



Annotated Agenda

1. Roll Call	2
2. Agenda	2
3. Minutes previous meeting (GB June 2020).....	2
4. Report of the President.....	2
5. Report of the General Secretary.....	2
6. CEC Finances.....	3
a. Report of the Treasurer	3
b. September year-to-date Status	3
c. Developments in Member Church Contributions.....	3
d. Principles for new Budget structures.....	4
7. Nominations Committee	4
8. Report from the Youth Representative.....	4
9. Reports from Executive Secretaries and the Communication Officer	5
10. Report from CCME.....	5
11. Towards the 2023 General Assembly	5
a. Terms of Reference: Assembly Planning Committee (APC).....	5
12. CEC Procedures.....	7
a. Staff Recruitment Procedures	7
i. Proposal to amend CEC Standing Orders.....	7
b. Financial regulations.....	8
13. Personnel Committee	9
a. Report of Chair.....	9
b. Seconded Staff – Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland.....	9
c. Update Fr Heikki Theodoros Huttunen.....	9
14. CEC's Call & Witness	10
15. Public Issues	10



18 November

1. Roll Call

(Doc_1)

The Moderator will perform the roll call establishing the presence of Governing Board members and voting quorum.

2. Agenda

(Doc_2) Annotated Agenda

Action:

The Governing Board is kindly requested to take note of the agenda.

3. Minutes previous meeting (GB June 2020)

(Doc_3)

The minutes of the previous Governing Board Meeting have been distributed to the members on 27 January 2020. No requests for changes or amendments have been received.

Action:

The Governing Board is kindly requested to approve the minutes of the June GB 2020 virtual Governing Board.

4. Report of the President

(Doc_4)

The President of CEC, Rev Christian Krieger, will present his report to the Governing Board. The Governing Board is invited to raise questions to and/or comment on the report.

Action:

The Governing Board is kindly requested to receive the Report.
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5. Report of the General Secretary

(Doc_5 – Doc_5 Appendix)

The General Secretary of CEC, Dr Jørgen Skov Sørensen, reports on CEC management to the Governing Board. The Governing Board is invited to raise questions to and/or



comment on the report.

Action:

The Governing Board is kindly requested to receive the Report.
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6. CEC Finances

(Doc_6 – Agenda item 6.b)

a. Report of the Treasurer

Rev Jelle Brouwer, CEC treasurer, reports from the Budget Committee, meeting October 2nd, 2020.

b. September year-to-date Status

Head of Finance, Administration and Payroll, Georgios Maglis, presents the financial year-to-date status. CEC's financial situation is stable. It is, however, too early to predict with certainty if 2020 will yield a positive or negative result.

- The Budget Committee calls for attention with regard to possible budget repercussions of the Covid-19 crisis in 2021.

- The Budget Committee stresses the need for regular communication with the major Member Church contributors, keeping in mind the organisational significance of minor MCs, too.

The presentation includes a high level overview and analysis related to the financial management of the Ecumenical Centre, Rue Joseph II, Brussels.

c. Developments in Member Church Contributions

The Finance Desk and the General Secretariat has worked towards retrieving and analysing historical data relating to revenue and expenditure. The findings, previously tabled at the Budget Committee meeting, will be presented during the Governing Board meeting. They form an important record for strategy, planning and forecasting future activities.

- The Budget Committee shows appreciation for the historical financial analyses which enable better informed Budget Committee recommendations to the Governing Board.

d. Principles for new Budget structures

The Finance Desk and the General Secretariat has worked towards principles of a revised budget structure and a draft lay-out, based on transparency, stewardship and a suitable level of analysis. The principles of a revised budget structure were presented to and discussed by the Budget Committee, meeting October 2nd.

- The Budget Committee applauds the work on a new, revised budget structure and lay-out and recommends that the secretariat moves forward along the suggested lines.

- The Budget Committee applauds the work towards better accounting management and transparency and recommends this is given the needed attention and time from the secretariat.

- The Budget Committee recommends that the accounts 2020 follow the original budget structure to allow time for development of a new structure and lay-out.

