



STRATEGIC PLAN WORLD STUDENT CHRISTIAN FEDERATION (WSCF)

2016 TO 2019

*"We equip new generations of young leaders
to live out their faith and share God's love
for creation, justice and peace in every community."*

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1. INTRODUCTION

THE WORLD STUDENT CHRISTIAN FEDERATION (WSCF) IS CALLED TO BE A PROPHETIC WITNESS IN CHURCH AND SOCIETY, TRANSFORMING THE WORLD THROUGH GOD'S LOVE. WE TRAIN AND EMPOWER LOCAL STUDENT CHRISTIAN MOVEMENTS IN 95 COUNTRIES TO WORK FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE, WORKING TOGETHER WITH CHURCHES THROUGH DIALOGUE TO STAND UNITED AGAINST INEQUALITY AND INJUSTICE.

Regional Highlights Religions and Politics Conference



- WE ARE FAITH MOTIVATED, LIVING IN ECUMENICAL FELLOWSHIP AND WITNESS. WE COME FROM DIVERSE DENOMINATIONS AND CHURCHES BROUGHT TOGETHER BY OUR BELIEF IN LORDSHIP OF JESUS CHRIST IN OUR LIVES. WE BELIEVE IN THE UNITY OF THE CHURCHES EXPRESSED IN OUR COMMON ECUMENICAL WITNESS.

- WE ARE JUSTICE SEEKERS AND PEACE BUILDERS. TOGETHER WITH CHURCHES, ECUMENICAL GROUPS, CIVIL SOCIETY, WE PARTICIPATE IN THE BUILDING OF GOD'S KINGDOM WHERE LOVE, JUSTICE AND PEACE PREVAIL. WE ACCOMPANY THE CHURCHES' MISSION

- WE ARE DIVERSE AND DYNAMIC GRASSROOTS ORIENTED STUDENT MOVEMENTS, LOCATED IN 95 COUNTRIES WITH 85 AFFILIATED MOVEMENTS AND 15 ASSOCIATED MOVEMENTS WORLDWIDE. WE REACH OUT TO 2 MILLION STUDENTS WORLDWIDE IN ASIA PACIFIC, AFRICA, .

- WE EMPOWER THE YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT, STUDENT AND YOUNG WOMEN IN OUR LEADERSHIP. ALL THE MEMBER MOVEMENTS ARE LED BY THE STUDENTS, WITH YOUNG ADULT STAFF.

THE WSCF IS THE OLDEST INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ORGANIZATION, FOUNDED IN 1895. AS A FEDERATION OF STUDENT MOVEMENTS, THE WSCF EMPOWERS AND CONNECTS RESPONSIBLE YOUNG LEADERS AROUND THE WORLD IN THEIR PATH TO CHANGING TOMORROW. WE ENCOURAGE A CULTURE OF DEMOCRACY TO MOBILIZE YOUTH TO BECOME PRO-ACTIVE IN SOCIETY, PROMOTING POSITIVE CHANGE THROUGH DIALOGUE AND ACTION BETWEEN DIFFERENT TRADITIONS AND CULTURES.

2. VISION AND MISSION



Europe Capacity Building

VISION: WSCF IS CALLED TO BE A PROPHETIC WITNESS IN 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.

MISSION: 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.

UNDERSTANDING OUR CONTEXT

Our Mission and Vision is grounded on our understanding of our world today and our role as a global ecumenical youth and student movement living in diverse contextual realities. Our diverse contexts are inter-related by underlying systems and structures that exacerbates inequalities, violence and intolerance. The global economic system of neoliberal globalization and its attendant policies furthered by global economic institutions and structures continuous to have devastating impact on the lives of the poor and marginalized in many developing countries in the Global South.

The war and conflicts in the Middle East, Africa, Latin America and elsewhere fueled by economic and political interests powerful nations and the global arms trade, have extolled great human pain and suffering to communities, tearing them apart and destroying peace and the prospect for the future of the younger generation. Forced migration of people, especially of the youth is a growing reality of unprecedented scale.

Within our communities, we remain fragmented and held back in speaking truth to power and struggling for the rights of all people. Lesbians, gays, bi-sexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) people continue to suffer violence and discrimination, and the violation of their human right.

Overarching is the 'groaning of creation', the wanton destruction of our environment and its devastating repercussion in our climate and shared commons, calls the entire humanity to act fastidiously and in unison. Governments should be held accountable and commit to redress and reduce the impact of development for the good of all.

3. PROGRAMS

(A) ECOLOGICAL JUSTICE

KEY ISSUES: **PEACE AND ECO JUSTICE, CLIMATE CHANGE**

OBJECTIVES: **TO PROMOTE CLIMATE JUSTICE BY ADVOCACY PROCESS AT INTERNATIONAL GOVERNANCE BODIES TOGETHER WITH ECUMENICAL CHURCHES, MULTIPLE STAKE HOLDERS AND NETWORKS UP-HOLDING THE YOUTH AN STUDENT VOICE.**

Ecojustice Project Greenopolis



WSCF TRAIN AND EMPOWER MORE STUDENTS AND LEADERS TO FIGHT CLIMATE CHANGE, CAMPAIGN FOR THE RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLE, AND CREATE LASTING CHANGE FOR THE EARTH.

As Christians, we believe that we are stewards of God's creation, called to care for the environment and the world. But across the globe, we are seeing the devastating effects of climate change, which is not only harming the planet but leaving people displaced, vulnerable and poor.

WSCF is committed to fighting this injustice, supporting our local movements and students to campaign for the rights of marginalized peoples and working globally to secure a better future for our shared planet. You can help these students today by donating to WSCF's Eco-Justice programs.

Your support today would see:

- Student leaders trained to advocate for marginalized people and campaign for eco-justice.
- Churches empowered to work for environmental justice through theological training and study.
- Local SCMs working together to campaign for climate justice and protect natural resources.

(B) IDENTITY DIVERSITY AND DIALOGUE (IDD)

KEY ISSUE: **SEXUALITY**

OBJECTIVES: **TO INITIATE THE PROCESS OF DIALOGUE, CREATE AD SPACE AND DEVELOP THEOLOGICAL UNDERSTANDING FOR SCMS ON HUMAN SEXUALITY.**

WSCF AS WE WORK FOR DIALOGUE, UNDERSTANDING AND UNITY WITH- IN THE CHURCH, AFFIRMING THE DIGNITY AND VOICES OF ALL PEOPLE.

‘We are many, we are one’ – these are the words that represent the vast diversity of members within WSCF, and the single unity we have in Christ. As a diverse global federation, we work across boundaries of race, sexuality, gender, class or culture to protect the dignity of all people through dialogue and prayer, especially those who suffer discrimination from those in positions of power.

Syria Capacity Building



Donate today to WSCF's IDD Fund to ensure more churches, student movements and communities can come together to resolve conflict and welcome the other into an encounter of God's love.

Your support today would see:

- Churches supported in welcoming all people into their community.
- LGBT people and other marginalized communities empowered to lead and participate in churches and student movements.
- Individual students equipped to speak up for the rights of LGBT people and other communities that suffer discrimination.

(C) PEACE BUILDING AND DIALOGUE

KEY ISSUES: **PALESTINE AND MIDDLE EAST, COLOMBIA**

OBJECTIVES: **TO MOBILIZE THE FEDERATION ON ISSUES PERTAINING TO OVERCOMING VIOLENCE AND PEACE-MAKING WITH A FOCUS TO THE SITUATIONS IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND COLOMBIA (GA RESOLUTIONS)**

WSCF SUPPORT NEW PEACE-BUILDING PROGRAMMES IN THE MIDDLE EAST, TRAINING MORE STUDENTS AND YOUNG PEOPLE TO LEAD INITIATIVES THAT TACKLE THE ROOT CAUSES OF WAR AND CONFLICT.

In the midst of war and violence in the Middle East, it is the people who suffer the most. Civilians are caught up in fighting, being displaced from their homes and forced to flee – often risking terrible danger to find safety in a foreign land.

