

49. Nominations for the 2016-2021 Quinquennium of the World Methodist Council.

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Status of Paper	Final
Action Required	Decision
Resolutions	49/1. The Conference appoints those persons named in paragraph 6 as representatives to the World Methodist Council for the 2016-2021 quinquennium. 49/2. The Conference notes the names of the reserve representatives in paragraph 7 who may be asked to serve if a vacancy occurs.

Summary of Content and Impact

Subject and Aims	Appointment of representatives to the World Methodist Council for the 2016-2021 quinquennium.
Main Points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What the World Methodist Council is and does. • Criteria for selection and process for bringing nominations to the conference. • Nominations for representatives and reserves.
Background Context and Relevant Documents (with function)	Standing Order 106 (3) (i)
Impact	Enables the British Methodist Church to engage fully with the World Methodist Council.

Nominations for the 2016-2021 Quinquennium of the World Methodist Council.

1. The World Methodist Council was founded in 1881 and brings together Churches in the Methodist/Wesleyan tradition from around the world totalling more than 75 million Christians in 132 countries. Its current work includes:
 - Training for indigenous evangelism, multiplying witnesses, beginning new churches and developing new resources for Christian mission.
 - A ministerial exchange programme.
 - An international Christian Youth Conference and Young Leaders Seminars.
 - Strengthening of family life in various world cultures.
 - Supporting Methodist/Wesleyan education worldwide.
 - Maintaining the World Methodist Museum and overseeing with the Methodist Church in Britain the Epworth Old Rectory.
 - Working for Christian Unity through international dialogue with other Christian World Communion. This has recently included the publication of *Into All the World* by the Anglican-Methodist International Commission for Unity in Mission which explores the shape of our unity in mission worldwide.
 - Joining with others in efforts to respect human rights, uphold justice and stand alongside people who are persecuted and marginalised, suffering the injustices of war or tyranny.
 - Raising funds to undertake this work, particularly through the *Achieving the Vision* appeal. (Further information is available on the Methodist website www.methodist.org.uk/wmc)
2. Changes to the constitution of the World Methodist Council mean that for the first time a new pattern of meeting is in operation. The final meeting of the 2011-2016 quinquennium will happen immediately before the 21st World Methodist Conference in Houston (31 August – 3 September 2016) and the first meeting of the 2016-2021 quinquennium immediately following it, thus enabling both outgoing and incoming representatives to attend the Conference. The Conference appoints representatives to the World Methodist Council but the World Methodist Conference itself is open to any Methodist from across the globe that wishes to attend.
3. Standing Order 335(3)(ii) charges the World Methodist Committee with the task of overseeing arrangements for the participation of the British Methodist Church in the World Methodist Council. Therefore the committee invited nominations for representatives to the 2016-2021 quinquennium by advertising on the Methodist Church website and in the Methodist Recorder, through a letter to District Chairs, via the Week Ahead email, by social networking and from amongst the existing representatives. 28 names were received in response to these requests.
4. The nominations were initially reviewed by a group consisting of the Connexional Secretary (Doug Swanney) and three members of the World Methodist Committee (Ruby Beech, Luke Curran (Chair) and Janice Clark (secretary)). The proposed group of representatives was then scrutinised by the full committee and are commended to the Conference by a unanimous vote.
5. In determining the membership of the proposed group of representatives the committee is mindful of the ongoing conversation about strategic engagement with the World Church and the possible role of the World Methodist Council within this, the importance of compliance with Standing Order 203 (4) and the following criteria:

Those nominated as representatives will:

- Have a good knowledge of the British Methodist Church and credibility as a representative of it.
- Have some awareness of World Church issues.
- Have time and opportunity to feed the work of the World Methodist Council back into the life of the Connexion.
- Have relevant experience to be able to contribute to the work of one (or more) of the standing committees.
- Be prepared to listen, digest and participate in debates that will affect the future development of the wider Methodist Family.