- The Budget Committee recommends that budget 2021 follow the original budget structure to allow time for development of a new structure and lay-out.

Action:

The Governing Board is kindly requested to receive the financial reports.

7. Nominations Committee

(Doc_7)

His Eminence, Metropolitan Cleopas, Chair of the Nominations Committee, will present his report. The Governing Board is invited to raise questions to and/or comment on the report

Action:

The Governing Board is kindly requested to appoint Natia Tsintsadze to the Thematic Group on Human Rights.
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8. Report from the Youth Representative

(Doc_8)

Ms Lea Schlenker, appointed as CEC Youth Representative by the Governing Board, presents her report.



The Governing Board is invited to raise questions to and/or comment on the report.

Action:

The Governing Board is kindly requested to receive the report from the Youth Representative

9. Reports from Executive Secretaries and the Communication Officer

(Doc_9 – Doc_9e)

The Executive Secretaries and the Communication Officer present their programmatic reports and appendixes. All appendixes are to be considered as additional background documents.

The Governing Board is invited to raise questions to and/or comment on the reports.

Action:

The Governing Board is kindly requested to receive the reports from the Executive Secretaries and the Communication Officer.

10. Report from CCME

(Doc_10)

CCME General Secretary, Dr Torsten Moritz, will report on the current work of the Churches Commission on Migrants in Europe. A written report will be forwarded to the Governing Board members before the meeting as soon as it is made available to CEC.

The Governing Board is invited to raise questions to and/or comment on the report.

Action:

The Governing Board is kindly requested to receive the report from CCME.

11. Towards the 2023 General Assembly

a. Terms of Reference: Assembly Planning Committee (APC)

(Doc_11a)

Draft Terms of Reference for the CEC General Assembly Planning Committee is elaborated in the General Secretariat with the legal assistance of Governing Board Member Andreas Henriksen Aarflot, who will also present the draft to the Governing Board.



Conference of European Churches
Conférence des Églises européennes
Konferenz Europäischer Kirchen
Конференция Европейских Церкве

Governing Board, Online – 18-19 Nov 2020

Agenda Item: 1

Document Name:

2GB2020_DOC2 FULL ANNOTATED AGENDA

Purpose: For information

The Governing Board is invited to raise questions to and/or comment on the draft Terms of Reference: Assembly Planning Committee (APC).

Action:

The Governing Board is kindly requested to adopt Terms of Reference: Assembly Planning Committee (APC).



19 November – closed session

12. CEC Procedures

a. Staff Recruitment Procedures

(Doc_12a)

The CEC Standing Orders § 16 states that the General Secretary shall appoint executive staff members after consultation with the Personnel Committee, with the approval of the Presidency, and according to the procedures fixed by the Governing Board, and that the General Secretary shall appoint the other staff of the Secretariat according to procedures fixed by the Governing Board, both on the recommendation of the Personnel Committee.

The attached draft constitutes a proposal for such procedures. It is elaborated in the General Secretariat with the legal assistance of Governing Board Member Andreas Henriksen Aarflot.

Due to unforeseen circumstances a meeting in the Personnel Committee scheduled to take place before the deadline for dispatch of agenda and appendixes to the Governing Board, the Personnel Committee has not had the opportunity to discuss this draft. It is therefore formally submitted to the Governing Board by the General Secretary.

The Governing Board is invited to raise questions to and/or comment on the draft.

Action:

The Governing Board is kindly requested to adopt the Staff Recruitment Procedures.
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i. Proposal to amend CEC Standing Orders¹

(Doc_12a_i)

According to the Standing Orders § 11 (1), the Governing Board shall “appoint an Assembly Coordinator, either from the existing staff or as a temporary position on the staff”. The fact that the Assembly Coordinator are to be appointed by the Governing Board, and not by the General

¹ This item is only relevant in so far the Governing Board adopts the proposed wording of § 6 (1) of the proposed Staff Recruitment Procedures (item 12.a. above).



Secretary in cooperation and consultation with GB representatives, which is the rule for executive secretaries, can be questioned.

