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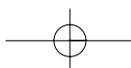
Friends World News

The Bulletin of the Friends World Committee for Consultation



**Friends World
Committee for
Consultation**

Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)





From the World Office

Transitions

The women on our cover are Kenyan Friends sticking their feet in the ocean (Indian) for the first time in their lives – their excitement cheered my heart. This was all part of the triennial gathering in Mombasa of United Society of Friends Women International, held in Africa for the first time in its history. USFWI has chapters in most Friends United Meeting yearly meetings.

That July visit to Kenya included attending the combined meeting of the FUM general boards for North America and Africa. However, the most important part of the journey was learning that the proposed Kenyan constitution contained provisions to move the 2012 presidential election date forward to coincide with the dates we planned for the Sixth World Conference. Yikes! Quick response and action by Local Arrangement Committee co-clerks Bainito Khayongo and Rose Imbega and Section clerk Gladys Kang'ahi identified the option of moving the dates forward to April at our same location, Kabarak University near Nakuru. When the constitution was approved in August, we were able to move forward quickly.

This is a great period of transitions – changes in leadership and staff in the four sections in 2011 mean that the World Office will have several new members of the Central Executive Committee.

In North America, several organisations are getting new staff leaders. Starting in 2011, you will see notices of the search for my successor to be named in early 2012 and presented to the World Conference. I will remain in post for much of 2012 and hopefully have some overlap with my successor. I think it's such an interesting position not only to be connecting Friends from all parts of the world, but also to relate to the Quaker United Nations Offices and other Christian World Communions on behalf of Friends. I am grateful to serve in this way.

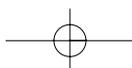
With faith and hope,

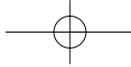
*General Secretary
FWCC World Office*

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Cover: Participants in the United Society of Friends Women International Triennial paddling in the Indian Ocean.





The Quakers in the World web portal

Ann Floyd

Quakers all over the world put their Quakerism into action, and despite our many different contexts and modes of worship we are strikingly similar in what we do.

Wherever there are Friends/Quakers, we find peace initiatives. We can and should learn from each other, and inspire each other, and there is great potential for us to work together. But in general we know too little about each other's past and present work, and plans for future initiatives, and we tend to get on with our own activities. The current FWCC consultation on global change is a great example of what could be done, but it is unusual. The aim of the newly launched Quakers in the World web portal (QITW), www.quakersintheworld.org, is to make it easier to learn and share, by bringing together accounts of Quaker action, past and present, all over the world.

There are excellent websites with some of this information already. The FWCC website has a database of current service projects. Each FWCC section has further information. QUNO's site describes its important work in Geneva and New York. There are sites for Yearly Meetings and/or their service organisations, and many Quaker project sites. We do not seek to replace any of these, but rather to provide a bird's eye view of Quaker actions past and present, and to serve as a portal to these sites for anyone who wants more information than QITW will provide.

At the heart of QITW is a database called Quakers in Action. It is organised into four interwoven threads – What? Where? When? Who? It can be searched with any combination of these. What is the Quaker approach to crime and justice? What is the story of Quakers and education in Africa? Who were William Penn or James Backhouse? How are Canadian Quakers addressing environmental concerns? The site has the potential to provide responses to any of these in principle, though far from all can be answered at this early stage.

QITW's answers come in the form of articles of up to 700 words, each containing links to other articles within QITW, or to resources elsewhere. The articles are at three levels of detail.

At the top level there are global overviews on each theme. Why have Quakers always been concerned with crime and justice (peace, education etc.) issues? What are (or have been) the key Quaker interventions and current concerns? The current FWCC consultation on global change will clearly feed into this.

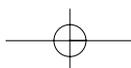
At the second level there will be an overview of each of the four FWCC regions in relation to each theme. There will also be subtheme articles giving more detail about particular aspects of the theme. In the case of the crime and justice theme, there are already subtheme articles about restorative justice, Alternatives to Violence (AVP) and prison reform, amongst others.

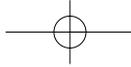
At the third, most detailed level, there are specific examples, and there will be many more. Some are or will be descriptions of particular projects/initiatives – Friends Peace Teams in Africa, the Underground Railroad for escaping slaves in North America, Quaker Service Australia, and so on. Some are or will be profiles of individuals – William Penn, Elizabeth Fry, James Backhouse, Josiah Embego, and many others.

QITW contains two further components alongside the Quakers in Action database – Ideas for Educators (IfE) and 'Discussion Areas'. IfE aims to gather together ways in which educators have used Quakers in Action in various settings such as schools, study groups, or short courses. Users will be able to upload ideas, and feedback on those that are there. Discussion Areas are spaces in which new projects can be fostered and ideas exchanged.

QITW is currently based at Jordans, UK, in Britain Yearly Meeting. Thanks to some substantial donations, and a generous grant from the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust, we have been able to construct the framework for QITW, and begin building up its content.

At present there is more information about British Quakers than any others, but QITW aims to be global, and the more input we are able to get from Friends worldwide, the quicker this will happen. We need help from whoever is willing to give it. It is a huge undertaking, and in some sense will never be finished. *If you would like to contribute in any way, or have suggestions to make, QITW would love to hear from you. Please contact ann@newjordans.org.*





Friends' Responses to Global Change

The Cluster Process: A Guideline for Participants

What is a Cluster Gathering?