WSCF is committed to supporting our movements in the Middle East to continue being a witness for peace in the region. Our peace-building and dialogue programmes brings young people together, often from different faiths, to share and learn about the root causes of conflict and find new ways to build peace. Donate today to give more students a chance to take part in this initiative.



Egypt

Your support would see:

- Students and young people from different faiths coming together to witness, learn about and tackle the root causes of violence and conflict in the Middle East.

(D) HIGHER EDUCATIONKEY ISSUES: **HUMAN RIGHTS AND EDUCATION**

OBJECTIVES: **TO WORK IN SOLIDARITY WITH SCMS AND STUDENT MOVEMENTS TO ADVOCATE FOR THE RIGHTS TO EDUCATION FOR ALL. GIVE MORE YOUNG PEOPLE A CHANCE OF EDUCATION – SUPPORT WSCF'S CAMPAIGN TO PROVIDE MORE YOUNG PEOPLE WITH EQUAL ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION THAT IS AFFORDABLE AND FAIR.**

Across the world, people are being denied access to higher education because of rising costs and systemic discrimination. We believe this is wrong – education should be available to all and not a commodity only the privileged can afford.

WSCF's higher education projects ensure that student movements have the resources and knowledge to pressurize authorities to change their policies. We support students and youth to debate and advocate for these issues openly, and support global efforts to protect education from increasing commercialisation.

Your support would see:

- Students and youth empowered to advocate for the rights of all people to affordable higher education.
- More effective campaigns from SCMs to change unjust policies that prevent people going on to university study.

(E) INTERFAITH DIALOGUEKEY ISSUES: **MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES**

OBJECTIVES: **TO ENGAGE THE FEDERATION TO CREATE AND PROVIDE AND INTERFAITH PLATFORM FOR YOUTH AND STUDENTS**

WSCF DIALOGUES AND ENGAGES WITH YOUNG PEOPLE FROM OTHER FAITHS WORKING TOGETHER ON ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES, MIGRATION AND REFUGEES ISSUES.

WSCF believes that the core values of all religious faith is founded on love, peace, justice and harmony. Our interfaith and inter-religious programmes bring young people together to share, listen and learn from one another to break the walls of indifference, apathy and intolerance.

Your support would help:

- Provide more spaces for young people from all religious faith to dialogue and have a common understanding of their faith and their communities
- Encourage young people in the SCMs to take positive action to the healing of communities, provide sanctuaries to migrants, refugees and asylum seekers, and help rebuild communities

4. STRATEGIES

BIBLE AND THEOLOGICAL ANALYSIS

K To stimulate the study
E of the Bible and to promote
Y theological thinking among
G Christian students to help
O them understand the call
A of God in their lives.
L
S

ADVOCACY AND SOLIDARITY

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.

TRANSFORMATIVE DIAKONIA

To develop and deepen understanding on Ecumenical Transformational Diakonia at the local, regional and global levels of the Federation in order to enhance the capacity of students to serve and respond to the needs of their communities.

CAPACITY BUILDING

To build enabling structures and nurture a competent team of WSCF staff and officers.

MOVEMENT BUILDING

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.

Women Egypt



ExCo elected at GA



BIBLE AND THEOLOGICAL ANALYSIS

Develop Bible study theme each year on one of the thematic areas prioritized by the WSCF General Assembly 2015

Develop a tool for Bible Study and Theological thinking

Develop a mechanism which allows differing emphasis generated from Bible studies in different regions to be shared globally

To build capacity of SCM leaders in leading Bible studies.

To form a global theological commission to develop Bible study themes and guide the development of tools and mechanisms

To identify and recommend partnerships for Bible study and theology

Plan annual Universal Day of Prayer for Students (UDPS) liturgy and activities

ADVOCACY AND SOLIDARITY

Facilitate the work of its Advocacy and Solidarity Committee (ASC)

Strengthen existing partnerships with churches and other ecumenical and secular social justice organizations and forming new ones

Include an Advocacy and Solidarity lens in all WSCF activities at the global and the regional level

Receive movement requests for advocacy and solidarity actions in regards with oppression, injustice and natural disasters

Implement specific campaigns based on WSCF thematic priorities

Encourage all regions to form an Advocacy and Solidarity Committee

Based on funding availability, appoint a specific staff person in the IRO to lead the ASC

Develop a clear mandate for ASC regional representatives in a two-years staggered term

Continue and refine WSCF representation at the United Nations and other platforms and create a strategy for it

TRANSFORMATIVE DIAKONIA

To clarify Ecumenical Transformative Diakonia and its link to other issues, such as youth and student, peace building, etc.

To collect information on different kinds of Ecumenical Transformative Diakonia and what it means in the different context.

To share information and educate the SCMs about Ecumenical Transformative Diakonia.

To develop partnership with local NGOs and ACT Alliance engaged in diakonial work.

To engage in theological studies on the interpretation on Ecumenical Transformation Diakonia

Organize an Inter-Regional Leadership Program on the theme and create a global Working Group.

Develop Ecumenical Transformational Diakonia as post-EAP Projects with national movements in possible partnership churches.

Organize bi-regional programs on the theme.

Transformational Diakonia on the WSCF website (Theological Perspective, BS Materials, Concept Papers)

CAPACITY BUILDING

To provide induction processes for ExCo members in organisational governance and WSCF governance.

To promote opportunities for “continued education” for staff in order to assure professional as well as personal development During each ExCo in-person meeting provide the session on the specific topic that has been identified as an area to be developed (example, institutional communication)

Organise the training for the staff members or give the opportunity to staff to participate in trainings related to the specific tasks of the staff.

MOVEMENT BUILDING

To nurture the leadership of young people

To create avenue/ space for students and young people to nurture and develop prophetic ecumenical student leaders with critical analysis of social, economic, political, inter-religious issues to promote justice and peace in the world

To come together to discuss and articulate issues and challenges they confront in their context

To celebrate life together and witness Christ in the present context

To develop network with like minded student and youth movement and initiate new movements (SCM)

To increase the student membership and their participation in the ecumenical movement

To develop theological perspectives and contextual bible studies

To create space to have dialogue with evangelical student groups

To organize Movement Conference at the global level

To give momentum to the global ecumenical youth movement

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BIBLE AND THEOLOGICAL ANALYSIS

Five (5) theological reflections published in 3 languages on Ecojustice, IDD, Peace Building and Dialogue, Interfaith and Higher Education used by 80% percent of the member movements

ADVOCACY AND SOLIDARITY

80% increased awareness among SCM members on thematic areas of WSCF

Youth perspective and analysis on major issues of the thematic areas.

TRANSFORMATIVE DIAKONIA

18 movements implementing SCMs Transformative Diakonia Projects in local communities.

18 communities directly served by the projects, with 360 individuals participating the projects.

