

Working report 2014

Our commission



Our tasks



How we work together



»But for me it is good to be near God« (Psalms 73:28)

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5 Our commission: Preface

Following the Biblical call, we are a communion of 35 Protestant churches in Africa, Asia and Germany and the von Bodelschwingh Foundations Bethel united in mission. Our roots are in the Rhenish Mission (founded 1828), the Bethel Mission (founded 1886) and the Zaire Mission (founded 1965). Since 1996, the UEM has been internationally organised and staffed and has its headquarters in Germany.

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Preface: We are God's stewards

It gives us great joy to present this working report for the last two years. Since the last General Assembly in Berastagi, Indonesia, we have had two years which have been very inspiring, but also challenging. The Lord has filled us with joy in His service, and we have experienced his presence and felt Him with us all along.

The work of the UEM and its members gives us examples every day of how vivid mission work is today. It would be impossible to report on every single project and programme realised over the last one-and-a-half years, but this working report aims to give at least an overview – once again structured according to the five working areas, as per our Corporate Identity.

These two years have been challenging because so many of our members experienced great sorrow: they faced calamities and bore witness through companionship and service. These normal disasters included a long drought in Namibia, an earthquake and typhoon in the Philippines, and volcano eruptions in Indonesia. Our members in eastern Congo and Rwanda were faced with ever-growing problems with refugees because of the political instability. In all of these difficulties, however, the solidarity of the UEM community encouraged us. Never before had we seen so many member churches supporting each other on the levels we experienced in the last year. We are very grateful to all those who extended their hand to help those in need and continue to trust the UEM as a responsible and competent channel for their support.

As you will read in this report, the UEM has continued to be strong and to improve its competences in many different ways. We strive to continue serving our members responsibly and smoothly and to respond to their needs appropriately.

We again thank all the members for their contributions to the UEM budget. In the last two years, all members have

maintained their support, with some even increasing it. We are grateful for the great trust you give to us, and we want to guard that trust by delivering what you want us to. Even so, the contributions by members from Asia and Africa do not yet correspond to the increased economic strength in these continents. They can and should contribute more, and we see the “United Action” programme as a good starting point. We urge all members in Africa and Asia to take the programme seriously and use it to increase their contributions significantly. We have started well and we intend to continue even more enthusiastically.

In this report you will see various materials that have been produced by or through the UEM to support the work we do together. They are a way of enriching each other and growing together, for example a diaconia workbook for mental health, an adaptation of “Open to Go” for evangelism.

With the completion of the construction of the International Evangelical Conference Centre in Wuppertal, a joint venture of the UEM and the Evangelical Church in the Rhineland, we are delighted to welcome you for the first time to meet in Wuppertal, where our mission is historically based.

We are grateful to the council that supervises our work, to the members who support us and give us advice, and to all donors who continue to support the work we do. And we are grateful to work with a very effective and harmonious Management Team, as well as all of our staff in Wuppertal, Bethel, Dar es Salaam, and Medan.

We thank God for the blessing he has put upon our work. Again we have experienced His grace and guidance in our work as churches and as the UEM. “This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found faithful.” (1 Cor. 4:1-2).



Regine Buschmann

Regine Buschmann
Moderator

Fidon Mwombeki

Fidon Mwombeki
General Secretary



We understand mission as a holistic commission, and we cooperate to carry out our task. This is why evangelism, diaconia, advocacy, development, and partnership are integral parts of our mission to spread the gospel. The UEM is global and works locally, in Africa, Asia, and Germany. To empower each other for mission, we share our resources and gifts and exchange staff and volunteers.

»The Spirit of the Lord is upon me« (Luke 4:18-19)

Our tasks: Evangelism

Because we believe in the Gospel as God's power of salvation and renewal:

- we jointly strengthen our spiritual life and develop and promote evangelistic projects to share the gospel with all people and invite them to trust in Christ.
- we promote joint programmes
- we promote theological exchange
- we encourage and support our members to learn mutual and respectful ways of encountering people of other faiths

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Evangelism and popular culture: "Open to Go"

The German edition of the UEM workbook

The activities around the UEM study process on Evangelism and Popular Culture were the major evangelism effort for 2012/2013. The German edition of the UEM workbook (entitled "Aufmachen. Wie wir heute Kirche von morgen werden") was edited, laid out, and prepared for printing. This was done in close cooperation with a Christian publishing house (Neukirchener Aussaat), which took responsibility for the production and marketing of the book. In April 2013, the book was launched with a public event in the church café at the Centro Shopping Centre in Oberhausen.

The print run of three thousand copies has been selling steadily, and reviews in various Christian publications have been overwhelmingly positive. A number of Christian magazines have asked to reprint chapters from the book. Very positive feedback has been received, especially from church staff working with youth and those involved with

training new pastors. Reports are also coming in that local churches are using the book in their own processes of orientation about future work. The book was nominated for the Protestant Book Award, but did not win.

A number of programmes were held in Germany to further publicise the book and the whole study process. On the Kirchentag in May 2013, youth from the UEM Young Adults' Network and several South-North volunteers took a large rolling model of the flying church from the book cover out to the public, asking passers-by about their wishes and dreams for a church of the future and distributing postcards advertising the book. This led to many lively discussions, and the more than three hundred written answers were collected and analysed. The results of the survey were published on the promotional website for the German edition (www.kirche-aufmachen.de). Another important event was a workshop on contextual evangelism within popular culture, held during a study day for about 120 church workers on "Communicating the Gospel" within the EKIR.



