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Dear WSCF Members, Partners, Senior Friends and Friends,

Then Joshua said to them, “Do not be afraid, do not be discouraged, be strong and courageous.” (Joshua 10:25)

The year 2015 was not an ordinary year in the life of the World Student Christian Federation. In fact it was a very critical moment and at the same time the opportune moment for the Federation to revisit its foundation through the operational structure, governance, leadership and programs. Courageous steps were taken towards substantial change in the systems and structures of WSCF in order to ensure its sustainability and stability. Newly elected officers, ExCo members and the Transition Team worked hand in hand to finalize the plan for the changes needed to sustain the mission and goals of the Federation.

In 2015, the Federation addressed critical issues affecting the world. Multifaceted problems challenged our faith as a community of Christian believers witnessing for justice and peace in an increasing violent world. The number of terrorist incidents happening in Africa, Europe and the Middle East was high in 2015, as more people died from terror attacks. At the same time, the number of international migrants reached 244 million, a 41% increase compared to the year 2000 according to the United Nations. This figure includes almost 20 million refugees. The so-called Mediterranean crisis recorded a sharp increase in the number of migrant deaths crossing the sea fleeing from war, conflict and persecution.

SCM members around the world were engaged in critical reflection, prayers and dialogue and action around these issues and other major global issues such as Food Security, Climate Change, War and Conflict, Racism, Human Rights Violations, Migration and Gender Justice.

By God’s grace, we were able to sustain our ministry during this period of change. God provided and supported us with his loving care and compassion to pursue our work, mended the wounds and restored what was broken in our midst within the Federation. He who is our basis (beginning) and our end will continue to guide our steps as we are called to serve and be courageous in this challenging environment.

Our partners played a key role in prayers, moral and financial support. Our heartfelt thanks as without you, it would not have been possible to carry out our activities and programs. May God reward you and bless you.

Our appreciation to the Centennial Fund Board of Trustees, the officers, the Executive Committee members, the global staff, senior friends, SCM members for your tremendous work, financial support and dedication to the life and future of the Federation.

As we begin a new chapter in the life of the Federation, we are re-energized to continue our journey, counting on Jesus Christ through His Holy Spirit, reaffirming that “We are Many We are One - Sent to Build God’s Peace”.

In Christ,

Georgine Kengne Djeutane
WSCF Chairperson

2015 is the ‘Assembly Year’ of WSCF, a turning point in the life of the Federation where the vision and direction of WSCF is affirmed, and the fellowship is renewed after a period of discernment on how to pursue its ecumenical vision and task in a rapidly changing ecumenical milieu. This year efforts were focused towards the 35th General Assembly in Bogotá, Colombia. The GA was a watershed moment where a common understanding of the current state of the Federation was achieved and a wake-up call to seek reforms from within was agreed. A wake-up call triggered by a recurring financial crisis brought about by the Federation’s investment in maintaining its historic organic structure which, in the analysis of the Future of the Federation Group presented at the GA, no longer fit the changing context and needs of the organization. Therefore, change was inevitable.

2015 began the transition journey towards strategic change, a journey that brought together a Transition Team to carry out the mandate of the GA, implement emergency financial measures and prepare the detailed proposals for strategic change. Nine months after the Bogotá General Assembly in March, this process was initially completed.

While transition work was ongoing, regional programs and activities continued simultaneously in different parts of the world. For years, the Federation demonstrated creativity and strength in creating and adapting programs that addressed the needs of its member movements in multiple contexts. In the last quadrennial, the Federation began working towards common programmatic goals within the framework of a Strategic Plan while at the same time addressing diverse local needs and contexts. I believe this is where the signs of hope is calling the Federation to move towards.

In this report, we share with you the growth and potential of the work of the Federation as it tries to respond to varied contexts of ecumenical student and youth ministry and begin to reform itself. The section on Global Strategic Themes and Programs highlights the impact, challenges, and lessons learned in the implementation of the five global thematic programs on Eco-Justice, Gender Justice, Capacity Building, Identity Diversity and Dialogue (IDD), and Overcoming Violence in the Middle East. The section on Regional Programs provide a glimpse of regional thematic focus that continues to shape the priorities in the global programs.

As the Federation transitions from a governance-centered organization to a mission-centered organization, we continue to pray and seek your support. I believe that God’s Spirit is calling and leading the Federation.

Justice and Peace,

Necta Montes
Incoming Secretary General
“We are Many, We are One - Sent Out to Build God’s Peace”, was the theme of the 35th WSCF General Assembly gathering from February 27 to March 5, 2015 at the YMCA, Bogotá, Colombia. It was the most important event in the life of the Federation in the past seven years with 163 participants and 78 official delegates representing 64 member movements, partners, senior friends and churches. The GA was a turning point in the life of the Federation because its mandates were to (1) implement plans for strategic changes for the future of the Federation; (2) engage in a continuing dialogue on issues of Identity, Diversity and Dialogue; (3) work for Peace and Justice in Colombia, Palestine and the Middle East; and (4) celebrate and share the life together in Christ and welcome the birth of new movements.

**Strategic changes for the future of the Federation**

As the highest governing body of the Federation, the GA elected the leaders and members of the Executive Committee (ExCo) to lead the strategic changes for the future of the Federation. Officers elected were Immanuel Kitnan from Sri Lanka as Vice-Chair, and Bronwyn Claire from Australia as Honorary Treasurer. Regional Representatives elected were: Marianne Azer from Egypt, Dany El-Obeid from Lebanon, Fanny Chung from Hong Kong, John Gravestone from New Zealand, Annika Foltin from Germany, Valentin Tranchand from Germany, Lydia Nabunya from Uganda, Paul Martin Nguimgo from Cameroon, Dianet Martínez Valdés from Cuba, Oscar Reicher Salazar from Chile, Brandi Friesen Thorpe from Canada and Louis Tillman from the US.

The GA worked significantly in shaping the future of the Federation and prepared for the immediate changes in the governance and operational structure of the institution. The GA approved the recommendations of the WSCF Future of the Federation Task Group, putting the organization in a six- to nine-month transition period, led by a Transition Team.

**Continuing Dialogue on Identity and Diversity**

For years, the Federation struggled internally to engage in a constructive dialogue on Sexuality. This GA took a major step by recognizing the need to create spaces for prayers and dialogue, and discern how the spirit of God is guiding the global fellowship to stand in solidarity with the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) community. The GA approved the Identity, Diversity and Dialogue (IDD) Report and Recommendations, providing the framework for continuing dialogue and discernment on Sexuality for WSCF regions and member movements in the years to come.

**Peace and Justice in Palestine and the Middle East**

The GA approved the Policy Paper on Palestine, a framework document for engaging the Federation in working towards peace and dialogue between Israel and Palestine. The Policy Paper expressed WSCF’s position on the Israel-Palestine conflict, invoking international human rights laws and the Palestinian Kairos Document as the basis of its position. In its 10-point position, it called for an end to Israel’s illegal occupation; dismantling of illegal settlements;...
declare Jerusalem as shared open city for both; dismantling of the Wall; Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions as non-violent forms of protest, and continuing advocacy for non-violent and just peace solution to the conflict.

**Celebrating and sharing the life together in Christ and welcoming the birth of new movements**

The GA signaled a beginning of a process for a change in organizational culture and greater solidarity within the Federation. Complementing the work of the Inter-regional office, the six regional offices have taken steps towards the preparations for the GA, including thematic discussions and fund-raising. Asia-Pacific held its Regional Committee meeting in Indonesia on the theme of the Assembly and launched special appeals from senior friends, churches and members to support GA delegates. Europe utilized social media to inform and create awareness on the importance of the Assembly and raise funds to support their delegates as well as students from the global South. Similarly, the Middle East region conducted intensive meetings to promote the Assembly and prioritized young women delegate’s participation. As the host region, the LAC worked and contributed immensely in the logistical and programmatic preparations of the GA, creating and expanding local networks in Colombia to support and prepare for the Assembly. The North America region played a key role in the over-all fund-raising work for the GA.

In this GA, eight new movements were affiliated and welcomed in the fellowship. These were: Student Christian Movement of Ireland (SCM), Youth Diocese Chruch from Lebanon, Palestine Youth Ecumenical Movement (PYEM), Fellowship of the Orthodox Youth in Poland, SCM United States of America, Christian Youth Association of Malawi (CYAMA), Centra Ecumenica from Belarus, Young Christians for Peace and Democracy from Georgia (YCPD).

**GA delegates reflect on their experience in Bogotá**

We had very big issue about ‘Financial Crisis’. So discussing with FOF (Future of Federation) group about their report which contains their advice to work out this crisis was one of the very important tasks for us. Many participants came to know about the financial crisis at the GA plenary so understanding the crisis was not easy. But still, during all the discussion, everybody was so passionate. By watching them discussing and reflecting, I could learn lots of things and also I was so touched by their love and care towards the federation. (Song Yeo Jin, Korea Student Christian Federation KSCF)

As a result of this experience, I felt that I was able to come away with a much deeper understanding of my faith and how God is calling me to act on a global stage. For many years now, I have felt a calling to become involved in settling Middle East policy issues and resolving some of the regional conflicts, coming at the issues from the perspective of a religious scholar. Just simply having the opportunity to talk with delegates from the Middle East WSCF region was such a blessing to me because I was able to have conversations with those having first-hand accounts which I would never get to do on a daily basis back home in the United States. I was certainly able to feel God’s presence at this event. I used the conversations I had and the people I met to help guide my discernment process on God’s calling in my life. (Carter Habeeb, SCM USA)

I am especially fascinated by our progress on the issue of sexual identity and gender—we finally managed to include advocacy for basic human rights for people marginalized on the basis of gender and sexual identities into our official document, which allows WSCF to make a stance on a global level against violation of basic human rights! This is definitely a very significant milestone of WSCF, as gender and sexuality issues have always been one of the toughest issues to discuss in the course of WSCF’s history, due to the diversity of cultural and theological backgrounds among our members. . . The dramatic progress we have achieved in this GA is a result of the long-term, continuous and tremendous effort of every one who has made the dialogue on this issue possible. It also shows a significant step towards ecumenism in our Federation. (Bernard Wong, SCM Hong Kong)

The 35th World Student Christian Federation Assembly was a significant event for SCM-USA. This was a moment in history as the Student Christian Movement of the United States of America was unanimously voted in for being a fully affiliated SCM delegation to the WSCF. SCM-USA represented their efficacious works to the General Assembly by speaking on the various issues within the country: social justice, racial justice, dating violence, domestic violence, and human sexuality. The General Assembly was a tough and rigorous event for many members, but fruitful and refreshing at the same time because of the new friends and bonds that were created in Christ Jesus. (Louise Tillman, Chicago, USA)
question of how the Federation will adapt to the changing funding landscape and the rapidly decreasing institutional funding from WSCF’s traditional partners. In the internal structural reform, the proposal outlined the following rationale: movement building needs should be at the heart of the work of the WSCF Staff Team; the structure should encourage greater participation, democratic decision-making and communication between the global and national movements; the need for clarity and stream-lining of bureaucratic processes in decision-making; a reduced and lean operational structure that is flexible and able to adapt to the changing needs of the Federation.

