



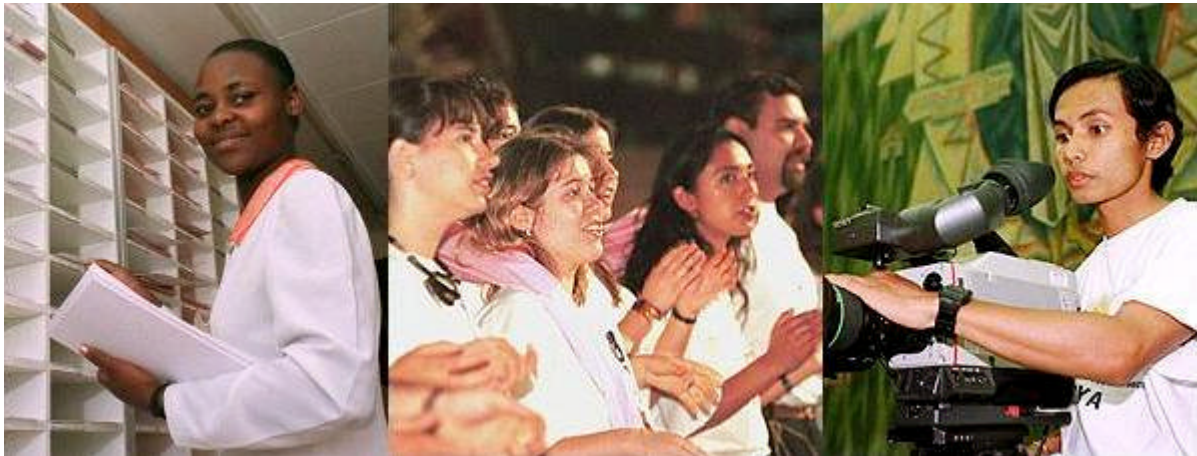
Steward



World Council of Churches 9th Assembly

“God, in your grace, transform the world”

9 – 26 February 2006
Porto Alegre, Brazil



Ecumenical experience for young people

www.wcc-assembly.info

Steward – ecumenical experience for young people

WCC Assembly – unique event

Assemblies of the World Council of Churches are held every 7 years. Next meeting of the main WCC governing body will take place in February 2006 in Porto Alegre, Brazil. WCC Assemblies are unique events providing opportunities for participants to deepen their knowledge of the ecumenical movement, renew their ecumenical commitment and find inspiration for further work towards the unity of the Church.

The coming Assembly is aimed to be a “youth Assembly” with young people taking leadership roles, participating in the event in large number and various capacities. A special group of youth at the Assembly will be **stewards**. You may be one of them!

Assembly Stewards Programme will be composed of 2 phases:

- Pre-Assembly Youth Event,
- Assembly meeting.

The programme will bring together 150 young people from all over the world and give them the opportunity to contribute with their work to the operations of the Assembly. It will also provide a space for ecumenical learning, encounters and discussions.

“Work, pray and sweat”

Being a steward means hard work. The work done is often exhausting, intense and under pressure of short deadlines. The main areas of tasks to be carried out are: *Conference Room, Documentation, Press Office, Sound, Visual Arts, Sales, Worship* and other tasks such as general administration, sorting mail, delivering messages, etc.



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Learning and contributing

Apart from the work, stewards will have a unique opportunity to participate in



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and contribute to the life of the Assembly. As a community of young people from different churches, countries and cultures, stewards bring their faith, backgrounds and visions to an ecumenical experience of togetherness and friendship. Being a steward will be a challenge, will foster involvement and participation, and may indeed change your life. The Stewards Programme is only the beginning of a long process. It encourages young people to continue the journey of ecumenism.

Criteria

Stewards **have to be between 18 and 30 years old. English** is the working language of the Programme and its knowledge is required from the applicants. Additionally, knowledge of Portuguese will be highly valued. Stewards need to be prepared to endure an intensive programme of activities and long, tiring work days. Working hours are irregular, and often special programmes are planned after work for the stewards. Patience, ability to work with people from other countries and cultures, and a willingness to work together as a team, are essential.

Financing

WCC will be responsible for board and lodging expenses during the time of the Programme and will provide some pocket money.

Travel costs to and from the Assembly are to be borne by the steward, except in cases where subsidy is granted.

Residents of following regions, if unable to finance their travel, are eligible for a subsidy: Asia, Africa, Caribbean, Central and Eastern Europe, Latin America, Middle East and Pacific.

All stewards who are granted a travel subsidy are expected to make a cash contribution – within their capacity – towards travel expenses. The contribution can be a combination of funds from yourself, your church, parish, organisation etc. The purpose of the contribution is to allow more young people to come to the Assembly, to strengthen the commitment of the participants

and encourage the ownership of the programme by the participants and their local churches and organisations.

Please complete the relevant section of the application form concerning travel clearly. Specific requests for assistance will be dealt with on a case by case basis.

Passport, visas and any other personal related expenses are the responsibility of a steward.



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Interested?

Read the application form carefully, complete it clearly and fully (in English; type if possible) and send it to the address mentioned in the form before **June 15, 2005**.

Only applications which are **fully completed and sent in time** will be considered. The places in this Programme are limited, so some people are bound to be disappointed simply because there will not be enough places for all well qualified applicants. However, all the applicants will be informed about the results in autumn 2005.