One interpretation would be that this elevates the Assembly Coordinator above executive secretaries and to some extent to the same level as the General Secretary, who is the only other staff member to be appointed directly by the Governing Board.

Hence, the General Secretary would propose to follow the regular procedure for appointment of executive secretaries in the Staff Recruitment Procedures, with the chair of the General Assembly Planning Committee as an extra member of the interviewing panel (see CEC Staff Procedures § 6 (1)). This would require an amendment of the Standing Orders.

Action:

The Governing Board is kindly requested to adopt the change to the Standing Orders.

b. Financial regulations

(Doc_12b)

According to the Standing Orders § 10 (3), the Governing Board “shall [...] adopt financial regulations for the Conference”. More comprehensive financial regulations will be processed by the Budget Committee and submitted to the Governing Board as soon as possible.

The attached document forms a preliminary set of financial regulations that the General Secretary has deemed most critical to secure the financial “checks and balances” within the organisation. This includes regulations for which sums may be spent by the General Secretary and staff in the exercise of their general duties.

The document is submitted to the Governing Board by the General Secretary and presented by Head of Finance, Administration and Payroll, Georgios Maglis.

The Governing Board is invited to raise questions to and/or comment on the financial regulations.

Action:

The Governing Board is kindly requested to adopt the financial regulations.



13. Personnel Committee

a. Report of Chair

OKR Frank Kopania, Chair of the Personnel Committee will orally present his report.

The Governing Board is invited to raise questions to and/or comment on the report.

Action:

The Governing Board is kindly requested to receive the report.
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b. Seconded Staff – Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland

(Doc_13b)

The Governing Board decided at its meeting November 2019 to enter into cooperation with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland (ELCF) on the project “Strengthening the voice of Churches in Brussels”. ELCF Senior EU Policy Advisor Lena Kumlin has since January 1, 2020, been seconded to CEC on a 25% basis.

The Covid-19 pandemic has significantly affected the implementation of the project. Since mid-March, the Senior EU Policy Advisor has barely been able to travel to Brussels but has worked from Finland. The thorough project evaluation based on the original work programme and initially intended to take place in November 2020, is consequently not deemed viable.

Based on satisfactory results within the limited framework given, however, the parties propose to the Governing Board that the joint cooperation continues until 31 December 2021, to achieve the CEC-related results as stated in the original agreement. A slightly amended version of the original agreement is attached.

The Governing Board is invited to raise questions to and/or comment on the agreement.

Action:

The Governing Board is kindly requested to adopt the agreement.

c. Update Fr Heikki Theodoros Huttunen

The President of CEC, Rev. Christian Krieger, reports on the status quo concerning Fr Heikki Theodoros Huttunen.



The Governing Board is invited to raise questions to and/or comment on the report.

Action:

The Governing Board is kindly requested to receive the report.

14. CEC's Call & Witness

(Doc_14)

In his report to the CEC Governing Board in June 2020 the General Secretary remarked that due to the virtual nature of that meeting, it was not the time to make substantial decisions on a future structure and work portfolio of the organisation. He appealed "that the Governing Board [...] received [his] report "with a view to deeper analysis in November", having the second Governing Board meeting of 2020 in mind.

On this background the Governing Board decided that "the General Secretary [was] to circulate, in advance of the next Governing Board meeting, a discussion paper setting out ideas for the future organisation and work of CEC, developing inter alia the themes of ownership, coherence and visibility as sketched out in pages 4 and 5 of his report".

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The attached document, CEC's Call and Witness, is the requested "discussion paper" which will be introduced and supplemented orally at the meeting. The Governing Board is invited raise questions to and/or comment on the discussion paper.

The Governing Board is kindly reminded that this document is of a confidential nature and must under no circumstances electronically, orally or in printed form be distributed beyond the Governing Board members.

Action:

The Governing Board is kindly requested to receive the discussion paper and to stipulate guidelines for further organisational developments by the General Secretary.

15. Public Issues

The following Public Issue(s) has/have been submitted to the Governing Board:

No topics were received at the time of publishing the agenda to the meeting