Overall, the Transition Team’s goal was to present a working model of a WSCF structure that is financially sustainable and would lead to long-term stability; a structure that is able to respond to the objectives, mission and vision of WSCF in this current context.

From the Future of the Federation (FOF) Task Group to the WSCF Transition Team

Following the approval of the Future of the Federation (FOF) Report at the GA in Bogotá, a team of six people was appointed by the Executive Committee to form the WSCF Transition Team tasked to prepare the Federation for transition in two years. The Team was composed of Georgine Kengne Djeutane (Cameroon), Necta Montes (Philippines), Bronwyn Claire (Australia), Salters Sterling (Ireland), Marco Fornerone (Italy), Chris Ferguson (Canada) and Pretty Mubaiwa (Uganda).

From April to December 2015, the Transition Team developed its Work Plan and identified its priorities starting with stabilizing the Federation’s financial situation and consolidating the post-General Assembly work of the Federation. In implementing its mandate, the Team organized the WSCF Strategic Planning Meeting in August in Birmingham and the WSCF ExCo and Transition Team Meeting in December, and gathered information from former and current WSCF leaders on the proposals for change presented to the Executive Committee in December.

The Team’s final proposal aimed to respond to the financial challenge of the Federation by reforming its internal structure. It addressed the important question of how the Federation will adapt to the changing funding landscape and the rapidly decreasing institutional funding from WSCF’s traditional partners. In the internal structural reform, the proposal outlined the following rationale: movement building needs should be at the heart of the work of the WSCF Staff Team; the structure should encourage greater participation, democratic decision-making and communication between the global and national movements; the need for clarity and stream-lining of bureaucratic processes in decision-making; a reduced and lean operational structure that is flexible and able to adapt to the changing needs of the Federation.

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GLOBAL GOVERNANCE AND PROGRAMS

Transition Work

Birmingham WSCF Staff and Beyond transition work, building the Strategic Plan

The Staff and Officers Strategic Workshop held in Birmingham from August 2 to 8 resulted in the Transition Team’s preliminary proposals for the governance and operational changes and the WSCF Strategic Plan for 2015 to 2019 as framework documents. Both documents are roadmaps for the strategic work of the Federation during and after the two-year transition period. The Workshop reviewed the progress achieved by the Transition Team, conducted an initial analysis of the various aspects of the areas for review, and finalized the strategy, policy, procedure and plans for how these changes will be implemented. The
Officers Strategic Workshop

Plan for the Federation

The program was divided into the following sections: Strategic Foundation of WSCF, the Program Strategies, Resource Strategies, Governance Strategy, and Management and Operational Strategies.

From this Workshop, further consultations were recommended to target groups of respondents to sharpen the analysis and content of the initial proposal of the Transition Team. The consultations would begin with a questionnaire designed based on the feedback gathered and discussions with the staff and officers in Birmingham on the Management Operation, Governance Structure, Finance of WSCF.

Palermo WSCF Executive Committee and Transition Team Meeting

Strategic decisions and concrete actions to sustain the future of the Federation

The Palermo meeting held from December 14 to 17, 2016 in Palermo, Italy finalized the plan for the changes needed to sustain the work of the Federation. The meeting was attended by the WSCF global officers, regional representatives, regional staff and members of the Transition Team. The meeting produced the final agreement on how the proposed changes will be implemented, contained in the Palermo Communiqué, a joint statement of the ExCo and Transition Team. It outlined the Executive Committee’s decisions in the following areas: (1) Executive Staff Team Model: Co-secretary Generals and Regional Secretaries, (2) Executive Committee, (3) General Assembly, (4) WSCF IRO Office Location and Relocation, and (5) WSCF Financial System.

The highlights of the decisions were:

- Reduce the number of global executive staff from two Co-secretary Generals to one Secretary General;
- Re-focus the work of the six regional staff to movement building and strategic programming with a change in the title of the Regional Secretaries to Regional Executives and Global Program Directors;
- Remove the provisions for the two proxies for regional representatives in the ExCo;
- Hold the General Assembly every six years;
- Move the global operational work performed by the General Secretary to one of the regional offices of the WSCF;
- Integrate the reporting and accounting system of the six regional offices following the global standard and format.

This meeting also approved the WSCF Strategic Plan for 2015 to 2019 that was developed from the August Strategic Workshop in Birmingham and completed by the staff for final approval by the Executive Committee. The Strategic Plan finalized the Vision, Mission and Goals of WSCF, the four cross-cutting global themes on Eco-Justice, Identity, Diversity and Dialogue (IDD), Peace Building and Dialogue, Higher Education. The Plan identified the following Programmatic Strategies: Biblical and Theological Analysis, Advocacy and Solidarity, Ecumenical Transformative Diakonia, Capacity Building, and Movement Building.
**Global Programs**

**Inter-regional Leadership Training Program (IRLTP) on Transformative Diakonia**

“The WSCF IRLTP on Migration, Refugees and Asylum Seekers was held last December 8 to 11 at the Centro Diaconale La Noce Instituto Valdese in Palermo, Sicily, Italy. The Training Program was attended by 25 participants coming from the member movements of WSCF in India, Argentina, Italy, Lebanon, USA, Sri Lanka, Uganda, Canada, Hong Kong, Chile, Germany, Cameroon, Philippines, Ireland, Ivory Coast, Georgia, Palestine and Malaysia.**

**Global Advocacy and Solidarity Committee Meeting**

Following the IRLTP, WSCF’s Global Advocacy and Solidarity Committee (ASC) met on December 12 to 14 in Palermo. The ASC is the advisory committee to the Federation on advocacy and solidarity matters; it also facilitates the strategic planning and monitoring of the same. It is composed of six representatives from the six regions of WSCF and coordinated by Luciano Kovacs, WSCF Regional Secretary for North America. The meeting was an orientation session for the new members of the ASC nominated after the GA in Bogotá and planned for the advocacy work of the Federation in the next four years. It also reviewed the history and mandate of the Federation’s advocacy work in the last quadrennium and consolidated the advocacy plans of the six regions into one Global Advocacy Action Plan.

WSCF’s global advocacy themes for the next four years will be on Ecological Justice, Peace Building and Dialogue in Palestine and Colombia, Higher Education, and Identity, Diversity and Dialogue (IDD).

The ILTP was organized primarily to develop a theological framework for WSCF in engaging in Ecumenical Transformative Diakonia, and to develop guidelines and action plan for the next four years. In order to achieve these objectives, the content of the Training Program was organized and divided into four major parts: (1) theological and biblical reflection and theoretical analysis, (2) contextual understanding and experiential sharing, (3) skills training on Advocacy Work, and (4) planning and developing strategies for Advocacy and Solidarity Work for WSCF.

As a new initiative, it provided the framework for WSCF to develop a long-term plan for its integrated approach to Ecumenical Transformative Diakonia at various levels of the Federation. The Program deepened WSCF’s theological basis for diakonia work, while at the same time, provided a good balance between the contextual, theoretical and experiential content. A balanced representation of the regional participants was an opportunity to plan and strategize concrete actions on how to respond to the challenge of responding to the issue of migration in Europe and other parts of the world. The participants’ feedback were generally positive as indicative of their enthusiasm and commitment to implement the Consolidated Action Plan and further engage the SCMs and be involved as volunteer workers in activities for the migrants, refugees and asylum seekers in Europe and in other parts of the world.
Regional Training on “Understanding Eco-Justice in a Climate Change Regime: Acknowledge, Address and Act to Restore (Eco)Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation”

The Asia-Pacific Regional Human Rights Justice and Peace (HRJP) Training of Trainers was held from October 5 to 11 on the theme, “Understanding Eco-Justice in a Climate Change Regime: Acknowledge, Address and Act to Restore (eco)Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation”. The Training was hosted by the Indonesia SCM (GMKI) at Chibodas, Bogor, Indonesia. Thirty participants from the SCMs in Asia and the Pacific attended the training. It aimed to mobilize students and youth to understand and act on the growing concern of climate change from the perspectives of land justice and indigenous people’s rights, and create awareness of the global issues and solutions that are in place and/or are evolving in climate change and eco-justice through the Training of Trainers.

The training raised awareness on ecological justice issues and the haze problem caused by forest fires in Indonesia’s palm plantations. A public meeting was organized in collaboration with the government’s environment department, SCM senior friends and quests to discuss actions to respond to the growing problem caused by the haze crisis. Around 200 signatures were collected during the public meeting to support the work of Act Alliance for the campaign ‘Act Now for Climate Justice’ and submitted to the CoP21. The participants agreed to come up with a climate justice policy for WSCF to implement within the Federation.

Climate Letter Campaign

A Climate Letter Campaign was launched by Ylioppilaiden kristillinen yhdistys from May 11 to November 18 in Helsinki, Finland, which aimed to raise awareness about climate issues together with religious groups and to have a dialogue with other religions on their perspective on climate issues. The Climate Letter Campaign was organized in co-operation with “Vihreä Buddha” or Green Buddha, a Buddhist activist organisation. The interfaith group wrote a Christian and a Buddhist letter (and also one letter for all the other religions plus non-believers) and collected signatures for those letters. The Climate Letter was given to Finland’s Environment Minister, Kimmo Tiilikainen before the Paris’ COP Climate Meeting.

Project Greenopolis

Project Greenopolis is an ecological awareness campaign held from November 1 to December 20 in multiple locations in Lasi, Romania participated in by 150 student volunteers. Project Greenopolis aimed to educate local students from Asociatia MIRA and Saint Nicholas College to become more environmentally-conscious and responsible members of society. It also aimed to improve environmental policies and practice of Asociatia MIRA and Saint Nicholas College; network, partner and undertake joint projects with local and international organisations that promote sustainability; foster sustainable and responsible lifestyles to immediate communities and beyond, and; lobby the Municipality of Lasi in order to improve waste collection and separation in the city of Lasi.

The Greenopolis Team has been doing trainings and workshops for students and children from the Lasi region on Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Renewable energy. They have raised public awareness on controversial environmental issues, having discussions on topics such as deforestation, renewable energies and different consumption patterns. The Greenopolis Team participated in the
Youth Network of the City of Buenos Argentina, and WSCF-LAC. The Interfaith of Churches, the Islamic Center of Movement, Youth Latin American Council of indigenous towns, Brazilian Focolare (JSF), Sariri Community of Spiritualities (CELAM), Federation of Jewish Students Latin American Episcopal Conference refugees. The participants came from the role of faith communities in hosting change, the role of young religious, and organizations to the issues of climate work on the commitment of faith-based religious institutions in Latin America to Latin America. Between 100 and 120 participants participated in the Seminar. The Seminar’s objectives were to view from a biblico-theological perspective and political analysis the situation of Latin America and climate change, to discuss the impact of extractive and predatory policies of corporations in the environment and to develop biblical and theological readings on Eco-Justice and Climate Change. In addition to the publication of the Bible reading guide was the creation of the space called, “Eccumenical Action for Climate Justice”.

Seminar on theological-biblical perspectives and challenges for Environmental Justice

A Bible and Theology Seminar was held from September 3 to 6 in Barranquilla, Colombia. The event was organized together with the Latin American Council of Churches (CLAI), Alliance of Presbyterian and Reformed Churches in Latin America (AIPRAL), CREATS, The Reformed University, and Our Voices Latin America. Between 100 and 120 participants participated in the Seminar. The Seminar’s objectives were to view from a biblico-theological perspective and political analysis the situation of Latin America and climate change, to discuss the impact of extractive and predatory policies of corporations in the environment and to develop biblical and theological readings on Eco-Justice and Climate Change. In addition to the publication of the Bible reading guide was the creation of the space called, “Eccumenical Action for Climate Justice”.

