

GIRLS FRIENDLY SOCIETY

20TH WORLD COUNCIL

MINUTES

24th JUNE - 4th JULY 2011

THE KINGS HOSPITAL, PALMERSTOWN, DUBLIN

IRELAND

The 20th World Council Meeting of the Girls Friendly Society was held in Ireland from 24th June to 4th July 2011. The conference was held in Kings Hospital, Palmerstown, Dublin.

Friday 24th June 2011

Session 1 5pm - 6pm

WELCOME.

World President, Mrs Emila Corrigan welcomed everyone to the 20th GFS World Council and wished them a pleasant and happy stay in Ireland.

Headmaster of Kings Hospital, Mr Michael Hall and school Chaplain, Rev Peter Campion addressed the meeting. Mr Cormac d'Bruin outlined the health and safety rules.

SENIOR AND JUNIOR DELEGATES

The following countries were represented as follows:

COUNTRY	SENIOR DELEGATE	JUNIOR DELEGATE
AUSTRALIA	Kate Brewer	Lauren Jankovic
ENGLAND	Carol Lee	Poppy Winks
GHANA	Christine Adjei	
IRELAND	Florence Higgins	Jane Cairns
JAPAN	Haruko Mizutani	Izumi Takagi
KOREA	Soom Ok Cha (Martha)	Christine Hana Cho
NEW ZEALAND	Helen Allen	
PAPUA NEW GUINEA	Mary Bagu	
SOLOMON ISLANDS	Joan Haeta	
SOUTH AFRICA	Susan Gijana	
SRI LANKA	Jeanne Withanage	
USA	Llyn Evans Carter	Laura E W Kriss
WALES	Glenys Payne	Hannah Charlesworth
ZAMBIA	Beatrice Zulu	

The observers are listed in the directory.

GENERAL WORKINGS OF COUNCIL.

Hazel Corrigan, World Secretary explained the housekeeping rules as outlined in the World Council Book.

LETTERS OF GREETING.

Elizabeth Andrews, World Secretary read the many greetings which had been received from the following:

Mrs Mary McAleese, President of Ireland

Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall

The Most Rev AET Harper, Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland

Archbishop Michael, Dublin & Glendalough, Ireland

Joy Parkin, World Chair 1990 - 1993

Beth Mayes, World Chair 1978 - 1981, Ireland

Clarice Modu, Nigeria

Olien Gyles, Ireland

Rt Rev Garth Q Counsell, Bishop Suffragen, Anglican Diocese of Cape Town

Most Rev Barry Morgan, Archbishop of Wales & Bishop of Llandaff

Most Rev Dr Makgoba, Anglican Archbishop of Cape Town

Archdeacon Tom, Diocese of Port Elizabeth

Subuola Thompson, Past President, Sierra

Leone Archbishop of York

Bishop of Gloucester

Bishop of Tewkesbury

Denise Elvish, Diocesan President, Perth

Archbishop of Melanesia

Debbie & Philip Wadeson, Australia

Margery McElhanney, National President, Girls

Brigade, Er & Norm Beckenham, Australia

Annsli & Ken Stovall, Australia

Most Rev Andrew Y Ohata, Bishop of Tokyo

Rt Rev Charles E Bennison, JR, Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania, America

Most Rev Katherine Jeffers Schor, America

Most Rev Dr Philip Aspinall, Primate of Australia

Most Rev Roger Herft, Archbishop of Perth,

Australia

Most Rev Nathaniel M Uematsu, Primate of Japan and Bishop of Hokkaido

Most Rev Paul K Kim, Bishop of Seoul and Primate of Korea

Rt Rev Jonathan B Hart, DD Bishop of Liberia

Rt Rev Dr Thomas J Brown, Anglican Church, Diocese of Wellington, New Zealand

Rt Rev Julius O P Lynch (GCOR) Anglican Bishop of Freetown, South Africa

Rt Rev Elistan Patrick Glover BA (Rhodes) MA, Bishop of the Free State, South Africa

The meeting recessed at 5.40pm

Session 2 7pm - 8pm

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FROM THE SOLOMON ISLANDS

An application for membership from the Solomon Islands was presented by Gail Orchard (Australia), who invited Joan Haeta, Co-ordinator of GFS in the Solomon Islands to give an insight into GFS in her country. With the aid of a power point presentation Joan outlined their strengths which included the volunteers, the support from the clergy and the Mothers Union and their weaknesses, such as lack of communication, finance, travel difficulties and also the fact that all their administration work had to be carried out in the Mothers Union offices. The future plans of GFS in the Solomon Islands are:

1. To assist in the development of young girls in such things as literacy
2. Improve leadership skills.
3. Raise awareness of health issues.
4. To extend the programme

Joan thanked all those who had supported and helped GFS in Melanesia.

Gail Orchard reported that an application for consideration for the Solomon Islands to become a member of GFS World Council had been put forward at the last World Council in Korea, but it had been agreed that a decision would be taken in Ireland.

Kate Brewer, (Australia), moved the following motion:

I wish to move a motion for this 20th World Council of the Girls' Friendly Society to accept the membership application from the Solomon Islands.

