



Mennonite World Conference

Program Plan 2006-2009 **Vision, Mission, Purposes, Goals, Actions**

(Approved by General Council, March 2006)

VISION

Mennonite World Conference is called to be a communion (*Koinonia*) of Anabaptist-related churches linked to one another in a worldwide community of faith for fellowship, worship, service, and witness.

MISSION

MWC exists to (1) be a global community of faith in the Anabaptist-tradition, (2) facilitate community between Anabaptist-related churches worldwide, and (3) relate to other Christian world communions and organizations.

PURPOSES (P), GOALS (G), ACTIONS (A)

P1. Be a global community of faith in the Anabaptist tradition

G1. Support and encourage member churches, especially churches in situations of suffering, crisis, or conflict

- A1. Undertake communication with all member and associate churches to confirm and implement membership commitments (2006-2009)
- A2. Develop special communication with and on behalf of churches under duress (2006-2009)
- A3. Walk alongside churches experiencing internal conflict, ready to provide skilled mediators (2006-2009)
- A4. Sponsor *Koinonia* delegations, organizing annually one or more fellowship or pastoral visits to member churches. Delegations will include representatives of other member churches and MWC leadership (2006-2009).

G2. Provide occasions for celebration of and intercession for the global family of faith

- A1. Sponsor World Fellowship Sunday (WFS), annually producing WFS materials in cooperation with a continental region and distributing the materials worldwide (2006-2009)
- A2. Call the global Church to intercede on behalf of churches under duress (2006-2009)

G3. Provide means for regular communication and information sharing

- A1. Publish *Courier/Correo/Courrier* quarterly (2006-2009)
- A2. Publish news releases on Anabaptist-related churches, the wider global Church, and MWC (2006-2009)
- A3. Update annually (2006-2009) and publish regularly (2006, 2009) *Mennonite and BIC World Directory*
- A4. Upgrade (2006), translate, and maintain website (2006-2009)

G4. Provide opportunity for church members worldwide to meet for fellowship, worship, and mutual counsel



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- A1. Prepare Assembly 15 (2006-2009).
- A2. Hold Assembly Gathered and Scattered (July, 2009)

G5. Provide opportunity for member church delegates to meet for fellowship, worship, study, and decision-making

- A1. Organize (2008-2009) and hold General Council meeting (2009)

G6. Enable member churches to give and receive counsel on Anabaptist-Mennonite vision, identity, practice

- A1. Establish and convene MWC commissions (2006-2009)
- A2. Produce and distribute Shared Convictions brochure (2006)
- A3. Select annually and promote regularly a publication for the “Global Anabaptist-Mennonite Shelf of Literature” (2006-2009).

G7. Increase youth participation in and contribution to the global Church

- A1. Facilitate the work of the Amigos (Youth Continuation Committee) as they develop a global youth network and prepare the second Global Youth Summit (2006-2009)

G8. Encourage cooperation in global witness by Anabaptist-related mission groups and churches

- A1. Facilitate the work of the Global Mission Fellowship as determined with the GMF Planning Committee (2006-2009)

G9. Oversee the Global Mennonite History Project

- A1. Publish Asia and Europe volumes (2006)
- A2. Publish Latin American and North American volumes (2007)

G10. Speak to the international community on issues of concern to member churches

- A1. Intervene publicly or privately on behalf of and in agreement with member churches (2006-2009)
- A2. Cooperate with MCC to develop the MCC United Nations Liaison office as a channel for representing concerns of MWC member churches in the UN context, including the appointment of MWC/MCC interns (2007-2009)

P2. Facilitate community between Anabaptist-related churches worldwide

G1. Encourage and enable gift sharing relationships

- A1. Distribute Global Gift Sharing Inventory Final Report in English (2006), translate and distribute in other languages (2007-2008)
- A2. Facilitate Congo Forum for Conversation (2006-2008)
- A3. Receive and follow up on specific gift sharing offers (2006-2009)
- A4. Provide consultant to churches requesting assistance in assessing church-to-church possibilities or existing relationships (2006-2009)
- A5. Follow up on Consultation on Service as a Mandate for the Global Anabaptist Family (2006-2009)
- A6. Develop Global Church Congregation program (2006-2009)

