

Paper M1

Assembly-appointed posts
General Secretary

Church 2014
United
Church **Reformed**
Church Church 2014



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General Secretary: Assembly-appointed posts

Basic Information

Contact name and email address	Roberta Rominger roberta.rominger@urc.org.uk
Action required	Recommendation to General Assembly
Draft resolution(s)	See end of paper
Alternative options to consider, if any	

Summary of Content

Subject and aim(s)	Clarification of the list of Assembly-appointed posts and the required affiliation of post-holders.
Main points	The list of Assembly-appointed posts is defined Affiliation requirements are identified under four groupings.
Previous relevant documents	Annex to the 1996 report of the Nominations Committee to General Assembly.
Consultation has taken place with...	Assembly officers, Nominations Committee, Human Resources Advisory Group, Mission Council.

Summary of Impact

Financial	None
External (e.g. ecumenical)	Clarifies which URC posts are open to applicants from partner churches.

Assembly-appointed Posts

1 Confirmation is needed as to the list of posts which must be Assembly appointments as opposed to the various support roles filled internally at Church House. Assembly-appointed posts are those which have been created by resolution of General Assembly (or Mission Council acting on behalf of General Assembly). This list was last updated formally in 1996 in an annex to the Nominations Committee Report to the Assembly, although some of the changes in this version derive from more recent understandings operating in that Committee. Clarity is also needed as to which posts require that the post holder be a member of the United Reformed Church or one of its partner churches. Mission Council is asked to approve the following resolutions for submission to General Assembly.

2 To avoid confusion, it may be helpful to note that people are appointed to Assembly-appointed posts in three ways. They may be appointed by Assembly itself. They may be appointed by Mission Council acting on behalf of General Assembly. In most cases they may be confirmed by appointing groups, as authorised in Resolution 16 of the 2010 Assembly:

“General Assembly agrees that the power to appoint Assembly staff members, other than officers of Assembly and Synod Moderators, shall be delegated to appointing groups duly appointed so long as appropriate processes and employment and related criteria have been met. All such appointments shall have effect from the date determined by the appointing group, and shall be reported to the next meeting of Mission Council or General Assembly.”

3 The Assembly also has a role in the appointment of members of the United Reformed Church Trust and the Board of Governors of Westminster College, but these are beyond the scope of this paper.

4 The Human Resources Advisory Group advises that there is no genuine occupational requirement for the Chief Finance Officer to be a Christian; it would be sufficient for the post holder to be willing to work within the Christian ethos of the Church. This post has therefore been removed from the list of Assembly appointments. Mission Council is asked to note and confirm this removal.

Resolution

Mission Council approves the following resolution for submission to the General Assembly.

1) General Assembly agrees that the Assembly-appointed posts are as follows:

General secretary

Deputy general secretary discipleship

Deputy general secretary mission

Deputy general secretary administration and resources

Head of children’s and youth work development

Secretary for church and society

Church related community worker development worker(s)

Director of communications

Secretary for ecumenical relations

Secretary for education and learning
Secretary for ministries
Secretary for mission
Secretary for racial justice and multicultural ministry
Editor, reform
National rural officer
Secretary for world church relations

Synod moderators

Westminster College

Principal
Director of Old Testament studies
Director of New Testament studies
Director of pastoral studies
Nivison chair of church history

Director of the Windermere Centre

2a) Assembly confirms that the following posts are restricted to ministers of the URC:

General secretary
Secretary for ministries
Synod moderators

2b) Assembly confirms that the following post is restricted to members of the URC:

Secretary for ecumenical relations

2c) Assembly confirms that the following posts are restricted to members of the URC and to members of those Churches which belong to one or more of the three world bodies: the World Communion of Reformed Churches, (WCRC), the Disciples Ecumenical Consultative Council (DECC) and the Council for World Mission (CWM).

Deputy general secretary discipleship
Deputy general secretary mission
Secretary for world church relations
Principal, Westminster College
Director, Windermere Centre

2d) Assembly confirms that all other Assembly appointments are open to members of the URC and to members of those Churches which belong to one or more of WCRC, DECC, CWM and Churches Together in Britain and Ireland (CTBI).