Cluster gatherings are the first step for Friends to participate in the worldwide Consultation process. Clusters are a face-to-face meeting where Friends meet for a process of discernment with prayer, listening and sharing of stories and experiences around the theme of global change. Initiative and invitations come from local Meetings or Friends Churches or from facilitators. They are intended to bring local voices to the international table. FWCC volunteers under the direction of the Global Change Steering Committee will follow-up on the messages from each cluster, allowing us to integrate these voices, experiences and stories into the Consultation process. We hope that as Friends hear one another's hopes, fears, and leadings, individuals, Friends meetings and churches will spontaneously build networks to share concerns and take action locally, regionally and internationally.

Organizing a Cluster Gathering

Any local or regional group of concerned Friends, Friends meetings or churches, may organize a cluster. There is no limit placed on the number of clusters to be held in any region or local community. We expect and encourage clusters to be formed in the manner and traditions of local Friends communities, which vary around the world. Small cluster gatherings may support the opportunity for each voice to be heard. Larger cluster gatherings may build unity and fellowship among Friends in geographic regions. While formats for clusters reflect local customs and traditions among Friends, we ask for a worldwide and shared commitment from local clusters to participate in follow-up processes to bring local voices, experiences and stories together into the Consultation and World Conference.

Preparing for the Cluster Gathering

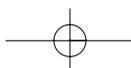
The structure of cluster meetings is that each cluster has its own clerk, facilitator or convener who convenes the gathering and ensures it stays focused on the query at hand. The clerk or a separate recording clerk will keep written records or Minutes of the meeting. We hope that you will also have a recorder who will make an audio-visual record of the Cluster's proceedings. Cluster gatherings might be hosted in local Meeting houses, Friends churches, or in a home, or they might be larger meetings. Cluster meetings are best held in a quiet environment that supports prayer and reflection, and can accommodate the anticipated number of participants. Six Queries on Global Change form the backbone of each cluster. In inviting the participation of Friends in the clusters, we encourage extending a special invitation to new voices and perspectives, to invite Friends of all ages and backgrounds, and to support those with limited resources who may otherwise be unable to participate.

Agenda for the Cluster Gathering

The agenda for the cluster gathering is brought forward by the clerk or facilitator and agreed to by the cluster meeting as a body in accordance with the traditions of local Friends communities. The participants also agree together on the length of time to spend together. We anticipate cluster gatherings may be a half-day or a full day or a two-day process depending on the traditions and needs of each community. We suggest the cluster be held as a Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Global Change and that it open and close with a time of worship that allows for prayer and reflection. We encourage participants to speak briefly about their personal experience of global change. After this sharing, and an additional time for prayer and silence to hold the individual shared stories, the cluster considers as many of the six Queries on Global Change as time permits. It is essential that each query be considered and reported on separately.

Process for the Cluster Gathering

We view the cluster gathering as a time of worshipful discernment, set aside for listening to each other, and listening for God's leading. The recorder documents in writing individual stories of experience of global change, as well as the cluster's response to each of the queries. FWCC hopes video recording technology will be available to each cluster gathering. Videos of stories and responses may then be shared on the website. Participants sign into the cluster gathering, and in that process give permission for a written and video record of the process to be made, edited, published and shared as part of the Consultation.





Follow-up to the Cluster Gathering

Following the cluster gathering, the facilitator and recorder shall send the FWCC Global Change project the following material: 1. record of participants, including contact information and consent to share images and recordings from the meeting. 2. Recorder's notes of the meeting. 3. Any video record of the meeting. 4. Any facilitator's notes on the cluster process and outcomes. These will appear at www.fwccglobalchange.org.

Cluster Integration and deepening

Following the Cluster Gatherings, it is FWCC's challenge to hear everyone's message, to seek the truth through discernment and in so doing so to find a compassionate and appropriate balance of perspectives and experiences. We will collate responses by queries, and also look at responses as a whole. Volunteers from around the world will serve on six Listening Committees as part of this process. As it progresses, we will share this work on-line.

2011 Consultation

As we move toward the 2011 Consultation, those facilitating the Cluster integration and deepening process will work with members of the four Sections to ensure that in sifting through materials from clusters, the diversity of voices, regions, and traditions in each Section are included. We will discern whether an outcome of the Consultation may be a distinctive and shared Quaker voice on Global Change. What do we, as a worldwide body, have to say to ourselves and to the world? What actions might we jointly wish to encourage or directly undertake? How do we articulate the spiritual basis for this response?

The Consultation on Global Change will report at the 2012 World Gathering of Friends in Kenya. The report will be the discerned outcome of the Consultation process and form the basis of further discernment at the Conference.

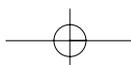
Ways you can participate

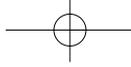
We invite you to participate as individual Friends and as local and regional Friends Meetings and Churches. We seek responses to the six Queries from groups of Friends everywhere. If it is your leading, you may consider volunteering to support the work of the Listening Committee in organizing and disseminating outcomes of clusters.

