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SUGGESTED TITLE: Proposal to Restructure the Global UMC – Rename General Conference to Global Connectional Conference in the Constitution

DISCIPLINE PARAGRAPH: ¶¶ 2, 8, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 33, 34, 35, 36, 38, 39, 42, 43, 44, 46, 47, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61

GENERAL CHURCH BUDGET IMPLICATIONS: Yes

GLOBAL IMPLICATIONS: Yes

Amend by changing the term “General Conference” to “Global Connectional Conference” wherever it appears in the Constitution.

~~General Conference~~ Global Connectional Conference

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.

DATE: August 28, 2015

SIGNATURE OF PETITIONER: *Tracy R Merrick*

IDENTIFICATION OF PETITIONER: Chairperson of NEJ Global Structure Task Force

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