Carol Lee, (England), seconded the motion and it was carried Yes 14 No 0 .

World President, Emila Corrigan welcomed the Solomon Islands and thanked them for their presentation.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING - KOREA 2008

Ruth Choi presented the minutes of the 19th World Council Meeting held in Korea 8th - 17th August 2008, which were accepted.

Carol Lee, (England) proposed the adoption of the minutes of the 19th World Council and this was seconded by Carol Jacobs, (England).

Ruth Choi signed the minutes, and the minute book was given to Emila Corrigan.

FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE 19TH WORLD COUNCIL

The financial report was presented, and the adoption of the report was proposed by Dianne Asquith, (Wales) and seconded by Helen Allen, (New Zealand). Copies were distributed and it was agreed that the report be discussed later on the agenda. (Copy attached).

The meeting recessed at 8 pm.

Saturday 25th June 2011

The Opening Service of the 20th GFS World Council was held in St Patricks Cathedral, Armagh, Northern Ireland, followed by dinner in the City Hotel, Armagh.

Sunday 26th June 2011

Delegates and observers attended church services in Dublin.

Session 3 - commenced at 2.40pm.

Before the commencement of this session, Hazel made several announcements and Elizabeth clarified the procedure which applies to voting.

PRESIDENTS REMARKS

Emila Corrigan presented her report and copies were distributed. Her theme was 'Challenges and Change - A Time for New Thinking'.

Some points included in the report:

Emila formed a committee to oversee the organising of World Council.

Hazel and Elizabeth took on the role of secretaries, whilst Elizabeth also organised the Opening Service, Gloria as treasurer, Elaine produced the Newsletters, Isla organised activities for the Junior delegates and young observers, Helen took charge of the closing service and Florence provided the floral displays. Every diocese in Ireland helped with the fundraising.

Chaplain to the World President, Rt Rev Bishop Empey was unable to attend Council due to illness.

Emila thanked all countries for their financial help towards the two World Projects.

Five countries received assistance from the World Travel Fund.

Emila expressed her disappointment that so many people were unable to obtain their visas.

There has been no contact with Nigeria over the last 3 years, but contact has been made with Clarice Modu, who now lives in USA, however she has no contact either.

Contact was made with Estelle Dibo in Cameroon. Unfortunately, she was unable to attend Council due to visa problems.

Emila welcomed the Solomon Islands to World Council.

Emila and Hazel travelled to London to meet Mrs Rosemary Kempself, Worldwide President of the Mothers Union.

World Newsletters have been regularly sent to Rosemary Kempself and the Archbishop of Canterbury.

The theme for council is Challenges and Change - A Time for New Thinking.

GUEST SPEAKER - MRS MARGARET KINGSTON

Mrs Margaret Kingston spoke on the theme - 'Challenges and Change - A Time of New Thinking'.

World President, Emila Corrigan thanked Margaret for her inspiring talk.

COUNTRY REPORTS.

Reports were given by delegates from Australia, England and Ghana. All reports were printed in the World Council Book.

The meeting recessed at 5.40pm.

The Opening Banquet was held in Kings Hospital.

Monday 27th June 2011

Session 4 - commenced at 9.15am

A HARMONIOUS WORLD: THE CHALLENGE OF GIRLS FRIENDLY SOCIETY.

Christine Adjei, Ghana, spoke at length about the challenges of the Girls Friendly Society. Report attached.

Emila Corrigan thanked Christine for her powerful presentation.

ALTERNATIVE WORKSHOP - 10.00am - 12 noon

Wild Irish Crafts facilitated a workshop for the observers, on the making of pictures using dried flowers.

MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS WORLD COUNCIL MEETING.

The following points from the previous World Council minutes were clarified:

- Junior Agenda - An online secure forum be created, to be linked with the GFS World Website - this had been set up but is not being used.
- During future World Councils, a separate time is to be allocated for business meetings that are held specifically for junior delegates and observers - Isla has already held a meeting and Jane Cairns will report on this later.

REPORT OF THE COMMUNICATIONS WORKING PARTY - report included in World Council book.

Kate Brewer, Australia moved a motion that Val Gribble open the report of the working committee for discussion at the conference. Florence Higgins, Ireland, seconded and the motion was carried Yes 14 No 0.

Val Gribble reported that it had been difficult to chair this working party through lack of communication and the very limited responses.

Emila Corrigan thanked Val for all her work and proposed that country groups meet later in the afternoon to discuss the recommendations within the document prepared by the communications working party.

WORLD TRAVEL FUND

Emila Corrigan reported that it had been impossible for every country to attend the conference due to visa problems. Emila stressed that it was the responsibility of the delegate to apply for their visa. Five delegates had received travel expenses to allow them to attend council. The fund amounted to a total of €16,354.80 which included a transfer from Korea.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

The World Day of Prayer service for 2011 was produced by Japan, with Kenya in 2012, Liberia in 2013, New Zealand in 2014 and Korea in 2015.