The FWCC Global Change Steering Committee is comprised of an international group of volunteers who have worked together in a discernment and planning process for over a year. We especially encourage the voices of Friends who are new to FWCC. This goes beyond a conversation; it is a process of discernment. To get involved, visit our website, www.fwccglobalchange.org. It is updated regularly as the Consultation moves forward.

Queries on Global Change

- 1. How has global change affected our communities and ourselves?**
- 2. What actions have we taken in response to global change as experienced in our area, to express our responsibilities towards all creation? In what ways have my own activities or those of my community contributed to positive or adverse local and global change?**
- 3. How do changes around us affect our relationship with God? How does my relationship with God affect my responses to the changes around us? What role does faith have in my life and in the life of my community? In what ways do I and my Friends church or meeting community bear witness to our Testimonies in our daily lives?**
- 4. What stories or experiences from past times of catastrophic happenings – perhaps from Scripture, perhaps from the record of local or regional events – might inspire us to respond to the changes the world is facing today?**
- 5. How can we bear witness to the abundance God offers us and testify to the world about ways in which justice, compassion, and peace may address significant disruptions, stress, and tensions?**
- 6. How can we support one another in rekindling our love and respect for God's Creation in such a way that we are messengers of the transforming power of love and hope?**





QUNO News

QUNO Geneva

Global Economic Issues

The Dangerous Lure of “Climate Change and...”

Climate change continues to be a headline topic, with an increasing number of agencies – governmental and non-governmental – highlighting its links with other issues. Climate change and biodiversity, climate change and water, climate change and conflict, climate change and migration: just some of the topics on international agendas.

QUNO has been examining both climate change and migration and climate change and conflict. QUNO expects to publish a briefing paper on these shortly, with the message that climate change and related environmental phenomena could exacerbate existing vulnerabilities that push people to migrate, as well as heighten underlying points of contention. The severity of these impacts will be determined by the affected community's degree of vulnerability and ability to adapt. Those living in poverty, in unstable or poorly governed States, or in areas where there has been inadequate planning for adaptation to climate change, are likely to be the most vulnerable.

One particular concern for QUNO is that increased focus on ‘climate change and...’ subjects (including climate change and migration, or climate change and conflict) do not draw attention away from the underlying issues. Top of the list of underlying issues is the urgent need to reduce carbon emissions – too much focus on adaptation strategies could sideline the importance of emissions reductions.

Similarly, focusing on new ‘climate change and ...’ issues brings with it the need to establish numbers and clarify definitions, to conceptualise the new issue and propose appropriate policy responses. There is a risk that so much time and energy is spent on definitions, statistics, conceptualisations etc. that the ongoing need to address existing vulnerabilities – for instance, what makes people live on marginal lands, or what permits States to be poorly governed – become forgotten.

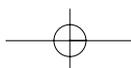
QUNO does intend to voice these concerns, yet recognises that there is also merit in considering issues relating to climate change further. Climate change might, for instance, offer a new entry point for peacebuilding work, or new impetus for work relating to migration policy in industrialised countries. In the coming months, QUNO will continue to engage both UN officials and grassroots communities on climate change and migration, and is working towards a meeting of faith leaders who can share concerns, ideas and best practice on managing the process of displacement from and into communities.

Human Rights and Refugees

Progress at UN Crime Congress

Every five years, the world's governments meet to consider new international standards and developments relating to criminal justice. The most recent of these Crime Congresses was held in Salvador, Brazil in April 2010 and the agenda included several items of concern to Quakers.

The main issue was the fate of the draft UN Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-Custodial Measures for Women Offenders, more commonly called the Bangkok Rules (after the city where they were drafted). Strong support for the draft Rules, which were crafted with QUNO support and represent the culmination





of seven years of QUNO work on women in prison, would mean they were likely to be approved by the other UN bodies that need to be consulted. Lukewarm support could leave them floundering, being considered for months or years to come without any decision.

The Crime Congress is one of the UN bodies where NGO participation in decision-making, even informally, is limited. However, there are multiple side events and workshops running alongside the negotiating sessions and these can be opportunities to inform delegates about the issues and their importance. Friends participated in one on the Bangkok Rules, but also organised a meeting on children of prisoners and two on restorative justice, other areas of Quaker concern. Whether or not Quaker involvement had an impact, all these issues were included in the final Declaration (outcome document) from the Congress, with children of prisoners being mentioned for the first time and the draft Bangkok Rules being welcomed. They have subsequently been adopted by the UN Crime Commission (a subsidiary body meeting annually) and are currently before the General Assembly, with final approval expected later this year.

One of the reasons for these successes at the Crime Congress and subsequently has been the joint working between QUNO, which represents FWCC at the UN in Geneva and New York, and the FWCC representatives to the UN criminal justice bodies. The longstanding Quaker interest in justice has meant that we have been involved with UN criminal justice meetings for many decades, and the Salvador Congress was a good opportunity to more closely link these parts of Quaker work.

QUNO puts children of imprisoned parents on the agenda at the UN

QUNO Geneva has taken a major step forward in its work on children of prisoners by securing a Day of General Discussion on that theme at the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child.

The CRC holds at most one Day of General Discussion each year, often on a topic it feels deserves greater attention. 2011 will focus on children of prisoners, and will be the first time that any UN body has looked in detail at the children of prisoners.

