Overeaters Anonymous is a Fellowship of individuals who, through shared experience, strength, and hope, are recovering from compulsive overeating. We welcome everyone who wants to stop eating compulsively. There are no dues or fees for members; we are self-supporting through our own contributions, neither soliciting nor accepting outside donations. OA is not affiliated with any public or private organization, political movement, ideology, or religious doctrine; we take no position on outside issues. Our primary purpose is to abstain from compulsive eating and compulsive food behaviors and to carry the message of recovery through the Twelve Steps of OA to those who still suffer.

Embrace the similarities, love the differences in all our affairs.
The Importance of Translating OA Literature

- Carry the OA message
- Attract newcomers
- Work all Twelve Steps

Abstinence from compulsive eating

Do I belong?

Abstinence, recovery, identification
Priorities

When you work in committees, think back over your recovery and time in OA.

• Have you read all/most of our OA literature in English?
• Are you familiar with the resources that can be downloaded from oa.org?
• What OA materials and literature helped you most in finding OA and recovering?
• What materials might OA members like to see in their own language?

Currently, there is a suggested order for translating OA literature:

1) Follow recommendations in the Guidelines for Translation of OA Literature and Materials—review suggestions under “Suggested Order of Translations.”
2) Follow recommendations in the Abstinence Literature Resource Guide.
3) Translate everything else.
Why Translate OA Literature and Materials?

Within OA worldwide, relatively “small” countries can have more meetings per capita in comparison with some “larger” countries.

There seems to be a direct correlation between a country’s number of meetings (and thus recovery!) and the amount of translated literature available in its specific language.

*Countries having a good supply of OA literature in their local languages is a direct result of members having a vision that ALL OA literature be translated and made available locally.*

**THE BOTTOM LINE? TRANSLATING LITERATURE SAVES LIVES!**
Translate a glossary of OA’s special program words.

“It is helpful to start by compiling a list of program terms in the local language; for example: ‘Higher Power,’ ‘abstinence,’ ‘plan of eating,’ ‘food plan,’ ‘sponsor,’ ‘surrender,’ ‘one day at a time,’ ‘relapse,’ and/or ‘program.’ A list has been compiled in English to assist you; find the OA Glossary at oa.org/document-library under “Translation.” These words and terms appear often in OA literature and need to be translated the same each time they appear.”

(from Guidelines: Translation on oa.org)

OA uses many words and expressions that are not necessarily common in everyday use. If your committee translates a glossary of program words and terms, it will save time and ensure consistency with future translations.

Share your glossary with other groups and whenever you use a professional translator.

A master OA Glossary has been prepared in English. Find it at oa.org/document-library under the “Translation” category.
Translation Assistance Fund
Members may contribute to this new dedicated fund to help translations worldwide.

Go to oa.org/contribute
to find a mail-in form or make an online contribution.

If you want to pay into this fund, be sure to choose “Translation Assistance Fund” as the designation for your contributions.
Financial Assistance Available

How to apply using the Translation Assistance Fund Application:

• Find the form at oa.org/document-library under the “Translation” category.

• Send completed applications to the World Service Office anytime; your application, if received by the last day of a month, will be reviewed the following month.

• Watch for periodic reminders sent out by the WSO.

The Translations budget is approved by the Board of Trustees (BOT) and allocated by the International Publications and Translations Committee.

Regional assistance funds may be available too.

Check with your region to see if any translation funds are available (as in Region Nine) and how to apply.
Translating Material from oa.org:

Documents, Text, and Downloads

Non-English-speaking registered groups and service bodies may now translate and distribute any downloadable document, file, or text on oa.org without seeking written permission from the World Service Office. This does NOT include permission to reprint photos.

These new procedures and guidelines create greater parity among all OA groups and service bodies that wish to carry the message and support the recovery of our worldwide Fellowship. Translated OA documents must include the following citation, written in the language of the translation:

“This is a translation of OA-approved literature. © [date of translation]
Copyright Overeaters Anonymous, Inc. All rights reserved.”

Groups and service bodies are also required to provide a digital copy of any published translated literature to the WSO. For more information, go to oa.org/guidelines-meetings/copy-requests/. 
Translation Guidelines for OA Literature

This presentation contains a summary and the main points of the *Guidelines for Translation of OA Literature and Materials*. Find the full document at [oa.org/guidelines-oa-translation/](http://oa.org/guidelines-oa-translation/).

It is suggested that your committee translate these *Guidelines*, as well as [License 1](http://oa.org/guidelines-oa-translation/licenses-1) and [License 2](http://oa.org/guidelines-oa-translation/licenses-2), so that translators can read them in your native language.
Translation Guidelines for OA Literature: Summary

1) Check before you start:

• Is the literature you want to translate:
  o already translated / in the process of being translated by another service body?
  o due for a major revision soon?
    (Ask your region trustee or the WSO about scheduled revisions.)

• Consider where this literature is in your priority list for translations.

• Find out if financial assistance is available from regional translation budgets or the WSO
2) Ensure accurate translation of original text.

i) Trust (Concept Three)
ii) Nothing left out
iii) Nothing added
iv) Same meaning and implication, as closely as a different language allows

Accuracy

Original text has been approved by the OA Board of Trustees or OA worldwide through the [World Service Business Conference](#).