LINK COUNTRIES

Emila Corrigan spoke about the fact that some countries are no longer in contact. Australia asked if these links were still being used. Ireland reported that contact is always made with their links but often with no response. South Africa requested guidelines regarding link countries, however it was stated that the guidelines are very clear in item 2.12 in the World Council Guidelines. Following much discussion, the World President asked that each country meet to discuss the listing of countries and their links for the next 3 years and report back to the meeting.

Emila Corrigan asked that all countries meet from 2pm - 4pm to discuss the following:

1. GFS World Promotion/Marketing Officer.
2. Draft statement of purpose for GFS
3. Information from the current Webmaster to help with the way ahead.

COUNTRY REPORTS.

Reports were given by delegates from Ireland, Japan and New Zealand. Emila Corrigan read a report from Kenya in the absence of the delegate. Reports are included in the World Council Book.

Izumi Takagi (Japan) also spoke about the challenges her country is facing following the tsunami and the impact it is having on GFS members and in particular young women. Following this very emotional report and request for prayer, Rev Liz Colton, Chaplain USA prayed as everyone present held hands. (Report on earthquake attached).

The meeting recessed at 11.45am.

Delegates met from 2 - 4pm.

ALTERNATIVE WORKSHOP 3 - 5 pm

Scott Evans from Elymental Youth Group, facilitated a workshop for observers.

Session 5 commenced at 4pm

RESULTS FROM THE DISCUSSION GROUPS

Australia and New Zealand.

Promotion/Marketing Officer - they felt that this was really done by the World President.

Website/Webmaster - They felt that a webmaster was more important to consider at this time as you need a webmaster to have a webpage. They also felt that this is very expensive, unless a country had someone with the expertise who would do this and that a budget would need to be put in place to cover maintenance etc. At present the webmaster who is Australian, has funded the maintenance of this herself, at a cost of \$200 per year, which it was felt should be reimbursed.

Statement of Purpose - With the exception of the word 'executive' being changed to 'team' Australia agreed that the statement be put forward with no other changes.

England and Wales.

Promotion/Marketing Officer - They felt it was too much for 1 person and would need to be promoted within their own country with a World Co-ordinator and each country having a marketing officer. With each country providing a contact, this would be a small step towards what we want.

Website/Webmaster - Website most important. They asked if the extra £5 which had been added to the world dues for the web, was enough to cover the costs.

Vision Statement - They felt that it should be something 'short, sharp, shock' such as 'Working with girls and young women where they are'.

South Africa and Ghana.

Promotion/Marketing Officer - South Africa and Ghana were in favour of a Marketing Officer who they felt should liaise with higher authorities and other countries to promote GFS and get recognition and support to strengthen the organisation. The Officer should collect new items, liaise with embassies, keep statistics and report to the World President who in turn would report to Council. They felt that it might be too much work for one person and that perhaps each country should have a marketing officer.

Website/Webmaster - As many don't use the internet these countries did not favour this and reported that they would not have anyone suitable to act as webmaster.

Ireland.

The following are the recommendations from a Central Council meeting in Ireland:

Webpage - It was felt that this is the way forward.

Marketing Officer - Supportive of this to a certain degree, but favour the webpage providing it is working satisfactorily.

Mission Statement - Ireland supports the mission statement as was presented.

Japan.

Webmaster/Website - They are not aware of the use of technology.

Mission Statement - They proposed that words that offer help should be used in the statement.

Sri Lanka, Papua New Guinea and The Solomon Islands.

Website/Webmaster - A webmaster would be useful but Papua New Guinea and The Solomons don't have access to the internet.

Promotion/Marketing Officer - This would be a good way to promote GFS around the world.

Mission Statement - Although they felt the statement was good, they suggested that it would be better if it was shorter and simpler, thereby making it easier to remember.

Korea.

Promotion/Marketing Officer - It was felt that it was highly unlikely that many countries could afford this.

Website/Webmaster - We already have a world webpage which could be updated and that there was no need for a webmaster.

United States of America.

Promotions/Marketing Officer - Favour the Promotion Officer but felt that it may work better as a Co-ordinator.

Website/Webmaster - Do see the value of a webmaster but concerned that they would not be able to reach all countries, however felt that a Promotion Officer would be in a position to identify what communication would best suit a particular country.

The meeting recessed at 4.50 pm.

Session re- commenced at 5.15 pm.

GUEST SPEAKER - MRS MARJERY McELHENNY.

Mrs Marjery McElhenny, National President of the Girls' Brigade in Ireland spoke about the organisation.

GUEST SPEAKER - MR PHILIP DALEY

Mr Philip Daley, Boys Brigade spoke on the formation and development of the Boys Brigade.

Emila Corrigan thanked both guests for their interesting talks.

The meeting recessed at 6 pm.

Tuesday 28th June 2011

All delegates and observers travelled to Powerscourt, Glendalough and Donoughmore.

Session 6 commenced at 8.10pm

LINK COUNTRIES

A meeting of all senior delegates and the World President was held at 8.10 pm to discuss the link countries.

