



REPORT – July 25, 2021

**The Path Forward -
IMLA/CLC Legislation Development
51st Quadrennial Session General Conference A.M.E. Zion Church**



To: The Reverend Dr. Anthony N. Witherspoon, IMLA President, Dr. Mary J. Matthews, CLC International President, The Reverend Dr. Eleazar Merriweather, IMLA Executive Director, Members of the IMLA_CLC Executive Boards & General Conference Legislation Development and Summit participants.

C: Members of IMLA_CLC

The Purpose of the report is to outline The Path Forward for IMLA/CLC Legislation developed for the 51st Quadrennial Session General Conference A.M.E. Zion Church, the paths were:

- 1. Select Resolutions passed through Annual Conferences Legislation Committees.
The resolutions were transmitted on the form developed by the General-Secretary Auditor for Annual Conferences.**
- 2. Select Resolutions passed through the Connectional Lay Council.**
- 3. Resolutions previously adopted by the GC but excluded from the BOD were forward to the Codification Committee with supporting documentation. Presiding Elder Shumake and Dr. Mary J. Matthews are members of said committee.**
- 4. The following General /Connectional Departments were promised support at this General Conference to adopt legislation and/or increase in financial Allocations: Judicial Council, Board of Records, Statistics & Archives, Zion Benefit Services, Bureau of Church Growth & Development, and Board of Lay Activities.**

**The Chart:
IMLA_CLC Legislation Development Summit
51st Quadrennial Session of the General Conference – Atlanta, GA
July 27 – August 1, 2021**

Legislation	Path Forward for Action	Resolution# or Report	Comments
Part IV – The Conference Part I-Young Adult Delegates to the General Conference	Mr. Ervin Reid – Western North Carolina Annual Conference	GC51-R33-2020 Young Adults Delegates to GC	Resolution developed provided for “strong consideration” by annual conferences to elect Young Adults (clergy & Lay) but not mandatory. The criteria are consistent with the guidelines identified in the current issue of the Book of Discipline
Part IX – Temporal Economy The General Administrative Boards: Connectional Budget Allocation/Appportionment	Connectional Lay Council	GC51-R54-2020 Proposed Methodology for Equitable Apportionment	
Paragraph 180_2016 BOD	Connectional Lay Council	GC51-R10-2020 Evaluation of Candidates for Preaching Licensure	This resolution was adopted at the 2015 Legislative Summit but was not submitted to the General Secretary/Auditor. Addresses “possession of a sound mind.”
Reference Part V “Clergy in Specialized Ministry.”	Connectional Lay Council	GC51-R20-2020 Pastoral Care Division	This resolution was adopted at the 2015 Legislative Summit but was not submitted to the General Secretary/Auditor. There is a necessity for proper Pastoral Care and the BOD has minimal reference.
Part IX – Temporal Economy The General Administrative Boards: Board of Lay Activities	Connectional Lay Council	GC51-R58-2020 Maintaining the Connectional Lay Council Bylaws in the BOD	The CLC President & Chair of Legislation received the resolution developed by the IMLA_CLC Legislation Development Committee. The resolution will follow CLC internal protocol to submit to the GSA.
Part IV – The Conference General Conference General Conference	Connectional Lay Council	Not Assigned-Dr. Matthews looking into the matter.	Commission on Legislative Process: Authority of Annual Conferences to Assess Resolutions for Merit/Non-Merit

Part IV – The Conference General Conference Part 2-General Conference Elected Delegate Criteria:	Mrs. Yvonne Baskerville - MAED	Eligibility for GC Lay Delegates	The resolution has been vetted by the full MAED resolutions committee. If the question is asked about combining it with the resolution for the young adults, the response should be, at this time that is not the desire.
Part V – The Ministry Bishops (Election of Indigenous Bishops)	Rev. Yolanda Lowe/Ms. Clarice Smith Jarvis - <i>Southwestern Delta</i>	Not Assigned - Dr. Mary Matthew – Has the documentation to support insertion into the BOD	Submitted resolutions to the Resolution Committee chair, Presiding Elder Barbara LaToison on February 15th. (Lowe)
Part VI – The Ministry, Local Exhorter	Rev. Yolanda Lowe/Ms. Clarice Smith Jarvis - <i>Southwestern Delta</i>	Not Assigned - Presiding Elder Barbara LaToison looking into the matter	Submitted resolutions to the Resolution Committee chair on February 15th. (Lowe)

