



DIOCESE OF LAPUA
BISHOP

REPORT OF THE WCC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING, 15 - 17 FEBRUARY 2021

The executive committee of the WCC met remotely to decide how the meeting of the central committee in June 2021 would be organised. At its previous meeting the executive committee requested the working group on constitution and rules it had established to explore the various options for meeting.

Based on the working group's report, the executive committee stated that the meeting in June 2021 would not be held in-person but by video conference. The meeting is essential because of the pressing issues requiring a decision. The churches must also be able to share their experiences of the pandemic. The electronic meeting of the central committee is based on Rule XVIII.8.

It is intended to address the following issues at the central committee's meeting from 23 to 29 June 2021:

- general administrative matters: the executive committee report, strategy update, membership issues, the delegation of matters before the General Assembly
- General Assembly matters: the APC report, the appointment of General Assembly delegations and additional delegates, the central committee report for the General Assembly
- the situation regarding the election of the new general secretary
- financial matters and the Green Village report
- other possible matters: the schedule and date of the next in-person meeting of the central committee

The arrangements for the meeting must pay particular attention to maintaining a quorum, and that the spirit and practice of the principle of consensus are realised. Ecumenical partners are asked to send their advisor to the electronic meeting.

The executive committee stated that a new general secretary could only be elected at an in-person closed session meeting of the central committee. The executive committee hopes that in the event of an easing of the pandemic such a meeting might be held in early 2022. The executive committee requests that at its meeting in June 2021 the central committee delegate to it the power to decide on the format of the final meeting, depending on the situation with the pandemic.

It is the view of the executive committee that a very large number of pending cases cannot be dealt with in an electronic meeting. This applies with additions and changes to the constitution and rules, for example. If the central committee cannot meet in person, the current central committee may need to refer pending matters to the future central committee for decision. The acting general secretary is to prepare a proposal to this effect for the central committee's meeting in June 2021. The executive committee will meet for its next video conference between 17 and 20 May and 25 May 2021. The next meeting will be held from 12 to 13 November and 15 to 17 November 2021.

Bishop Simo Peura
Member of the WCC Executive Committee