G2. Facilitate specialized global networks, including:



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- A1. Amigos (youth) network (2006-2009)
- A2. Anabaptist Women Theologians (2006-2009)
- A3. Francophone Network (2006-2009)

G3. Co-sponsor YAMEN! (Young Anabaptist-Mennonite Exchange Network) with MCC as primary administrator

- A1. Participate in YAMEN! oversight group and promotion (2006-2008)
- A2. Participate in program evaluation (2007)

G4. Manage the Global Church Sharing Fund

- A1. Complete second phase of distribution to eligible “old” members (2006-2007)
- A2. Make distribution to eligible “new” members (2006-2007)
- A3. Develop plan for use of undesignated money and future of fund (2006-2007)

G5. Develop cooperation with other Mennonite and Brethren in Christ organizations

- A1. Pursue conversations and cooperation with AMBCF, AMC, Latin American *Consulta* (2006-2009)
- A2. Engage conversation with organizations interested in becoming MWC “Participants”
- A3. Implement MCC-MWC Memorandum of Understanding and Cooperation (2006-2009)
- A4. Implement MEDA-MWC Memorandum of Understanding and Cooperation (2006-2009)

P3. Relate to other Christian world communions and organizations

G1. Sponsor study commission with Lutheran World Federation (LWF) on condemnations of Anabaptists in Augsburg Confession of Faith and related issues (theological, pastoral)

- A1. With LWF, plan and convene commission meetings (2006-2008)
- A2. Submit commission report to General Council (2009)

G2. Follow up Catholic Church and MWC International Dialogue

- A1. Forward to the Catholic Church the action of the General Council on and the responses of member churches to the dialogue report (2006)
- A2. Organize visit to the Pontifical Council of representatives of interested member churches (2007)
- A3. Facilitate organization of or participation in national or local consultations in several countries (2007-2009)
- A4. Appoint, together with the Catholic Church, a joint Mennonite/Catholic group to consider peacemaking actions that could be undertaken cooperatively (2007-2008)

G3. Maintain relations with other world churches and Christian organizations

- A1. Arrange Mennonite and Brethren in Christ participation in Global Christian Forum continental and global meetings
- A2. Send MWC representatives to world assemblies of other CWCs in response to their invitations
- A3. Attend annual meetings of General Secretaries of Christian World Communions (CWC)
- A4. Maintain contacts with World Evangelical Fellowship and World Council of Churches

P4. Develop organizational resources



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G1. Carry out General Council decisions on future of MWC

- A1. Implement General Council decisions on “Membership, Participation and Organization in Mennonite World Conference,” including revision of the constitution (2006-2009)

G2. Reconfigure MWC offices and staffing

- A1. Establish an Assembly 15 office in Asuncion (2007)
- A2. Shift a significant part of MWC’s administrative capacity to the global South, opening a continental or regional facilitation office in Africa or Asia, in partnership with MWC members or participant organizations (by 2009).

G3. Increase awareness of the work of MWC (see also P1, G3)

- A1. Develop and distribute widely current MWC informational materials (2006-2009)
- A2. Seek speaking opportunities for MWC representatives and other representatives of the global Church (2006-2009)
- A3. Enable General Council members as well as volunteer local “Connectors,” regional “Advocates” and “Campus Chapters” to communicate on behalf of the global Church and MWC (2006-2009)

G4. Increase financial support for the work of MWC

- A1. Seek increase in member church contributions for core costs (Unrestricted Fund, Travel Fund) and special projects (2006-2009)
- A2. Seek increase in individual, congregational and institutional contributions for core costs and special projects (2006-2009)
- A3. Charge appropriate meeting registration fees and project management fees (2006-2009)
- A4. Seek non-cash resources (e.g. services, volunteers, hospitality) from member churches, agencies, institutions, individuals (2006-2009)
- A5. Develop and implement (2006-2009) a long-range financial plan to assure the viability of MWC when the general secretariat moves to the global South