The Connectional Department	IMLA_CLC Leadership Team	Summary: Committee Reports	Comments
Part IX – Temporal Economy The General Administrative Boards: Board of Records, Statistics and Archives – Historical Society	Rev. Dr. Darwin Little & Rev. Dr. J. Ruth Davis	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Committee recommendations were debated & the majority present at the IMLA Annual Meeting voted not to re-constitute the Historical Society as a separate department. 2. The voted included approval for a \$20,000 increase to the annual budget 	Review Departmental Report and be attentive to recommendations.
PART VII The Judicial Administration: Judicial Council	Mr. Jerry McCombs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The IMLA_CLC Legislation Development Committee recommendations were presented and embraced by the Judicial Council. 2. The committee worked with the President re submitting resolutions & a budget increase request to Chief Financial Officer 	Review Departmental Report and be attentive to recommendations.
Part IX – Temporal Economy The General Administrative Boards: Department of Church Growth & Development	Dr. Yvonne A. Tracey GC51-R38-2020 Revision of Chapter VII 2016 BOD Board of Church Growth & Development	The IMLA_CLC Legislation Development Committee presented & recommended editorial adjustments to the Resolutions Committee of the Department of Church Growth & Development due to the restructure of the Dept.	Review Departmental Report and be attentive to recommendations.

	<p>GC51-R39-2020 Anniversary Dates and Collections</p> <p>GC51-R38-2020 Quadrennial Church Growth & Development Evangelism Congress</p>	The CG&D Admin. Board met and agreed on a large portion of the editorial changes	
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Part IX – Temporal Economy The General Administrative Boards: Part 1 Board of Communications	Rev. Dr. Darwin Little & Mr. Demond Nichols	The IMLA_CLC Legislation Development Committee recommendations were presented and embraced by the Chief Communications Director/Editor.	Review Departmental Report and be attentive to recommendations.
Part IX – Temporal Economy The General Administrative Boards: Board of Christian Education – Schools & Colleges – Church School Literature	Rev. Dr. David McLean	The CED Secretary-Treasurer received the recommendations from the IMLA_CLC Legislation Development Committee. The CED Secretary-Treasurer asked the 3 rd Vice Chair of the CED Admin. Board to work with the committee re the next steps for each recommendation	Review Departmental Report and be attentive to recommendations.
Part IX – Temporal Economy The General Administrative Boards: Zion Benefits	Rev. Dr. Joel Miles and Mrs. Joyce Reid GC51-R30-2020 AMEZ 403 (b) (9) Retirement Plan GC51-R31-2020 Zion Benefit Services Property and Liability Insurance Program GC51-R32-2020 Training on Sexual Misconduct Policies	Several members of the Zion Benefits Admin Board worked with the Executive Director, Dr. Aiken, regarding recommendations from the IMLA_CLC Legislation Development Committee. The Executive Director, Dr. Aiken, has provided three areas of the work that need legislation to be adoption by the 2020 General Conference Delegates, the resolutions are listed.	Review Departmental Report and be attentive to recommendations.

Legislation	IMLA_CLC Leadership Team	Comments
Referred to Codification Commission: Reparations Motion	Dr. Mary Matthew – Has the documentation to support insertion into the BOD.	Resolution GC50-R08 – Adopted but Excluded from BOD <i>“The 50th Quadrennial Session of the General Conference directs that the Social Justice and Economic Development Committee evaluate the recommendation for an International call for Reparations and shape the parameters, policies and initiatives of the Pan-African Commission on Reparations.”</i>
Referred to Codification Commission: Continuing Education/Clergy	Dr. Mary Matthew – Has the documentation to support insertion into the BOD	Resolution # GC50-R27-2016 - Adopted but Excluded from BOD Category: Continuing Education for Clergy Subject: Continuing Education for Clergy
Passing the Character of Bishops	GC-51-R14-2020 Individual Accountability for Bishop	Mid Atlantic ED is Developed Resolution
Must do: Suspending the Rules (<i>Election of Indigenous Bishops for CSA in 2024 vs 2020</i>) Option: Suspending the Rules (Extending Tenure of select Judges on the Judicial Council)		

End of Report

Prepared by: *Dr. Yvonne A. Tracey & Rev. Erich Shumake*, Co-Chairs of Legislation

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