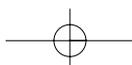
Although millions of children worldwide have a parent in prison, there are no international standards on how countries should act to protect their welfare. As a result, practice around the world varies considerably. Some countries allow a child to join their mother in prison during breastfeeding or for longer. Many more children remain outside, often facing stigma and struggling to maintain adequate contact with the imprisoned parent.

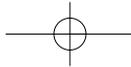
The day of general discussion is an opportunity for experts, practitioners, civil society and children to come together to talk and to share knowledge. QUNO hopes that the day might result in better understanding of the issue from a child rights perspective and lead to further action at national and international levels.

Disarmament and Peace

While QUNO focuses the bulk of its disarmament and peace activity on Geneva-based institutions, the nature of the work often requires engagement elsewhere. QUNO director David Atwood travelled to Rio de Janeiro earlier this year for the World Urban Forum to participate in activities linked to QUNO's work on armed violence and development.

Staff are currently planning regional workshops for organisations working on integrating armed violence reduction into their development work, to be held in Rio and in Nairobi in November. David Atwood and former programme assistant Tom Richardson were in New York in June for the Biennial Meeting of States on small arms and light weapons, work which has a strong Geneva basis. QUNO is also an active partner in the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform and works in collaboration with QUNO-NY on peacebuilding concerns.





QUNO News

QUNO New York

QUNO-NY recently welcomed a new staff member – Camilla Campisi. She joined the office in September 2010 as a new Quaker UN Representative serving as the lead staff person for QUNO's peacebuilding programme. Prior to working with QUNO, she was an Advocate with Refugees International (RI), based in Washington, DC. While at RI, Camilla conducted field assessments and carried out advocacy strategies focused on issues related to humanitarian assistance and the protection of refugees and internally displaced people, with a particular focus on the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Myanmar. Camilla also has experience working on refugee resettlement with the International Organization for Migration in Geneva and the International Rescue Committee.

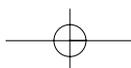


Andrew Tomlinson, the Director of QUNO-NY, addresses the audience in his introductory statement at the event co-hosted by QUNO and the Delegation of the European Union to the UN "The Day After: Post-Election consolidation in Africa".

The work of the Quaker UN Office in New York continues to be organized around its core programmes: peacebuilding and prevention. As a part of the peacebuilding programme, QUNO's work is currently shaped around the work of the UN Peacebuilding Commission, Burundi and the Democratic Republic of Congo. Both countries provide unique opportunities to connect with Friends on the ground, bringing their voices to New York. QUNO staff is further shaping the Peacebuilding programme, reflecting current developments at the UN, the long-term goals of the office and issues of concern to Friends.

Prevention of violent conflict continues to gain attention at the international policy level. It, nonetheless, remains a very sensitive matter. QUNO's work aims to enhance UN capacity to prevent outbreaks of violence, by providing space for preventive diplomacy and mediation, among other initiatives. The programme also prepares broader events, such as "The Day After: Post-Election consolidation in Africa", co-hosted with the Delegation of the European Union in October. It has been widely recognized that the period immediately following elections often sees a continuation and even aggravation of previously existing divisions and a potential for breakdown in inclusion and dialogue. If not addressed, these issues can lead to violence. Thus, the aim of the event was to share lessons from a range of cases on the need for meaningful planning by governments and other relevant institutions for the post-electoral period in an effort to prevent potential outbursts of violence.

The issue of Disarmament with a focus on small arms and light weapons remains one of the liaison themes with the Quaker UN Office in Geneva. Illicit trade and use of small arms and light weapons often presents a serious impediment to successful peacebuilding processes, exacerbating existing conflicts and creating new tensions. During the autumn session of the UN General Assembly (GA), QUNO-NY closely followed the developments of the GA's First Committee that deals with disarmament and related international security questions. The office assists the work of the First Committee Monitor by writing weekly reports on the progress of the committee in regard to the issue of small arms and light weapons.





Around the sections

Asia & West Pacific Section

Section Meeting

The Local Arrangements Committee from the Philippines Evangelical Friends International Ministries are looking forward to welcoming many international Friends to the Section Meeting at Bukal ng Tipan, Maryhill next year. The two Young Friends in this group, Michael and Therese, are also responsible for planning the Young Friends event from 7-9 April. Enquiries re registration for these events to Valerie@fwccawps.org.

Singapore Worshipping Group

As we look forward to our Section Gathering in Manila from 1-7 April 2011, there are many new developments. Two new Worshipping Groups, one in Singapore and the other in Manila are now meeting regularly – Singapore three times a month and Manila is meeting on the first Sunday of the month. Both meet in the homes of Friends, so visitors should make arrangements ahead of time on how to travel to these places. The contact email for Singapore is: singaporemeetingforworship@googlegroups.com.

Indonesia Yearly Meeting

Sixty pastors and members of their congregations met near Jogjakarta for their Yearly Meeting. Also in attendance was Nadine Hoover from Friends Peace Teams, who works in Aceh and Central Java several months of each year and Gary Colfax and Matt Kuffell from EFI, based in Cambodia. The membership of Indonesia Yearly Meeting is now 4,500. Their Yearly Meeting in 2011 will be in Jakarta in early October. Enquiries to the General Secretary arbitergs@yahoo.com.

