

Multicultural Ministry Advisory Group (MMAG)

Remit:

The MMAG exists to work closely with the Consultant for Multicultural Ministry and the Resourcing Team to:

1. assist the Synod of NSW and ACT to respond appropriately to the multicultural nature of the church and society as integral to its mission directions and priorities, and to reflect these in its policies and practices;
2. assist the Synod to ensure appropriate and meaningful representation of multicultural voices, perspectives and concerns in the various Synod agencies, committees, and councils;
3. identify strategies to:
 - support minority ethnic and multicultural congregations as they seek to be the people of God where they are;
 - support minority ethnic leaders and encourage ministry with second and third generations in the Synod, recognising the need to develop and nurture multicultural leadership;
 - assist the Synod to celebrate the different racial, linguistic and cultural backgrounds of its membership, encouraging all to participate meaningfully at all levels of the Church's life;
4. identify strategies for combating racism and for raising awareness of multicultural issues in the Synod and in the wider community, in collaboration with other committees and councils of both the Synod and the Assembly;
5. promote an active and mutually supportive relationship with the NSW/ACT Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress (UAICC).

Membership:

- (i) MMAG will have a balanced representation in terms of gender, generation, and physical ability
- (ii) Members will be appointed by the UME Board including:
 - six members representing the different regions around the world that are in this Synod:
 - African: Ghanaian, Sudanese
 - Arabic/Middle East: Armenian-Lebanese, Iranian, Palestinian, Syrian

Asian: *East Asia* – Cambodian, Chinese, Filipino, Indonesian, [Korean],
Vietnamese

South Asia (Sub-Continent) – Indian, Tamil

European/Mediterranean: Hungarian, Spanish, Portuguese, Anglo-Celtic

Pacific/Oceania: Cook Is, Fijian (plus Hindi Speaking), Niuean, Rotuman,
Samoan, Tokelauan, [Tongan]

- An Indigenous representative
- One Korean¹
- One Tongan²

- (iii) A convener will be elected from the MMAG membership every eighteen months
- (iv) The MMAG will report to the UME Board through the Multicultural Consultant in the normal reporting processes of the UME Resourcing Team
- (v) The MMAG will meet at least three times per annum
- (vi) The Consultant will be responsible for MMAG record-keeping

¹ The Koreans and Tongans are the two biggest minority ethnic groups in the Synod and it makes good sense to have one from each community in the Advisory Group

² Since the current Consultant is Tongan there is no need for another Tongan in MMAG unless a new consultant is appointed and such person is not Tongan