The English edition

In the meantime, the English edition of the book, entitled “Open to Go: How to Become the Church of Tomorrow Today” was prepared and laid out. The print run of thirty-five hundred copies was completed in September, and copies of the book are being shipped to all member churches – a process that has proven to be somewhat more complicated than anticipated due to different customs regulations. The book also comes with a dedicated website (www.open-to-go.org or www.church-of-tomorrow.org), from which pictures and a PDF of the whole book can be downloaded free of charge.



The English edition was used for a Madang Workshop during the WCC Assembly in Busan in November. About a hundred people participated in the very lively discussions, including church leaders from five continents, and they took copies of the book back to their respective churches to continue the work. UEM has not copyrighted the materials, and there is interest in using the book outside of UEM member churches as well.

The Indonesian edition

In October 2013, a small workshop was held in Berastagi/Sumatra to prepare the Indonesian version of the workbook. Attendants ranged from heads of evangelism departments to theological students. Some of the youth participants were found through a competition on Facebook: they were asked to give written comments on the English edition of the book, and those with the best insights were invited to the workshop.

The working atmosphere was very intense and positive, and the group – with coordination from the UEM Medan office – has taken over responsibility for the publishing process in Indonesia, including the choice of translator and the editing of the finished translation. The book will be published by BKM Gunung Mulia, the publishing house of the Indonesian Council of Churches (PGI). The official book launch is planned for August of this year.



Demon beliefs and deliverance

A number of member churches are continuing to work on the issue of demon beliefs and deliverance, using the documents from the UEM think tanks held in 2012. Evangelism Department funds were used to support activities in member churches that ranged from seminars for villages affected by witch-hunts to the production of a youth video.

Because the GA requested to include the topic in theological education as well, a course on the subject was held at Bar-men Theological Seminary during the summer term. Over two weekends, the nineteen participating students (including two doctoral students) discussed anthropological, ethnological and theological literature on the issue, considering not only the situation in Africa and Asia, but also in Germany. In the final session, students dealt with a case study from Germany and developed their own response.

The issue was also discussed in several partnership groups in Germany over the course of the year. The Indonesian Partnership conference dealt with “healing and deliverance”, and a partnership group in Unna held a study day on deliverance in the Tanzanian context.

The topic of healing through prayer continues to be much discussed in Germany. Two well-attended seminars were held for church elders during the EKIR’s “Presbyterinnen- und Presbyter-Tag” in March, and a number of further workshops and discussions took place in various congregations.

Evangelism for all: “Engaging the Unengaged”

The 2012 Africa Board recommended that the UEM member churches commit to renewing their evangelism departments to reach out to those people not participating in church life, so as to make them aware and invite them participate more in church. A small but intense workshop on “Engaging the Unengaged” was held in cooperation with the Africa Department for persons responsible for evangelism in the member churches around the Great Lakes. The participants exchanged views on how best to reach out to less engaged parishioners. They had very fruitful exchanges on the different successful evangelism programmes developed in the respective churches and have been visiting each other for further learning and exchange after the programme. Such subregional workshops have shown to be very effective and will be continued in other subregions.

The churches in North Sumatra in particular are reaching out to remote areas, including in South Sumatra, where many new congregations are being formed. These consist of native people but also those coming from other islands



*Rev. Esther M.
Gelloagan (UCCP)*

*Friska Susanti Simamora (GKPM)
at the church radio station*



such as Mentawai, Nias, and North Sumatra. Congregants live in poor conditions – no schools, no churches or hospitals, often no running water, and no proper housing. Their work on rubber and palm oil plantations is not easy and often badly paid. Though the member churches themselves are limited in funds and human resources, they build mission teams and send evangelists, Bible study teachers, and deaconesses to these new mission areas. The UEM supports their efforts by helping to fund Bible and hymnal printing, radio broadcasting, and other needs.

Training in clinical pastoral education

Two courses of clinical pastoral education (CPE) were conducted at HKBP-Balige Hospital and GKJW Mojowarno Hospital, East Java. These have helped to enhance the commitment and competence of church staff in strengthening the spiritual and community life of their congregations.

The UEM is beginning a collaboration with STT Abdi Sabda to offer training in CPE to pastors in North Sumatra after 2014. As decided by the UEM Council, 2014 will be the last year CPE will be offered as a joint programme. In addition, the GKJW wants to start annual CPE training courses in Mojowarno hospital for pastors and church workers. The rector of the deaconess school of the HKBP in Balige has informally asked the UEM to provide a CPE trainer for the diaconia students. They are in need of someone to supervise the programme because this school will offer a BA degree in Pastoral Counselling for its students. It seems that the need for CPE is growing, and we will find a way to support our members. The Africa region conducted an evaluation of the CPE programme as implemented. A redesign of the programme is expected for 2015.

Evangelism events

Two major evangelism events in Germany are being planned. In 2016, the EKIR will hold a conference on evangelism intended to draw up to eight hundred participants. In 2017, the German Coalition for Evangelism, which brings together Protestant, Evangelical, and Pentecostal churches and organisations, will hold a nationwide evangelism congress in Berlin. Work by the programme committee for the latter event has been difficult because of the differences in theology and practice among the organisations involved, but could prove very useful to the UEM in the long run as it allows the UEM major input into a very large and widely publicised event.