The following are the recommendations:

Australia - have no contact with Nigeria and The Gambia but enjoy good contact with Papua New Guinea and the Solomons who they felt it was logical to have as a link. Link countries is a good model but felt it is not being used.

Val Gribble suggested that the Solomons could be linked with New Zealand if they were to have different countries.

Jan McNamara said that the countries are there as a support, to be concerned and interested in what the other country is doing.

USA - propose that the inactive countries should be a priority for the Promotions Officer. We need to look for ways to reach out to these countries.

England - Carol Lee said that we should be praying for everyone, not just our link countries and work together, getting rid of link countries. Was in favour of a prayer card.

South Africa - Nobantu suggested that all inactive countries be placed in a pool to be dealt with by the Promotion Officer. She said that Australia and the Solomons should

not be linked as finances are already there between them but that they should be independent.

Louis Frankforter felt that it gave the opportunity to get together over issues and that we could help each other.

Wales - reported that Mothers Union have links, liked the prayer cycle and would like it to continue.

Ireland - As links are not effective it was felt that linking closer countries might be of more benefit. If effective they thought the prayer card was a good idea.

South Africa - agree with links.

Emila felt that it was a means of communication.

YOUTH MEETING.

Junior delegates and young observers met with Isla Poyntz.

Session recessed at 9 pm.

WEDNESDAY 30TH JUNE

Session 7 commenced at 9 am.

COUNTRY REPORTS.

Reports were presented from Papua New Guinea, South Africa and Korea. Reports included in the World Council Book. No report had been received from Sierra Leone.

CULTURE WEAR.

Lois Frankforter (USA) outlined the progress of the project 'Culture Wear' which had been set up to give girls the opportunity to investigate their identity and culture through fashion.

Workshop. Hands on work for a fashion show and luncheon where they looked at three countries including Korea. A sample of their work was modelled - denim jeans made into a waistcoat and skirt with striped Korean material being used.

A slide presentation was shown of the girls working towards the making of clothes with a Korean twist.

Impact. A positive and significant impact was made on everyone taking part. They were encouraged to take notice of and learnt about other cultures with each culture taking great pride in what they did. The young people used gently used clothes to make fashionable clothing.

Delores Alleyne reported that the girls participated in a fun way to learn about themselves and other people and so open their eyes to other cultures. Delores spoke passionately about this project which she said was a wonderful experience which will stay with her forever.

At a conference in The National Museum of Ethnology in Osaka, Japan a report was given on the working of this project. Report attached.

GFS WORLD CENSUS.

Elizabeth Andrews outlined the GFS census as recorded in the World Council book.

Hazel Corrigan read an email from Somalia, who are up and going, applying for membership to the Girls' Friendly Society. It was agreed that this was a job for the Promotion Officer.

ALTERNATIVE WORKSHOP.

10.00am - 12.00noon.

A workshop on the making of St Brigid's crosses and small gift boxes was facilitated by GFS members from the Diocese of Cashel & Ossary. This was for observers.

The session adjourned at 10.20 am

Session re- commenced at 11.45 am

WORLD PROJECT REPORT - SOUTH KOREA (Financial statement attached)

A very concise report on U-Mul-Ga (A Well side) project was presented, being the project, which had been supported in Korea over the last 3 years. A copy of this report was included in the World Council Book.

Ruth Choi informed the conference that she had received a monthly report on the project and sincerely thanked Maria Park, Director of the Project for all her work, Emila Corrigan for collecting the money and everyone for their prayers. Ruth Choi asked that the report be accepted but that the financial statement which at present does not include the last of the money be included in the next council. The motion to accept the report was moved by Florence Higgins (Ireland) and seconded by Kate Brewer (Australia) and carried Yes 14 and No 0. (Financial report to date is attached).

WORLD PROJECT REPORT - PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Val Gribble on behalf of Papua New Guinea presented the report on the project 'Gutnuis for PNG'.

Val reported on this project which had been submitted by Australia, on behalf of Papua New Guinea, to provide a Children's Ministry resource and training in 2 Dioceses of PNG. Val paid tribute to Rev Cheryl Selvage, in her absence, who had been responsible for the success of the project. Val reported that an invitation from a third Diocese had been received, and it was hoped, if money was left over, that this project would be continued for the next year. Audited accounts were not available as money was still being received for this project.

A power point presentation concluded the report.

Carol Lee (England) moved that the report be accepted, Kate Brewer (Australia) seconded, and it was carried Yes 14 and No 0.

Emila Corrigan congratulated both countries on their successful projects.

Both reports are included in the World Council Book.

APPLICATION FOR WORLD PROJECT 2011 -2014

Val Gribble presented an application on behalf of the Solomon Islands for consideration for the world project for 2011 - 2014. The project entitled 'Makem Strong GFS' is printed in the World Council Book.

The delegates and observers had been touched by the plight of the members in Japan who had suffered so much during the tsunami and subsequent nuclear threat that it was felt that perhaps as had happened during the past 3 years, we support two projects. Izumi Takagi, Japanese Junior delegate, with the help of an interpreter, advised that although they were very grateful for the consideration of financial help, they were in-fact in great need of prayerful support and were not in a position to put forward a proposal for the World Project at this time. Following much discussion, it was agreed that contributions could be made to Japan through their 'Walk with Me Project', details of which is on the website and that such disasters should be supported through a world emergency.

