

[Azerbaijani](#)

[French](#)

[Indonesian](#)

[Kannada](#)

[Mizo](#)

[Mongolian](#)

[Portuguese](#)

[Russian](#)

[Spanish](#)

MEMORIAL TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE WESLEYAN CHURCH
FROM THE CARIBBEAN GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE WESLEYAN HOLINESS
CHURCH (2023)

This memorial seeks to amend the statement at par. 6765 of the Charter of the International Conference of the Wesleyan Church, which reads “*Amendments to the Essentials of The Wesleyan Church in Article 4 must be approved by a two-thirds aggregate vote of all General Conferences who are members of The International Conference.*”

Whereas the Essentials of the Wesleyan Church as contained in the respective Disciplines of each General Conference are deemed essential principles, beliefs and practices which cement our unity and character as Wesleyans across borders and cultures, and are too fundamental to our unity as a global church to be unduly influenced by the larger numbers of any one conference rather than the collective will of the united community, and:

Whereas it is important that this unity in terms of our orthodoxy and orthopraxis be preserved in the interest of our identity, image, witness and harmony among all members of our global church, and:

Whereas it is the right of each General Conference to express its views with regard to any provision which it deems not in its best interest and the interest of harmonious relations within the wider Wesleyan body, and:

Whereas it is only right, just, and proper to provide for each general conference of the Wesleyan church to have an equal place in the decision-making process as it relates to the formation, amendment, and preservation of the Essentials of the denomination, so that there can be no room for inequity, overreach or imposition of any one conference over another, and

Whereas a fundamental difference of understanding and a discord between practice and provision exist in relation to the statement at par. 6765 of the Charter of the International Conference of the Wesleyan Church, which if not corrected leaves room for misinterpretation, and the possibility of marginalizing, disenfranchising, and silencing the voice and vote of the Caribbean General Conference or any other conference on the basis of its inferior size, and:

Whereas this provision in its current form, if understood and applied as stated, would effectively put the North American General Conference, by virtue of its superiority of numbers, at a decided advantage in effecting amendments to the Essentials, and as such, would remove the principle of equity and parity that should underpin and give validity to a truly global church, and:

Whereas the provision, if practiced as stated, intrinsically, though not intentionally, undermines the principle of equality of status that is to be enjoyed by all general conferences and the very unity that the International Charter and the Essentials seek to promote within the Wesleyan

communion.

Be it resolved that the following amendment be made to paragraph 6765: The word “aggregate” be deleted so that the provision reads: **“Amendments to the Essentials of the Wesleyan Church in Article 4 must be approved by a two-thirds vote of each General Conference that is a member of the International Conference.”**