UEM prayer alerts and evangelism newsletter

The UEM Prayer Alerts have grown in frequency; they are very much appreciated by member churches and more requests for alerts have reached the Evangelism Department. Nine alerts were sent out in 2013, all of which elicited strong responses from member churches. The alerts are sent by e-mail to the approximately five hundred Evangelism Newsletter subscribers and are also publicised through the different UEM Facebook pages (Asia, Germany), reaching several thousand readers. They are an excellent instrument to help the UEM community to grow together in faith and care for each other. Five additional issues of the Evangelism Newsletter were produced and e-mailed and were also very well received.

Our tasks: Advocacy

Because we believe that human beings are created in the image of God and therefore have inalienable dignity and rights:

- we promote and defend human rights
- we support initiatives to solve conflict peacefully
- we join efforts to achieve just economic conditions and good governance
- we strive for the protection of the environment

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Climate justice and environmental protection

CO₂ compensation project with EAR

Together with the EAR in Rwanda and Bread for the World, the UEM explored possibilities in 2012 and 2013 as to whether the development department of the EAR Rural Development Interdiocesan Service (RDIS) could be tasked with implementing an energy-saving oven project in a rural area in the south of Rwanda. The project aims to reduce deforestation and decrease both CO₂ emissions and the high cost of firewood for local communities. After a feasibility study in cooperation with the UEM climate consultant, EAR now has developed a pilot project. The application has been endorsed by Bread for the World and the project has been funded with a total amount of €146,000. The UEM contributes about €50,000 annually to offset the



Energy saving stoves in Rwanda

carbon emissions of its flights and therefore can also benefit. It is expected that following its successful implementation, the project will be extended to other churches.

The UEM helps churches in North Sumatra provide assistance to benzoin tree farmers

In February 2013, sixteen benzoin tree farmers were arrested in South Tapanuli, Sumatra after protesting plans by the Toba Pulp Lestari pulp company to begin logging their ancestral forests. The community had already been visited by an international UEM team in May 2012, and UEM staff members met with the detained farmers in February 2013. Church leaders from Sumatra met with the police and issued statements expressing their solidarity with the victims. The UEM climate consultant has played a major role in the activities to support the farmers. The company has stopped its operations in the area for the time being.

Cooperation on climate justice with the World Council of Churches

In May 2013, the UEM climate consultants took part in a seminar on ecotheology at the annual meeting of the climate working group of the WCC in Bossey, Switzerland. There they shared the latest developments on climate spirituality and environmental concerns, as well as the activities taking place through the UEM.

The WCC then invited the UEM to take part in an ecumenical conversation on climate justice at the General Assembly in Busan in November 2013. The participants shared experiences, developments, and results from the UEM climate justice programme. In a “Madang” workshop organised by the UEM, church leaders from UEM member churches discussed the consequences for their churches and societies from climate change and environmental destruction and shared ideas on how to respond locally as well as globally within the UEM communion.



The WCC climate working group visited the EKIR and the EKvW.

The UEM and the WCC published a study and brochure on climate justice and human rights. Both materials were shared with delegates and participants in the General Assembly of the WCC in Busan. Advocacy on this matter will take place at the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva in co-operation with the WCC.

The UEM also hosted a meeting of the international WCC climate working group in Wuppertal in May 2014. The working group members had the opportunity to visit the EKIR and EKvW and gained insight into how churches in Germany are responding to climate change. They toured a soft coal open mining pit in the Rhineland and met with German politicians and experts to discuss the impact of the "energy change" in Germany.

Starting organic farming

Many congregations in our member churches are in rural areas, where they live off of agricultural products. Member churches promote ways to raise the income of local farmers without harming the environment. For example, churches in Asia have invested in developing organic farming and train personnel to inform and motivate farmers back home. The new organic farm at the HKI, the flourishing one at the GKJTU, and the coffee field at the GKPA are among many agricultural projects that the UEM supports financially.

Youth Climate Action Day

As a result of the EKvW youth campaign for climate justice, "Powered by Heaven", the UEM organised the first Youth Climate Action Day on December 8th, 2012, together with the EKvW and the One World network of North Rhine-Westphalia. Hundreds of young people in all three regions organised actions against climate change such as selling reusable bags, joining in a concert raising awareness of climate change, and planting trees. They shared information about these activities on Facebook and via Skype conferences.

Even more UEM member churches and youth groups from the churches – especially the African and Asian ones – participated in the second Youth Climate Action Day in December 2013. More youth groups, particularly in the German region, shall be mobilised to take part in the third Action Day, already set for December 6, 2014.

Advocacy

Great Lakes Region

The Kivu province in Eastern Congo continued to be affected by the armed conflicts between the rebel movement M23 and the Congolese Armed Forces during 2013. Thousands of suffering refugees have had to flee the bombardments and shelling. The city of Goma has also been affected, and many people have lost their lives. The CBCA continued to assist its members and the people in its region during this desperate situation. After several international intervention efforts, the situation began to calm down late last year and remains stable. However, the root causes of the conflict still remain, such as ethnic conflicts, weak national institutions, the presence of armed groups in the region, and the illegal exploitation of mineral resources. Together with the Ecumenical Network Central Africa, the UEM continues to call attention to these issues, including the unjust and often illegal exploitation of natural resources, where only a few will profit and most of the local population reaps no benefit at all.