Korea felt that there should be principles before a country can propose their World Project application to World Council. As Solomon Islands have just joined the World Council this year, and although their proposed world project is important and valuable, they felt that maybe it is too soon to propose their project. GFS Korea moved a motion that a new country (who has just joined the World Council) should participate in at least one World Council (3-year term) before they can propose for the World Project at the World Council.

Kate Brewer made a proposal to move the motion that the Solomon Island proposal be accepted as the World Project for 2011 - 2014, this was seconded by Florence Higgins and carried Yes 13 No 1.

Some discussion ensued regarding the formation of a disaster fund with Kate Brewer proposing a motion that the incoming World President, as a matter of priority, prepare guidelines to set up a GFS World Emergency Fund. Until this fund is set up, it is to be encouraged for specific gifts to be given to this fund through the World President for emergency relief, in the first instance to GFS Japan. This was seconded by Carol Lee. A vote was not taken at this time but following further discussion it was agreed that the following delegates and observers should meet to discuss the guidelines for the Emergency Fund, Glenys Payne, Llyn Carter, Poppy Winks, Lauren Janovic, Beatrice Zulu, Kirsten Alleyne, Lois Frankforter, Bishop Kay Goldsworthy, Agnes Young, Susan Gijana and Emila Corrigan.

The proposal was withdrawn at this time to allow guidelines to be drawn up.

Ruth Choi amended the motion put forward by Korea, explaining that Korea did not oppose the project proposed by Solomon Islands but felt that guidelines should be put in place.

Meeting recessed at 1 pm

Session 8 commenced at 2pm

ALTERNATIVE WORKSHOP.

3 - 5pm

A jewellery workshop for observers, was facilitated by GFS members from Killaloe

MOTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE - Val Gribble

Val reported on the changes which had been made to the 'statement of purpose'. A lot of discussion ensued regarding the inclusion of 'Mothers Union' and the words 'men and boys'.

It was proposed to remove the words 'Mothers Union' with the resulting vote being Yes 10 No 4 and the proposal carried.

Kate Brewer (Australia) moved the motion that we accept this mission statement for GFS, and this was seconded by Helen Allen (New Zealand).

Val Gribble read the amended statement and the delegates voted Yes 14 No 0 to accept this statement.

WEBSITE.

Lauren Jankovic (Australia) reported on the GFS World Website which had been set up by Bettrys Lowe and moved a motion that a letter from Emila Corrigan be sent as a vote of thanks to Bettrys Lowe for her work on the GFS World Web. This was seconded by Helen Allen and carried Yes 14 No 0.

Kate Brewer further reported that Bettrys had been maintaining the website for the past 6 years at her own expense and moved that Bettrys Lowe be reimbursed for all expenses incurred over the 6 years in maintaining the Global website. This was seconded by Beatrice Zulu.

Questions were raised regarding the funding of the website and the reimbursing of the expenses already incurred by Bettrys. Emila Corrigan read from the minutes of the World Council in USA, where it stated that the World dues be increased by £5 sterling to cover the start-up costs of the web page. It was then agreed that Bettrys be given a gift amounting to £420, this being £5 per country for 6 years.

Kate Brewer amended the motion as follows: We move that Bettrys Lowe be given, as a gift, the sum of £420 in appreciation and thanks for all her hard work and expense incurred in maintaining the website. This was seconded by Lauren Jankovic and carried Yes 14 No 0.

INTERNET

Kate Brewer reported that from the discussion previously held, regarding the use of the internet, it was acknowledged that it is not a tool accessible to everyone, but however for those who can utilise it, it is a very useful. Kate moved that Guidelines are established to outline the dual responsibilities of the GFS World Council and the member countries in ensuring that the website remains professional, relevant and current. This was seconded by Helen Allen.

Emila stated that finances are needed to maintain the website, and someone is needed to take responsibility for it. Rev Payne felt that guidelines were needed. Kate informed the meeting that there was someone in Australia willing to take on the responsibility but asked if any other country would like to nominate someone - no offers were forthcoming.

Kate moved the following motion which included that already moved earlier in the discussion: We move that: 1. Guidelines are established to outline the dual responsibilities of the GFS World Council and the member countries in ensuring that the website remains professional, relevant and current. 2. "GFS World Executive allocate funds for the continuing financial commitments necessary to maintain the GFS World Website including - a. Domain hosting, web name listing, and monthly fee associated with the web hosting commencing from July 2011. b. A webmaster who will maintain and update the website. This was seconded by Helen Allen New Zealand and carried Yes 14 No 0.

PROMOTIONS OFFICER.

Val reported on the discussions regarding the Promotions Officer and stated that it was felt that a webmaster was more necessary as many of the duties which would have been undertaken by the Promotions Officer are already held by the World President.