“Welcoming the Other: Faith and Climate Justice” Inter-Regional Meeting with Religions for Peace

The meeting was held from October 31 to November 2 in Buenos Aires, Argentina. It brought together young leaders from religious institutions in Latin America to work on the commitment of faith-based organizations to the issues of climate change, the role of young religious, and the role of faith communities in hosting refugees. The participants came from the Latin American Episcopal Conference (CELAM), Federation of Jewish Students (JSF), Sanri Community of Spiritualities of indigenous towns, Brazilian Focolare Movement, Youth Latin American Council of Churches, the Islamic Center of Argentina, and WSCF-LAC. The Interfaith Youth Network of the City of Buenos Aires (RJUBA), Jewish organization working with refugees (HIAS), Latin American and Caribbean Forum of Youth (FLACJ), and Religions for Peace Latin America were also invited as presenters. The result of the meeting was presented in the Religions for Peace and International Youth Committee in Paris meetings, prior to the Conference of the Parties COP 21 in Paris.

Participation in the Ecumenical Delegation to the COP21 in Paris

Under the coordination of ACT Alliance, the World Council of Churches (WCC) and the Lutheran World Federation (LWF), a delegation that included the WSCF prepared to bring the religious ethical perspective in the climate negotiations during the Conference of the Parties COP 21 in Paris from November 21 to 30. The ecumenical delegation shared its common agenda and objective with civil society and movements to achieve a comprehensive and legally binding agreement. The ecumenical delegation was composed of 110 faith-based organizations from around the world.


Program Impact

The impact of the Eco-Justice program has been diverse and widespread in and across the regions of WSCF. Foremost, it has increased awareness and analysis on the intersection of environmental issues and other social justice issues such as land rights and environmental racism in context of North America; solid waste management and water in the Middle East; forest fires, haze and economic development in Indonesia; land and indigenous rights in India and the Philippines; and the importance of climate negotiations at the COP21 in Paris in local advocacies. These consciousness-raising activities resulted in concrete actions, such as the Act Now
for Climate Justice Signature Campaigns that involved a wider number of students participating in actions for ecological justice beyond their own communities.

Second, Eco-Justice as a strategic theme has been incorporated in the work of many of the local SCMs around the world. Many have joined local environmental networks to develop the eco-justice themes and participate in common community actions. Furthermore, the SCMs have started to lead and self-manage the local networks and develop contextual agendas on eco-justice. By educating students on eco-justice issues at the local, regional, and global levels, students have increased their commitment to and activism on ecological themes initiated at the global level.

CHALLENGES

A common challenge is the lack of human resources, especially long-term volunteers, within the SCMs, and inadequate financial resources to implement follow-up programs and activities. Young people feel excited to engage in the activities, however they often lack motivation to pursue the work and focus on the long-lasting outcomes. Another challenge for SCMs working in interfaith networks is the relative lack of young people, especially from other religious groups, interested and engaged in the project.

In the Middle East, apart from water shortage, most of the environmental issues are considered secondary and non-priority because of the on-going war and violence.

There is also the need to incorporate new methodologies and emphasis to develop the content of the programs, for example, with regards to emergency warning or in relation to peace and humanitarian crisis for displaced local communities.

If WSCF had a dedicated programmatic staff for eco-justice, capacity for advocacy work will improve. For instance, one of the most effective ways to counter climate justice is by decreasing fossil fuel usage and investment in this industry. Although SCMers may be involved in efforts to make their campus more environment-friendly and to have their universities divest from fossil fuel companies, in order for this to be more effective would require a wider strategy that necessitates staff time. Nonetheless, the education the WSCF provides on eco-justice issues enables students to harness tools to promote such strategies locally.

LESSONS LEARNED

Gradual change in lifestyle towards “reduce, reuse and recycle” should be practiced by SCM members during programs to have a “praxis” experience.

Eco-Justice programs are great example for ecumenical work. In our experience, we recognize that an interfaith and multi-faith approach to understanding and engagement in ecological justice resulted in successful advocacy work as done in Europe, Latin America and North America.

As it is with many issues, students have become increasingly involved in eco-justice work because of exposure to situations of suffering and resistance. For instance, by attending the North America Regional Assembly, students became more aware about the connections between colonization, oppression of indigenous people and environmental issues and eco-justice. The same happened when North America students travelled to India for the mining justice conference in 2014. One of the participants in that program is one of the leaders sitting on the current regional Advocacy and Solidarity Working Group and his exposure to the struggle of indigenous people in India has shaped his awareness of how economics, colonialism and violence are all integral to eco-justice.
The workshop was held from November 24-29, 2015 in Church of Bangladesh Retreat & Conference Center at Savar, Bangladesh. It aimed to understand and be open to dialogue on the realities of violence against women (VAW) and the sexual minorities, particularly analyzing how and why the individual’s body and sexuality are related to the violence issue and subject to current social, cultural, economic and political perceptions and systems. Sixteen women represented the SCMs of Aotearoa New Zealand, Australia, Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, and women advocates from Bangladesh and Philippines participated in the workshop.

The Workshop affirmed the importance of addressing the intersection of sexuality and sexual identity with issues of violence against women and gender issues. It emphasized the role of theology and religious practice in perpetuating violence against women and sexual minorities and the need to challenge these teachings and practices. A Workshop message was distributed at the end of the program.

The meeting was held on May 25-27, 2015 in Hong Kong. Five members of RWC attended the meeting with some invited guest speakers. A number of recommendations and priorities for the Regional Women Program in the next biennium, a set of strategies for communication and strengthening the women’s programs, and a renewed direction of the Regional Women’s Program came out as the output of the meeting.

A shared leadership among RWC members, playing a role in making decisions together, was one of the significant outcomes of the meeting.

Dear Eve,
You are an ultimate creation of God and a very special being.
You are not a rough draft
But a masterpiece of the Almighty created in God’s own image.
But it breaks my heart
When people call you temptress, disloyal,
prone to temptation and evil,
untrustworthy.
Even now, from the women in the corporate world
To the mothers living in poverty,
We, the modern-day Eves, are crying!
The serpent is still running in the gardens of our minds,
He is filling us with false beliefs: I am not good enough,
not pretty enough, not wise or strong enough.
Yet, to honor you, we affirm that
We are powerful,
We are empowered,
Limitless.

(by Mahima Chauhan, Workshop participant)
Women’s Conference
“Ecumenical Upbringing and Challenges Facing Women in our Contemporary Society (A Reading Into Changing Reality)”

The Women’s Conference was held from 13th to 16th of October 2015 in Cairo, Egypt on the theme “Ecumenical Upbringing and Challenges Facing Women in our Contemporary Society (A Reading Into Changing Reality)”.

Thirty youth from five different Arab countries participated: Egypt, Sudan, Palestine, Lebanon and Jordan. The Conference had six sessions with lectures and discussions focusing on women and men’s role in the Bible, on marriage, the Body, Christian vision of women, and the reality of women in today’s world as portrayed in mass media in the Arab countries.

The Conference affirmed the diversity of people, and the need to dialogue to understand and be open to others as the ecumenical task of Christians in the Middle East. The Conference ended with an Appeal Letter outlining the participants’ beliefs and understanding and the commitment and recommendations for further action and work.

IMPACT OF THE PROGRAM

WSCF’s work on women’s empowerment and gender justice has been integral in its life and mission for years. There are diverse ways in which WSCF constituencies reflect and contextualize the gender justice issues they see relevant in their contexts. Apart from organizing women’s programs and activities, WSCF’s regional bodies have institutionalized policy to promote women’s leadership and participation in all aspects of the Federation’s life as culture change.

A visible impact of such culture changes is an increased number of young women participating in our WSCF Middle East programs and taking up leadership roles.

Overall, the impact of the program includes:

- Continued stream of young women taking up leadership roles in their national movement as well as in the wider platform, be it in the church or the secular society.
- An increased sense of awareness among the SCMs on issues related to gender that challenge the patriarchal mindset and stop gender-based violence as it occurs in daily life (e.g., International Women’s Day, 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence).
- Contributing to young peoples’ meaningful participation in their societies and assisted Christian youth leaders, especially in the countries where gender and sexual identity is still taboo, to feel confident and encouraged to influence public opinion on equality, inclusiveness and diversity.
- Enabling member students and young people to have voice and control over their own lives to pursue their human rights and spiritual development.

CHALLENGES

One of the major challenges in addressing issues of women’s empowerment and gender justice is the socio-political and economic situation of the countries in the global North and South. Gender inequality still remains a widespread problem despite visibility and societal recognition. This affects all countries of varied social and political development. While some countries fight for gender-equal payments and employment rights, other countries struggle with patriarchal ideologies and structures and dominant social norms on the role of women in the society. These norms translate to specific policies and practices which inhibits and prohibits women from traveling and participating in international programs, such as the WSCF Workshop in Bangladesh.

In the Middle East, many SCMs have difficulty convincing their different related churches about the importance of having women’s conferences in situations where war and conflict are priority issues. Still, the presence of both women and men in women’s conferences has been a continuing discussion and an important question raised in a predominantly patriarchal context.

LESSONS LEARNED

Some of the lessons learned from the implementation of this program are:

- WSCF should join efforts with international organisations, religious leaders, faith-based organisations in responding to the issue of women’s empowerment and gender justice.
- Emphasis is needed on Christian theological reflections on gender equality and gender justice in order to engage and empower more young people in challenging discrimination and stereotypes.

There should be systematic follow-up work because of the importance of the women project in the context of churches in the Middle East. WSCF-ME should meet and discuss more the importance of women issues with the movements and church hierarchy, explaining the seriousness of the criteria settled for men and women participants.

Latin America emphasizes the importance of implementation of the policies and criteria of equal participation in the regional life of WSCF in all the stages. The leadership must be an example in their way to lead the organization. However, it needs to continue working to widen the perspective to include the diversity that the region presents.
GLOBAL STRATEGIC THEMES

Capacity Building

WSCF Africa organized two Leadership Capacity Building programs on February 22 to 25 in Nairobi Kenya and on June 26 to 30 in Kigali Rwanda. The program focused on the increasing need to build the capacity of student Christian leaders and their members in order to provide sound leadership founded on Christian principles, including but not limited to love of God and neighbour, trustworthiness, faithfulness, commitment to God’s mission (missio Dei). The program has helped nurture them to be God-fearing leaders in their country, leaders who believe in and live according to the Holy Scriptures (Bible) and know that they are accountable to God and people. Leadership skills remain the bases of vibrant Student Christian Movements in African universities and colleges. Topics include strategic leadership, planning, leadership role models from the Bible and Biblical leadership model, stewardship, team building and conflict resolution.