In March 2014, the UEM collaborated with the Ecumenical Network Central Africa to host a conference in Wuppertal to commemorate the 1994 genocide in Rwanda, reflect on the peace and reconciliation process, and exchange sustainable solutions for peace and development in the central African region. Church leaders from the UEM member churches (in Germany, DR Congo, and Rwanda) participated in the debates. A North-South staff member working

Hundreds of young people took part in the first youth climate action day.



on the programme was deployed in 2013 to support the joint initiatives of the UEM Member Churches in Rwanda and DRC/Kivu for peace and reconciliation in the region.

The Philippines

Although there was much hope that the human rights situation would improve under the administration of President Aquino, the political killings and impunity continue to this day. More than 24 pastors and church members of the UCCP have been victims of political violence; the Philippine Action Network published a study in January 2014 documenting some of these cases. In February 2014, a delegation from the Network visited the Philippines for the second time and met with victims of human rights violations; leaders of the UCCP, NCCP, and the Catholic Church; human rights NGOs; the German Ambassador and leaders of German political foundations; representatives of the Philippine Army and police; and members of the National Commission on Human Rights. In meetings with the delegation, church leaders asked the UEM to continue its advocacy work and to urge the Philippine Government to officially and publicly remove the UCCP from a list where it appears as an enemy of the state. The UCCP maintains that this blacklisting has clearly contributed to a situation where pastors can be easily targeted.

West Papua

Advocacy work for West Papua is being carried out in close collaboration with the GKI-TP through the Secretariats of the German West Papua Network (WPN) and the International Coalition on Papua (ICP), both of which are based in Wuppertal. In September 2013, the ICP organised a three-day conference on Papua at the Ecumenical Centre in Ge-

neva. The consultation was hosted by the WCC. A member of the church board of the GKI-TP introduced the audience to the present situation in Papua: special autonomy has failed, but there has been no serious discussion of forward-looking solutions to stop the discrimination and marginalisation of Papuans. The ICP coordinator had spoken at a hearing of the EU parliament's subcommittee on human rights in Brussels in January 2013; the hearing took place as part of the negotiations on a cooperation treaty between the EU and Indonesia.

Germany

The human rights situation in Germany was assessed in 2013 under the Universal Periodic Review mechanism of the UN Human Rights Council. The German network of human rights organisations, known as the "Forum Human Rights", submitted a harsh alternative report to the office of the High Commissioner. In a public hearing with the government of Berlin in December 2012 and a side event at the Human Rights Council in April 2013, the UEM and other representatives of the Forum jointly addressed the shortcomings of German human rights policy, especially in the areas of migrant rights, combat of racism, rights of refugees within Germany and at the EU borders, and the inconsistency with human rights standards of German economic trade policies and arms trading.

Engagement with the German Government

Through the personal involvement of Dr Jochen Motte, the UEM has succeeded at constant and effective engagement with the government of Germany, helping to facilitate the

work of the Mission and its members. We have worked to address the country's restrictive visa policy, especially for people in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Rwanda, where visas are issued by the Belgian government as part of the Schengen agreement. Our interventions have been helpful, but the difficulties continue. In February 2013, Dr Jochen Motte was invited to meet with German president Joachim Gauck to share experiences and offer advice on human rights concerns.

Campaigning for equal opportunities for everyone

The annual UEM Human Rights Action was published in December 2012 to a positive reception from the German public; the 2013 edition focused on social inclusion. The Human Rights Action for 2014 is centred around education and was launched at the EkiR church headquarters in December 2013.

Promoting the rights of children

The UEM is currently actively promoting children's rights as part of the theme of the next GA in June 2014. This is done by supporting the institutions serving children in UEM member churches, especially those institutions serving children with different abilities. We provide funding to Yapentra (GKPI) for musical instruments and bursaries, and to Alpha Omega (GBKP) for operational costs and staff training. A house for the Colombo city mission where poor families and early school leavers can be trained in certain skills is another type of outreach project for the poor.



More than 100 international guests participated in the Rwanda conference in Wuppertal.



Advocating for human rights includes encouraging people locally.

Our tasks: Development

Because we are convinced that God's love continues to empower people:

- we support programmes that empower men, women, and youth
- we carry out training programmes
- we offer scholarships for higher education
- we build capacity in our member churches
- we contribute to overcoming poverty in all its forms

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The participants of the 2014 leadership training



