



# ICOC Delegates Process Proposals September 21, 2010

## Purpose of Proposals

The Evangelists and Elders Service Teams propose an improvement to our decision making process so we can better cooperate and serve. The Delegate Selection and Decision Making process proposed in this document would become our guide for making collective, spiritual, informed decisions that can provide direction and leadership for our movement of churches.

## Purpose of Document

The spirit of this document is to provide a platform to make informed, inclusive spiritual decisions and to provide time and opportunity at all levels for buy-in and comments.

These proposals have continued through the evaluation process described in the Decision Making Proposal and will be voted on at the annual meeting in Miami September 21, 2010.

## Purpose of Delegates

To glorify God by creating and maintaining the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace among churches, leaders and members.

The 2009 Delegates approved the Purpose, Role, Qualifications and Expectations of the Delegates. See [ICOC Cooperation Churches website](#)

## *Proposal for Delegate Decision Making Process*

The decisions that are made by the Delegate group shape the future of our movement of churches. It is important that we have engaged a process that allows all the parts of the body, and all the gifts that God has put in our fellowship, the greatest opportunity to shape our direction.

At the same time, timely and decisive leadership for our movement is crucial. With these principles in mind we propose an improved process for bringing healthy change to our fellowship.

### **•September - October - Annual ILC or Leaders Meeting.**

- It is important to understand moving forward that we want the ILC to be a time of synergy and spiritual collaboration. A time when the spirit speaks to us as we chart out our future. We want the annual ILC and delegate meeting to be a celebration of our Unity and an in person reaffirming of our fellowship and a strengthening of our relationships.
- For this to happen the work with proposals has to be done through out the year. We bring up our concerns through out the process, through out the year. We make every effort to be unified, to hear and to be heard. We have 12 months to work on issues and come up with best decisions possible.
- So this meeting will be about confirming what we have spent the year working on, as well as presenting new ideas that we want to consider for the next year.

### **Post ILC to January 1st: Draft #1 - Proposals are submitted.**

- Any church or delegate has an opportunity to submit an idea or proposal for change to our movement of churches.

### **January 1st – Deadline for proposals Draft #1**

- Draft Proposals will be submitted by January 1st.
- Please submit them to [icocdelegates@gmail.com](mailto:icocdelegates@gmail.com)
- **They will be passed on to the appropriate committee and service team.**

### **January: Draft #1 is evaluated by Committees**

- Draft #1 is reviewed by the Service committees.
- The Service committees will prepare the Proposal for Presentation to the Evangelist and Elders committees, at their annual conference.

### **February: Proposals presented at the annual Evangelist and Elders Meetings.**

- Service Teams present Proposals to the Evangelists and Elders committees during their annual conference.
- At this point proposals will be chosen and debated to understand global relevance and priority.
- Proposals will be refined and prepared for distribution to the delegates.

- Elders and Evangelists service teams will consider, revise and/or approve a proposal during this time, through careful review together including the Teachers Service Team on matters that concern doctrinal and biblical considerations.
- At the End of this Meeting we have DRAFT #2 of all the Proposals.

### **March 1: DRAFT #2 - Proposals Sent to Delegates**

- Delegates receive the proposals for review and we solicit feedback.
- Proposals will be in Power Point for showing to groups and in text description.
- This stage is to develop the idea and catch potential pitfalls on the global stage.

### **April 1: Deadline for Delegates feedback.**

- Delegates return questions, concerns and suggestions for improvement.
- Service Teams and Subcommittees process all the feedback to prepare a final proposal which is then approved by the Evangelists and Elders Service Teams.
- Teams create FAQ that will be published with the future report.
- Proposals are refined and organized clearly.
- Power points will be made available with a text version and complete explanation.

### **May 15: Draft #3 Proposal sent to Delegates with Presentation material.**

- The Delegates Subcommittee will assemble final versions of the Proposals.
- The Communication Service Team will deliver this material to all Delegates.
- Draft #3 will include the Proposal. Presentations. PowerPoints, everything necessary to explain and inform churches.
- Will include a text document explanation of the process.
- Sent to Delegates two weeks before all the leadership so they can be familiar with Draft #3.

### **June 1: DRAFT #3 Proposals sent to all ICOC church leaders.**

- Communication Service Team sends presentations to all church leaders in a survey requesting feedback.
- Leaders will have 2 months to discuss these issues with the Delegates, other churches, their memberships, boards, leadership groups, etc...
- This allows for the Spirit to lead us in prayer, thorough discussion, understanding, teamwork and unity with the decisions that are being made.

### **August 1st: Deadline for Response from Church Leaders**

*Churches return one of 5 possible responses. Understanding that there might need to be more discussion involved with any of the options, comments are welcome to be submitted with the responses.*

- Strongly Support ( We are Fired up!)
- Support ( We understand the direction and we support)
- Neutral ( No strong opinion )
- Don't agree but will yield to the majority
- Would not yield to the majority
- Service teams Process feedback from churches. Work out final adjustments.
- Delegates will receive information with how churches in their regions voted.