CAPACITY BUILDING

50 SCM and WSCF Staff trained in Project Management and Fund-raising

Two (2) Capacity Building Training

MOVEMENT BUILDING

150 SCM student leaders trained

3 Bi-regional Ecumenical Leadership Formation Program for SCMs (South-South Exchange, North-South Exchange)

Women Asia Pacific RWC



Women Group Bangladesh



Africa Capacity Building



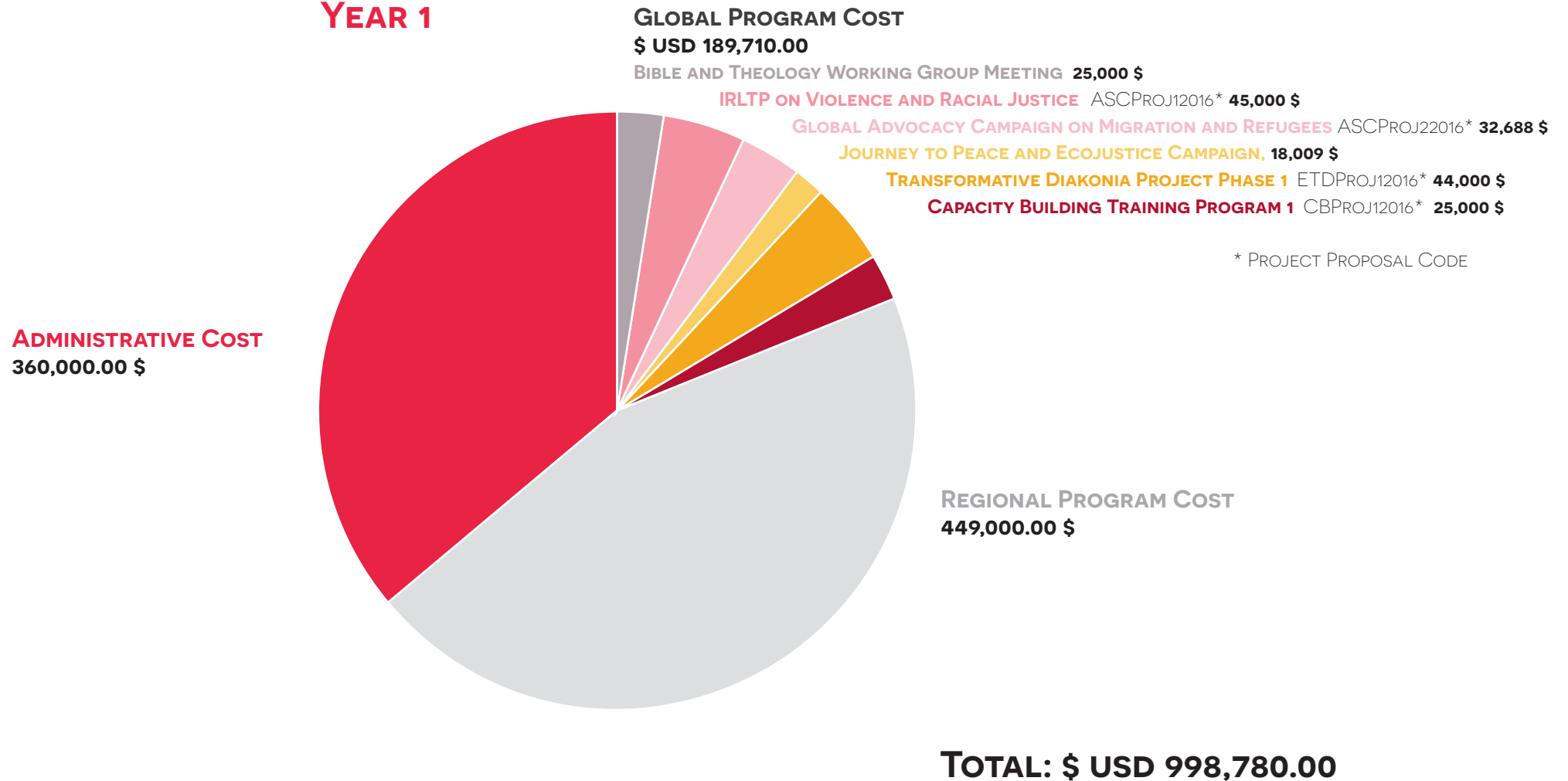
5. MAJOR PROJECTS HIGHLIGHTS AND ACTIVITIES

	BIBLE AND THEOLOGICAL ANALYSIS	ADVOCACY AND SOLIDARITY	TRANSFORMATIVE DIAKONIA	CAPACITY BUILDING	MOVEMENT BUILDING
Y E A R 1	Bible and Theology Working Group Meeting	IRLTP on Overcoming Violence and peacemaking: Racial justice and Indigenous People's Rights Global Advocacy Training on Migration and Refugees "A Journey to Ecojustice and Peace" - Campaign Launching	Phase 1: Pilot Projects on Ecumenical Transformative Diakonia for SCM in the Global South	Training Program on Fundraising, Project Management and Development for Staff and SCM project leaders	
2	Bible and Theological Conference on IDD Publication of Theological Guide for Dialogue on IDD	IRLTP on Kairos Palestine IDD Working Group Meeting	Phase 2: Regional Training Programs on Transformative Diakonia "Ecojustice and Peace"		Bi-regional South-South Exchange (Ecumenical Leadership Training Program)
3		Interfaith Youth Conference on Migration and Refugees	Phase 3: Project Expansion of additional 3 movements in each region	Training Program on Communication and Financial Management	WSCF and Evangelical Youth Dialogue on Higher Education and Campus Ministry
4	Bible and Theological Conference on Peace Building	Youth Conference on Overcoming religious violence in the Middle East	Phase 4: End-of Project Evaluation and Development, and Planning		Bi-regional North-South Exchange (Ecumenical Leadership Training Program)

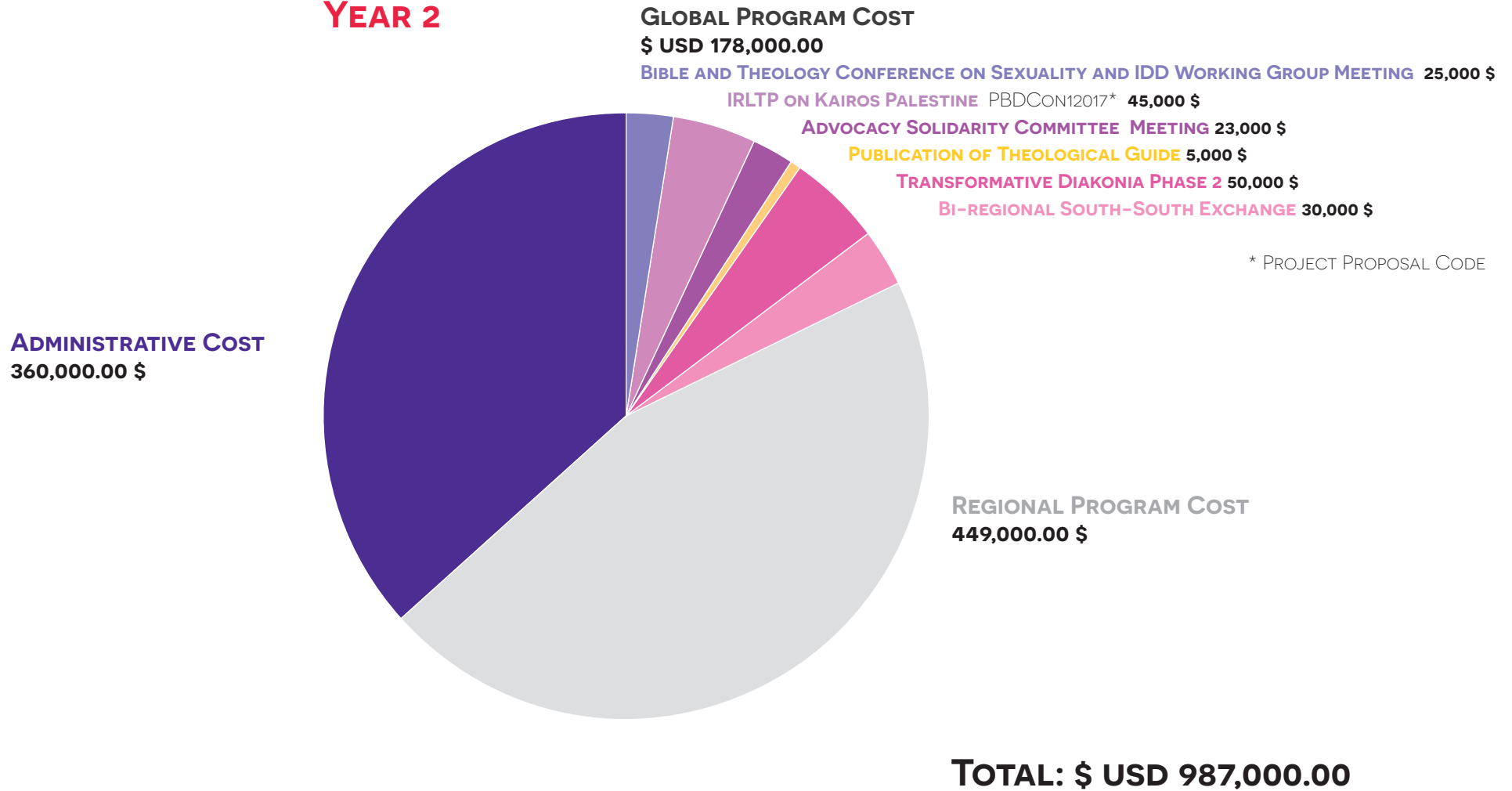
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BUDGET

