

**Mission Commission** 

# WEA Mission Commission: Executive Director Opportunity Profile

### World Evangelical Alliance (WEA)

The World Evangelical Alliance (WEA) is a global ministry working with local churches around the world to join in common concern to live and proclaim the Good News of Jesus in their communities. WEA is a network of churches in 129 nations that have each formed an evangelical alliance and over 100 international organizations joining together to give a world-wide identity, voice, and platform to more than 600 million evangelical Christians. Seeking holiness, justice and renewal at every level of society - individual, family, community and culture, God is glorified and the nations of the earth are forever transformed.

Unique among evangelical organizations, WEA is characterized by five charter qualifications. First, a doctrinal confession guides it—grounding it in historic evangelical affirmations. Second, it has constitutionality—governed by Bylaws and General Assembly delegates, which guarantee historical continuity. Third, it is a church-based movement—listening to its constituency as its core authority. Thus, it is not an organization established and maintained by individuals. Fourth, its constituency is global—rooted in 129 national and seven regional alliances, 104 associate members, six affiliated specialized ministries and six commissions. Finally, it functions as a network while providing the services of an alliance.

Today, WEA seeks to strengthen local churches through national alliances, supporting and coordinating grassroots leadership and seeking practical ways of showing the unity of the body of Christ.

#### WEA Mission Commission

Serving as an official commission with the WEA, the Mission Commission is an international and intergenerational community of global mission leaders proactively reflecting on shared issues in order to advance God's mission.

# The WEA Mission Commission exists to catalyze a community of global leaders and provide a platform for multi-cultural voices to advance God's mission.

As disciples of Jesus we stand with national and regional mission movements and global networks as instruments to assist churches to engage in mission. When we gather as reflective practitioners in dependence upon the Spirit, a platform and space is created to address crucial mission issues and apply them to concrete ministry contexts.

Some 50 countries with significant evangelical mission presence have been identified as "sending nations." For almost three decades, the WEA Mission Commission has dedicated its energies to strengthening these continental and national entities, and promoting movements that currently are not a significant part in taking the Gospel from every nation to every nation. The WEA Mission Commission is the only global platform that serves this important function.

In order to gain maximum leverage in its work, the WEA Mission Commission strategically serves the global mission community as manifested in mission movements, networks, task forces and mission structures so they can in turn effectively serve their own constituencies. Currently the WEA Mission commission includes thirteen organically connected <u>networks and task forces</u>, as well as twelve "docked" networks.

# **Leadership Transition**

Bertil Ekstrom has served the Mission Commission (MC) as Executive Director since May 2006. Since 2010 Bertil has divided his time between the Mission Commission and the Orebro Mission Institute in Sweden. In January 2015, Bertil announced his decision to transition out of his current role as Executive Director in October 2016. He has served the global commission community faithfully and with distinction. Bertil is committed to continued engagement in support of the next Executive Director to ensure an orderly leadership transition.

The Executive Committee of the MC Global Leadership Council appointed a transition task force to guide the process of identifying the next leader. The transition task force will work under the supervision of the MC Global Leadership Council to identify and recommend the next Executive Director to the International Council of the WEA, who will make the final appointment.

# A Global Network of Networks

The WEA Mission Commission is uniquely positioned to serve as a connecting point for the burgeoning number of national, regional and global networks focused on various aspects of the Great Commission. We are living in the network era, where the networking of networks serves as a force multiplier for information sharing, innovation and collaboration at all levels.

In 2014, the Mission Commission surveyed nearly 150 leaders from every region of the world, asking: What is the most valuable service the MC provides to you? Their answers are depicted in the following word cloud:



# 2012 - 2015 Highlights

The following highlights from 2012 – 2015 give a sampling of Mission Commission activities:

#### 1. Participation in regional and global events:

- 1.1. FTL in Costa Rica July 2012
- 1.2. Global Shift mission consultation in Hungary October 2012
- 1.3. COMIBAM International Assembly in Dominican Republic, 2012



