

**WORLDWIDE MINISTRIES DIVISION  
ECUMENICAL PARTNERSHIP  
GUIDELINES FOR WMD RELATED "MISSION NETWORKS"**

Adopted by the General Assembly Council in January, 2003 in Louisville, KY

**DEFINITION:**

A Mission Network shall be a collegial partnership between various PC (USA) governing bodies, entities, and associations working together around a specific region, people group, or programmatic area of international mission.

**CONSTITUENCY:**

WMD related Mission Networks are formed for the primary purpose of enhancing communication and coordination among PC (USA) partnerships endorsed by synods, presbyteries, or sessions of local congregations having a common partnership connection with an international partner church or organization related to WMD.

Leadership for WMD Mission Networks will be selected from representatives of such partnerships. The Mission Network will determine its own convener and other leadership in an appropriate Presbyterian and democratic manner.

Representatives of other PC (USA) entities, or individuals (such as mission personnel), as well as representatives of non PC (USA) groups and organizations are welcome to participate in a Mission Network, but in an advisory/non leadership capacity.

**STAFFING AND SERVICES:**

WMD will provide coordinating staff support, as far as practicable. Staff of PC (USA) Validated Mission Support Groups (Outreach Foundation, MBF, and PFF) will be invited to serve as "adjunct WMD staff" in support of the networks.

**PURPOSES:**

Mission Networks will work to gather all the PC (USA) participants in mission in a specific region or programmatic interest in order that:

- Information, experience and wisdom can be shared;
- Contact with international partners can be maximized and economized;
- Common strategies can be discussed;
- Coordination of effort can be invited;
- Mission work by all may have the opportunity to coordinate with more inclusive Area, Program, and GAC/GA level goals;
- Communication may be direct and potential differences of difficulties be minimized;
- Common work may be held accountable to the collegium;
- Seek/invite new participants;
- Provide spiritual support for all partners engaged in the work of mission.

Mission Networks shall not take actions on behalf of, or represent their actions, decisions, or communications to other groups, entities, or international church partners as being PC (USA) WMD actions, policies, or communications. Mission Networks are, nonetheless, an important voice in the formation of strategic goals and programs of implementation.

Mission Networks are, therefore, invited to make proposals through the area or programmatic offices of WMD to the Ecumenical Partnership sub committee and WMD Committee of the General Assembly Council.