Session adjourned at 2.50 pm to allow delegates time to discuss link countries

LINK COUNTRIES.

Each country met to discuss the following questions regarding the way forward with link countries:

1. In principle do you agree it is a good idea to have link countries?
2. To what extent are link countries working for your country?
3. How often do you contact your link countries?
4. How often are you contacted by your link countries?
5. Would you agree that inactive countries be put together in a pool?
6. Would you prefer that countries are linked within continents?
7. Would you be in favour of the prayer cycle?

Session re-commenced at 4.00 pm

The following are the findings of each country:

England, Wales and Ghana.

These countries were in favour of link countries but not being linked by continent. Contact was made twice a year with their link countries. They agreed with the prayer cycle.

America.

They agreed with the principle but unfortunately, they had been linked with two inactive countries and would appreciate a list change. Llyn said that Adele Ray, Link Chairperson, reported at all their board meetings. They felt that inactive countries should not be put in a pool, nor that they be linked by continent. In favour of the prayer cycle.

Zambia and Sri Lanka.

These countries were in favour of link countries but have had very little success. They were not in favour of putting inactive countries together but liked the idea of the prayer cycle.

Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands.

Mary reported that Solomon Islands did not wish to make any recommendations as they had just joined. Papua New Guinea were in favour of link countries as it has been so successful for them, being linked with Australia. They wished the list to be kept, inactive countries included and linked by continent for the ease of travel. Also, in favour of prayer cycle.

South Africa.

South Africa were in favour of link countries, but do not make regular contact with their links. They wished the list to continue but not to link by continent. They too were in favour of the prayer cycle.

Korea

Korea felt that the present system was not efficient as they have not had any contact in two years but agreed with link countries in principle. They reported that they are in frequent contact with Japan. They too were in favour of the prayer cycle.

Australia and New Zealand.

Agreed with link countries to strengthen bonds. Felt that inactive countries be put together in a pool and that the World President should try to make contact with them and report at World Council. They were in favour of linking within continents. Agreed with the prayer cycle but would like to include disasters etc.

Japan.

They were not in favour of link countries and suggested that countries should link with their neighbours. They enjoy contact with South Korea. Not in favour of a list but agree with the prayer cycle.

Ireland.

In favour of link countries but unfortunately, they have practically no contact, although they continue to send greetings etc. They felt the list needs to be changed and that inactive countries be put together in a pool so that the World President could follow them up. Agree with linking by continent and the setting up of a prayer cycle. Emila Corrigan said that following the results of the findings, the list of link countries needed updating and Glenys Payne agreed to undertake this.

Following a discussion regarding the inclusion of inactive countries, the following was ascertained:

Newfoundland's one remaining branch is now closed, Barbados no longer functioning due to the age of the leaders, Gambia has girls but need leaders, Nigeria met at their conference, Philippines had been contacted by Korea, Gambia had been in contact with Christine Adjei, Guyana is not operating, Mrs Guma agreed to try and contact Lesotho and asked that Cameroon and Liberia be included in the list.

Meeting recessed at 5.30 pm

Thursday 30th June Session 9 commenced at 10.50am

Meeting commenced later to allow discussion groups to meet.

Country reports.

Reports were given on behalf of Sri Lanka, USA, Wales and Zambia as printed in World Council Agenda Book.

Zambia World Project - Financial report. Attached.

Ruth Choi outlined the financial report for the World Project undertaken by Korea.

Application to host World Council 2017.

No proposals had been forwarded.

Recommendations regarding the Emergency Fund.

Lois Frankforter reported that there had been a very productive meeting at which the draft guidelines for the formation and working of such a fund had been discussed. Lois presented the draft to the meeting and following much discussion it was agreed that this would be clarified later in the council.

Link Countries

Glenys Payne reported on the recommendation for the linking of countries. Carol Lee moved a motion to accept the link countries and a prayer diary be prepared for the next 3 years. This was seconded by Llyn Carter. Following requests by several countries for a change to their links Carol Lee moved to amend her original motion to include the changes that had been requested, this was seconded by Llyn Carter and carried Yes 14 No 0.

Link Countries for 2011 - 2014 - Each line across represents the linked countries.

Australia	PNG	Solomon Is	New Zealand
S Africa	Liberia	Lesotho	Kenya
Japan	Korea	Sri Lanka	Philippines
USA	Zambia	Cameroon	Sierra Leone
Wales	Ghana	England	Ireland

Church of Ireland Press Release.

Emila Corrigan showed a press release from the Church of Ireland about the GFS World Council in Ireland.

Motions and Recommendations.

Promotions Officer

Kate Brewer moved a motion that the role of promoting GFS is the responsibility of the World President for the next 3 years and that it will be an item for discussion at the 2014 World Council in Wales. This was seconded by Christine Adjei and carried Yes 14 No 0.

Finance.

Kate Brewer reported that in working through the recommendations being made to this World Council (from the Communications Working party) it has been highlighted (by a number of past World Presidents and their teams) that there are inadequate funds available for the progression of their work and it seems that the funds transferred

from country to country are mainly earmarked for "World Council expenses".