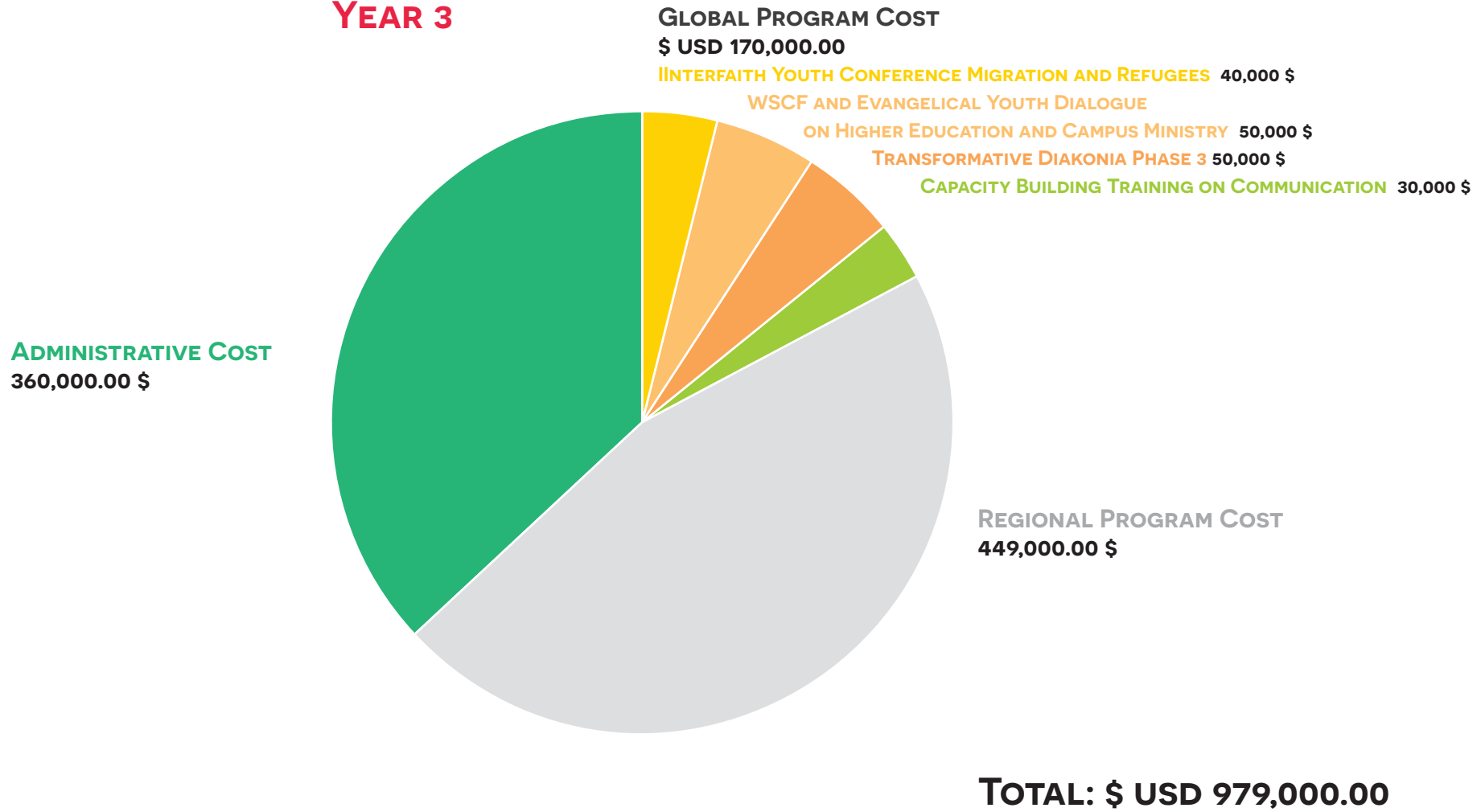
YEAR 1



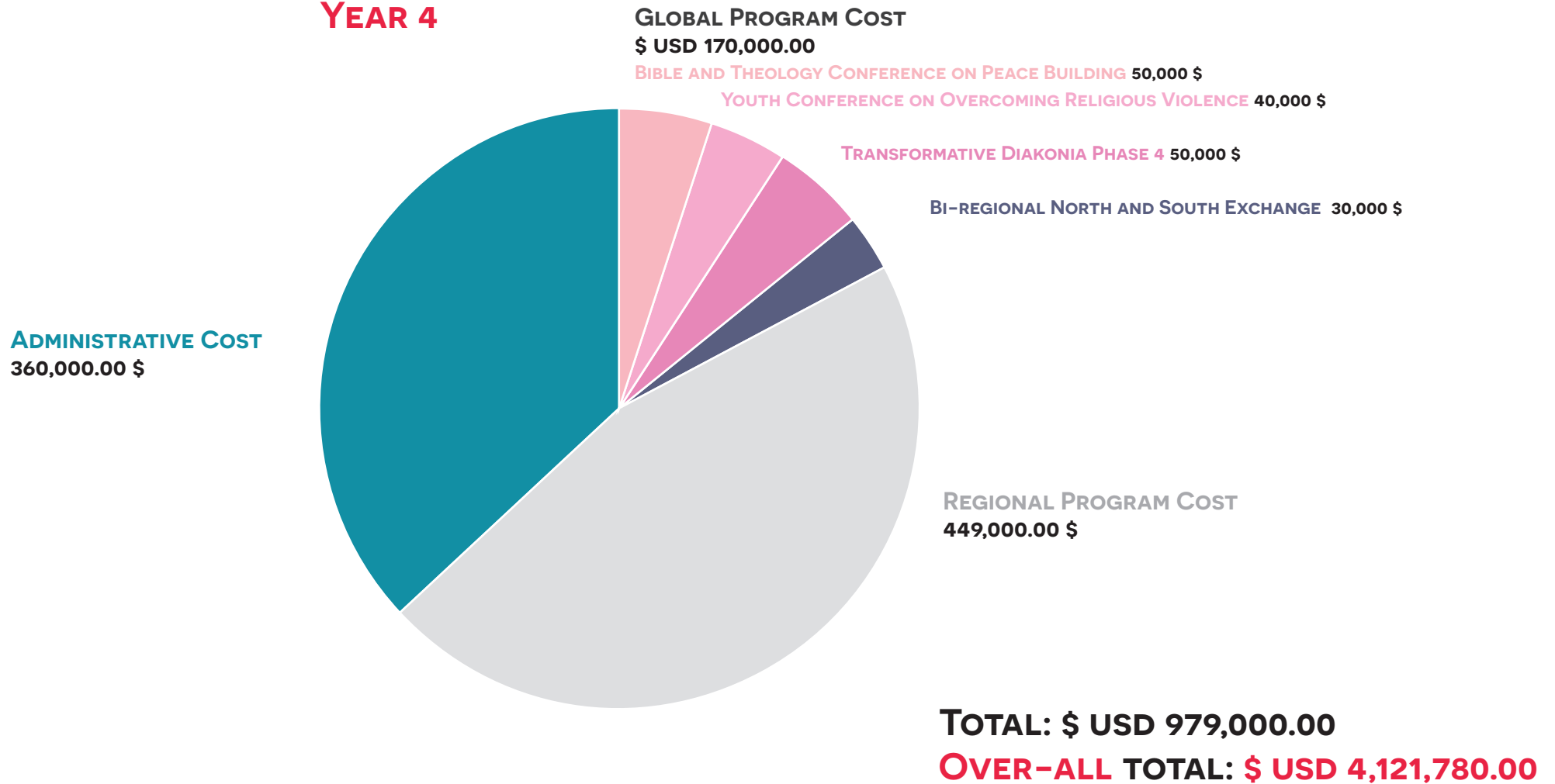
YEAR 2



YEAR 3



YEAR 4



7.

IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISM

THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS STRATEGIC PROPOSAL AND ITS DIFFERENT COMPONENTS WILL BE CARRIED OUT BY THE WSCF STAFF TEAM COMPOSED OF (7) SEVEN FULL-TIME EXECUTIVE STAFF, AND TWO PART-TIME SUPPORT STAFF. EACH EXECUTIVE STAFF IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES IN THIS PROPOSAL DIRECTLY ASSIGNED TO THEM. THE OVER-ALL COORDINATION AND MONITORING OF THE PROJECTS IS DONE BY THE GENERAL SECRETARY AND IS RESPONSIBLE FOR REPORTING, LIASING AND COMMUNICATION WITH WSCF PARTNERS AND FUNDERS.

A. GLOBAL COORDINATING OFFICE

NECTA MONTES, GENERAL SECRETARY (FULL-TIME): coordinates and provides an overall leadership to the work of the Federation. She is responsible for the organization's consistent achievement of its mission and financial objectives, in global programme development and administration. The General Secretary will work with the Executive Committee Members and Staff and Student Christian Movements to ensure that the mission of the Federation is fulfilled through programs, strategic planning, advocacy and movement building.

JEAN LUC DE LA SOUJEOLE, FINANCE OFFICER (PART-TIME): global support staff coordinating finances and accounting and reporting to funding partners. Functions as administrator, bookkeeper, finance coordinator, communication facilitator, drafter/ editor, report writer.

B. (6) REGIONAL EXECUTIVES AND PROGRAM DIRECTORS (FULL-TIME POSITIONS)

The Regional Executive and Global Program Director is responsible to co-ordinate, manage, support, organise and expand the WSCF activities globally and in regions according to the WSCF Constitution and By-laws. They are to act on recommendations of the Executive and Regional Committee respecting local laws. The Regional Executive and Global Program Director will work with the Secretary General and Student Christian Movements to ensure that the mission of the Federation is fulfilled through programs and strategic planning.

Each Regional Executive is responsible for developing global programs, fund-raising and implementing the programs that falls within their thematic area. The following are the staff responsible.

SUNITA SUNA (HONG KONG): Regional Executive Asia Pacific and Global Program Director for Identity Diversity and Dialogue

AMOS MUSHWENDA (NAIROBI): Regional Executive for Africa and Global Program Executive for Bible and Theology

NATIA TZISANDZE (ITALY): Regional Executive for Europe and Global Program Executive for Interfaith Dialogue

MARCELO LEITES (BUENOS AIRES): Regional Executive for Latin America and Global Program Executive for Ecojustice

ELSY WAKIL (LEBANON): Regional Executive for Middle East and Global Program Executive for Peacebuilding and Dialogue

LUCIANO KOVACS (NEW YORK): Regional Executive for North America and Global Program Executive for Advocacy and Solidarity

8.

PROGRAM REPORTING,
MONITORING AND EVALUATION**WSCF STRUCTURE****WSCF OFFICERS TEAM**

(Global Chairperson, 2 Co-Vice-chairpersons, Treasurer, General Secretary)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES

(12 representative from the 6 regions, and officers)

REGIONAL STANDING COMMITTEES

(Regional Chairperson, Global ExCo members, Vice-chair, Treasurer)

REGIONAL COMMITTEES

(representatives of member movements in the region)

PROJECT MONITORING ROLE

Functions as the Management Team of WSCF responsible for trouble shooting, monitoring of project implementation and operational decisions on a monthly basis during Online Staff and Officers Meetings.

Approves the WSCF Strategic Plan, Global Annual Plan and Budget, reviews and receives the report of the General Secretary and the Regional Executives Staff on program and project implementation. Makes strategic decision on programs and governance issues. Evaluates the programs implemented and the performance of the General Secretary and the Executive Staff in the execution of their duties.

Functions as the interim management and governance decision-making body at the regional level, works closely with the Regional Executive Staff in performing duties in the region. Monitors the work of the staff thru reporting and provides guidance and support the regional staff.

Approves the Regional Plan and Budget of each region based on the Global Strategic Plan. Strategic decisions on matters related to the regional body of WSCF.

9. ARTICULATION OF THE THEMATIC AREAS

A. ECO JUSTICE

In 2012-2014 WSCF started a program on Eco Justice aiming to foster mobilization of students at all levels (global, regional and local) of WSCF in order to develop and implement an advocacy work on eco-justice. Since then, the Eco-justice program mobilized many students who are involved in the work with the SCMs and the regions. Many of

the regions had amongst their main regional programs the work on Eco Justice. The result can be seen in the development of leadership and advocacy within the regions and SCMs.

The WSCF 35th General Assembly understood that matters related to Eco justice are closely linked to the main causes of exclusion, inequality and injustice with which our movements struggle with in their local contexts. Loving our neighbors but also defending creation and people's lives is a fundamental part of WSCF's mission as a Christian and Ecumenical Movement. WSCF believes that Eco Justice as a concept should take into account the convergence and intersection of various economic and political factors in its analysis. For example, the predation and exploitation of nature and its natural resources for economic gain within the Capitalist economic system not only destroys our planet but also generates more poverty, inequalities, forced migration and displacements. Furthermore, Climate Change and its consequences directly affect the inalienable rights of human beings. The self-determination and sovereignty of peoples regarding territory, food security and water are violated by States Agreements on Climate Change which fosters wars and further violence in communities.

In this new Strategic Plan, the program of Eco Justice should emphasize on analysis of the worldwide context and international governance. This is essential to foster new relations of justice which will promote more equality, less violence and poverty and the care of creation care.

Eco justice seminar Colombia



B. IDENTITY DIVERSITY AND DIALOGUE (IDD)

The World Student Christian Federation as a global community of students enjoys the richness of the diversity that comes from the many cultures, contexts, and religious traditions it represents. A core part of our mission is engaging these differences, and allowing ourselves to learn from them, as well as discovering the significance of deep unity we share.



Europe Capacity Building

There do come points of strong disagreement between members of the community, and another part of our common work is finding out together how to handle and how to engage these issues; this work is especially challenging when they are deeply held and cause painful differences and disagreements. In our history such areas of disagreement in the political arena have included approaches to apartheid and to the nation of Israel. Other areas of strongly held difference of opinion in the theological and church polity areas currently include: women's ordination, the nature and practice of the Eucharist.

Our understanding of human sexuality is another area of difference and disagreement that has been growing in visibility and importance for the last decade. We are not alone in this, for the disagreements around human sexuality have been tearing apart churches and Christian communities in many parts of the world.

The WSCF has an ecumenical identity, therefore, it engages many people with different ways of thinking, feeling, and experiencing the world, including, both in national movements and in the Federation people who are marginalised because of their sexuality and gender identity. The WSCF exists to accompany the SCMs in their contexts and struggles. In the presence of the cloud of witnesses that have emerged from the WSCF over the past century, we cannot hold in silence the crisis of conscience that now faces the global and local Christian community around the inability to effectively address differences of perspective on this topic and relate to the people especially affected. The WSCF remains committed to pursuing unity and the realization of the Body of Christ now as throughout its history. The WSCF has a prophetic, Christian identity. This means that we are called to advocate for justice, liberation, and peace. Continuing dialogue about sexual and gender diversity affirms our commitment to our own identity.

There is a difference of belief amongst members, movements, and regions of the Federation on the biblical and theological imperatives around sexuality. There are some members and movements that find the notion of LGBT rights to be in conflict with God's revelation to us and who see heterosexuality as a normative part of God's creation

while other sexualities are seen as contrary to the will of God. There are some members, movements, and regions of the Federation that feel unable to openly and publicly discuss this topic, regardless of their personal beliefs, due to their cultures and their relationships with their churches. There are some members, movements, and regions of the Federation who feel unable to do anything other than advocate for the human rights and full inclusion of LGBTQ people, and who feel that we are not fulfilling our prophetic role as WSCF if we cannot jointly speak against violence against and for the basic human rights of sexual minorities. Therefore, the question of how to relate to the notion of LGBT rights is a divisive issue that can lead SCMerS to question each others' commitment to Christian discipleship and to building God's new world among us.

