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SUGGESTED TITLE: Proposal to Restructure the Global UMC - Miscellaneous Provisions Regarding Annual Conferences

DISCIPLINE PARAGRAPH: ¶¶ 33, 34, 35, 36

GENERAL CHURCH BUDGET IMPLICATIONS: No

GLOBAL IMPLICATIONS: Yes

Revise ¶ 33 as follows:

¶ 33. *Article II.*—The annual conference is the basic body in the Church and as such shall have reserved to it the right to vote on all constitutional amendments, on the election of clergy and lay delegates to the ~~General and the jurisdictional or central conferences~~ **Global, connectional and regional conferences**, on all matters relating to the character and conference relations of its clergy members, and...

Revise ¶ 34 as follows:

¶ 34. *Article III.*—The annual conference shall elect clergy and lay delegates to the ~~General Conference~~ **Global Connectional Conference** and to its ~~jurisdictional or central conference~~ **connectional conference and regional conference** in the manner provided in this section, Articles IV and V. The persons first elected up to the number determined by the ratio for representation in the ~~General Conference~~ **Global Connectional Conference and connectional conference** shall be representatives in ~~that body~~ **those bodies**. Additional delegates shall be elected to complete the number determined by ratio for representation in the ~~jurisdictional or central conference~~ **regional conference**, who, together with those first elected as above, shall be delegates in the ~~jurisdictional~~

~~or central conference~~ **regional conference**. The additional delegates to the ~~jurisdictional or central conference~~ **regional conference** shall in the order of their election be the reserve delegates to the ~~General Conference~~ **Global Connectional Conference and connectional conference**. The annual conference shall also elect reserve clergy and lay delegates to the ~~jurisdictional or central conference~~ **regional conference** as it may deem desirable. These reserve clergy and lay delegates to the ~~jurisdictional or central conferences~~ **regional conferences** may act as reserve to the ~~General Conference~~ **Global Connectional Conference and connectional conference** when it is evident that not enough reserve delegates are in attendance at the ~~General Conference~~ **Global Connectional Conference or connectional conference**.

Revise ¶ 35 as follows:

¶ 35. *Article V*—The clergy delegates to the ~~General Conference~~ **Global Connectional Conference** and to the ~~jurisdictional or central conference~~ **connectional conference and regional conference** shall be elected from...

Revise ¶ 36 as follows:

¶ 36. *Article V*.—The lay delegates to ~~General and jurisdictional or central conferences~~ **Global Connectional, connectional and regional conferences** shall be elected by... ..and are members thereof within the annual conference electing them at the time of holding the ~~General and jurisdictional or central conferences~~ **Global Connectional, connectional and regional conferences**.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The actual incremental costs of this proposal will be dependent upon the global structure finally adopted by General Conference.

There will probably be some additional costs related to connectional conferences, committees, etc., but these costs may be offset by a possible reduction in costs related to the meeting of the Global Connection. If the business of the North America connection is removed from the agenda of the Global Connectional Conference, the duration of that meeting will be less than the current General Conference, perhaps by three or four days, resulting in a reduction in costs for that meeting.

The most significant increase in costs will probably involve the meetings of the connectional conferences. This proposal would require each connectional conference to meet quadrennially, prior to the Global Connectional Conference. Depending upon when and where the connectional conferences meet, the incremental cost of these meetings is estimated to be between US\$300,000 and US\$1,000,000. GCFA will be asked to develop more accurate cost projections.

Any incremental cost increases will also need to be examined in the context of the overall budget for the 2016 General Conference budget of over US\$10 million.

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