Therefore, the major task of the World Team is currently the preparation for the next World Council and there is little money available for what should be the major focus of the world team in communication, promotion etc.

The host country usually provides much of the finance and this inhibits countries being able to apply as host country and nominating a World President. There is strong evidence that personal monies are often used for world expenses by the members of the world team.

The web page is considered a major focus for communication but in the past two terms the web master has paid all expenses herself \$400 (£200) per year.

This motion is to encourage world countries to consider setting up a fund for investment in a designated country (with a strong economy and currency) with the interest made available to the current world team. The country which manages this fund would not necessarily change from term to term to enable stability of currency.

However, it would be held in an investment account and could be reviewed at each council and the account would be audited in the same manner as any other world fund. The world team would be required to prepare a budget for their three-year work.

Australia is well aware that this motion needs much more work, and it is put forward in its present wording as a discussion point. The figures are suggested figures only.

Australia would be willing to manage this fund on behalf of the World Executive.

Kate moved 'that a World Development fund be established to provide funds for the world team to improve communication and promotion during their term with:

- A capital of \$US30,000 held in an investment account in a designated country which has a stable economy and currency and only interest made available to the world team.
- England, Wales, Ireland, Australia, New Zealand, USA, Korea and Japan providing \$US4000 each to the fund.
- All other countries setting a target for a gift to this fund within the next three years.
- Authorisation for the management of the account to rest with the World Executive.
- A budget prepared by the World Executive within the first three months of their term and provided to the World President/Chairman of each GFS country.
- The account to be audited at the end of each three-year term under the same requirements as for all World Council funds.

Although it was felt that this was an important issue, many delegates felt that they could not commit to this on behalf of their country. Emilia suggested that each country discuss it at their country council meeting.

The motion was left on the table.

Session adjourned at 11.45 am

Session recommenced 12.30pm

GUEST SPEAKER - BISHOP MICHAEL BURROWS

Bishop Michael Burrows, Bishop of Cashel & Ossary gave a very inspiring talk to the delegates.

Meeting recessed at 1.05pm

The afternoon was spent touring Dublin City centre, St Patricks Cathedral and the Guinness Storehouse, followed by late night shopping.

Friday 1st July

The morning was spent visiting Dublin Zoo.

Session 10 commenced at 2.30pm

ALTERNATIVE WORKSHOP - 3 - 5pm

Rev Janice Aiton, Central Chaplain in Ireland, facilitated a workshop for the observers.

Youth Report - Jane Cairns, Junior Delegate, Ireland.

Jane reported that 9 Junior delegates from Ireland, Wales, England, USA, Korea, S Africa and Australia attended the first Junior delegate meeting which was chaired by Isla Poyntz. Following prayers Isla explained to those present that the meeting was being held for junior delegates and observers as the result of an idea which had been put forward in Korea, to enable them to discuss the council and the future of GFS. This meant they could have a voice and think about where they see GFS going and the future of the organisation. Isla also explained that after the World Council in Korea, a secure forum had been set up and an awareness was made about it, but it is not being utilised to its best, so it was decided that this group would think about this further. Other discussions included such things as: what is seen as the best things about GFS in each country, if they would still be involved in GFS in 5 - 10 years' time and if so in what capacity, their role in GFS, their role as Junior delegate and their expectations of World Council.

It was agreed that it was very beneficial to have separate time for the younger delegates and observers as it enabled them to get to know each other better and have fun together.

Korean Financial Report.

Having already been tabled and following an explanation to a query from Kate Brewer regarding a donation which had been received from the Korean church, the financial report was accepted Yes 14 No 0.

Presentation of Scarves.

Emila requested permission to wear a scarf which had been presented by Christine Adjei to be worn by all World Presidents during World Council. This was granted.

World Development Fund.

Kate Brewer forwarded an amended motion regarding the World Development Fund as follows:

That a World Development Fund be established to provide funds for the administration expenses of the world team, excluding the costs relating to the hosting of World Council with

- A capital fund established.
- All countries set a target for a gift to this fund within the next three years.
- Authorisation for the management of the account to rest with the World Team.
- A budget prepared by the World Team within the first three months of their term and provided to the President/Chairman of each GFS country.
- The account to be audited at the end of each three-year term under the same requirements as for all World Council funds.

These changes were seconded by Helen Allen, New Zealand and carried Yes 12 Abstention 1 and Absent 1.

Kate Brewer further moved that a Working Party be formed at this Council to prepare a proposal for a new membership fee structure to be presented at the 2014 World Council and that a 1 off payment be made until next term to the World Development Fund. This was seconded by Helen Allen, New Zealand and carried Yes 13 Absent 1. The following to be on the Working Party - Glenys Payne, Carol Lee, Nobantu , Dorothy Orr, Ruth Choi, Val Gribble, Emila Corrigan, David Payne and Gloria Good.

Several delegates withdrew from the motion regarding the increase in fees and Glenys Payne moved that the guidelines be changed to a minimum of £15 per country be paid. This was seconded by Florence Higgins and carried Yes 13 Absent 1.

