

## World Council of Churches Conseil œcuménique des Eglises Consejo Mundial de Iglesias Ökumenischer Rat der Kirchen

## **General Secretariat**

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Geneva, 8 July 2009

## Dear Friends,

With the approach of the forthcoming WCC central committee meeting, I would like to remind you of the WCC policy regarding financial assistance granted to churches for their delegate(s) attending the meeting.

With the deepening financial crisis only limited funds are available to support delegates from churches who find it difficult to finance the cost of sending their delegate(s). It is important to note that the participatory costs for attending central committee meetings are the responsibility of the church. In cases where churches cannot afford the costs of sending their delegate(s) to the central committee meeting, limited funds are available to support the church.

There are, however, no 100% subsidies. In cases where the participant has indicated on the central committee registration form that they require that the WCC pay for room and board at the hotel, the WCC will indeed cover this cost, but in turn the church will be expected to cover the full cost of air-travel and any further additional expense related to travel for the delegate.

If the church cannot assume this part of its responsibility then a letter from the head of the church would need to be submitted to the WCC justifying the request and thereby requesting financial assistance. Participants' travel claims will not be reimbursed without such a letter being submitted by the head of the church prior to the meeting.

In the event that 100% subsidy is granted, then any extra participatory related expense, e.g., visa fees, taxis, meals on route, etc, will not be reimbursed, and will be considered as the minimum expected contribution from the church and/or participant.

Thank you in advance for your understanding.

We look forward to seeing you at the WCC Central Committee meeting.

Yours sincerely,

Catherine Christ-Taha Assistant to the General Secretary

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