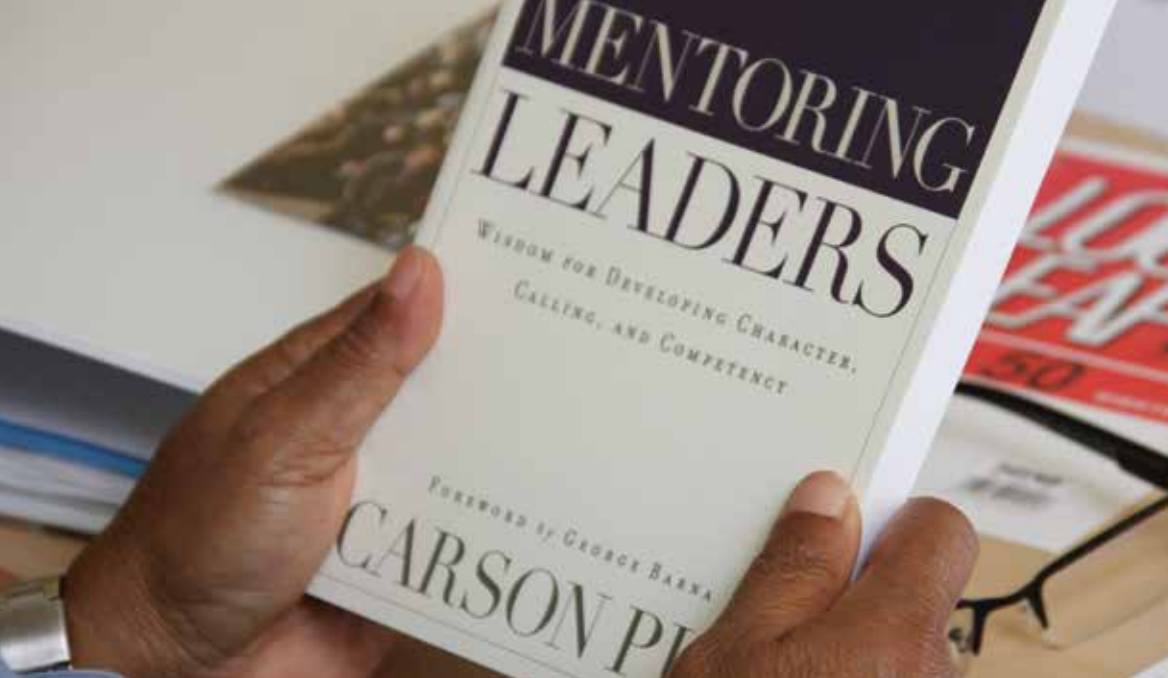
Prof. Dr Muriel Oreillo-Montenegro

Evaluating leadership training

As in previous years, leadership training has again been conducted in Germany for senior church leaders. The fourth UEM Strategic Leadership and Management Training took place from 3-14 June 2013 at the YMCA (CVJM) Bundeshöhe in Wuppertal, with excursions to Villigst, Bethel, and Berlin. The ten participants coming from Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Rwanda, and Tanzania were coached in strategic leadership and management. The action plans of the participants, to be carried out in their places of work and influence once they return to their home countries, demonstrate their commitment to use the leadership knowledge they have gained as part of a framework of vision, mission, strategic plan, infrastructure, leadership values, and leadership style. Several mid-level trainings in different churches were also supported. Now that four training courses have occurred in Germany, the UEM has decided to conduct an evaluation of these trainings so far. Two regional workshops in Asia and Africa are planned for 2014.

Mission Lectures

The UEM Mission Lectures were well implemented. In November 2012, Dr Brighton Katabaro from Tanzania gave a series of lectures about the charismatic movement and the challenges for churches – a topic of growing importance for the German Churches. In November 2013, Dr Muriel Oreillo-Montenegro from the Divinity School in the Philippines presented her insights on the theme, “The Jesus of Asian Women – Interweaving Christology and Mission in the work for Justice and Peace” at different universities, congregations, and synods in Germany. Rather than the head of department accompanying the lecturer, many pensioners offered themselves instead, to great joy and success. The UEM's eyes have been opened to this valuable resource. The topic seemed quite challenging for the audience, however, supposing the lectures to be very academic. The same is true for the title, “Mission Lectures”: the UEM should rethink the name of the series so as to attract a larger audience to these lectures that is not exclusively academic.



Mission studies

The development of mission studies as a subject at theological seminaries and universities in Hong Kong, the Philippines, Tanzania, and Wuppertal continues. A missiology professor from Tanzania has been appointed to be sent to Silliman University this year after more than a year of searching. However, more missiology experts continue to be needed by all of our members.

Scholarships

Twenty-five UEM scholars successfully finished their degrees at various universities and colleges in Asia, Africa and Germany in 2013, among them twenty master's and two doctorates. Another three doctorates were awarded in the first two months of 2014.

Thirty-one new students were awarded scholarships in 2013 that enabled them to begin their studies. The majority of scholarships are still granted to pastors, but an increasing number are awarded for studies in other areas: hospital management, finance administration, music, social work, and diaconic management.

Visits to scholarship holders and to universities and colleges in Asia and Africa offer very useful information about which institutions and even doctoral advisors to recommend. In 2013, meetings at Silliman University in Dumaguete, LTS in Hong Kong, PIASS in Rwanda, Paulinum in Windhoek, UNISA in Pretoria, and the University of Stellenbosch all brought helpful insights.

Meetings with a group of scholarships holders were organised in all three regions in the last two years. The Asian meeting was organised as a special consultation – the first of its kind – where 28 participants from the Asian member churches came together to present on the theme of “500 Years of Reformation” – theological contributions for the reformation of the church today. Most presenters were previous scholarship recipients, most of whom are presently lecturers, but several church leaders and some current doctoral students also presented papers, which were expanded on in lively discussions. There are plans to publish the papers and recommendations that resulted from the consultation.

