

Paper X2

West Midlands Synod
Nestlé

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



West Midlands Synod: Nestlé

Basic Information

Contact name and email address	Roy Lowes moderator@urcwestmidlands.org.uk
Action required	Decision
Draft resolution(s)	Mission Council asks the mission committee to confirm that the monitoring of Nestlé's response to the issues raised in the Price Waterhouse Cooper Assessment Report and its compliance with the FTSE's BMS criteria in higher risk countries has been on-going. If it has it requests to know the outcome of that monitoring and whether any changes have been noted and if monitoring has not happened asks that an urgent review takes place.
Alternative options to consider, if any	Subsequent to the synod passing a resolution urging that Mission Council take this action its officers have been made aware that the convener of the URC's investment committee has recently written a paper on Nestlé. The synod's officers believe the paper is reassuring but believe that there are sources that suggest Nestlé are still not meeting other ethical criteria. Nestlé and the buying of water is one such area for discussion. The synod is open therefore as an alternative option to mission committee (bearing in mind the responsibility it was given by Mission Council in November 2011 as indicated below) being asked to offer a reflection on the investment committee's paper and any other monitoring that has been undertaken to Mission Council at its meeting in May 2015.

Summary of Content

Subject and aim(s)	Monitoring of Nestlé – consideration of any outcomes
Main points	
Previous relevant documents	In November 2011 Mission Council passed this resolution – Mission Council, in accordance with the instructions of the General Assembly 2010, rescinds the boycott on Nestlé products adopted by General Assembly in 1992 but instructs Mission Committee to continue to monitor Nestlé's response to the issues raised in the Price Waterhouse Cooper Assessment Report and its compliance with the FTSE's BMS criteria in higher risk countries and to report any changes.
Consultation has taken place with...	None

Summary of Impact

Financial	
External (e.g. ecumenical)	

Nestlé

1. The West Midlands Synod at its meeting in March 2014 came to the view that the time has come to ascertain whether monitoring of Nestlé has taken place by the mission committee.
2. In agreeing to rescind the boycott of Nestlé products, Mission Council noted that Nestlé's listing on the FTSE4Good Index only represents the first step in the process of assessing the company's compliance with FTSE criteria and the international code.
3. The mission committee was tasked with monitoring Nestlé's verification process and reporting back to Mission Council if there were any changes.
4. It is noted that should Nestlé be deleted from the FTSE4Good Index, then Mission Council has the authority to reinstate the boycott.