Despite of our differences on this topic, the WSCF has common theological understanding that should underlie the difficult conversations around human sexuality: Every person equally bears the image of God. As every human bears the imprint of God, we have no option but to affirm the dignity of all people. The very nature of God is community through the Trinity. Part of the nature of the Trinity is interrelatedness, as the parts of the Trinity correlate and dialogue with each other. This applies to us too: when in dialogue with each other, there is always a third person present: God. It is good to remind ourselves that we are not alone when we are reflecting on these issues. We have to address dualism, as it is in opposition to dialogue and diversity. Dualism means to divide things into binary opposites: body vs soul. This dualist view has led to the demonization of the body and spiritualisation of the soul, and to the idea that sexuality is sinful. This has implications for how we view each other. Since Christianity is Word becoming flesh, then the body and spirit are not separate from each other.

The General Assembly (GA) has mandated the WSCF to continue its work on Identity, Diversity and Dialogue (IDD), specifically on the issue of Human Sexuality. Below are the recommendations GA has approved from the report the IDD Task Group has presented to the Assembly, which will be guidelines to the work of the WSCF in the 2016-2019 quadrennium.

C. PEACE BUILDING AND DIALOGUE

Peace building in the Middle East is a very delicate process in time of violence and war. The Peace has today two major challenges: The first one is becoming classical which is the Israeli-Arab conflict about the Israeli occupation of Palestine and the second is more or less recently born through the internal revolutions in the Arab World which broke the social Peace in Egypt, Syria, Iraq, Yemen and partially Lebanon.

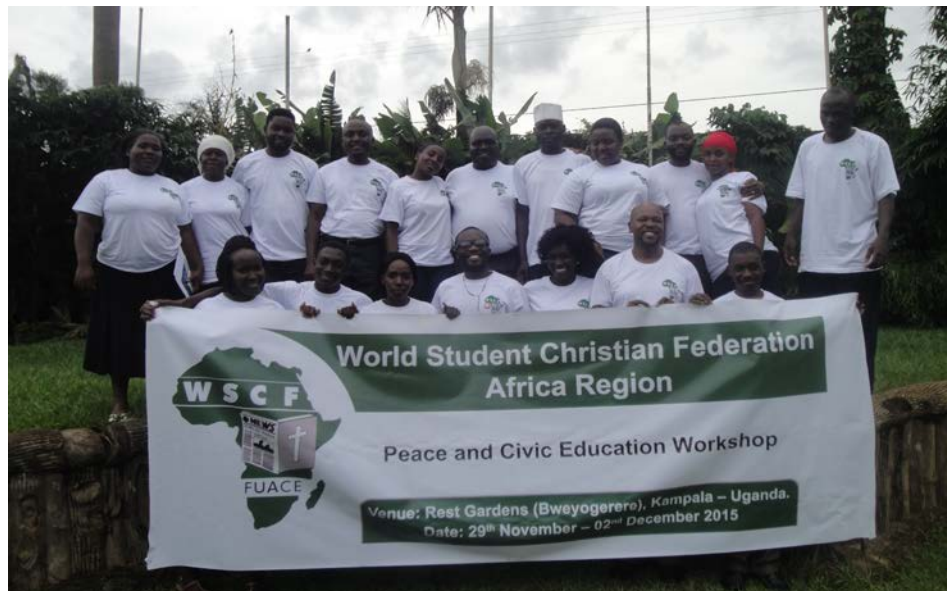
The WSCF in the Middle East is willing to focus in its planning the highlight of different angles about the Palestinian sufferings and forbidden rights under the Israeli occupation in continuity what have been done already in the previous "Come and See" program and also the policy paper about Palestine as approved in the last WSCF General Assembly in Columbia will guide our choices creating commitment dynamics in the circle of youth within and outside our región. Through our activities, youth will continue their exposure to the Palestinian realities sharing with the population their daily life, sufferings and difficult dreams.

On the other hand, our youth participants will be exposed to understand the weight of the ideological legends concerning the history of Jews from the Bible till nowadays supporting the occupation of Palestine and the drama of the Palestinians refugees in all over the Arab World. Nevertheless to say that through this process our youth will see and analyze the multi-dimensional aspects of this problem submitted to the huge in balance of power between the Israelis and the Palestinians and the difficulty towards building Peace were the slogan Justice and Peace means the withdrawal of the Israeli army firstly and the end of the Zionist ideology of occupation.

The so called Arab spring without going to its difficult details meant a lot of violence, extremist, powers excluding the “neighbor” and practicing savage ways of extermination of minorities of ethnical and religious minorities. In many forms of wars going with the rulers in one hand and between the various factions on the field. The WSCF-ME youth used to be trained on interfaith dialogue and dialogue for Peace and dialogue for citizenship also on human rights and women rights left through these wars in the region as if our ideals building reflecting our faith are very far from the deep realities on the field which find their way to emerge in the time of violence and war.

Rebuilding a Peace project between confessions in the Arab world can't be anymore but based on what is happening on the field to be re conciliate truly with our interfaith dialogue, also the multi presence of Christians is a major issue put in front of the interfaith dialogue for Peace as Christian and especially youth feel victimized and pushed to emigration directly or indirectly. This dialogue project will frame also all the theological implications and ecumenical implications in a region were the internal violence is clearly supported by international powers and their satellites.

Regional Highlights Africa Civic
Education



D. HIGHER EDUCATION

Higher Education continues to be a priority thematic area of WSCF in the coming strategic period with particular emphasis on the youth and student rights to education. Commercialization and privatization of Higher Education and the state's relegation of responsibility to private entities and companies has dramatically increased the cost of education in both the North and Global South, making education a commodity that only few can afford. In this process, education has become the privilege, no longer a right, which has disfranchised and discriminated majority of students to the right to education and chance for a better future. Institution of higher learning should be free from the influence and dictates of neoliberal capitalist agenda of profit accumulation. It should maintain its mission and purpose of providing space for knowledge generation, accumulation, free exchange of ideas for all that would benefit society at large and not just business sectors and its economic interest.

As a global community of students and youth, WSCF commits in the advocacy to make education, at all levels, a fundamental human rights and not a privilege of the few. At the 35th General Assembly in Bogota, this commitment was reaffirmed by the members of WSCF with a call to stand in solidarity to all the student movements in the world calling for the right to education and not for sale. WSCF commits to generate debates, platform for discussions and sharing within its member movements to advocate and support policy changes that would protect the institutions of higher learning into further privatization and commercialization. At the international level, WSCF will engage in advocacy campaigns and actions to prevent education from being included in the liberalization of international trade agreements. We will call for greater state subsidy and budget provided to public education, public health and social service in general.

10.

APPENDICES: PROJECT PROPOSALS AND CONCEPT PAPERS

CONCEPT PAPER FOR
WSCF ADVOCACY AND SOLIDARITY WORK
2016–2019

CONCEPT PAPER FOR WSCF ADVOCACY AND SOLIDARITY WORK 2016–2019

OVERVIEW

THIS DOCUMENT DESCRIBES THE WORLD STUDENT CHRISTIAN FEDERATION'S (WSCF) STRATEGIC PLAN FOR ITS ADVOCACY AND SOLIDARITY WORK FOR THE YEARS 2016–2019 AS AFFIRMED BY THE WSCF 2015 GENERAL ASSEMBLY HELD ON BOGOTA, COLOMBIA IN FEBRUARY/MARCH 2015 AND PREPARED BY THE ADVOCACY AND SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE AT ITS IN-PERSON MEETING IN PALERMO ITALY IN DECEMBER 2015. FOR OVER A CENTURY, THE WORLD STUDENT CHRISTIAN FEDERATION HAS BEEN ON THE CUTTING EDGE OF SOCIAL ACTION AND CHANGE. WSCF HAS DEVELOPED A STRATEGY TO CONTINUE TO GROW ITS CAPACITY AND TO INCREASE ITS GLOBAL COORDINATION IN ORDER TO HAVE MAXIMUM IMPACT IN ITS LOCAL COMMUNITIES AS WELL AS ON INTERNATIONAL PLATFORMS.

