

World Church Background Paper: All Partners Consultation

This paper is an update of the plans in place for this year's All Partners Consultation "Reimagining Future Mission".

1. The Event

1.1 The event will be held on the following dates:

20 June 2010	6.00-7.00pm	Celebration service at Methodist Central Hall
21-24 June		The Britannia Hotel at Canary Wharf

2. Purpose of the event

2.1 Overall aim: "To re-vision the Methodist Church in Great Britain concerning how MCB relates in the world, and to different parts of the world."

2.2 Key expected outcomes:

- A Church fit for purpose for the 21st Century
- A mission-minded Church, but with a different vision to the Methodist Missionary Society.

2.3 For each of these themes it is envisaged that there will be discussion about the global and macro dimension, plus a complementary discussion about a parallel aspect of MCB partnerships. For example, the Economics discussion will include the place of grants or other forms of financial support in nurturing and sustaining partnerships in the future.

3. Preparations for the Event

3.1 It is planned that four e-forums will be set up to consider the following themes:

- Economics and Power
- Government and Church
- Migration, Ministry & Hospitality
- Evangelism (Discipleship & growing churches)

3.2 The process will comprise the production and sharing of an introductory paper, an e-discussion and conclude with a collective response. At the time of writing the e-forum process was anticipated to commence in January and be completed in April. Moderators for each theme will draw the material together to compile a response..

3.3 This material will then be a major contribution to discussions for each of the 4 themes during the actual Consultation event.

4. Who is invited to the Consultation?

4.1 The Heads of Partner Churches (70 in total) were invited in June 2009. A supplementary list of 70 overseas guests and 80 key leaders and representatives of MCB are also to be invited, details of which will be finalised by 22 January 2010. A further 20 guests (mainly staff) will attend as day visitors.

5. Budget - £250k

Travel for 140 overseas reps	£98,000
Travel within UK (including travel to Districts)	£ 6,000
Accommodation and board for 220 delegates	£111,940
Transport for 80 UK delegates	£ 4,800
Project managing and resources	£ 20,000
Contingency	£ 9,260

6 The Consultation itself

6.1 The Consultation itself will comprise themed Input Sessions with working groups, which will be held from 9.00am-7.00pm, 30 hours for four themes.

6.2 An important question that still remains is who gives the suggested 'key note' input and how to include the thinking on the e-papers in the full discussion. Also at what points during each day will it be important to have theological reflections?

6.3 The 4 themed sessions need to include time for:

Bible study	Reportage
Input on theme	Group Work
Actions	Action Plan
Report	Final Reflection

6.4 The four themes are defined, but not discrete. Reflection and learning from previously discussed themes will properly inform the discussions and insights as the Consultation progresses. Worship sessions will also be integral to the process.

7 Links with British Methodism at end of Consultation

7.1 At the end of the Consultation, it is expected to have built a joint covenant and prepared a working document with proposals for the British Methodist Conference in Portsmouth to consider.

7.2 This will be achieved by answering key questions:

- Where do all the Churches go from here?
- What action do all participants take in response to the different scenarios?
- What does the Consultation want to say to Methodist Conference?

7.3 It is hoped that Districts will use the opportunity of the APC to issue invitations to those overseas reps who are not involved in Conference, to speaking engagements around the Connexion.