The students, including previous scholars, want and need this chance to exchange their experiences from during their studies, examinations, and the start of their professional lives. This sometimes brings obstacles: the ideas of the returnees on one hand and the church leadership on



*Dr Hoyce Mbowe and Dr Dennis Solon,
scholars of the UEM*

Our tasks: Development

Ecumenical Leadership Training for young adults 2013-2014 in Hattingen, Germany: Benjamin Pfordt (EKvW) and Verena Keilberth



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the other about the future employment of the scholars sometimes differ. In several noticeable instances, no clear arrangement was made at the beginning of the studies; a change in the leadership of the churches may have interfered in one or the other case. Long-term personnel planning remains very helpful in meeting the needs of UEM members and even UEM programmes. The UEM scholarship desk would also like to suggest offering a few scholarships on special themes/urgent issues as defined by the Council or General Assembly; such competitive scholarships could be published among all UEM members.

The need to promote a “scholarship fund” was expressed as well: each church would have a fund where former scholarship holders would be invited to support potential students who need an education but cannot afford it because of a lack of financial support. Churches report solidarity initiatives in supporting the needy.

Working together: Church music and liturgy

There are several activities and plans in the UEM concerning church music and liturgy. Several member churches and their institutes would like to participate in international exchange and co-operation through the UEM. Examples are the development of a joint master’s course in congregational singing with the AILM/Manila by the College for Church Music Herford, the EKvW, and further training for pastors and others interested in international church music in the CMLS.

New concept for the CMLS

Work in the CMLS – in the still-new environment of the “Holy Mountain” International Conference Centre – is going well. Clients and customers have adjusted to the new environment and appreciate it. Programmes are running well. At the same time, discussion continues about the future concept of the CMLS. The demand for seminars has been decreasing for a number of years, while the interest in structured programmes of capacity-building and further training is growing. These findings were taken up during the process of renaming the CMLS in 2008, and the UEM is now working more concretely towards an updated concept. This entails various goals, such as gaining official (if possible even international) certification as a recognised provider of adult/professional education, jointly and in close cooperation with the T&E department; developing a new concept and structure for leadership training courses; developing a structured and differentiated collaboration with KiHO/IDM through regular talks and joint activities and developing partnerships with other German institutions of church leadership training.

International Conference on Informal Adult Education

To improve the knowledge and networking in the “lifelong learning” sector, in May 2014 the UEM invited twenty experts from UEM member churches to exchange methods and themes, build new networks, develop quality standards for interregional education programmes, discuss and



Participants of the international conference on Informal Adult Education

learn about the challenges and opportunities of informal education work in a globalised world, and update and sharpen their knowledge of the pedagogical theory of adult continuing education. Topics of the conference included e-learning and the internationalisation of education.

Ecumenical leadership training

Seventeen young adults finished their one-year ecumenical leadership training course in April 2014 – a course offered by the CMLS in cooperation with the EKiR. These young adults have learned about intercultural communication, critical whiteness, rhetoric, ecumenism, migration, and interreligious dialogue. The course was set up to empower young people for future leadership positions in the ecumenical world.

Educating children

Our member churches in Africa, Asia, and Germany attach great importance to education; the thousands of day care centres, schools, and universities affiliated with these churches are just one example. Early childhood education is becoming an increasingly important element. In Asia, for example, churches are beginning to establish centres to care for and educate children under five years of age (PAUD). The HKBP, GBKP, and GKPI are among the other churches in Indonesia that have invested heavily in early childhood education, with or without financial support from the UEM.



Early childhood education is important.

Our tasks: Interregional work with women

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International conference on single women

Encouraging women to use their knowledge in church and society

The October 2013 conference on single women, held at the conference centre in Wuppertal, was attended by 21 single women from Africa, Asia, and Germany. The conference was organised in order to address the various and urgent issues that single women face in church and society that are reinforced by culture, tradition, and legislation. The goal is to empower, support, encourage, and strengthen women to use their knowledge, skills, and capacities in church and society. The theme of the conference on single women was “The Challenges and Chances of Single Women striving for transformation in Church and Society.” Inspired by scripture, the women were encouraged to speak out about their experiences and build international solidarity to keep each other up to date about the situations of women in their respective communities.

Helping women overcome violence

A successful leadership training for women took place in Davao City, Philippines in November 2013. The theme of this leadership training was “Gender, Culture and Violence:



Leadership training on gender, culture and violence

Leadership training on gender, culture and violence



Dr Renate Jox (EKHN) and Dr Christiane Esser (EKiR)

Empowering Women through Healing and Wholeness” and was intended to address the widespread phenomenon of violence that is prevalent in all communities.

The patriarchal system of thinking and behaviour in church and society has considered women second-class citizens and therefore unfit for leadership positions. This training course was meant to help women overcome their own traumatic experiences of subordination and oppression and enable them to acquire the skills and talents to heal from their trauma, giving them the tools to become leaders in their own churches and societies. The training was attended by ten women from CADELU, ELCT-ECD, MC-SL, HKBP, GKPS, UCCP, EKHN, and EKIR. The participants were very happy to have the chance to be part of the training and promised to use the knowledge they gained to help other women in their church by sharing the lessons they had learned. The training venue has always been in the Philippines, so the majority of participants have always come from Asia. There may be a need to hold this type of training in other regions and countries as well.

Preventing violence

In January 2013, the JPIC department organised an expert seminar in cooperation with the German Region and its committees on JPIC and Women on the question of how churches can prevent violence against people due to their sexual orientation. A second seminar was held in January 2014 on human trafficking in Germany and the European Union in preparation for the General Assembly.

