

Title: Continuing Role of Commissioners to General Council

Originating Body: Church in Action Committee of Maritime Conference

Maritime Conference Action: Transmit with concurrence

Financial Implications: N/A

Staffing Implications: N/A

Proposal:

It is proposed by Maritime Conference that The 40th General Council (2009):

- 1) direct the Executive of General Council to involve the Commissioners in important decisions of the General Council between meetings of the General Council and
- 2) direct the Executive of General Council to involve the Commissioners between meetings of the General Council, such as providing in a timely fashion working papers and agendas before meetings of the Executive Of General Council and minutes after such meetings so that Commissioners are empowered to communicate to respective conference representatives on the Executive of General Council their wisdom on important matters that the Executive is considering.

Background:

- 1) General Council consists of its commissioners. (Definitions, p. 35, The 2007 Manual; Section 423, p. 186, The 2007 Manual)
- 2) The commissioners are chosen in a careful manner to reflect the regionalism and diversity of the church. Also in the selection of commissioners, historically a number of the commissioners have come from a variety of positions, on church committees, executives and other agencies. As a consequence, the commissioners either have or have access to a great deal of the church's wisdom.
- 3) The technology of today permits rapid and inexpensive communication that only a few years ago could not have been imagined.