### GLOBAL MISSION FELLOWSHIP

# of Anabaptist-related Churches **VISION STATEMENT**

#### **PREAMBLE**

The God whom we serve is a missionary God. Conversations between the Mennonite World Conference (MWC) and global mission leaders have led to the mutual desire to establish a Global Mission Fellowship that will enable the Church around the world to better fulfill our common calling in God's mission. This document outlines key theological/missiological assumptions, as well as organizational and structural relationships of this Global Mission Fellowship and Mennonite World Conference.

# 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. The Church at all levels--local, national, regional, and global--exists to participate in God's mission to the world.
- 1.2. God's mission through the Church involves conveying the whole gospel of Jesus Christ across spiritual, cultural, economic and political boundaries as well as within a church's local settings.
- 1.3. The Church's mission includes ministries in word and deed to persons and peoples outside the community of Christ with the goal of making disciples and bringing these new disciples into fellowships of believers.
- 1.4. The gospel of Jesus Christ is expressed through a spectrum of evangelistic, disciple-making and humanitarian/social activities, including preaching, teaching, intercessory prayer, fasting, healing, deliverance, church planting, social services, disaster relief, development aid, peacemaking, advocacy for justice, conflict mediation, discipling, and training and equipping others for mission.
- 1.5. Every church, whether at a local, national or regional level, has the responsibility to develop and sustain in biblical ways its God-given gifts for doing and being in mission.
- 1.6. Anabaptist-related churches and mission groups desire consultation and cooperation in order to increase capacity, mutual accountability, collaboration, and stewardship of resources for cross-cultural mission.

## 2. GLOBAL MISSION FELLOWSHIP

2.1. Mennonite World Conference (MWC) will facilitate a Global Mission Fellowship where Anabaptist-related churches and mission groups can meet for encouragement, vision-sharing, networking and cooperating in mission.

- 2.2. All Anabaptist-related churches and mission groups interested or engaged in cross-cultural mission may send representatives to the Global Mission Fellowship.
- 2.3. Each member may have one representative with voting privileges in the Global Mission Fellowship.
- 2.4. The Global Mission Fellowship will gather every three years, alternately in conjunction with the MWC Assembly.
- 2.5. Every member will contribute on a fair share basis to the costs of the Global Mission Fellowship.
- 2.6. The gatherings of the Global Mission Fellowship will be organized by a Planning Committee which will include a representative selected by each continental region within the Global Mission Fellowship and a representative selected by Mennonite World Conference.
- 2.7. Mennonite World Conference General Council members will participate in the Global Mission Fellowship every six years when it gather in conjunction with the MWC Assembly. On the alternate three years the Planning Committee of the Global Mission Fellowship will report to Mennonite World Conference for interaction and counsel.

### 3. REGIONAL MISSION FELLOWSHIPS

- 3.1. The Global Mission Fellowship will encourage regional Anabaptist-related churches, conferences and mission groups to provide space for and facilitate regional mission fellowships where Anabaptist-related churches and mission groups from a region--at least two countries but no more than a continent--can meet for encouragement, vision-sharing, networking, and cooperating in mission within as well as beyond their region.
- 3.2. The leadership of Anabaptist-related national churches and/or mission groups that are engaged in cross-cultural mission will be encouraged to participate in their regional mission fellowship.
- 3.3. Regional mission fellowships will be encouraged to provide a channel for relationships and cooperation with Anabaptist-related mission groups from outside the region who are engaged in the region.
- 3. 4. The participating groups will share funding of the regional mission fellowships.

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