Our tasks:

Interregional Youth Work

*The participants
of the interna-
tional youth
project 2014*

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UEM volunteer programmes

For more than thirty years, the UEM has been sending young adults from Germany to Africa and Asia. Young women and men from member churches in Africa and Asia have been coming to German congregations or institutions for eleven years. And for the last five years, young volunteers have been building bridges between people and cultures and Africa and Asia. UEM is proud to be one of the first organisations to offer a South-South volunteer programme.

In 2013, 36 young people got the chance to encounter life and faith in other countries. They taught in day care centres and schools, supported nursing staff in hospitals, and worked with differently abled people in diaconic institutions. Inter-cultural exchange and mutual learning is a vital part of all programmes, and the UEM sets great value upon all three volunteer programmes being of similarly high quality. The officers in charge of the programme have therefore developed guidelines to ensure that all volunteers have the same rights and duties no matter where they come from.

North-South volunteer programme

The year 2013 marked the start of the QUIFD (Qualität im Freiwilligen Dienst) certification process for the North-South volunteer programme. In line with recent changes in the programme requirements of "weltwärts", each sending organisation must undergo a process of quality assessment and thereafter be certified as accredited organisation according to specific standards. The process will be finished in late spring 2014.

A cooperation agreement with the Reformed Church was negotiated and finalised at the end of 2013. From 2014 onwards, the UEM will provide two annual volunteer placements in South Africa for the Reformed Church. For a long time it was not possible to place any volunteers in Hong Kong and Sri Lanka, as they were not up to weltwärts pro-

gramme standards. Sri Lanka is considered an unsafe country for volunteers, while Hong Kong is not viewed as a developing country. The UEM has now finally been able to plan a placement in Sri Lanka for 2013/2014, and a placement in Hong Kong, projected for 2014/2015, both of which have been financed through additional fundraising activities among partnership networks.

Volunteer seminars were facilitated in Malang, Java in January 2013 and January 2014. Both seminars had twelve external participants registered in addition to UEM volunteers.

South-North volunteer programme

In 2013, the German Ministry for economic cooperation initiated a volunteer programme called "weltwärts" for the South-North volunteer programme. UEM applied for this programme successfully and took part in the pilot project. In 2014/2015, UEM will refinance four placements through government funding and therefore ensure financial stability for the future of the programme. The administration of weltwärts, as well as the application and administration of "Bundesfreiwilligendienst" (German volunteer service), has taken a lot of extra time in order to meet weltwärts requirements.

Several new placements for South-North volunteers in church congregations and diaconic institutions in Germany were successfully organised and accomplished in 2013, and new placements have been planned for future years, such as the Church of Lippe starting in 2014 and the Church of Hesse and Nassau starting in 2015. A collaboration with the South-North volunteer programme of another mission organisation in Germany, the Evangelisch-Lutherisches Missionswerk in Leipzig, was prepared in 2013 and was planned to start in April 2014. Two external volunteers from Leipzig are participating in the South-North volunteer seminars of the UEM and are fully covering the costs. This will create additional income for the UEM.



South-South volunteer programme

The South-South volunteer programme aims to give intercultural and ecumenical experiences to youth from other countries and regions and for them to contribute to the work of the social and diaconic institutions of UEM member churches. Two young people from the GKPA and GKPS were sent to the Africa region (placed in Tanzania, even from ELCT-KAD placed to EEC), while the Asia region received two young people from the Africa region (one from the EEC), who were placed in Sri Lanka and the Philippines, respectively. Within Asia, one young person from Hong Kong (CRC) was placed at the Angkola church (GKPA). The youth from Africa was unfortunately not able to come to Indonesia (HKBP) because of an inability to secure a visa in time. He ended up being placed in another African church instead and has reported a good experience.

International Youth Bible Camp

The first international UEM Youth Bible Camp was held in Botswana, coinciding with the African Regional Assembly in March 2013. Visa problems prevented any Asian youth from attending. Ten young people from Germany took part, coming from all six German member churches. Additionally there were 26 youth from ELCRN, nine from the Rhenish Church in South Africa (RC-SA), two from Cameroon (EEC), and one from Tanzania (ELCT-KAD) attending as international participants. The internationals were given a one-week exposure programme before the camp, organised by the ELCB, during which they stayed with families and got to know local congregations, youth work, and the diaconic work of the church. The camp itself, held at Woodpecker, was attended by more than 160 Botswanan youth. Bible studies, discussion groups, sports, and creative events were held over five days under the theme of "Talitha kumi – Rise up, for the God of peace and unity is on our side". Despite some organi-

sational difficulties, the feedback from participants was positive. After the camp, participants started a Facebook group of African UEM youth that continues to go well.

International youth project in Rwanda/DR Congo

In April 2014, 25 young adults from Rwanda, DR Congo, Tanzania, Burundi, Hong Kong, Indonesia, and Germany met in Rwanda and Eastern Congo for a project on the theme of "The Great Lakes in the Eyes of its Children". The young people visited projects combating child poverty, discussed the topic with church members, and worked creatively in workshops. The participants also learned about the 1994 genocide in Rwanda and were deeply moved by a visit to the genocide memorial in Kigali. The young women and men were impressed by the commitment and dedication of the churches, the congregations, and the young people within the churches. They promised to stay in touch via social networks and expressed their readiness to further engage in church projects. A film made during the project will be premiered at the GA in Wuppertal.