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- 1.4. Lausanne Leadership Forum in India June 2013
- 1.5. International Internet Strategic Alliance September 2014
- 1.6. AMTB Brazil October 2014
- 1.7. EEMA Romania November 2014
- 1.8. WCC February 2015
- 1.9. RHP Malta February 2015
- 1.10. WEA Leadership Forum Honduras February 2015
- 1.11. SAT 7/Middle East Media Turkey March 2015
- 1.12. The WEA leadership forum in Honduras Jan 2015
- 2. Connection: Visiting national mission movements: Romania, Latvia, Brazil, Denmark, Norway, Swedish Mission Council, Serbia and Croatia, Ukraine, Hungary, Romania, Turkey, Singapore and Mission organizations in South Africa, Kenya, Ivory Coast, Singapore and others.
- **3.** Continue development of task forces, working groups and providing docking connection for existing missional networks, *i.e.*: Task Force on the Future of Mission, Working group on Gospel-Church-Mission Glasgow, the Ethnodoxologists and International Student Ministry.
- 4. Publications: Books, articles and various publication materials are produced as a result of consultations and events convened and facilitated by the WEA Mission Commission. Currently in the pipeline to be launched soon: Book on Gospel, Church and Mission to be launched 2015, Book on Mission and Spirituality to launched 2016, Book on Mission Mobilisation to be launched 2016, Sorrow and Blood into Portuguese (completed), Korean (started) and Spanish (started), Translation of Global Mission contextualisation into Portuguese (completed) and Korean (completed)
- 5. Planning events: Active participation in the planning committee for WEA General Assembly (GA), and responsibility for planning the GA missiological track. Planning and execution of Global Roundtables in UK (2011), Sweden (2013) and Pretoria (2015) and Missiological Global Consultations in Germany (2012), Turkey (2014) and the next in Panama (2016) to provide a place to meet, connect and reflect for its Global Mission leaders as well as its constituency.

# **Key Relationships and Documents**

The Executive Director of the Mission Commission reports to the Secretary General and CEO of WEA, works in close consultation with the Chair and Executive Committee of the Global Leadership Council, and leads a virtual team of <u>staff</u> members based in India, South Africa, Guatemala, Ivory Coast, The Netherlands and the United States. The term of service for the Executive Director is four years, with eligibility for reappointment. The WEA <u>Statement of Faith</u> and <u>Guidelines of WEA Mission Commission</u> are foundational documents.

# The Opportunity: Executive Director

The Executive Director of the WEA MC serves in a strategic role on a global stage. The MC is uniquely positioned to convene global, regional and national leaders for reflection on important issues through a Missiological lens. This collection of global voices provides thought leadership by way of research reports and major publications offered in multiple languages. The next leader of the MC will be afforded the opportunity to build on this rich history, writing a new chapter of service to the global church.

# Key Responsibilities of the Executive Director

- Strategic planning and direction setting in conjunction with the staff and Global Leadership Council
- Communication with MC Associates, and coordination of Task Forces and Networks
- Oversee the development and activity of the MC staff team
- Communication and relationship with the larger WEA family
- Cultivate healthy relationship and cooperation with other global networks



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- Responsible for fund raising (including personal and organizational) and general oversight of MC finances
- Serve as member of the WEA International Leadership Team
- Represent the MC globally and speak on behalf of the MC on relevant issues

# Key Skills, Education and Experience Required

- A Christ-centered life and the fruits of godly character evidenced in personal and organizational intercultural leadership experience
- Affirmation of the WEA statement of faith
- A passion for and practical engagement in Great Commission activities
- Ability to lead and engage gracefully in an international, multi-cultural context
- Ability to think, reflect and engage issues through a global Missiological lens
- Understanding of, and expertise in, the networking of networks globally
- Writing, speaking and general communication skills
- Administrative and operational leadership skills
- High emotional intelligence with skills in team building and diplomacy
- Willingness to travel up to 25% of the year
- Master's degree in a relevant field is highly preferred
- Significant cross-cultural mission experience
- Commitment to and significant involvement in a local church
- Functional competency in English, both spoken and written

# **Inquiry Process**

The Global Leadership Council solicits your help in the search for the next Executive Director. Please consider the following ways you can support our efforts:

**Pray.** Leadership transitions are critical moments in any organization. We are seeking God's guidance and ask you to join us in prayer for wisdom.

**Refer.** The next leader is very likely in our existing sphere of influence or directly connected to someone engaged with the WEA MC. Please pass along this document to anyone you believe could be a possible candidate.

**Explore.** If you are currently serving in a leadership role and would like to have a confidential conversation with a member of our transition task force to explore this role please contact us by emailing <u>EDTransition@weamc.global</u>.

**Apply.** If you feel led by God to pursue this opportunity and believe you have the education, experience and skills required for the role, please send your resume or CV to <u>EDTransition@weamc.global</u>. As a part of your submission, in 250 words or less, explain why you are attracted to this role, and how you feel you have been prepared to serve in this capacity.

**Timeline.** Enquiries will be received until 30 April 2016. Interviews will be conducted from May – June, 2016. A final candidate will then be recommended to the WEA Mission Commission Global Leadership Council for recommendation to the International Council for final appointment before the WEA Mission Commission Global Consultation in Panama 3 – 7 October 2016. A commencement date will be decided in consultation with the appointee and outgoing CEO.

