WHEREAS, over time, the role of the general secretary has changed. At the time of  
6 Rotary’s founding, the general secretary served as an active managing officer of RI.  
7 This was changed by the 2019 Council on Legislation, which adopted legislation  
8 elevating the general secretary’s role to that of chief executive officer of RI. The  
9 duties and responsibilities of the role have also significantly increased over the  
10 years, and

11  
12 WHEREAS, now that the general secretary serves as the chief executive officer of  
13 RI, the qualifications for this position should be clearly defined in the constitutional  
14 documents of RI

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16 IT IS RESOLVED by Rotary International that the Board of Directors of Rotary  
17 International consider proposing legislation to a future Council on Legislation  
18 clarifying the general secretary’s qualifications in RI’s constitutional documents.

(End of Text)

## **PURPOSE AND EFFECT**

19 At the time of Rotary’s founding, the general secretary served as the active  
20 managing officer of RI. The role has changed since then, developing from that of  
21 chief administrative officer of RI (1995), to chief operating officer of RI (2010),  
22 and finally into chief executive officer of RI (2019). During this time, however,  
23 qualifications have not been clearly prescribed for the role.

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25 As RI’s chief executive officer, the general secretary is authorized to make  
26 important decisions on behalf of the RI president and Board, thus the  
27 qualifications for this office should be officially incorporated into RI’s  
28 constitutional documents.

## **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

- 1 If implemented, this resolution would have no substantial financial impact on RI.