Bohol, the Philippines

An interfaith group led by Friend Boni Quirog meets weekly to discuss a variety of religious faiths. This group has also developed an environmental focus and does coastal cleanups and distributes information to local groups on how to prepare for and cope with disasters such as earthquakes. The contact for this group is Michael Tan whose email address is: vetmedanthro@gmail.com.

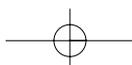
Other news

Other news is of the visitation of our Associate Treasurer Taisoo Kim Watson to Japan Yearly Meeting. After that she will visit Seoul Monthly Meeting to help celebrate its 50th anniversary. She will also visit the newer worshipping groups at DaeJon and Daegu. Drew Lawson, who is a teacher with Quaker Learning Australia, will also visit Japan Yearly Meeting, where he will conduct workshops on John Woolman at all the Meetings and at Friends School in Tokyo.

Devdas Shrisunder is enjoying a term at Pendle Hill under the auspices of the Indian Friends Working Group of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting. He is pleased that a Korean and an Indonesian Friend is studying there this semester. Devdas will run workshops for Young Friends in India on Quaker topics on his return.

We are not blessed with large bank balances, but in our Section we are managing to achieve quite a lot through faith. Donations to our Travel Fund to bring Friends from less developed countries to our Section Meeting are very welcome. Enquiries regarding donations may be made to Topsy Evans our Treasurer, on tevans@c130.aone.net.au.

*Valerie Joy
Executive Secretary*





Around the sections

Europe & Middle East Section

In June 2010 Friends gathered again in Villepinte to maintain a vigil outside Eurosatory, Europe's largest weapons' fair. Yvonne Kressmann of France Yearly Meeting, 80 years old, and in poor health, but utterly undaunted, organised and led the vigil, which was joined by other Friends, some in their teens, from German and Switzerland Yearly Meetings. See the article on our website: <http://www.fwccemes.org/news/quaker-vigil-outside-largest-arms-fair-in-europe>.

In July our European Pilgrims gathered together in London before joining their American counterparts in the Northwest of the United States. The Quaker Youth Pilgrimage, which takes place every two years, alternatively in Europe and in the United States, is a powerful experience for those who take part, and those who organise and lead it. The epistle can be found on our website too: <http://www.fwccemes.org/news/epistle-of-quaker-youth-pilgrimage-2010> and an article by the Young Friend who travelled from the Czech Republic, Anna Klára Matejková, has been published in issue 119 of *Among Friends*. The message that the young people brought back from this experience is that "it's our actions that make us Quaker just as much as our beliefs".

Other recent interesting stories include an exhibition of pictures by Richard Kilbey which was opened in the Eparchial Museum of Church History in Samara, Russia <http://www.fwccemes.org/news/exhibition-of-pictures-by-richard-kilbey-in-eparchial-museum-of-church-history-samara> and a Border Meeting in Germany addressed by Jocelyn Bell Burnell, Clerk of the Central Executive Committee of FWCC: <http://www.fwccemes.org/news/2010-border-meeting-encompasses-the-universe>.

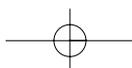
More recently, Friends in Estonia had the opportunity of broadcasting on radio and television a short message on peace, together with other churches and groups interested in peace, in the week leading up to the UN International Day of Peace. A clip of this message can be seen on www.dfa.ee.

The Executive Committee of EMES met at Svartbäcken in Sweden in September. We said goodbye to Jane Rose of Finland Yearly Meeting and Fritz Renken of Switzerland Yearly Meeting, whose terms of service come to an end at the end of December. From January 2011 we shall have two new members, Sue Glover-Frykman of Sweden Yearly Meeting, who joined us in Svartbäcken, and Jez Smith. Rachel Bewley-Bateman, who will take over the role of Clerk from Marit Kromberg in February 2011, was also with us, and we had a representative from EMEYF, Leo Vincent, who is a member of the current joint planning group for the Easter Gathering in 2011.

We are now looking forward to our joint gathering with Young Friends in the Section in April 2011, when we shall welcome members of the Central Executive Committee of FWCC to Herzberg, in Switzerland. We have chosen a theme of "Bring and Share", and we see this as a precious opportunity of learning from each other about our diverse Quaker presence and witness in the world, and a time of preparation for the Sixth World Conference of Friends.

Ministry and Outreach

The 10-week introduction course to the Quaker way has been run three times in French; twice each in Czech, Finnish and Norwegian; once in Hungarian and Dutch. It is currently running in Russian and in German. Translations into Georgian, Danish, Esperanto and Spanish are underway. We have contact persons for translations into Italian, Serbian, Ukrainian, Swedish and Latvian.





Around the sections

The Meeting for Learning in June 2010 at Svartbäcken was an opportunity to learn about and practice facilitating various Quaker forms. It seems to have been successful and could be offered again, perhaps “on-the-road” to Meetings and groups.

The theme of the most recent EMES Easter Gathering, Eldership, was directly related to the focus of the Ministry & Outreach work. This theme is, we believe, vital to the life of Quaker Meetings.

