

Ecumenical Associate Members of the 2018 Conference

Contact Name and Details	The Revd Neil A Stubbens: Connexional Ecumenical Officer stubbensn@methodistchurch.org.uk 020 7467 3520
Status of Paper	Final
Action Required	Decision
Resolutions	<p>73/1. The Council receives the report and notes the addition to the list of churches and Christian bodies eligible to be invited to appoint associate members of the Conference as detailed in paragraph 2.2.</p> <p>73/2. The Council recommends to the 2017 Conference those churches and Christian bodies listed in paragraph 3.3 as those to be invited to appoint associate members of the 2018 Conference.</p>

Summary of Content

Subject and Aims	The appointment of the ecumenical Associate Members of the 2018 Conference.
Main Points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update of list of churches and Christian bodies that are eligible to appoint associate members of the Conference. • Recommendations to the Conference of the churches and Christian bodies to be invited to appoint associate members of the 2018 Conference
Background Context and Relevant Documents (with function)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section H of the Ecumenical Committee's report to the Conference in 1989 (<i>Agenda</i>, pp. 558-561). • SO 107(1)(i) and (2). • MC/13/22: Ecumenical Associate Members of the Conference in 2014 and subsequent years • MC/14/66: Ecumenical Associate Members of the Conference: 2014 and 2015 • MC/15/65: Ecumenical Associate Members of the 2016 Conference • MC/16/26: Ecumenical Associate Members of the 2017 Conference
Consultations	The Ecumenical Stakeholders' Forum

Summary of Impact

External (eg ecumenical)	On-going development of relationships with other churches and Christian bodies through the ecumenical Associate Members of the Conference.
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Ecumenical Associate Members of the 2018 Conference

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 In 1989 the Ecumenical Committee proposed that six churches be invited to send representatives to the Conference in any one year. The proposal was adopted by the Conference¹ and ecumenical representatives have been attending the Conference since 1991.
- 1.2 At its meeting in January 2013, the Methodist Council received a report on ecumenical associate members of the Conference and adopted revised principles for inviting churches and Christian bodies to appoint those associate members.

2.0 List of churches and Christian bodies eligible to appoint associate members

- 2.1 For the purpose of Standing Order 107(1)(i), the following list of ecumenical bodies and associations in Great Britain of which the Methodist Church is a member is used:

Action for Churches Together in Scotland (ACTS)

Churches Together in England (CTE)

Cytûn (Churches Together in Wales)

Free Churches Group (FCG)

Free Church Council of Wales (FCCW)

- 2.2 In the period since January 2016, when the Council was last updated on this matter, the Ixthus Church Council has become a member of CTE and the Joint Council for Anglo Caribbean Churches has changed its name to the Joint Council of Churches for All Nations.

3.0 The 2018 Conference

- 3.1 On the basis of the principles agreed by the Council in January 2013, two of the churches that have appointed associate members of the 2017 Conference are due to do so for the 2018 Conference.
- 3.2 One of the principles was that those churches and Christian bodies other than the Church of England and the United Reformed Church, should be invited to appoint an ecumenical associate member of the Conference normally for two successive years.
- 3.3 In the light of paragraphs 3.1 and 3.2, it is proposed that the Council recommends to the Conference that the following churches and Christian bodies be invited to appoint associate members of the 2018 Conference:

The Church of England

The United Reformed Church

The Baptist Union of Great Britain

The Church in Wales

The New Testament Church of God

The Salvation Army

¹ Daily Record (1989), 9/30.

*****RESOLUTIONS:**

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