WSCF Europe Capacity Building on Communication Work

WSCF Europe organized its annual Staff and Officers Meeting as a Capacity Building and Networking Training held in Madrid, Spain from February 18 to 22. The Training was attended by 23 young leaders of Christian movements in Europe. The three-day event featured sessions on communication (online and SCM), membership database creation and management, fund-raising, and magazine or publication work. The event achieved the following outcomes: increased number of contributors to blogs and publications on various issues; increased number of subscribers to the Federation Newsletter; raised awareness about the work of movements in the region. The publication of the annual magazine Mozaik continues to remain the platform for sharing views and giving voice to many young people over the last ten years in the region.
PROGRAM IMPACT

Leadership Capacity Building is at the core of the work at WSCF. It is the primary expression of its commitment and role to provide a continuing stream of young Christian leaders undergoing ecumenical formation to serve the churches, the ecumenical movement and larger society. Direct impact of the program is the presence of a significant number of young Christian leaders that are SCMs with strong ecumenical vision and background that are now working in ecumenical organizations such as the World Council of Churches, Lutheran World Federation, ACT Alliance, and other regional and local ecumenical organizations and churches. Furthermore, a generation of young SCMs are now involved in social activism and social development work, volunteer workers and humanitarian workers in NGOs and development agencies.

In the Middle East, the capacity building program has been tremendously significant in ensuring a steady but gradual development of members and church leaders that are theologically equipped and ecumenically-trained who are willing to stay and serve the churches in the face of an increasingly hostile environment in the Middle East.

CHALLENGES

• Strong pull towards secularism and polarization, making young people leave churches and abandon their Christian faith, and making it difficult for SCMs to promote the ecumenical movement and the churches.

• Developing capacity building programs for young people that are relevant in their context and able to nurture Christian faith in the face of changing environment.

LESSONS LEARNED

Capacity building and leadership formation require not only attending occasional programs and seminars but involvement in the actual life of the movement, experiencing decision-making, problem-solving, managing programs, communication, using talents and developing skills and commitment to ecumenical work.

Partnership with ecumenical partners and networking are key components in sustaining capacity building programs at the global and national levels. WSCF regional offices work with a number of networks and organizations to develop programs and activities.

WSCF Middle East Capacity Building in Syria, Palestine and Sudan

WSCF Middle East has been supporting and building the capacity of movements in Syria, Palestine and Sudan in the past years. In 2015, it supported the activities of Salt of the Earth (SOE) in Syria, in its training programs in October, and gift-giving and Christmas celebration program in December.

The region also organized a Capacity Building Conference with the theme, “To be a Christian Palestine Youth Today, Reality and Horizons”, from June 25 to 29 in Jordan with 20 participants. The Training Conference had seven sessions and youth panel presentations on the topics: the Ecumenical Movement, Church and Human Rights in Palestine, the Role of the Youth, the Church Role in Overcoming the Occupation in Palestine, Youth Leadership, and Dangers of Islamic Extremism. Similarly, a capacity building program was organized in Khartoum with the theme “Ecumenical Upbringing, the Christian Youth’s Witness in Sudan,” from November 19 to 22, attended by 40 participants.

These programs have been important platforms for young people to find hope in their faith in countries where war and conflict are serious problems that threaten the peace and security of the communities.

Student Christian Movement-USA Leadership Training Program

The SCM-USA National Leadership Training Program was held at the West Side YMCA in New York City on April 9-12. This gathering was an opportunity for students, young adults, senior friends and partners at large to engage in conversations around movement building locally and nationally, to discuss glo-cal activism, and to reflect theologically on the Christian faith and how it informs social and political engagement within the context of global grassroots organizing and movement building.

This event focused primarily on building up a more sustainable, stronger and firmly established SCM locally and nationally and provided participants with concrete skills and tools to do so. Themes tackled at the event were eco-justice, racial justice and mass incarceration, gender and sexuality, community organizing, economic justice, and identity, Diversity and Dialogue. Approximately 50 people attended the conference, including a guest from SCM Aotearoa/New Zealand.
WSCF Middle East region organized a Christian-Muslim Dialogue Conference in Cairo, Egypt from November 5 to 10 on the theme, “Muslim and Christian Coexistence: Reality and Ideal”. Thirty Muslim and Christian youth from Lebanon, Palestine, Egypt, Sudan, Iraq and Jordan participated in the conference. The Conference had seven sessions on the topics: Human Rights, Civil Government in the Arab World, the Ecumenical Movement, Minority Ideology and Cultural Interaction, Youth Situation, Contemporary Muslim Thought, and Muslim-Christian Coexistence. The Conference produced an Appeal highlighting the need for collaborative work, protecting religious and cultural diversity, dialogue, educating the youth in the school system on coexistence and diversity, and ending sectarianism.

In addition, the SCMs in the Middle East have included the Kairos Palestine document and the WSCF Policy Paper on Palestine as ongoing discussion paper and call to action.

The other regions began to shared in their SCMs, churches and joined with other groups in protesting the violence against the Palestine people, organized reflection sessions and joined the Palestine Solidarity Team to actively engage in the ongoing process to restore justice and peace in Palestine.

The WSCF Palestine Policy Paper will be implemented in the other regions in collaboration with the Advocacy Solidarity Committee (ASC), and other ecumenical organization involved in Palestine justice and advocacy work such as Peace for Life and EAPPI of the WCC.
Identity Diversity and Dialogue

As a new global thematic area, implementation of the Identity Diversity and Dialogue (IDD) programs and activities are at the planning stage in the regional and movement levels in 2015.

The WSCF-North America Women, Gender and Sexuality (WGS) coordinator reported on the IDD Working Group Meeting to the North America Regional Assembly (NARA) in May. The WSCF-NA Women, Gender and Sexuality Working Group (WGSWG) has committed to continue supporting the two representatives to the global IDD task group. WSCF-NA continues its work around LGBTQ rights in North America in 2016.

In Asia-Pacific, IDD is the identified theme of the region for 2016. The region has started implementing the mandate of the GA on IDD by initiating dialogue with the SCMs through programmes on Human Sexuality. The regional Ecumenical Leadership Formation will focus on IDD in 2016. The region is planning to come up with a daily devotional book with theological perspectives on IDD and will work together with other like-minded ecumenical organizations to address the issue of Human Sexuality in the region.

In Europe, reflection and planning of the programme activity on Sexuality in 2016 in partnership with the Ecumenical Youth Centre in Europe has already started. Likewise, a series of discussions took place about the IDD issues in the various local ecumenical youth committees as well as the regional committee of WSCF-ME.

PROGRAM IMPACT

The IDD Report and Recommendation approved by the GA is the first and a major historical paper on Sexuality. It describes the context of the Federation, articulating the various ways and positions of its constituency on the theme of sexuality and gender identity, and provide recommendations on how to move forward with the dialogue process. It is expected that this process will have different levels of appreciation and progress in each of the six regions of the Federation. There will be diverse ways of approaching the theme based on their contexts and needs.

LESSONS LEARNED

WSCF recognized the need for dialogue to effectively address the divisions that have caused a crisis of conscience within the Federation on the topic of sexuality and gender identity. Previous efforts have created rifts and deep mistrust among the members. The task group identified that there are many areas where pain, great division and confusion exist, but was grateful that deeper understanding among members has already begun.

It is important to build consensus among groups and individuals involved in the project in every step, decision and action taken. It is also important to articulate and create spaces for everyone to express opinions, and that these continue and are followed up, knowing that these interactions are the experiences where concepts and ideas are learned and unlearned. It is also important that these spaces are created within the framework of the Federation where the ideals of social justice, human rights, equality and love are at the core of its mission and identity.
REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

SCMERS PROFILE

Rachel Power

Vice chair of WSCF European Regional Committee

AGE: 27 • HOME CITY: Ireland

MOVEMENT: Student Christian Movement Ireland

STUDIED: BA (Hons) in Theology / MPhil Intercultural Theology and Inter-religious Studies

I have studied Theology and Philosophy in my undergrad at Carlow College and I have also studied Intercultural Theology and Inter-religious Studies in my masters that I undertook in Trinity College Dublin. I have a huge interest in both Ecumenical Studies and Inter-religious Dialogue.

I came into contact with WSCF in 2012 at a conference that took place in Co. Tipperary. That was my first ever conference. I then became a co-founding director to SCM-Ireland shortly after. On from there my next dealing in WSCF was when I was on prep comm for a conference that took place in Wroclaw in Poland. I really enjoyed this as it gave me a great insight to a conference and I also found this conference to be of huge interest to me.

At the end of February 2015, I was the SCMI representative to travel to Bogotá in Colombia for the WSCF GA. I really enjoyed my time there as I met so many SCMers from all over the world. This also heightened my interest in ecumenical dialogue as there was so much passion showed by so many of us towards WSCF and the incredible work we are involved in to keep it alive and make it even stronger.

I am sincerely passionate about SCMs and WSCF on both a regional and global level. To see so many young people come together and stand up for what we really believe in is inspirational.

Asia-Pacific

Senior Friends Gathering

The overwhelming response to the WSCF Senior Friends Gathering (SFG) in Indonesia last September was a remarkable milestone for the region. This gathering was a significant space and an opportunity to share the ongoing issues and challenges of WSCF and invite senior friends in the common journey with the students. In this gathering, senior friends and funding partners affirmed the work of the WSCF and committed to support the work of WSCF.

North America

Racism, Coloniality and Rights Relations

The North America Regional Assembly was held on the theme of “Reconciliation Yesterday! Racism, Coloniality and Right Relations”. Approximately 45 people attended this event from both Canada and the US with a guest from the SCM of Zimbabwe. In 2015, NARA took place prior and during the concluding session of the Canadian Truth and Reconciliation (TRC) Commission and was a platform for reflections on race relations and indigenous solidarity, including eco-justice from an indigenous perspective. NARA joined for two days the conference planned by Kairos Canada, a social justice ecumenical organization in Canada, which was organized to make it coincide with the TRC.

NARA affirmed that indigenous and non-indigenous allies as spiritual leaders and social justice activists are called to help heal the wounds of both the past and present worlds.

There was also a recognition that healing must be co-created, and that the actions and pain of past and ongoing colonization is a continual process across generations.

The participants committed themselves to strive to engage in this healing work with their whole selves and communities, even though they enter the process at different moments and points of understanding. They acknowledged that indigenous rights are intersectional to all the justice issues they are addressing in their movements; and that to know this is to help build a just and joyful kin-dom on earth as it is in heaven by shaping a world in which all may thrive, may have self-determination, and may have abundant life.
The Youth Consultative Forum on Peace and Civic Education was conducted in Tanzania for members/leaders of Tanzania Student Christian Fellowship in June 2015. Twenty-two leaders of SCM Tanzania participated in the three-day forum. To program aimed to mobilize youth to take on a peace-building role before, during and after the general elections and to provide basic constitutional and electoral knowledge (civic education) that will go towards promoting youth participation in electoral processes. The program will reduce the number of campaign violence, reduce substantially women and elderly people intimidation during voting which is mostly done by drunkard youth, increase electoral commission call for accountability to politicians during campaigns, and increase the number of youth contesting for electoral positions through free and fair elections.

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The birth of the Ecumenical Institute for the Middle East is a significant milestone for WSCF Middle East. The Institute was inaugurated on July 31st in Lebanon, during the graduation ceremony for the 40 students who completed phase one of the three-week Ecumenical Training course. Students coming from Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, Egypt, Sudan, Palestine and Jordan were joined by 25 lecturers and instructors, experts in Biblical studies from different church traditions and backgrounds, on the ecumenical movement and ecumenical organizations, on the reality of Eastern Christianity, on Kairos Palestine, and Muslim-Christian Dialogue.