Although run by Woodbrooke, two European Clerks courses have been valuable opportunities for many Clerks of established and new Meetings. There have been a number of resource-sharing events with Woodbrooke, for example combining EMES/FWCC travel to Moscow and Tbilisi with Woodbrooke-on-the-Road.

We are increasingly clear, both as a result of the online and visitation work, that there is a need for some kind of companionship for enquirers who do not live close to an established Meeting. We envision a pool of experienced Friends, who among them speak many languages. These Friends can be paired up with enquirers from around the Section for interaction using any combination of e-mail, letters, telephone or Skype.

Peace and Service Consultation

The Consultation will take place in Kortenberg, Belgium, from 19th to 21st November 2010, on the theme: “And, behold, the bush burned with fire and the bush was not consumed”- Exodus 3:2. Throughout the weekend we shall maintain a focus on Nurture and Self-care for those engaged in the challenges of working for peace and justice in different settings. How do we keep the flame and passion that motivates us, without risking burn-out?

Website and Publications

Issue 118 of *Among Friends* was a bumper issue, with 16 pages rather than 12, and was published in June. As we had a longer gap than normal from the previous publication, more material had accumulated. The most recent issue, no. 119, has just been published. The next issue will be published in March 2011.

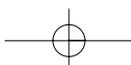
The website designer has been working on setting up a Forum to link to the website. This should enable us to dispense with the use of google groups, and maintain a variety of groups to facilitate communications.

Finances

Contributions from Yearly Meetings remain frozen for the third or fourth year. This presents a challenge, as in real terms our resources are shrinking. Nevertheless, given the financial difficulties many Meetings face, we are most grateful for this faithful acknowledgement which enables us to continue to function at least for one more year at a stand-still position. Our income and expenditure so far in 2010 are coming in in line with budget forecasts.

We are about to embark upon a fundraising effort to secure around £8,000 which will enable Young Friends and Friends from Eastern Europe to attend the joint EMES/EMEYF gathering in Switzerland at Easter next year.

Marisa Johnson
FWCC-EMES Executive Secretary





Around the sections

Section of the Americas

2011 Annual Meeting next March in Philadelphia

The business meeting of the Section of the Americas will take place Thursday and Friday, March 17 & 18, 2011, at Friends Center in Philadelphia, PA. All FWCC representatives should plan to attend. Meetings of FWCC's committees will also be held at this time. Following the business meetings, a Salt and Light event will take place beginning on Friday evening and continuing through Saturday evening. All Friends are invited to attend both the business meeting and the Salt and Light program.

With the Section's focus on holding Salt and Light events throughout 2011, the decision was taken by the body of the 2010 Annual Meeting to change the nature of the 2011 Annual Meeting.

Look for registration information soon on our website, www.fwccamericas.org.

FWCC sponsors Alternatives to Violence training for Quaker pastors in Central America

Sixty-six pastors learned about alternatives to violence during an annual, regional pastors retreat that welcomed Jorge Arauz (Philadelphia YM) this year as part of an FWCC Committee of Latin American Friends (COAL) workshop. The three-day July workshop was "very well received" according to the COAL Central America region coordinator Bernabé Sánchez and "greatly reinforced Friends' practice of non-violence."

Participants in the workshop, hosted by Honduras Friends at their yearly meeting camp in Gracias, Lempira, included 36 Honduran pastors, five from El Salvador and 25 from the National Evangelical Friends Church of Guatemala. While in Honduras Jorge visited different groups of Friends.

Spanish-English Quaker Glossary now online

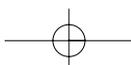
FWCC Section of the America's Quaker Glossary - Glosario Cuáquero, is now available as a downloadable resource to Friends for translation and interpretation uses.

This glossary of Quaker terminology in Spanish and English is the product of a Consultation which took place in 1994 at Earlham College in Richmond, IN. The objective of the glossary is to provide a list of linguistic equivalents, as well as the definitions and sufficient historic and cultural context to permit and to enhance communication of the Quaker experience across distances - historical, theological, cultural and regional.

Writers workshop in Bolivia attracts young adults

Young adult Friends predominated at the September FWCC/COAL sponsored writers workshops held in Bolivia. This is yet another installation in a series of writing workshops that have been offered for Friends in South America over the past several years. This September workshop, held at a retreat center south of the city of La Paz, was designed for the beginner level of ministry writing.

COAL coordinator of the Southern region, Jesús Huarachi of Peru, has provided a video interview with pastor and educator Esteban Ajnota of the National Evangelical Friends Church of Bolivia (INELA). Esteban and Romualdo Atahuachi from the Bolivian group CALA, Comisión de Alfabetización y Literatura en Aymara (Committee on Literacy and Literature in Aymara), taught at the workshop. Both instructors will continue to work with the participants by reviewing their writing via email. Friends noted the need to continue offering the writing workshops at all skill levels.