### **September 1st: Final Proposals sent to Evangelist and Elder Committees.**

- Service Committees send the Final Proposals back to the Evangelist and Elder Committees.
- Approval is made.
- **FINAL PROPOSALS PRODUCED.**

### **2 Weeks Before Annual Delegates Meeting : Delegates receive FINAL PROPOSALS**

- Delegates meet and vote on FINAL PROPOSALS.

### **Clarification**

We allow for almost 9 months of feedback to ensure people have plenty of time to discuss and pray. This structure allows for plenty of opportunities for the Spirit to guide us instead of Delegates hearing things for the first time at the Annual Delegates Meeting.

The Annual Delegates Meeting is not a time for amendments to proposals. It is a time to celebrate the harvest of prayer and express our mutual respect for the hours of prayer, fasting and preparation that everyone has invested.

Proposals are not Scripture. They are not written in stone. They are a chosen direction that will last for at least the next 12 months. If something becomes evident that needs to be adjusted or changed, there is a process to constructively express our concerns and suggestions can be proposed and submitted and Proposals can be changed. This keeps us sensitive to the Lord's guidance.

## *Proposal for Delegate Voting*

### **Delegate Voting at the Annual Delegates Meeting**

- Ballots are distributed to all voting Delegates at the Annual Delegates Meeting
- Only Delegates may vote.
- Observers are welcome to all Annual Delegate Meetings.
- Delegate Conferences will be held before the International Leadership Conferences. When there is no, ILC, the Annual Delegates Meeting will be held at different regional conferences around the world.
- *Service Team chairs originally were granted a vote in addition to the Delegates from their respective regions. We propose this continue in 2010, but in subsequent years, Service Team chairs have a vote only if they are currently representing a region as a Delegate.*

## *Proposal for Delegate Selection*

### **1) Terms for Delegates.**

*We propose:*

- *A two year minimum service term for the Delegates. This will help us maintain continuity, and allow for others to participate.*
- *The length of the term beyond two years is up to the region that elects its Delegates. There is no limit placed on the length of term.*
- *The term length that is chosen should be stated so that all are aware of future opportunities to serve.*

### **2) Delegate Election Process: “commended by the brothers”**

- *Each region of churches must develop their process for electing their delegates.*
- *The cooperating churches representing their region must come to an agreement on the Delegate selection considering the size of churches, geographic representation and stated qualifications of Delegates. Language can also be a factor.*

## *Proposals for Region Size and Number of Delegates*

### **Principle: Interdependence**

- *As stated in the Plan for United Cooperation:  
“When Churches sign on to the Cooperation Proposal, they are signing onto a mature interdependent, discipling connection with churches in their Region.*
- *When a new church signs and joins our fellowship of churches, they state which regional group of churches they will join.”*

### **1) Size of Regions**

Regions will have a minimum of 1000 members.

New Regions may be formed with a Delegates approval vote.

For fair representation, the number of Delegates will be determined by the number of disciples and number of churches in each region. See following guidelines.

## 2) Number of Delegates

(Membership and Church Based )

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- 1 Delegate per 1,000 disciples per region rounding up from 500. Starting at 1000.
- 1 Delegate for every 7 Churches.
- Which ever number is greatest.

Number of Delegates	Membership of Region	Number of Churches
0 - Join adjacent Region	0-999	1 to 6 churches
1 Delegate	1000 - 1499	7 to 13 churches
2 Delegates	1500 - 2499	14 to 20 churches
3 Delegates	2500 - 3499	21 to 27 churches
4 Delegates	3500 - 4499	28 to 34 churches
5 Delegates	4500 - 5499	35 to 41 churches
6 Delegates	5500 - 6499	42 to 48 churches
7 Delegates	6500 - 7499	49 to 55 churches
	Etc....	

## *Proposal for Forming a Regional Group of Churches*

### **Process for Forming a Regional Group of Churches**

- As churches rapidly committed to the Plan for United Cooperation (UPC), several very small regions were added.
- We propose that we return to the original Plan for United Cooperation as the standard for the regional grouping of churches.
- Proposed changes to the original plan are to be submitted to the Evangelists and Elders Service Teams for consideration.
- If the changes pass the Evangelists & Elders Service Teams, they will be submitted to the Delegates for final approval.
- New Regions are finally approved only by the Delegates.

As we humble ourselves before God and ask him to use us to evangelize the world, we pray for a multiplication of churches all over the globe! As we multiply and add churches and further evangelize our smaller cities and villages it will make sense to increase the amount of regions to better communicate and build family.

The reason for this approval process of submitting a desire to form a new region of churches is that we do not want broken relationships or disagreements to be the motivation for creating new regions. Only God's blessing of multiplication and maturity.

### **Continental Concept**

Travel and time zones make it logical to try to work within a continent to build regions of churches. At this point in our movement we have set apart 5 basic continental regions, that contain many regional families of churches.

The Continental groups are:

- Africa
- Asia / Pacific
- Central & South America
- Europe / Eurasia / Middle East
- North America / Caribbean

May God bless as we strive to change the eternal destiny  
of this planet!