I joined the Lutheran Student Movement USA in April of 2014. I was appointed to the position of Executive for Regional Affairs and Finance as well as the member-at-large for WSCF-NA. I joined because I was passionate about the role of students within the greater context of societal change.

WSCF inspired me to care about issues that I would never have even known about before. I now know about the work that students are leading across the world in order to enact change for the betterment of humanity. The hard work of others inspires me daily to focus on what I can do to help those around me.

I hope and pray that the critical voice of young adults can be recognized around the world. Our generation will soon be the leaders of the world and we must decide how we want our future to look. I pray that we always remember how powerful we are when we recognize that we are many and that we are one.
Latin America and the Caribbean

Ayotzinapa

WSCF-LAC has joined and actively campaigned for the missing 43 Ayotzinapa students in Mexico believed to have been abducted by state para-military forces on September 26, 2014. One year after the abduction, WSCF-LAC organized a Global Solidarity Day on September 21 and Indignation Day on September 26. The event included fasting for 43 hours, marches and demonstrations, and online social media campaign. Thousands of people participated in the events in different parts of Latin America to seek justice for the missing students and those that were killed during the peaceful student demonstration on September 26, 2014.

Nare Saghdejian

SCMers Profile

Age: 23 • Home City: Beirut, Lebanon • Movement: Armenian Church University Students’ Association (ACUSA)
Church Affiliation: Armenian Catholicossate of Holy See of Cilicia (Apostolic Church)

I joined Armenian Church University Students’ Association (ACUSA) in 2011, since then my Ecumenical work initiated and piled up day by day.

In 2013, my involvement in the committee of the association provoked my participation in its management and planning. Some of the most thrilling events included the 50th Anniversary Gala Diner, annual seminars, exhibitions, and many others. The aforementioned contributed in enriching my experience in management, youth projects and most importantly religious duties.

WSCF gave me the opportunity to connect with Christians from different countries and introduced me to their culture and traditions. I can share my experience and learn more from other young leaders from the world.
Inter-religious and Interfaith Dialogue

Inter-religious and interfaith dialogue has been WSCF Europe’s long-standing regional priority. In the face of anti-immigration, anti-multiculturalism and growing right-wing propaganda, faith groups have to play a key role in protecting democratic and fundamental values. WSCF-Europe has the potential, capacity and motivation to take part in these processes. WSCF plays an important role in promoting tolerance, diversity and ensuring justice for all. WSCF-Europe believes it can be successful in its mission if it is united as a Federation and working together with people of other faiths. It recognises that all people of faith, despite differences in the way they worship or teach theology, have a shared responsibility and a common aim: a peaceful and stable Europe and world.

In October, WSCF-Europe organised a conference in cooperation with the Jewish Student Organisation. It invited young people from Muslim organisations and organised a field visit to the Islamic Centre in Prague for a dialogue and discussion. The recent issue of Mozaik (March 2015), which included articles and reflections from young people on the issue, was dedicated to intercultural and interfaith cooperation. WSCF-Europe also funded a number of SCMers to participate in the training-seminar organised by the European Youth Interfaith Network in December in Rome. The region is committed to continue in this direction in the coming years based on a Strategic Plan that reflects these areas of work.

Edith Muñoz

Coordinator, SCM in Bogotá, Colombia

AGE: 23 MOVEMENT: SCM

Colombia HOME CITY: Bogotá

I have a BA degree in Early Childhood Education. Currently I am a teacher in Elementary School. I am a member of the Mennonite Church in Colombia participating in the work with children and young people.

Two years ago, I started the path with the WSCF-LAC by attending some workshops about reality in Colombia, peace and eco-justice. In the same way, I participated in the COP20 in 2014 in Peru. In 2015, I also helped with logistical support in the 35th General Assembly. Since that time until now we started to work in order to create the SCM Bogotá, which has been around 10 months working in raising awareness about the Colombian context, and of which I am the coordinator. This allows me to promote several social processes which involve young people from our city.

Belonging to the SCM in Bogotá-Colombia and to the WSCF-LAC has been a possibility to build an active role in my city and my country, announcing the voice of the young people who get to see reality with more critical eyes.
2015 was an exciting year for the SCM of Sweden, although only two local groups were active. Our engagement has taken on more of a ‘glocal’ focus; a steady pulse in the local groups, meeting for spiritual nourishment and new insights; but also prioritizing our international outreach.

In order to empower our members in realizing and incarnating faith in their everyday lives, one of our main events this year was a book release of the renowned progressive theologian Marcus J. Borg’s bestselling book “The Heart of Christianity”. This event was co-organized with the former archbishop of the Church of Sweden K G Hammar, the Cathedral Parish of Stockholm, and the publisher. This kind of cooperation with other Christian organisations was an educative and strengthening experience for us as a student movement.

In June we were happy to host a meeting with the European Regional Committee. This meeting was realized in cooperation with the Stockholm Diocese Centre for Interfaith Dialogue, that was kind enough to lend us their meeting room in central Stockholm. The University Chaplains also took part and organised a much appreciated dinner for the ERC, the board for SCM Sweden and the local SCM of Stockholm.

In order to encourage and contribute to students’ spiritual lives, we organised our first yearly retreat in Sigtuna along with the University Chaplains. During the retreat communal prayers were carried out for our friends in other SCMs such as Burma, and greetings were being read from members in other SCMs such as Canada.

After a local meeting about spiritual longing and guidance, the board of Stockholm decided to offer the members a scholarship in order to encourage participation in different kinds of spiritual training, such as staying in a monastery, doing peace work or learning how to meditate. The experiences from the sponsored events will be published in a booklet meant to inspire other members to deepen their relationship with Christ.

We are very happy that an increasing number of members of SCM Sweden are taking part in international events such as Agape Political Camp in Italy, Religions for Peace Youth Seminar in Rome and the European Regional Assembly in the Czech Republic.

During the year we had a wide variety of themes for our regular meetings, including Sustainable Activism (led by a senior friend), Martin Luther’s legacy in Sweden and International Solidarity.
The Lutheran Student Movement USA has been reinvigorated over the past two years. Following the 2009 economic recession and the restructuring of the Churchwide Offices of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the movement struggled without the backing of the Church. In April 2014 new officers were elected to the board for the first time in five years. Logan Boese served as the Executive for Regional Affairs and Finance, and WSCF ExCo Member Louis Tillman also served as the movement’s Executive for International and Ecumenical Affairs. Since its rebirth in 2014 the movement has worked hard to become a relevant part of students’ lives.

In February of 2015, Logan Boese represented LSM-USA at the General Assembly of the WSCF in Bogotá, Colombia, thus reigniting ties to the broader student Christian movements. In March of 2015, LSM-USA sponsored an Alternative Spring Break experience for over 30 young adults. Students from across the U.S. went to Detroit to learn more about accompaniment and the struggles of the city. The rebirth of LSM-USA culminated in the National Assembly in Chicago with close to 50 students and leaders in attendance. After the Assembly, seven new students were chosen to serve on the national council for LSM-USA. The movement is working hard to connect, educate, and advocate for students and social progress across the U.S.

On Saturday, 25th April 2015, at 11:56 AM Nepal local time, a deadly earthquake measuring 7.9 in the Richter scale struck the Himalayan nation, having its epicentre about 80 Kms from the capital of Kathmandu and the Pokhara city. The country’s worst earthquake in over 80 years has reportedly killed more than 8,000 people and injured more than 20,000. Some of our members of SCM Nepal were also affected by the earthquake. In the midst of sorrow and hopelessness SCM Nepal mobilized young people to lend helping hands to the rescue teams. They collected funds from various sources to buy food and basic needs for the people who were badly affected by the deadly earthquake. SCM Nepal’s support and solidarity to the community might be a small initiative to respond to the huge crisis, but their timely intervention had an immense impact upon the small community. We are thankful to the members of SCM Nepal for mobilizing young people to help others who were in need of desperate support while they themselves were going through enormous amount of difficult time. The spirit of support and solidarity of SCM Nepal to the community is very much appreciated. Their action also conveyed the message of Jesus Christ: “we are not to be served, but to serve”. 

SCM Nepal
General Secretary of SCM Sri Lanka  
STUDIES: M.Th, Hanshin University, Seoul, Korea, 2012-2014 • Ordained as a pastor in 2006, at Anglican Church, Diocese of Kurunagala

I joined SCM Sri Lanka in 1992 as a school student, in school-level SCM branch, at Anuradhapura. The motivation for joining SCM that time was more than one, as I lived in a rural area since my childhood and have witnessed many pleasant and unpleasant incidents. I was looking for friends or young groups to discuss my concerns and feelings. And that’s how I found SCM. Because SCM created avenues for young people to come together to discuss on many challenging issues and topics, like peace work among Tamil and Singhalese, street children, environmental concerns, the issue of making young girls get married at a very early age, etc.

The most inspiring moment in my life was to visit Jaffna, the northern part of Sri Lanka through SCM Sri Lanka and able to meet the LTTE people. During that time, we can’t even think to visit Jaffna. I shared a meal with one of the LTTE cadres and we had a meaningful discourse. I also visited one house and came to know that for the first time, they saw a Singhalese person in their house. This visit helped me to reflect a lot of our relationship between Tamils and Singhalese in our country, and I am thankful to SCM for organizing programmes like this.

In 2013 during the WSCF Global ExCo meeting and the Peace Symposium of WSCF prior to the WCC General Assembly in Busan, I met the international delegates of WSCF for the first time. I was very happy and encouraged by meeting and talking to many WSCF friends. It was also an opportunity to meet and talk with many ecumenical leaders during the WCC Assembly. The 35th General Assembly of theWSCF in Bogotá, Colombia was another event to meet a diverse group of SCM members from so many countries, which also encouraged me to work for SCM-3L.

Though we have many challenges in SCM Sri Lanka, including financial, I am hopeful and confident with the resources that we have. Our resources are our young students, the youth of our community. If we want to bring change, then we need to motivate and mobilize our younger generation, and SCM Sri Lanka is committed for this.

Salt of the Earth

In 2015, a group of Syrian Christian youth decided to form an official committee and meet on different occasions. They called themselves the Salt of the Earth (SOE). The newly formed group aims at living in unity and love, based on the teachings of the Lord Jesus Christ, through developing humanitarian causes, common prayers, and youth activities that serve the church. SOE began their initiative in previous years, but had a successful and eventful 2015. The following is an overview of their activities:

BOTTLE OF LOVE  
February 2015. Since Valentine’s Day lies in February, and people often miss the real meaning behind it, as the Holiday is no longer considered a religious one, but rather a commercial one, the youths assembled decorated bottles, filled with cereals and beans, and offered it as a gift to the parish. That way, the youths visited families and elders and presented their modest gift that managed to draw a smile on the faces of the receivers.

YOUTH GATHERING  
April 2015. The youth gathering lasted three days in which the participating youths had a sleep-over in Saydnaya, Damascus. The participants previously planned the meeting in agreement with members of the clergy, as well as their mentors in their movements. Father Roger Akheras attended the event and had a session, in which he explained the various reasons behind the division in the Church. He emphasized the importance of dialogue between the different Churches, which is something that the youths should work towards. Father Fadi Khouri was responsible of educational activities in which he gathered the participants in many sessions, for each a title that corresponds to contemporary social issues.