World Emergency Fund.

Glenys Payne suggested that we start this fund at this Council and Lesley Briggs very kindly agreed to collect any donations given. Eunice Gibbons proposed that everyone present donate €10 to start the fund. The collection at both the Opening and Closing Services to be given to Japan.

Application for acceptance as GFS Host Country.

Kate Brewer moved a motion to accept the draft application form to host World Council (Attachment D in the World Council Book) and this was seconded by Susan Gijana.

Meeting adjourned until 4.30pm

World Emergency Fund update.

€415 collected at this time.

Application for acceptance as GFS Host Country.

Following much discussion regarding the use of this form, voting on the motion to accept Attachment D was Yes 5 No 8, rejected.

SUGGESTED NEW STRUCTURE FOR A GFS WORLD EXECUTIVE.

Carol Lee proposed that we forget the guidelines on the new structure as per Attachment A in the World Council book and this was seconded by Llyn Carter.

Glenys Payne said that all the work that had been done on this document must not be forgotten and it was agreed that many of the issues which have been discussed were as a result of these guidelines. Val Gribble stated that she had been asked to do a job which she had done with very little help, but a decision would have to be taken as to whether the Working Party ceased, or the work was to continue.

Kate Brewer moved that a closure of the previous working party be passed, with thanks to Val Gribble. Carol Lee amended the motion as follows: closure of the Communications Working Party and the ending of discussion on this document at this World Council and acknowledge the work of the Working Party. This was seconded by Llyn Carter and carried Yes 11 and No 2.

Helen Allen proposed a vote of thanks to the Communications Working Party and this was seconded by Kate Brewer.

Webmaster

Carol Lovejoy proposed that Noeleen Stewart be webmaster for 6 months and this was seconded by Kate Brewer who spoke on her great ability. Glenys Payne accepted the proposal.

Helen Allen asked for applause for Val Gribble who had put so much work into the Communications Working Party. Emila Corrigan thanked Val and said that there was a lot in the document to go forward with.

WORLD EMERGENCY FUND UPDATE.

Lesley Briggs reported that the fund had now reached €555.

GUEST SPEAKER - MRS ROSEMARY KEMPELL.

Emila Corrigan welcomed Mrs Rosemary Kempell, World-wide President of the Mothers Union and Mrs Ruth Mercer, All-Ireland President. Mrs Kempell, with the aid of power-point gave a presentation on the work of the Mothers Union.

Meeting recessed at 5.35 pm

Saturday 2nd July 2011

International Day.

Sunday 3rd July 2011

Session 11 commenced at 10 am

Prayer Cycle.

Vivian Evans, New York, USA, volunteered to undertake the arrangements for the prayer cycle.

GFS World Emergency Fund.

Following much discussion and clarification the Emergency Relief Fund was drawn up and presented as follows:

- The purpose of the World Emergency Relief Fund is to assist GFS member countries with funding of emergency relief efforts in their countries in times of crisis, extreme circumstances, or natural disaster.
- Funds can be disbursed in response to a request from a member country in need, or at the discretion of the World President in consultation with her World Team.
- Requests must be made in writing by a member country GFS President/Chairperson in liaison with their appropriate Bishop. The request shall include a description of the need and relief sought. All requests are to be received by the World President. Others who see a need are encouraged to contact their country's GFS President/Chairperson who can in turn contact the World President.
- The account will be funded by donations. Up to 50% of the fund can be accessed for any single request until the funds are replenished. Upon replenishment, additional funds can be disbursed.
- Upon disbursement, the World President will advise all member countries of the need and the opportunity to donate to the fund.
- The World President/World Treasurer shall disburse the funds to the GFS member country's President/Chairperson in conjunction with their Treasurer.
- Member countries given emergency relief funds shall provide a written acknowledgement of the receipt of the funds and a description of how the funds were used. Countries receiving funds will present a brief report during the next World Council.

Florence Higgins (Ireland) proposed the acceptance of the proposal, this was seconded by Susan Gijana (S Africa) and carried Yes 12 Absent 2

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Elaine Grothier (Ireland) outlined the need to change the guidelines to include meeting time for Junior delegates as had been agreed at World Council in 2008.

DIRECTORY OF DELEGATES AND OBSERVERS

This was distributed.

GREETINGS

Greetings were received from Georgiana Williams, Liberia and Jane Goodwin, Sierra Leone.

MOTION IN RESPECT OF APPLICATION FOR WORLD PROJECT.

Glenys Payne informed the meeting that the Korean delegates will be putting forward a motion at the next World Council with regard to applying for the World Project.

THANKS

Llyn Carter moved a resolution of thanks to Ireland World Executive for all their work in producing this marvellous world council.

A standing ovation was received from all the delegates and observers.

The business of the 20th World Council closed with everyone holding hands and singing 'Bind us Together' followed by the saying of the Grace, led by Bishop Kay Goldsworthy.

World Council meetings finished at 10.50am.

The Closing Service of the World Council was held in Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin followed by a closing banquet in Springfield Hotel, Leixlip.