



# B3

## Update on the Council for World Mission

Many of you will know that the Council for World Mission has been undergoing a review and many changes over the past few years. The trustees (one from each member church) have adopted a new strategic priorities and governance structures and looked at the location of the CWM Offices.

The new strategy for CWM will be focussed in the following areas:

1. Deepening of partnership: Deepening the partnerships between member churches, deepening a sense of identity and belonging.
2. Enabling member bodies to develop missional congregations: Enabling member churches to equip local congregations for mission, with a particular focus on implementing new models of mission, renewal and life-giving community.
3. Exercise solidarity and prophetic witness: raise a prophetic witness both inside and outside CWM.
4. Reflect and research: undertake theological and missiological reflection and research.

The governance of CWM will also be altered to include:

1. Gathering place: CWM Assembly which meets every 5 years to read the signs of the times, listen to God, set strategic priorities, elect a moderator, treasurer and a 'community of elders' (Executive body).
2. Meeting place (Council): legally responsible for CWM (trustee body), meeting annually to monitor, review and evaluate CWM's strategy, principal programmes, budget etc.
3. Community Elders (Executive): meeting three times per year to lead and exercise oversight of the implementation of strategy, approve major grants, appoint executive staff, provide annual report to the meeting place (trustees).

The location of CWM offices.

In June 2010, after much discussion and many meetings it was decided that the Offices should remain in London; however things dramatically changed when CWM was denied a Certificate of Sponsorship by the UK Border Agency which meant that Rev Dr Collin Cowan was unable to move to London to take up his post as General Secretary.

After much campaigning the visa was eventually granted but this led the CWM officers to rethink the location decision.

In June this year the trustees were asked again to reconsider the location of the CWM offices and decided (after much struggle) to relocate the offices to Singapore.

This means that at the end of the year the London office will close and only a small team of staff will move to Singapore to relocate. The General Secretary and others have attended meetings with CWM officials to discuss the issues etc.

## **CWM Assembly and Global Trustees**

Mission Committee is asked to nominate 4 representatives to the CWM Global Assembly and to the regional meetings, one of these will become our global trustee. We were asked that everyone one of our representatives be suitable and willing to become a global trustee in order to have a balanced body. We must offer a balance of male/female, lay/ordained and a young person. At the time of writing we are still waiting to hear from various people we have approached but Mission Committee approved the names of: Jane Rowell (female, ordained) and David Coleman (male, ordained).

Jane Rowell

13<sup>th</sup> October 2011