2009 World Office Accounts

All figures are in Pounds Sterling (£ GBP)

INCOME	2009	2008	EXPENDITURE	2009	2008
General Funds			Personnel Costs	108,142	100,956
Africa Section	132	37	Staff & Officer Travel	5,697	5,429
Section of the Americas:	84,663	67,985	Communications and Publicatons	12,938	12,226
Asia-West Pacific Section	5,704	5,554	Premises & Office Management	23,808	19,882
Europe and Middle East Section	72,017	76,744	Central Executive Committee	21,353	12,782
Trust Funds	6,564	36,373	International Membership Committee	847	635
Investment Income	2,294	7,282	Quaker United Nations Committees	5,911	5,883
Exchange gain foreign currency		7,162	Other Committees	2,905	1,675
Other General Income	3,544	3,366	2012 World Conference Planning	15,365	
Total General Funds	174,918	204,503	Africa Section Support	9,500	8,500
Restricted & Endowment Funds			Other Programme		121
Contributions	53,544	53,721	Relief Fund Expenditure	13,534	28,525
Investment Income	1,919	6,121	Exchange loss foreign currency	3,846	
Total Restricted Funds	55,463	59,842	Auditors' Remuneration	3,307	1,403
TOTAL INCOME	230,381	264,345	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	227,153	198,017
Funds brought forward into	2009	2008	Funds carried forward into	2011	
General Funds ¹	19,118	80,646	General Funds	91,862	
Designated, Restricted and Endowment Funds	403,722	353,001	Designated, Restricted and Endowment Funds	426,135	
Total Funds	522,840	433,647	Total Funds	517,997	

After a period of increasing general funds, income has levelled off and costs continue to rise. It is expected that the resulting decline in the general reserves will continue in the immediate future.

With a new investment manager we hope to maximise the value of our reserves, within our ethical policy, but there is no substitute for contributions.

Keeping our North American income in US Dollar accounts has reduced the effects of currency fluctuations although revaluations affect the Pound Sterling value of our reserves in these accounts.

We will be seeking funds for its core costs, the Global Change Consultation and to subsidise the travel of Friends from less affluent countries to the 2012 World Conference.

The full audited accounts are available from the World Office.

Roger Sturge
Treasurer



Some Yearly Meetings in 2011

Please ensure that you tell the World Office your Yearly Meeting dates as soon as you know them. Write to the address on page 15 or email database@friendsworldoffice.org.

January 14-15	INELA – Perú , Colegio Jorge Fox, Ilave Puno
February	Cuba , Campamento Amigos, Gibara, Holguín
April 20-24	Southeastern , Life Enrichment Center, Leesburg, FL USA
April 28-May 1	Ireland , Kings Hospital School, Dublin
May 13-15	Netherlands , Woodbrookershuis, Barchem
June 2-5	Sweden , Svartbäcken
June 9-12	Southern Appalachian , Warren Wilson College, Swannanoa, NC USA
June 12-19	Intermountain , Ghost Ranch, Abiquiu, NM USA
June 15-19	Illinois , McNabb, IL USA
July 21-23	EFC Mid-America , Friends University, Wichita, KS USA
July 24-29	Northwest , George Fox University, Newberg, OR USA
July 25-30	Pacific , Claremont McKenna College, CA USA
July 30-Aug 6	Britain Yearly Meeting , Canterbury, Kent
Aug 4-7	Iowa FUM , Camp Quaker Heights, Eldora, IA USA

Friends World Committee for Consultation

Friends World Committee for Consultation was established in 1937 to be a channel of communication between Friends, helping us to explore and nurture our identity as Quakers so that we can discover and be faithful to our true place in the world as a people of God.

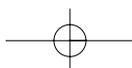
FWCC is a consultative, committee-run, organisation enabling Friends and their yearly meetings to work cooperatively. Yearly meetings and other Quaker bodies affiliate to FWCC through its four sections, Africa (with its office in Nairobi, Kenya); the Americas (Philadelphia, USA); Asia-West Pacific (Australia); Europe & Middle East (Cambridge, UK).

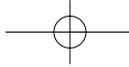
FWCC meets as a world body every three to five years when the representatives of the affiliated yearly meetings gather for a Triennial meeting which is organised by an International Planning Committee and the World Office in London, UK. FWCC activities and programmes are decided by the Triennial and Section meetings.

Further information about FWCC and its activities can be obtained from the World Office or the Section Offices, whose addresses are on the inside back cover of Friends World News. Contributions to the work of FWCC are always welcome and can be sent to any of the offices.

Friends World News

Friends World News, the bulletin of FWCC, is published twice each year. If you wish to receive a personal copy, please contact the World Office (or the Section of the Americas if you live in North America). There is no set subscription fee, but a donation to cover the cost would be welcome. Please send to the World Office anything you would like considered for publication in Friends World News – articles, letters, news, photographs and other illustrations, about the activities and religious witness of Friends. All materials received will be acknowledged although the editor cannot make any commitment to publish. Please say if you wish





FWCC Publications

- (1) Faith in Action: Encounters With Friends (£5/\$8)
- (2) 21st Triennial Talks - (set of 3) (£6/\$9)
- (3) & (4) World Gathering of Young Friends Study Book
Quaker Faith & Practice Around the World
£6 (\$9) each, or £10 (\$ 16) for both
- (5) Friends World News (twice yearly by request)
- (6) Triennial T-shirts (€9, £6, \$11) plus postage
- (7) Triennial Mugs (€20, £14 plus postage)
Contact the World Office for details
- (8) Cheerfully over the World, a handbook for isolated Friends (£5/\$8)

Contributions/Order Form

FWCC relies on contributions in order to carry out its ministry. To contribute to the work of FWCC please fill in the form below, indicating the amount of the contribution and your method of payment.