ECUMENICAL YOUTH TRAINING: PART I  
September 2015. During the last few days of September, and the beginning of October 2015, the SOE members, using the expertise they gained from their April meeting, organized a large scale Ecumenical Youth Training, supported by the World Student Christian Federation – Middle East Region. The participants were involved in a conference that follows the pattern of most WSCF Capacity Building Trainings, with a large emphasis on Ecumenism, Ecumenical Movement, and Unity. Native lecturers and members of the clergy gave guidance, as well as lectures and demonstrations that ultimately nourished the participants.

Working groups also took place in the training.

CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATION AND GIFT OFFERING  
December 2015. SOE’s youths also strived to make 2015’s Christmas a memorable occasion. They gathered themselves and planned for a Christmas activity that would allow them to spread the Christmas spirit in their areas, in spite of the ongoing war and violence in Syria.

The youths decorated a Christmas tree in an open day that gathered several viewers and attendees. The youths also made special gifts that suit the occasion and distributed them to the children and the elderly in their areas, as part of their long planned community work.
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<th>DATE</th>
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<td>AP</td>
<td>Week of Prayers for Christian Unity Service, Hong Kong</td>
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<td>Jan 14-18</td>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>European Regional Committee Meeting, Paris, France</td>
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<td>Jan 17</td>
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<td>Jan 23</td>
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<td>Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, “Will you give me a drink” (John 4:7), Lebanon</td>
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<td>GA preparation Meetings, Bogotá Colombia</td>
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<td>Partnership Meeting, Bread for the World, Nairobi, Kenya</td>
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<td>Leadership Capacity Building, Nairobi, Kenya</td>
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<td>Feb 18-22</td>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>Capacity Building Training for the SCMs, Madrid, Spain</td>
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<td>Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, “Will you give me a drink” (John 4:7), Choubra, Egypt</td>
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<td>Feb, Apr, Sept, Dec</td>
<td>ME</td>
<td>Capacity Building for Syrian SCM (SOE), Syria</td>
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<td>Feb 3-11</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Campus Visits, Movement Building, Atlanta and Chicago</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb 27- Mar 7</td>
<td>Global</td>
<td>35th General Assembly of WSCF Global and the Executive Committee Meeting, “We are Many, We are One, Sent Out to Build God’s Peace”, Bogotá, Colombia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 8-9</td>
<td>Global</td>
<td>WSCF Executive Committee Meeting, Bogotá, Colombia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar</td>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>Publication of Mozaik, Intercultural and interreligious dialogue</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 24-28</td>
<td>Global</td>
<td>World Social Forum (WSF) and Karibu Partner meeting, Tunis, Tunisia</td>
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<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>Europe, AP</td>
<td>CWM (Council for World Mission) Face to Face program, Migration and human trafficking, The Netherlands</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr 15</td>
<td>LAC</td>
<td>SCM Movement Strengthening</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr 9-12</td>
<td>LAC</td>
<td>DIPAZ foundation meeting, Peace Building, Bogotá, Colombia</td>
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<td>Apr 13</td>
<td>LAC</td>
<td>SCM Bogotá Movement development, Bogotá, Colombia</td>
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<td>Apr 16-19</td>
<td>LAC</td>
<td>SCM Chile Movement Strengthening, Santiago, Chile</td>
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<td>Apr 9-12</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>SCM-USA Leadership Training Program, “Got Justice? What does God Require from Us?”, New York, USA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr 17-20</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Ecumenical Advocacy Days, “Breaking the Chains—Mass Incarceration and Systems of Exploitation”, Washington DC, USA</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 22</td>
<td>AP</td>
<td>WSCF-AP Senior Friends Gathering, “Come, Listen, Share, Celebrate and Accompany the Ecumenical Journey of the Student Christian Movement,” Jakarta, Indonesia</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 25-29</td>
<td>AP</td>
<td>WSCF-AP Regional Women’s Committee &amp; Standing Committee Meetings, Hong Kong</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 12</td>
<td>IRO, Europe</td>
<td>SCM Germany visit, Berlin Germany</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 21</td>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>Africa Faith Leaders Meeting on Financing and Development, Nairobi, Kenya</td>
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<td>May 7-8, June 8-10</td>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>Faith Leaders Environmental Advocacy Training, Cape Town and Luzaka, Zambia</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 2</td>
<td>ME</td>
<td>Celebrating Easter Together, “Let’s Celebrate Easter Together”, Lebanon</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 27-28</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>WSCF-North American Regional Committee Meeting, Ottawa, Canada</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 29 - June 2</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>WSCF-North America Regional Assembly (NARA), “Reconciliation Yesterday! Racism, Coloniality and Right Relations”, Ottawa Canada</td>
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<td>June 1-3</td>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>The way to a European Kirchentag, Stuttgart, Germany</td>
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<td>June 5-10</td>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>European Regional Committee meeting, Stockholm, Sweden</td>
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<td>June 9</td>
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<td>SCM Sweden visit, Stockholm, Sweden</td>
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<td>June 17-20</td>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>Peace and Civic Education, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania</td>
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<td>June 26-30</td>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>Leadership Capacity Building, Kigali, Rwanda</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 25-29</td>
<td>ME</td>
<td>Capacity building training for the Palestinian youth, “To be a Christian Palestinian youth today: Reality and Horizons”, Amman, Jordan</td>
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<td>June 6-12</td>
<td>LAC</td>
<td>WCC Climate Change Working Group, Eco Justice - networking, Crete, Greece</td>
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<td>June 24-28</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>United States Social Forum, “Another World is Possible”, Philadelphia</td>
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<td>June 27 - July 1</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Emerging Leaders Multi-faith Climate Convergence, Climate Change, Rome, Italy</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 12 - Aug 1</td>
<td>ME</td>
<td>Ecumenical Institute for the Middle East, Ecumenical Formation, “The dream became reality”, Lebanon</td>
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### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WSCF REGIONAL AND GLOBAL ACTIVITIES

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<th>ACTIVITY</th>
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<tr>
<td>July 9-12</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Cahoots Festival and Student Christian Movement of Canada General Conference, Milton, Ontario, Canada</td>
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<td>Aug 3-9</td>
<td>Global</td>
<td>WSCF Staff and Officers Strategy Workshop, Birmingham, UK</td>
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<td>Aug 7-9</td>
<td>AP</td>
<td>WSCF-AP’s participation at the Youth Leadership &amp; Advocacy Workshop organised by The International Planned Parenthood Federation-East Southeast Asia and Oceania Region (IPPF-ESEAORD), Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights of Youth (SRHR), Jakarta, Indonesia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug 31 - Sept</td>
<td>ME</td>
<td>Ayia Napa 30 Ecumencial Leadership Formation, “The Church in the Arabic East and the reality of the contemporary religious Extremism (Any role of the youth?)”, St Augustin Center, Kafra, Lebanon</td>
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<td>Aug 14-21</td>
<td>Global</td>
<td>Agape Campo politico, Peace building, Prali, Italy</td>
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<td>Aug 22</td>
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<td>Waldesian Synod, FGEI meeting, Torre Pellice, Italy</td>
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<td>Aug 9-12</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>International Solidarity Mission with Indigenous people in Mindanao, Philippines Peace and Indigenous Solidarity</td>
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<td>Sept 21-28</td>
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<td>WSCF-AP’s participation at the Coordinating Team Members (CTM) meeting by the Asian Women's Resource Centre (AWRC), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia</td>
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<td>Sept 8-9</td>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>EYF of the Council of Europe, Partners meeting, Brussels, Belgium</td>
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<td>Sept 4</td>
<td>ME</td>
<td>Senior Friends event, St Augustin Center, Kafra, Lebanon</td>
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<td>Sept 3-5</td>
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<td>Regional Committee meeting, Kafra, Lebanon</td>
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<td>Sept 3-5</td>
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<td>Seminar on biblical perspectives and Climate Change Challenges, Eco-Justice and Peace, Barranquilla, Colombia</td>
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<td>Sept 6-7</td>
<td>LAC</td>
<td>SCM Colombia Planning Session, Movement Building, Barranquilla, Colombia</td>
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<td>Sept 26</td>
<td>LAC</td>
<td>Ayotzinapa Campaign: “1 year without the 43”, Solidarity demonstration and statement, Solidarity, Peace Building, Mexico City, Mexico, regionally</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 2-4</td>
<td>AP</td>
<td>Human Rights, Justice and Peace Committee Meeting (HRJPC), Review, planning, strategies for the Human Rights Justice and Peace programme in the WSCF-AP, Jakarta, Indonesia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 17-23</td>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>Theology Conference, “Religion’s and Politics: How is Multiculturalism Possible?”, Litomyśl, Czech Republic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 23-26</td>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>European Regional Assembly Meeting, Planning of the thematic working directions, Litomyśl, Czech Republic</td>
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<td>Oct 27 - Nov</td>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>The World Conference of Religions for Peace and Religions for Peace Europe, “Empowering Youth in Interfaith and Multicultural Peace Action”, Rome, Italy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 10-13</td>
<td>ME</td>
<td>Summer University, “Ecumenical formation, accepting others and human rights”, St Morcos Center, Madinat nasr, Cairo, Egypt</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 13-16</td>
<td>ME</td>
<td>Women program, “Ecumenical Upbringing and Challenges Facing Women in Our Contemporary Society (A reading into the changing reality?)”, St Morcos Center, Madinat nasr, Cairo, Egypt</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 31 - Nov 2</td>
<td>LAC</td>
<td>Regional Interreligious Encounter, “Faith and Climate Change”, Interfaith Cooperation, Buenos Aires, Argentina</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 8-11</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Church of All Nations and Underground Seminary (SCM-USA chapter) conference, “Identity, Theology and Place: Re-inhabiting the Mississippi Watershed”, Minneapolis, USA</td>
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<td>Oct 12-13</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Campus Visits, Minneapolis, MN USA. Movement Building, Minneapolis, USA</td>
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<td>Oct 29-31</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Student Christian Movement-USA, Strategic Planning Retreat, Capacity and Movement Building, New York, USA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 6-9</td>
<td>AP</td>
<td>Peace and Solidarity Mission to Pakistan Meeting on Interfaith Encounter: Peace and Solidarity Mission to Pakistan, Bangkok, Thailand</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 26-28</td>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>“Welcoming the Other: Multi-religious Youth Respond to the Challenges of Violent Religious Extremism, Refugee Crisis and Climate Change”, Religions for Peace Europe, Paris, France</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 5-10</td>
<td>ME</td>
<td>Muslim-Christian Conference, “Muslim-Christian Coexistence: Reality and Ideal”, Cairo, Egypt</td>
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<td>Nov 19-22</td>
<td>ME</td>
<td>Capacity Building Training for Sudanese, “Eccumenical Upbringing: the Christian Youth's Witness in Sudan”, Al Chahiden Church, Khartoum; Sudan Al Chahiden Church, Khartoum, Sudan</td>
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<td>Nov 9-13</td>
<td>LAC</td>
<td>Theological Days Regional Encounter, “Eco-Justice and Peace”, Matanzas, Cuba</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 14</td>
<td>LAC</td>
<td>SCM Cuba meeting, Movement Building, Matanzas, Cuba</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 25-29</td>
<td>LAC</td>
<td>International Youth Committee Meeting of Religions for Peace: “Welcome the Other, Climate Change, Refugees and Migrants, Eco-justice”, Paris, France</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 29 - Dec 6</td>
<td>LAC</td>
<td>COP21 Ecumenical Delegation Advocacy, Eco-Justice advocacy, Paris France</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 23-24</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Student Christian Movement-USA, Strategic Planning Task group meeting, Capacity and Movement Building, New York</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 29 - Dec 2</td>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>Peace and Civic Education, Kampala, Uganda</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 8-13</td>
<td>Global</td>
<td>WSCF Inter-Regional Leadership Program (IRILTP) and Advocacy and Solidarity Committee, Ecumenical Transformational Diakonia, “To do justice and to love kindness” (Micah 6:8), Palermo, Sicily, Italy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 14-17</td>
<td>Global</td>
<td>WSCF Global Executive Committee and Transition Team Meeting, Palermo, Sicily, Italy</td>
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### List of Affiliated, Associated, and Contact WSCF Movements 2015