PURPOSE:

- Strengthen existing advocacy and solidarity within WSCF on all levels to continue the tradition of building civil society
- Enable advocacy and solidarity in places where WSCF is not already working on these issues by increasing capacity
- Better link the global advocacy and solidarity work with the local, national, and regional advocacy and solidarity so that WSCF's international presence is stronger and more representative of student grassroots activities

OBJECTIVES:

- Highlight and develop the advocacy and solidarity dimension of WSCF's themes and use the themes to encourage advocacy actions
- Ensure that students' grassroots voices are heard at a global level in relation to building civil society
- Enable students who are not already working on advocacy and solidarity to commence that work
- Utilize technology to improve communication across all levels of the Federation regarding advocacy and solidarity

METHODOLOGY:

- Coordinate Advocacy and Solidarity work among and across the regions by sharing information, campaigns, actions and strategies for solidarity and social change
- Bring local student members of WSCF to global forums so that their grassroots voices are heard globally and to give them further tools, networks, and empowerment for their work at home
- Make possible regular in-person and virtual meetings of the Advocacy and Solidarity Committee
- Use evaluation tools to discern the efficacy of the current advocacy and solidarity work WSCF is doing
- Strengthen and improve WSCF advocacy and advocacy web presence

INTRODUCTION

Since its founding in 1895, the passion, love and spirit of justice of WSCF's young leadership has kept it a maker of history in countless people's movements and political spheres. Throughout Africa, Asia-Pacific, Europe, Middle East, Latin America and Caribbean, and North America, WSCF's 2 million young women and men lead at the radical edge of their cultures, challenging their peers to a greater understanding of the work of upholding justice and peace. WSCF is not new to working on advocacy and solidarity. However, in the last few years, the global Federation has taken on advocacy and solidarity practices on new and increased levels. WSCF has also had a presence at the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, the World Council of Churches-sponsored UN Advocacy Week, the World Social Forum, and the Human Rights Council in Geneva among others. WSCF, which has consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) at the United Nations, partners with many non-governmental organizations, especially ecumenical and youth organizations, to strengthen the voice of young people in church, governmental, and social processes, both regionally and globally. WSCF has been offering resources and opportunities for grassroots activists to advocate most effectively in their regions and has been sending young activists to advocate on international platforms. The WSCF also frequently issues statements of solidarity with students and others suffering from various human rights violations and practices.

The 35th General Assembly (GA), which met in Bogota, Colombia in February/March 2015, has reaffirmed the vocation of WSCF to stand firmly in solidarity with the oppressed around the world and

to advocate for systemic change. The GA also recognized a new energy around advocacy work at every level of the Federation and a need to focus and coordinate our efforts to best embody our prophetic voice. The Advocacy and Solidarity Committee(ASC), formed in the wake of the 2008 General Assembly, was reaffirmed as an important and effective mechanism to advise the Federation on Advocacy and Solidarity Matters. In between Assemblies, the ASC met in New York in 2009, in Nairobi in 2012 and in Amman and Palestine in 2014. The Committee's purpose is to facilitate and streamline the advocacy and solidarity of the work of the WSCF by:

- Assisting the Federation in discerning advocacy and solidarity priorities
- Having a role in emphasizing the advocacy dimension of annual themes set by the Federation
- Connecting the different levels of the Federation: local, national, regional, and global in advocacy and solidarity work
- Implementing strategies related to advocacy and solidarity
- Mobilizing the whole Federation in advocacy, which is one of the main elements of the grassroots identity of the Student Christian Movements

This paper will present the current advocacy work with which the WSCF is engaged as well as delineate the WSCF's Advocacy and Solidarity strategic plan for the years 2016-2019. Finally, the budget will explain exactly what resources are needed to allow WSCF to sustain the progress we have made and continue reaching its potential in doing effective advocacy and solidarity work.

EXISTING ADVOCACY WITHIN WSCF

UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) is a functional commission of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). It was created in 1946 to promote women's rights in political, economic, civil, social and educational fields. It is dedicated to gender equality and the advancement of women. This Commission is held yearly. WSCF has been a pioneer in promoting women's leadership and full incorporation into institutional structures and in creatively working for good partnerships between women and men;

we therefore decided to prioritize the CSW as an advocacy priority on the international stage. For the past few years, WSCF, in a joint delegation with the World Council of Churches and in partnership with Ecumenical Women, has sent representatives to advocate at the CSW. The Federation has used this international platform to teach young women leaders of different Student Christian Movements about advocacy at a global level.

Regional Highlights WSCF Europe ERA
October



UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

The Human Rights Council is a body of the United Nations system which concentrates on the promotion and protection of human rights around the globe. It is an important and natural forum for influence, especially since both it and WSCF's global office are located in Geneva. WSCF works together with other NGOs through committees such as the Human Rights Committee, the Committee on the Status of Women, the Committee on Spirituality and Values, and the Youth Committee.

UNITED NATIONS COP MEETINGS AND PEOPLE'S SUMMITS.

In the last few years, the WSCF has been very active at the UN Conferences of the Parties on climate change negotiations as part of the ecumenical community and in partnership with the World Council of Churches and Act Alliance. These events culminated with the Paris agreement on climate change at the COP21 in Paris in 2015. WSCF is a member of the WCC's Climate Change Working Group



Regional Highlights Ayotzinapa Campaign

OTHER INTERNATIONAL PLATFORMS

WSCF is a member of the steering team for an international platform of youth organizations and regional youth platforms working on all different international platforms, **INTERNATIONAL COORDINATING MEETING OF YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS (ICMYO)**. Through these relationships and networks we are in a strategic position to work in partnership for strongest impact on issues of common concern.

The World Student Christian Federation regularly participates in the **WORLD SOCIAL FORUM**, which demonstrates WSCF's investment in gathering with other members of civil society for maximum grassroots impact as well as our commitment and calling to speak truth to power at the United Nations.

WSCF partners with **THE PEOPLE'S FORUM ON PEACE FOR LIFE** and is represented on its Working Group. Peace for life is a faith-based movement and forum for peace and justice engaged in building interfaith solidarity and a spirituality of resistance to life-threatening forces of global hegemony. It is an interfaith movement resisting empire, state terrorism, and militarised globalization; while promoting life-enhancing alternatives through the work of networks and social movements for justice and peace in the global South – Asia Pacific, Middle East, Africa, Latin America, and the Caribbean – along with its partners from North America and Europe.

To continue to resource our young leaders around the globe, to bring them to share their expertise in the international arena, and to have greatest impact in our areas of advocacy focus, through internal and external networking, the Federation will continue enhancing its advocacy and solidarity program and strategies and increase its funding for it.



ADVOCACY AND SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE

VISION

The Advocacy and Solidarity Committee (ASC) started as a new global committee following the WSCF 34th General Assembly (August 2008) and was reaffirmed by the 35th General Assembly (February/March 2015) as a way to better coordinate its advocacy and solidarity work internally and as a mechanism for discerning priorities with voices representing the whole community and implementing them. Due to the structure of WSCF, the decision-making processes for advocacy and solidarity must be participatory but fast. The Committee is responsible for facilitating efficient communication on solidarity and advocacy issues and, in the case of solidarity action, ensuring timely responses. The ASC works on processes of monitoring and self-evaluation through markers and outcome measurements on the impact of this work of the Federation. The ASC, staffed by one of the WSCF Executive staff and Program Director for Advocacy and Solidarity, reports about its work to the Executive Committee and General Assembly.