*It is permissible to alter measurement and weight references (e.g., change pounds and ounces to kilos and grams; change feet and inches to meters and centimeters).*
3) What is a license, and why is it needed?

Licenses are agreements that protect copyright: OA owns all its materials and text.

- Complete one license at each stage of the two-step translation process.
- Sign on behalf of your service body/group and send it to the WSO.
- OA’s Managing Director/Corporate Secretary will sign for OA and retain a copy on file.
- A signed copy of your license will be sent to your service body to keep.
4) The Two-Step Licensing Process:

Licenses 1 and 2 are formal legal agreements between your service body and OA, Inc. concerning usage of OA’s copyrighted literature.

License 1 = permission to translate
License 2 = permission to publish and distribute

Remember, downloadable documents do not need a license, but you do need to add an OA citation (© Overeaters Anonymous, Inc. All rights reserved) and send a copy of your translation to the WSO.
License 1

License 1 gives permission to translate and circulate for validation.

“Validation” means testing a translation for accuracy, editing and approving it.

Your service body has:
• 18 months to complete the translation
• PLUS 6 more months to circulate and validate it

Be sure all drafts of the translation are returned and destroyed after the validation process is complete.

Once your License 1 is approved, you may request that the WSO send digital files of the most current version of the literature to be translated.
License 2

License 2 gives permission to print and distribute.

(Includes approval to use a customized OA logo.)

Signing a License 2 means your service body agrees:

i) Every copy will have the correct copyright notice.
ii) Every copy will have a specific, customized OA logo.
iii) One printed and/or one electronic copy will be sent to WSO.
iv) Royalties will be sent to the WSO (10% of net sales).
v) All surplus funds (after royalties) will be used for OA.
5) Translations Committees:

Form structures for development of translations in your language. This service in OA is best performed by a group of members: “Together we can.” A translations committee avoids overdependence on individual members.

Priorities for a committee might include reviewing these items:

- Glossary of OA words and terms *(Service bodies do not need a license to translate a glossary.)*
- Suggested priorities from the *Guidelines for Translation of OA Literature and Materials*  
  - Tradition Four  
6) Suggestions For Choosing Translators

• OA members are often the best choice.
  Members understand our literature and want the best for OA. They may take longer, or start but not finish, but OA members put love and effort into translating.

• Professional translators can work too.
  If employing a professional translator, make sure to use a contract right from the beginning. Give them your glossary of OA terms!
7) Validating (a)

Check for clarity and translator’s general understanding.

Additional suggestions:
• Use a draft in an OA meeting: Read a few paragraphs and discuss the clarity of the message.
• Meet in small groups/committees to review the translation.
• Use a draft in discussions with sponsees.
7) Validating (b)

- Circulate drafts for consideration by members who speak the local language. Have them check concepts and usage (good grammar).

- Number the lines of text. This makes it easier to relay specific comments about the draft.

- Use printed copies wherever possible so members can write comments. Write DRAFT or COPY on these for clarification.
7) Validating (c)

• Possibly charge money for a draft and organize your records so that any amount paid can be deducted from the purchase price of the final approved copy. (Make sure you set prices so that you make a surplus to fund your next round of translations.)

• Have everyone send reviewed copies to one collection point. At the end of the validation period, destroy all draft copies.
8) Printing

• If cost is a concern, consider printing from a home computer initially.
• Perform a final check for errors before printing.
• Make sure to include:
  o Copyright notice
  o WSO contact information
  o Your customized logo
  o Local country or region contact details

Translated and reprinted from _____________
[Title, item number, and latest copyright date of
English version], Copyright © ________ [year of
translation] of the _____________ [language of
translation] version.

Overeaters Anonymous, Inc. World Service Office,
6075 Zenith Court NE, Rio Rancho, NM USA 87144.
Mail address: PO Box 44727, Rio Rancho, NM USA
Email info@oa.org. Website www.oa.org.
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written consent of OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS, INC.”

Local contact:
XYZ Language Service Board
24 Fictitious Street, Somewhere, EXAMPLE
Local or regional phone number / website
9) Selling and Royalties (a)

Set the selling price to make a surplus.

Example: gross profit 60% of sales; production costs 40%.

If it costs €1500 to produce the literature, divide by .40 (= €3750). Then divide that figure by the number of items to be printed.

\[ \frac{€3750}{500 \text{ copies}} = €7.50 \text{ per copy} \]

Setting an appropriate selling price will give your service body enough funds to cover costs and build up a prudent reserve for more translations.
License 2, Clause 7: Royalty

For the rights granted by Licensor, Licensee agrees to pay to Licensor a royalty calculated as follows:

10% of Net Income from the sale of licensed OA publication.

Royalties shall be due and payable thirty (30) days after the first and each successive anniversary of the Effective Date of this Agreement.

Net Income is defined as the excess of the selling price of goods over their direct cost. The remaining Net Income the Licensee derives directly or indirectly from sale, distribution or other disposition of the Final Translation will be used exclusively for the not-for-profit purposes for which the Licensee was organized.
Why do we translate OA literature? Because of our OA Responsibility Pledge.

Always to extend the hand and heart of OA to all who share my compulsion; for this I am responsible.
Thank you for your interest and your service.

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