As a group the representatives will:

- Be a diverse and representative group in terms of age, sex, ethnic origin and theological outlook.
 - Include a balance of lay people, presbyters and ideally at least one deacon drawn from across the geographical spread of the connexion.
 - Provide a balance between the existing membership of the World Methodist Committee and new members to ensure continuity and innovation in the ongoing work of the World Methodist Council.
 - Have the necessary expertise to provide members for each of the standing committees.
6. The proposed representatives for the 2016-2021 quinquennium fall into two categories: those with funded places and those who may attend at their own expense recognising that this expense may be paid for either by the World Methodist Council itself or from another source.

Funded representatives:

The Revd Suva Catford	Presbyter in the Ealing Trinity circuit and former mission partner.
Janice Clark	Secretary of the World Methodist Committee and former secretary of the World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women.
The Revd Ashley Cooper	Superintendent of the Stoke-on-Trent (Burslem Mission) Circuit with strong links to Methodist World Evangelism.
Luke Curran	Theological educator, Chair of the World Methodist Committee.
David Friswell	Team Leader for World Church Relationships.
The Revd David Jebb	Superintendent of the Amersham Circuit with experience of the exchange of pastorates programme.
Carolyn Lawrence	Incoming World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women Area Officer for Britain and Ireland.
Kate Laws	Local Preacher in Training with experience of working with children in Eastern Europe.
The Revd Dr Leao Neto	Superintendent of the Harlesden Circuit and Assistant Secretary of the World Methodist Committee.
The Revd Dr Claire Potter	Superintendent of the Guilford Circuit and secretary of the Oxford Institute for Methodist Studies.

The Revd Gareth J Powell	Secretary of the Conference.
Doug Swanney	Connexional Secretary.
The Revd Dr Andrew Wood	Chair of the Southampton District and representative to the General Conference of the United Methodist Church.
<i>A Youth Representative</i>	To be appointed by 3Generate.

Those representatives who may attend at their own expense:

The Revd Dr David M Chapman	Superintendent of the Central Sussex United Area circuit and co-chair of the World Methodist Council dialogue with the Roman Catholic Church.
Ms Christine Elliot	Director of World Church Programmes for Churches Together in Britain and Ireland
The Revd Samuel McBratney	Director of the Global Christianity programme at the Queen's Foundation.
The Revd Dr Tim Macquibban	Mission Partner in Rome and co-chair of the international dialogue with the World Baptist Federation.

7. Proposed reserve representatives for the 2016-2021 Quinquennium funded places who will be asked to serve if any vacancies occur, subject to appointment by the Methodist Council under SO 106(3)(ii).

The Revd Geoffrey Farrar	Presbyter in the West Hertfordshire and Borders Circuit with wide experience of world church issues.
The Revd Bonni-Belle Prichard	Superintendent of the Kingston Circuit who has lived and worked in various contexts including the USA and India.
Pamela Stenson	Local preacher with strong links to Methodist Women in Britain and the World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women.

8. In addition to the above representatives for the 2016-2021 quinquennium the following retiring representatives may attend, either at the Church's or their own expense, the last meeting of 2011-2016 quinquennium in Houston 2016 and the 21st World Methodist Conference. The Conference is not asked to vote on these names as they are already appointed as representatives to the World Methodist Council by the Conference of 2010. They are the Revd Dr John Barratt, Ruby Beech, Christy-Anna Errington, Sarah Friswell, Samuel Hutchinson, the Revd Mark Rowland, Anne Vautrey.
9. The President and the Vice-President of the Conference will also attend the 21st World Methodist Conference but will not be voting representatives to the World Methodist Council.

***RESOLUTIONS

49/1. The Conference appointed those persons named in paragraph 6 as representatives to the World Methodist Council for the 2016-2021 quinquennium.

49/2. The Conference noted the names of the reserve representatives in paragraph 7 who may be asked to serve if a vacancy occurs.