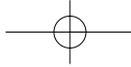
To order any of our publications: Circle the appropriate number on the list and enclose it with the form below to the World Office (address below).

Publications will be shipped with no additional charge. Fill in the form below, indicating the total cost of the items and your method of payment.

<p>Method of Payment: cheque or money order to FWCC in £Sterling or US\$ (circle one) or by PayPal via our website www.fwccworld.org</p> <p>Details of Payment:</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 70%;">Total Literature</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£/\$ _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Donation to FWCC general work</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£/\$ _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Donation for particular area of our work, including FWCC Sections</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£/\$ _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>_____ (please specify)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£/\$ _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£/\$ _____</td> </tr> </table>	Total Literature	£/\$ _____	Donation to FWCC general work	£/\$ _____	Donation for particular area of our work, including FWCC Sections	£/\$ _____	_____ (please specify)	£/\$ _____	TOTAL	£/\$ _____	<p>Name _____</p> <p>Address _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Please tick here if you would like a receipt <input type="checkbox"/> (For contributions only)</p>
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Donation for particular area of our work, including FWCC Sections	£/\$ _____										
_____ (please specify)	£/\$ _____										
TOTAL	£/\$ _____										

<p>SECTION OF THE AMERICAS 1506 Race Street Philadelphia, PA, 19102, USA E-mail: americas@fwccamericas.org Phone: +1 215 241 7250 Fax: +1 215 241 7285 Executive Secretary: Margaret Fraser www.fwccamericas.org</p> <p>AFRICA SECTION PO Box 41946 Nairobi, Kenya E-mail fwccas@gmail.com Phones: +254 2 570 077 +254 2 567 601 Executive Secretary: Moses Musonga www.fwccafrica.org</p>	<p>WORLD OFFICE 173 Euston Road London NW1 2AX, UK</p> <p>General Secretary: Nancy Irving E-mail: world@friendsworldoffice.org www.fwccworld.org</p> <p>From OUTSIDE the United Kingdom call Phone: + 44 207 663 1199 Fax: + 44 207 663 1189</p> <p>from INSIDE the United Kingdom Phone: 020 7663 1199 Fax: 020 7663 1189</p> <p>U.K. Charity 211647</p>	<p>EUROPE & MIDDLE EAST SECTION P.O. Box 1157 Histon Cambridge CB24 9XQ UK E-mail: emes@friendsworldoffice.org Phone: +44 1223 479585 Executive Secretary: Marisa Johnson www.fwccemes.org</p> <p>ASIA-WEST PACIFIC SECTION 17 Bourelet St Tarragindi Qld 4121 Australia E-mail: awps@fwcc.quaker.org Phone +61 7 3342 4887 Executive Secretary: Valerie Joy www.fwccawps.org</p>
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6th World Conference

Open place applications are now available from the World Office or via the website, www.saltandlight2012.org.

Registration fees include fees, room and board for the 8 days of the conference. This includes a one-day outing in the middle. For the first time, they will be tiered based on the GNP and PPP of the country you come from. The top tier is GB£525 (about US\$850 or Can\$820). The lowest tier will be £20. Everyone will be expected to pay a 'fair share'. There will be a "Travel and Accommodation Fund" to assist those from the poorest countries. **Your financial contributions to this fund are needed.**

The Programme

The Planning Committee has begun to develop the conference programme. It will be refined over the coming months but the basis is the following:

The World Conference is for all Friends. It is an opportunity for Friends to know one another, to recognize our differences, to be open to being stretched and challenged and to re-affirm our common roots. All Friends are welcome and are free to express their understanding of the Truth. It is an opportunity to learn experientially what it means to be part of the channels of Universal Love.

Worship will be central during the World Conference. Before breakfast each morning there will be multiple worship opportunities offered in different venues with different approaches to worship. Following breakfast, there will be a 90-minute plenary that combines worship with reflection on the theme, organised in turn by each section. The final plenary worship on Wednesday will be a "mosaic" of worship, growing out of all that had been experienced during the previous week. Each day will end with Epilogue.



Kabarak University, the Conference venue.

Home groups will meet every day, except the middle excursion day, following worship. Each afternoon there will be two time slots for **workshops/working groups**. For the first three days, World Conference delegates will be asked to commit to at least one three-day workshops/working groups. Workshop/working group topics will be solicited from delegates and will focus around five different themes: **Roots and History; Living the Kingdom; Salt and Light; Friends and other faiths; The Broken World.** At least 20 different workshop/working groups will be offered during each time slot, for a total of 40 offerings. The final three afternoons will provide a variety of opportunities for "**weaving the threads**". Representatives from each of the workshops/working groups will then meet to share and see what themes emerge and to plan the next afternoon sessions (which may be plenary). These sessions may result in a **message to the world** from the World Conference.

For more information, contact:

FWCC World Office
173 Euston Road, London NW1 2AX, UK
+44 (0)207 663 1199
info@saltandlight2012.org
www.saltandlight2012.org