COMMUNITY BUILDING

The ASC contributes to the building of WSCF community, and the global advocacy community. As mentioned, WSCF is already partnering with ecumenical organizations, including the Young Women's Christian Association, the Young Men's Christian Association, International Movement of Catholic Students, and Pax Romana. WSCF believes, both theologically and strategically, that partnerships and collaboration are the way forward; partnership transforms those involved and maximizes knowledge and resources for impact. Developing partnership, though, takes effort and time. It is imperative

that we continue this work, in an effective, systematic manner. This committee can do a certain amount of work together virtually, but ideally would have an annual in-person meeting to share, strategize, dream, and propose ideas and plans of action to the Federation. The ASC's work also helps strengthen the Federation's capacity for civil society development. Through bringing SCM leaders from around the world together, once a year, we will ensure that all voices are heard and that all levels of the Federation know what other levels are doing. In addition ASC strategizes about how the work being done at a global level can be improved and better coordinated with those working at the grassroots level. One such way is through WSCF's themes: Identity, Diversity and Dialogue; Eco-Justice; Overcoming Violence; and Higher Education. Each year the ASC will encourage advocacy that focuses on these themes to strengthen the ties among, global, regional, and local advocacy work.

STRENGTHENING REGIONAL ADVOCACY AND SOLIDARITY

The ASC helps strengthen regional advocacy and solidarity. One of the recommendations contained in the GA 2015 Advocacy and Solidarity resolution encourages the formation of a regional Advocacy and Solidarity Committee, already present, at times with different names, in some of the regions. All of this will enable WSCF to live into its potential as a global Federation. The strengthening of this work will enable WSCF to continue the work it has always done in building civil society.

LEVERAGING TECHNOLOGY

The ASC will utilize the most up to date technology to create an interactive website. This website will give members of the Federation, and friends, a clear idea of what work is already happening and what needs have been identified. When the ASC meets in person this project will help them to identify and implement the work that they will continue to do after the meeting. The ASC's process of monitoring, self-evaluation and outcome measurements will be yield outputs to be shared through technology communication both for the benefit of people on the ground as well as for our funding partners. Through such evaluation, we can continuously improve our work in advocacy and solidarity. These measurements will also help the Federation maintain its current funding and continue to seek new funding possibilities to inspire more advocacy and solidarity work within the Federation.

CONCLUSION

WSCF has a long history of developing leaders who make transforming social change through their work in the church and the world. Each of the General Secretaries of the World Council of Churches came up through the World Student Christian Federation as well as many other local and renowned leaders of church and society. The legacy includes the current The President of Liberia, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, who received her early training and vision for women's leadership through WSCF, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Steven Biko, Ruth Rouse, William Temple,

Ted Scott, Frere Roger, Jurgen Multmann, Mercy Oduyoye, and countless others. Most Senior Friends (alumni) of WSCF testify that it was their experience in WSCF that gave them their true education and vision for the future.

Overcoming violence



The World Student Christian Federation remains committed to doing all it can to inspire and equip students to reach their potential as agents of change in their communities now and in their futures. Advocacy and solidarity training and action are happening around the world in WSCF. We desire to strengthen our work in this area, and we need your help to do it. Thank you for considering partnering with us in this exciting and sober time of global change in the world. Now, more than ever, we need to invest in our young people and give them tools so that they are equipped to be the leaders of today and tomorrow.

WSCF ADVOCACY AND SOLIDARITY STRATEGIC PLAN 2016–2019

Regional Highlights Religions and Politics Conference

IN AN ATTACHED DOCUMENT, A CHART WILL PRESENT SOME OF THE CONSOLIDATED ADVOCACY AND SOLIDARITY WORK ACROSS THE REGIONS. THE 2016–2019 ADVOCACY AND SOLIDARITY THEMES WILL BE AS FOLLOWS:



MIGRANT JUSTICE

GOAL: To mobilize the Federation on advocating for and being in solidarity with migrants, refugees and asylum seekers (see strategic plan chart with recommendations passed at Palermo meeting, December 2015).

Eco-JUSTICE

GOAL: to mobilize the Federation on issues relating to economic, ecological and climate justice.

IDENTITY, DIVERSITY AND DIALOGUE

GOAL: to mobilize the Federation on issues pertaining to Human Sexuality, based on the Report and Recommendations of the Task Group on Identity, Diversity and Dialogue to the WSCF General Assembly in Colombia, March 2015.

RECOMMENDATIONS INCLUDE:

1. The IDD Task Group be mandated by the General Assembly to continue as a working group until the next GA in order to further and support this dialogue.
2. All levels of the Federation commit to engage in this process.
3. Members of WSCF meet at regional and global levels for dialogue on this topic.

Ecojustice Project Greenopolis
 Romanian National Volunteer
 Gala award 15 Dec 2015

4. National movements discuss and decide what approach is appropriate for them in their own contexts and at the same time commit to the Federation process of dialogue.
5. The Federation base this process of dialogue in the deeper work of discerning a new our identity, mission and vision-- “examining who we are” by creating clearer conceptual links between our core mandate and our local, national, regional, and global work.
6. WSCF use the following to ensure a fruitful dialogue:
 - a) Academic study
 - b) Bible study
 - c) Exploring the language we use to be sensitive and inclusive



- d) Explore the power imbalances within the Federation and intersections with marginalisation on the basis of gender or sexual identities.
7. The WSCF source, create and widely share resources to increase our understanding of sexuality and gender diversity. This can include:
 - a) Sharing personal stories and testimonies about diverse sexuality and gender identities in order to dispel myths and misconceptions on all sides.
 - b) Sharing theological perspectives and bible studies/reflections
 - c) Training in dialogue skills
 - d) Information on discrimination based on sexual and gender identities (especially language and terminology in different contexts)
 - e) Ethics, morality, philosophy, justice theory
 - f) Contact to resource people and organisations that can offer expertise
 - g) National movements and regions who are working on sexuality and gender diversity be called upon as a resource for this topic throughout the Federation. Report and Recommendations of the Task Group on Identity, Diversity and Dialogue to the WSCF General Assembly in Colombia
8. All levels of the Federation ensure that people of all sexualities and gender identities are free from violence within our community life and commit to creating safe(r) spaces for people of all sexualities and gender identities.
9. WSCF begin a programme of prayer that calls on the Federation around the world to ask for wisdom, unity, and justice in our approach to and dialogue about sexuality.
10. The Federation communicate externally that we are engaged in such a process and offer learnings along the way as a resource and model for others facing similar disagreement and conflict.

Overcoming violence ME

**OVERCOMING VIOLENCE AND PEACEMAKING**

GOAL: To mobilize the Federation on issues pertaining to Overcoming Violence and Peacemaking, with a focus on, but not exclusive to the situation in the Middle East, Colombia and Mexico. GA resolutions include Palestine (GA policy paper), Sudan, Iraq, Syria, Colombia and Mexico.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PALESTINE INCLUDE:

1. We call for an end to the illegal Israeli occupation of Palestinian land and all forms of discrimination; as this occupation is a crime against God and humanity.
2. Jerusalem must be an open and shared city for the two peoples and the three Abrahamic religions.
3. The Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territories – including East Jerusalem – are illegal under International Law and must be dismantled.

4. We call to revisit theological positions that support certain unjust political options with regard to the Palestinians; theologies that legitimize the Israeli Occupation of the Palestinian land.
5. The Wall constructed by Israel in the Occupied Palestinian territories is a breach of international law and must be dismantled.
6. Palestinians' right of self-determination must be respected, as should be the right of return.
7. Maintaining just peace and a sustainable solution to the conflict is only achieved through peaceful means. Violence cannot be justified whether perpetrated by Israelis or Palestinians.
8. We call for Boycott, Divestment and Sanction of the occupation, as a non-violent tool for justice, peace and security.
9. We call churches and ecumenical organizations worldwide to visit the occupied Palestinian territory in accordance with Kairos Palestine call under "Come and See"
10. We call upon the Regional and National WSCF and SCMs to educate their members on the conflict and be engaged in solidarity activities with the Palestinian people and with justice- building initiatives

RACIAL JUSTICE AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

GOAL: to mobilize the Federation to advocate for and being in solidarity with racialized groups and indigenous people, such as the Lumads in the Philippines, indigenous people in India fighting against mega development constructions, native Americans in the US and First Nations in Canada.

HIGHER EDUCATION

GOAL: To mobilize the Federation on issues of commoditization of higher education across the regions.

