

# Methodist Church of New Zealand

## Te Hahi Weteriana O Aotearoa

**Administration Division**  
PO Box 931  
CHRISTCHURCH

**Administration No. 163**  
[Replaces No. 163 dated  
February 1999]

June 2003

### COUNCIL OF CONFERENCE

The Mission Statement shall guide the Council of Conference.

**COUNCIL OF CONFERENCE** - [See Laws & Regulations  
Section 6.2.1.1 ff]

#### **PURPOSE:**

To model the partnership between Te Taha Maori and Tauwiwi. The Council of Conference has a visioning, decision making and processing role.

It shall engage in setting of broad policy and direction for Te Hahi Weteriana O Aotearoa.

#### **TASKS:**

1. Processing Connexional Appointments, receiving the reports of 4 + 4's and forwarding the Boards recommendations to Conference.
2. The Council of Conference shall:
  - (a) recommend membership of a Budget Task Group, who shall be approved annually by Conference.
  - (b) receive a report from the Budget Task Group, attend to the sharing of Connexional resources and finalise the Budget.
3. Attend to such other things as may from time to time be requested by Conference.

#### **ACCOUNTABILITY:**

Because the Council of Conference is a bicultural Committee of Conference Council of Conference reports directly to Conference.

Members of the Council of Conference, both Tauwiwi and Taha Maori, are ex officio members of Conference and Synod.

## 1. **MEMBERSHIP OF THE COUNCIL:**

The membership of the Council is:

- (a) ten members, nominated by Te Taha Maori according to its own procedures;
- (b) ten members, nominated by Tauwi Strategy and Stationing according to its own procedures;
- (c) the President, Vice-President, General Secretary shall attend. They shall not participate in final decision making.
- (d) The Tumuaki, the Principal Trinity College, and the Director of Mission Resourcing shall attend. Their role is to act as resource persons. They shall not participate in final decision making unless appointed as members under either (a) or (b) above.

## 2. **PROCEDURES FOR SELECTING THE TAUWI MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL OF CONFERENCE:**

- (a) In August each year Synod's, Northland UDC, Fiji, and Tongan Advisory Committees will be asked to nominate a minimum of two and not more than four people, who meet the criteria for the Council of Conference. Parishes may make nominations to their Synod as part of this process. These nominations will be used to fill any vacancies occurring in the Tauwi 10.
- (b) The following criteria will be used in selecting members:
  - membership of the Methodist Church or member of a partner Church in a Co-operating Venture.
  - an understanding and commitment to the Mission Statement and the Bicultural Journey.
  - ability to think creatively.
  - ability to work in groups.
  - ability to facilitate groups.
  - an understanding of society and the Church - of how it is in Aotearoa at present.
  - an awareness of the place of Co-operating Ventures in the life of the Church.
  - a commitment to communicating with the wider Church.
  - an understanding of Church structures and the workings Tauwi and Taha Maori.

**Note:** Nominees need to be available to attend three Council of Conference meetings each year.

- (c) Synods, Northland UDC, Fiji, and Tongan Advisory Committees shall forward their nominations, together with profiles, to the Administration Division by 31<sup>st</sup> July, who shall forward details of these nominations to the Nominations Committee, which meets during the August Tauwi Strategy Committee Meeting.
- (d) The Nomination Committee will select names to fill the vacancies from the nominations received. These nominees will take a seat on the Council of Conference after being approved by the pre-Conference Tauwi Meeting.
- (e) There will be a pool of substitutes of up to ten members made up from retiring members of the Tauwi 10. This pool shall have a membership of 10, with the longest serving members retiring as new retirees enter the pool.
- (f) When a temporary vacancy arises, the Tauwi Convener of the Council of Conference will take responsibility to fill the vacancy from the 'pool' of 10. When a permanent vacancy occurs the President, in consultation with the Tauwi 10, may make an appointment to fill it from the 'pool' of 10. The substitute shall remain for the term of the person that they have replaced.

#### **TAHA MAORI MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL:**

Procedures for selecting the 10 Taha Maori Members of the Council of Conference:

Each Rohe is invited to nominate people from their own or another Rohe who fit an agreed criteria, which includes:

- having a knowledge and understanding of the Mission Statement of the Methodist Church.
- knowing and having a commitment to Taha Maori Goals. (See Law Book Section 9.)
- having an understanding of the Methodist Bicultural Journey.
- having an understanding of the present structure of Taha Maori.
- having an understanding and workings of the wider Methodist Church.
- being familiar with the Methodist Law Book.
- having attended Komiti Whaiti and/or Hui Poari and is up-to-date with Taha Maori decisions.

- being available for the Council of Conference meetings.
- being willing to do the necessary preparations for the meetings.
- being willing to have training in the skills required.
- being willing to work as a team.
- being willing to accept constructive criticism.

The names then go forward to Hui Poari (or Komiti Whaiti) where the decision is made.

Some people are willing to be reserves and a pool of names is kept.