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Movement Name</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Angola</td>
<td>World Council of Churches of Angola (CICA)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>Movimiento Estudiantil Cristiano en Argentina (MEC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Armenia</td>
<td>Youth Union of Jervezh, Armenian Youth Union</td>
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<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>Australian Student Christian Movement (SCM)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>Evangelische Hochschulgemeinde in Österreich (EHG)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>Bangladesh Student Christian Movement (SCM)</td>
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<td>Belarus</td>
<td>Centre Ecumena</td>
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<td>Bhutan</td>
<td>Bhutan SCM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Benin</td>
<td>Jeunesse Chrétienne Universitaire et Scolaire du Bénin (JUCUSB)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bolivia</td>
<td>Comité Nacional de Jóvenes Luteranos de Bolivia - MEC Bolivia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>Movimiento Ecueméico de Estudiantes de Teología (MEET) – MEC Brasil</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bulgaria</td>
<td>Orthodox Center “Prof. Tito Cvej” (CONTACT)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Burundi</td>
<td>Département des Jeunes, Eglise Episcopale du Burundi</td>
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<td>Cambodia</td>
<td>Cambodian Student Christian Movement (CSCM)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cameroon</td>
<td>Mouvement des Etudiants Protestants du Cameroun (MEPC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>Canada Student Christian Movement (SCM)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chile</td>
<td>Movimiento Estudiantil de Chile (MEC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>Movimiento Estudiantil Cristiano de Colombia Bogotá</td>
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<tr>
<td>Côte d’Ivoire</td>
<td>Association Chrétienne des Élèves et Etudiants Protestants de Côte d’Ivoire (ACEPCI)</td>
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<td>Croatia</td>
<td>Studentski Evangéodski Pokret (STEP)</td>
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<td>Cuba</td>
<td>Movimiento Estudiantil Cristiano de Cuba (MEC)</td>
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<td>Czech Republic</td>
<td>Oikumené - Akademická YMCA</td>
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<td>DR of Congo</td>
<td>Association des Jeunes et des Etudiants Chrétiens (AJEC)</td>
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<td>Denmark</td>
<td>The Danish Student Christian Movement (SCM)</td>
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<td>Ecuador</td>
<td>Pastoral Juvenil de Guayaquil (ASOCM)</td>
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<td>Coptic Catholic Youth Egypt</td>
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<td>Orthodox Youth Movement - Cairo</td>
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<td>University Student Christian Association (USCA)</td>
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<td>El Salvador</td>
<td>Movimiento Estudiantil Cristiano Salvadoreño (MEC) (CONTACT)</td>
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<td>Senegal</td>
<td>Mouvement des Jeunes de l’Eglise Protestante du Sénégal</td>
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<td>Sierra Leone</td>
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<td>Association Chrétienne d’Elèves et Etudiants du Togo</td>
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<td>Lutheran Student Movement</td>
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<td>United States</td>
<td>United Methodist Student Movement</td>
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<td>Uruguay</td>
<td>Espacio Estudiantil Cristiano - MEC Uruguay</td>
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<td>Venezuela</td>
<td>MEC Venezuela (CONTACT)</td>
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<td>Zambia</td>
<td>SCM Zambia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zimbabwe</td>
<td>SCM Zimbabwe</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LEADERSHIP

Global Officers

Global Executive Committee (ExCo)

EXECUTIVE STAFF

Regional Representatives in the Executive Committee
L-R front: Dianet de la Candad Martinez Valdes, Dany El-Obeid, Isatu Ville.

Regional Secretaries

AFRICA
- Rev Amos Kamugisha Mushendwa, (Tanzania), Lutheran

ASIA
- Ms Sunita Sumati Suna (India), Lutheran

EUROPE
- Ms Natia Tsintzandze (Italy)

LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN
- Mr Marcelo Leites (Uruguay), Independent

MIDDLE EAST
- Ms Nada Wael (Lebanon), Orthodox

NORTH AMERICA
- Ms Christine House (USA), Episcopalian, until March

Partner Representatives from:
- General Board of Global Ministries (GBGM), United Methodist Church
- Evangelisches Missionswerk in Deutschland (EMW)

Transition Team Members

- Ms Georgine Kegne Djetane (Cameroon), interim chairperson
- Ms Bronwyn Claire (Australia), treasurer
- Mr Sulters Sterling (Ireland), senior friend
- Mr Chris Ferguson (Canada), senior friend
- Mr Marco Fornerone (Italy), student
- Ms Pretty Mubaiwa (Uganda), student
- Ms Necta Montes (Philippines), interim coordinator

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MIDDLE EAST
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NORTH AMERICA
- Ms Christine House (USA), Episcopalian, until March

Partner Representatives from:
- General Board of Global Ministries (GBGM), United Methodist Church
- Evangelisches Missionswerk in Deutschland (EMW)

Chairperson
- Mr Horacio Mesones (Uruguay), Methodist, until March
- Ms Georgine Kegne Djetane (Cameroon), Evangelical Reformed, interim chairperson from April

Vice-chairpersons
- Dr Bronwyn Claire (Australia), Anglican, until March
- Ms Shantha Ready Alonso (USA), Roman Catholic, until March
- Mr Immanuel Gopala Kitnan (Sri Lanka), Anglican, from March

Honorary Treasurer
- Mr Youhanna Kamal Shawky (Egypt), Coptic Orthodox, until March
- Dr Bronwyn Claire (Australia), Anglican, from March

Transition Team Members

- Ms Georgine Kegne Djetane (Cameroon), interim chairperson
- Ms Bronwyn Claire (Australia), treasurer
- Mr Sulters Sterling (Ireland), senior friend
- Mr Chris Ferguson (Canada), senior friend
- Mr Marco Fornerone (Italy), student
- Ms Pretty Mubaiwa (Uganda), student
- Ms Necta Montes (Philippines), interim coordinator
2015 was a year best described as challenging for the Centennial Fund of the World Student Christian Federation as indeed it was for the Federation itself.

From a financial perspective, the Fund managed to find a total of $105,000.00 as grants in aid of the administrative and General Assembly expenses of the Federation and towards the end of the year a further $50,000.00 as a loan to assist with the cash flow needs of the Federation as it made the deep cuts in expenditure required by a realistic assessment of its financial position. The Fund managed this support for the Federation without reducing its invested capital below the $1,000,000.00 platform to which it is legally committed.

The Trustees of the Fund were delighted to be able to give this support to the Federation particularly because of how much we appreciate the visionary efforts of the Future of the Federation Task Group, the Officers of the Federation and the Executive Committee, the General Assembly itself and then the work of the Interim Staff Coordinator and the Transition Team. Through all of these bodies we have witnessed a heart-warming commitment to do whatever is necessary to ensure that the Federation remains a vital, vigorous and faithful part of the ecumenical movement of which it is a foundation member and of the movement for justice, peace and reconciliation into which so many students and young people feel called as an expression of their rejection of the gross inequalities of wealth, education, gender status and life opportunities which are so much a feature of our global civilization.

From the Centennial Fund Jorge Domingues and Salters Sterling contributed to the work of the Future of the Federation Task Group and the General Assembly and Salters continued with the Transition Team. They did so with the full support of the other CF Trustees.

As always in an organisation such as the Centennial Fund there are changes of personnel. At the May meeting of the Trustees in Geneva, we welcomed Jannes Hutagulong from Indonesia replacing Bungaran also from Indonesia. At the same meeting we said goodbye to AJ Finlay from Canada who had been a remarkable energetic Chairperson of the Trustees and President of the Fund for the last five years. She was replaced in the office of President and Chairperson by Salters Sterling from Ireland and on the Trust, itself, by Sheryl Johnson from Canada. Jorge Domingues retired as a Trustee and Treasurer at the same meeting. Jorge’s attention to the details of the Fund’s finances and to its policies was immensely important as the Fund has sought to accompany the Federation in its journey through financially difficult times. Jorge’s place as both Trustee and Treasurer has been taken by Bruce Rigdon from the United States of America. In addition the Trustees decided to appoint a second Trustee from Europe in the person of Ilari Rantakari from Finland. We thank most profoundly the Trustees who have retired and welcome most warmly the Trustees who are joining us. Our thanks also go to Christine Housel who acted as Secretary of the Trustees while being General Secretary of the Federation. Necta Montes the new Secretary General attended our May meeting and will be replacing Christine. The Board also expressed its gratitude to Youhanna Kamal, the out-going Treasurer of WSCF replaced by Bronwyn Claire. Throughout this period of changing personnel Jean-Luc De La Soujeole, our Accountant, has been super-efficient and co-operative in administering the affairs of the Fund and we are most deeply grateful to him.

As the Fund enters 2016 the volatility of the investment markets make it much less certain that it will be possible to be as generous to the Federation in 2016 as the Fund was in 2015.

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### CENTENNIAL FUND FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2015 (US$)</th>
<th>2014 (US$)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Income</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dividends on shares</td>
<td>20,519</td>
<td>24,148</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Income</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL INCOME</strong></td>
<td>20,519</td>
<td>24,148</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2015 (US$)</th>
<th>2014 (US$)</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Expenditures</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Salaries</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>30,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Printing &amp; Stationery</td>
<td>6,000</td>
<td>6,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Audit fees</td>
<td>2,110</td>
<td>2,838</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apartment expenses (Budapest)</td>
<td>9,495</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Office Costs</td>
<td>4,874</td>
<td>4,896</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenditures</strong></td>
<td>52,478</td>
<td>43,733</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2015 (US$)</th>
<th>2014 (US$)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grants and Other Operating Costs</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Grant to WSCF IRO</td>
<td>75,000</td>
<td>60,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Board of Trustees Meeting</td>
<td>12,274</td>
<td>7,801</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Grants and other Operating Costs</strong></td>
<td>87,274</td>
<td>67,801</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2015 (US$)</th>
<th>2014 (US$)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Extraordinary Income and Expenditure on Investment Portfolio</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asset Appreciation / (Depreciation)</td>
<td>118,019</td>
<td>-28,601</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exchange gain / (Loss)</td>
<td>-80,198</td>
<td>-74,516</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bank Charges</td>
<td>-11,599</td>
<td>-8,626</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commissions, Taxes</td>
<td>-3,266</td>
<td>-4,803</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Extraordinary Income and Expenditure</strong></td>
<td>22,957</td>
<td>-116,545</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</strong></td>
<td>116,795</td>
<td>228,080</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Profit / (Loss)</strong></td>
<td>-96,277</td>
<td>-203,932</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The World Student Christian Federation (WSCF) is a non-profit organization. The WSCF raises funding from partners and accepts donations from well-wishers. All donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowable by the law.

In 2015 total WSCF income totaled USD 1.68 million compared to USD 1.36 million the previous year, an increase of USD 0.32 million or +23%. This was due primarily to designated funds received specifically for the General Assembly which has been held in Colombia from 27th February to 5th March 2015. However we have seen in 2015 another significant decrease of undesignated funds (-22%, or USD 0.14 million reflecting reduced donations from our traditional partners for our core expenses.

The 2015 total expenditure of USD 1.62 million increased by USD 0.19 million compared to 2014 as a result of higher Program activities. On the positive side, we will note that radical measures have been taken to reduce our expenditure level, primarily at the Geneva Inter-Regional office with a reduction of headcount and office support (-USD 0.20 million over the year).

Thanks to this expense reduction, WSCF managed to close the year 2015 with a profit of USD 0.05 million compared to a loss of USD -0.07 million in 2014.

CONSOLIDATED 2015 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

In 2015 total WSCF income totaled USD 1.68 million compared to USD 1.36 million the previous year, an increase of USD 0.32 million or +23%. This was due primarily to designated funds received specifically for the General Assembly which has been held in Colombia from 27th February to 5th March 2015. However we have seen in 2015 another significant decrease of undesignated funds (-22%, or USD 0.14 million reflecting reduced donations from our traditional partners for our core expenses.

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Net result

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The Trustees of the World Student Christian Federation, USA, Inc. is a non-for-profit charitable organization incorporated in the State of New York. This 2015 financial summary combines the Geneva-based Inter-regional Office (IRO) and six (6) Regional Offices in Beirut, Berlin, Buenos Aires, Hong Kong, Nairobi and New York, which covers the world.
### Church Partners

- Advent Lutheran Church
- Anglican Church of Canada
- Church of All Nations
- Church of Christ USA
- Church of Sweden
- Episcopal Church
- Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bavaria
- Evangelical Lutheran Church of America
- Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland
- First Congregational Church of Berkeley
- First Presbyterian Church in Libertyville
- General Board of Global Ministries - United Methodist Church
- General Council on Finance and Administration - United Methodist Church
- Lutheran World Federation
- Methodist Church UK
- National Christian Council in Japan
- National Church Council of Finland
- Presbyterian Church in Korea
- Presbyterian Church of Taiwan
- Reformed Church of Ber, Jura & Soleure (Switzerland)
- The Board of Managers of The Diocesan Missionary Episcopal Church
- The Christian Church - Disciples of Christ
- The Church of St. Paul and St. Andrew
- United Church of Canada
- United Church of Christ
- United Methodist Women

### Institutions and Church Organizations

- Arcus Foundation
- Ash Wednesday Appeal (WSCF-NAR)
- Bread for the World
- Canterbury Downtown (New York)
- Christian Aid
- Christian Solidarity International
- Church Auxiliary for Social Action (CASA)
- Council for World Mission
- Entr’aide Protestante
- EU Grant
- European Youth Foundation
- Evangelischen Missionswerk in Deutschland (EMW)
- Fondation pour l’aide au Protestantisme Reformé (FAP)
- Friends from Australia
- International Catholic Mission Society (MISSIO)
- ICCC & Kerkaratie
- Kairós
- National Council of YMCA’s Japan
- Pacific Network for Mission Education
- Reformed University (Latin America)
- The Karibu Foundation
- United Methodist Volunteer Service
- United Methodist Women
- WSCF Canada
- WSCF Centennial Fund
- Y-Global / YWCA Kenya
- Young Men’s Christian Association Pacific Network For Mission Education
- Princeton University
- US Trustees of the WSCF
- Wake Forest University

### Individual Donors

- Abraham Abraham, SWITZ.
- Adolfin Datang, INDONESIA
- Akissi Konan, WEST AFRICA
- Akua Adomako, GHANA
- Alice Hageman, USA
- Aluel Adiang, SOUTH SUDAN
- Amy Tong
- Andre Kepe, AUS PAC
- Anita Patalingha, PHIL.
- Ann Ng, AUSTRALIA
- Ann Tocher, USA
- Anna Harrison
- Anonymous, MIDDLE EAST
- Anonymous, USA
- Antonio da Silva, TANZ LESTE
- Are Kaspersen, DENMARK
- Audun Stranden, NORWAY
- Baldvin Sjóleifsson, IRELANDS
- Betsy Anderson, CANADA
- Brandon Cook, USA
- Bronwyn Claire, AUSTRALIA
- Bruce McLeod, USA
- Bruce Van Voorhis
- Burgarara Saragih, INDONESIA
- Carino Theresa
- Carlos & Tania Ham, SWITZ.
- Carol Wood, CANADA
- Cathy & George Todd, USA
- Chan Sze Chi
- Chien Wong, HONG KONG
- Christine House, USA
- Chung Hiu Fan
- Clare Chapman, USA
- Clare Wilkitts, UK
- Claudine Chionh
- Colin Dwyer
- Corrie van der Ven
- Dan Ortega, MEXICO
- Dany El Obeid, EGYPT
- David Das, BANGLADESH
- Derrick McQueter, USA
- Desiree Kameka, USA
- Dinesh Suna, INDIA
- Donald I Romans
- Dorothy Wymant, USA
- Edward Pratt, USA
- Ethrid Whiteford, SCOTLAND
- Ellie Spiegel, USA
- Einstein Recedes, PHILIPPINES
- Elisabeth Tapia, PERU
- Ellie Hummel, CANADA
- Ellie Spiegel
- Ely Wakil, LIBERIA
- Emily Tyres, USA
- Ernest Lee, MALAYSIA
- E. Romall Smalls
- Farel Tanos
- Fekadu Genala, ETHIOPIA
- Fung Chi Wood
- G W Outram
- Gabrielle Miranda Garcia
- Grace Sisca Silaban
- Hend Farahat, JORDAN
- Horacio Mesones, ECUADOR
- Inbaraj Jeyakumar, INDIA
- Isaih Toroticz, KENYA
- Ila Young, USA
- Jack Ferlingo, USA
- Jared Both
- Jean-François Paul
- Jean-Marie Habimana, RWANDA
- Jennifer Bailey, PALESTINE
- Jennifer Janzen Ball, CANADA
- Johana Munez
- John Lindner, USA
- Jorge Dominguez, USA
- Joya Colony
- Joya Colon-Berezniz, USA
- Kahagallagalle Saman Jayasuriyka, SRI LANKA
- Karina Garcia, LATAMERICA
- Ken Guezt, USA
- Kenny Flynn, USA
- Kipodi Akavud, TOGO
- Kokou Akavud, TOGO
- Kurt R Kabeth, USA
- Laura Newby, USA
- Lee Jung Mo
- Leung Yuk Ki
- Lina Leomvice, LITHUANIA
- Linsey Mercer, USA
- Lorenzo Vargas, USA
- Luciano Kovacs, USA
- Margaret Simon
- Maria Gloria Alman Bornes, CANADA
- Maria Azor, EGYPT
- Marina Fiesterone, USA
- Mark McMeley, USA
- Mary Jefferson
- Masao Koide
- Massimo Maglione
- Mengitsu Bedassa, ETHIOPIA
- Michael Adie, USA
- Michael Hannah, BELGIUM
- Miezaika Andramialagasy, MADAGASCAR
- Milka Hammam, PAKISTAN
- Mrs Yueh-Wen Lin, TAIWAN
- Naidele Shimba, CONGO
- Nancy Rught
- Naomi Rushima, ZAMBIA
- Nav Kree Mow
- Neill Ballantyne
- Nova Sipahuta
- Pat Petterson, USA
- Paul Gardner
- Peter Prove, AUSTRALIA
- Phyllis Wong, HKECUMENICAL PARTNER
- Rachel Tomb
- Ralph Carl Wushke, USA
- Rev. Lekshina Reed, USA
- Rev. Peniel Rajakumar, SMITZ.
- Rosalind Hewett
- Rudelmair de Faria, USA
- Ruth Conway
- Salters Sterling
- Salters Sterling, IRELAND
- Sangita Rai
- Shal Kapepo, KAMBIA
- Shanta Premawardhana, USA
- Smith Heaver, USA
- Sumitra Lama Tamang
- Sunita Suna, HONG KONG
- Suomen Kristillisy, FINLAND
- Suzanne Babikova, SLOVAKIA
- Tamara Bandard, USA
- Thomas Wiesler, SWITZERLAND
- Timothy Oyeyinka, NIGERIA
- Toddie Peters, USA
- Tonje Eid, NORWAY
- Trond Gunnar Rasmussen, SWEDEN
- Tyler Dale Hauger, NORWAY
- U Kyaw Than
- Ulari Rantakari, FINLAND
- Ursula A McClure
- Varkey Mathew
- Vinod Johnson, INDIA
- Wan Hoe Wing
- William Muehler, USA
- Wong Wei Ching Angela
- Yeo Jin Song, KOREA
- Yishin
- Youhanna Kamal, EGYPT
- Youssef Zaki Wahid, EGYPT
- Yvette Izabay, RWANDA
WSCF Strategic Plan 2015 to 2019

Vision Statement

WSCF is called to be a prophetic witness in the Church and the transformation of the world where God’s love for creation, justice and peace is shared by all across boundaries of race, class, ethnicity, culture, gender and sexuality. This vision is nurtured by a radical hope of God’s reign in history and liberating faith in Jesus Christ.

Objectives

- To stimulate the study of the Bible and to promote theological thinking among Christian students to help them understand the call of God in their lives.
- To enable the Federation to stand firmly in solidarity with students, movements and people around the world, especially in situations of human rights violations, conflict, war and violence, oppression and natural disasters, and to advocate for systemic change in the different contexts and in the world.
- To develop and deepen understanding on Ecumenical Transformational Diakonia at the local, regional and global levels of the Federation.
- To enhance the capacity of students to serve and respond to the need of the community.
- To build enabling structures and nurture a competent team of staff and officers.
- To create and build qualitative and quantitative Student Christian Movements to build prophetic leaders who will act together to renew the ecumenical movement and transform the world.
- To bring the Federation in a financially viable state and sustainable financial level with a target of bringing the operation administrative and program cost to 30-70 ratio annually.
- To systematize and integrate the financial management system of the Federation.
- To build WSCF’s capacity to generate resources from within the organization demonstrating financial solidarity and cooperation.

Mission Statement

The WSCF is a global fellowship of Student Christian Movements putting their faith into action to contribute to the renewal of the ecumenical movement and to promote justice and peace in the world.

Global Themes

- Ecological Justice
- Identity, Diversity and Dialogue (IDD)
- Peace Building and Dialogue
- Higher Education

Programmatic Strategies

- Biblical and Theological Analysis
- Advocacy and Solidarity
- Ecumenical Transformative Diakonia
- Capacity Building
- Movement Building