Networking young people: The Young Adults Network

Contact between the Young Adults Network and German UEM members is developing well. Activities included a seminar at the ERK on voluntary social services by young people, a youth conference on sustainable development in the EKvW, the regular podcast "OIPOD" on issues of mission and ecumenism, and a church-wide youth camp in EKIR in May this year. The South-North volunteers have been actively involved and took part in the meeting of the Young Adults Network. This makes the network more international, which the UEM regards as a very appropriate development.

Our tasks: Partnership

Because we understand ourselves as parts of the one body of Christ:

- we foster and support various forms of partnership among our members based on respect, mutuality, and transparency
- we facilitate exchange visits for staff, experts, and volunteers
- we create partnership networks to open up and strengthen multilateral relations

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Partnerships

There are 108 partnerships within the UEM, 71 with Africa alone. A certain number of additional partnerships are present within these existing partnerships that are institutional or project-based. The growing number of partnerships within the regions shows an increasing commitment to the idea of the UEM. To name two examples, the GKJW has started a partnership with the Keerom congregation of the GKI-TP, and the GKJTU has signed a partnership agreement with the GKPM. The EAR-Butare Diocese and the ELCT-KAD Diocese have exchanged their first official delegations.

School partnerships

The UEM has received an increasing number of requests to support school partnerships. There is a public interest in such work in Germany, and public support is available for schools. It is important for the UEM to find our role in this development. The Centre for Mission and Leadership Studies will host a consultation on this during the second half of 2014.



The ELCRN partnership consultation in Bad Driburg 2013



Immerius Sakarebau, General Secretary (GKPM) and Petrus Sugito, Vice President (GKJTU)

Broaden academic partnership

There is a growing interest in cooperation between universities in our three regions, and within the regions as well. The Department of Training and Empowerment is exploring a possible academic partnership between Silliman University and Tumaini University Makumira that would involve several faculties as an example of South-South International Partnership. The UEM would like for this kind of academic partnership in the South-South context to be broadened in the future. Other emerging partnerships are being considered between several German universities and training institutions and Asian and African universities. Our capacities are limited, however, and we are not yet sure how effectively we will be able to do this.

Example of partnership work: Regional Round Tables

The Africa and Asia departments have been regularly inviting German partnership groups to specific Round Tables for churches or dioceses. These provide the latest information regarding developments in the African and Asian churches and create a forum to discuss projects or special needs, as well as fostering joint activities and organising travel to Africa and Asia or the itineraries of delegations coming to Germany. The idea is to provide a platform for networking and information-sharing on the current developments in the churches. The Asia Regional Office has started organising similar Round Tables for the partners in Indonesia.

Support of partnership work

In the African region, a working model has been chosen to meet the needs of partnership work. Six partnership contact persons were appointed after the international partnership conference in Parapat, North Sumatra in 2012 and are being coordinated by the regional office in Dar es Salaam.

In Asia, the main contact person for partnerships is the regional officer for partnership, who is responsible for strengthening South-South and South-North partnerships as well organising regional partnership seminars and Round Tables. The staff members in the Asia Department are assisting with this in order to enhance the work on partnership. The new institutional form of partnership, e.g., diaconic institutions, schools and theological institutions, is being intensified, as are the trilateral partnerships that are being further promoted among churches and institutions in Asia with prospective German and African partners.

Partnership consultations

The ELCRN partnership consultation took place from 21-26 April 2013, with delegates from all partnership groups (one from Germany, one from Namibia) attending, plus representatives of the ELCRN administrative board, the EKIR, and the EKvW, as well as UEM staff. Participants discussed and approved the new partnership agreement, known as the "Bad Driburg Agreement". A new solidarity fund mechanism was adopted and implemented in order to coordinate and streamline the usage of project funds. The Bad Driburg Agreement was published in English and German and was widely distributed among the partnership groups.

Thirty delegates from the Simalungun Church in North Sumatra (GKPS) and its German partners met in Leichlingen, Germany on 24-28 May, 2013 to discuss topics such as communication between the partners and the organisation of financial transfers for programmes and projects. The final paper updated the agreements of 2008, including current

Our tasks: Partnership

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ecumenical discussions such as environmental concerns, human rights, issues of violence, and the peaceful coexistence of different faiths. The importance of participation by women and youth is stressed in the paper.

Partnership seminars

All of the partnership seminars in Germany were well attended, with an average of twenty to fifty participants at each. In November 2013, the UEM organised a special symposium in cooperation with other German mission societies to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the ELCT. The speakers from Germany and Tanzania highlighted different stages in the development of the ELCT in connection with the trends in Tanzanian society.

The Asia-wide Partnership Seminar in Medan was attended by 49 representatives from Sri Lanka, the Philippines, and Indonesia. The main resource person was Bishop Erme Camba (UCCP), one of the founders of the UEM, who expounded on the biblical-theological foundation and socio-historical milieu of "Missio Dei" as the core basis of UEM and its orientation towards partnership.

Partnership manual "Of Strangers and Friends"

The new partnership manual, entitled "Of Strangers and Friends", was published in November 2011 with an initial print run of two thousand. A thousand had already been sold and distributed by Christmas 2011. Other mission organisations and churches now use the manual as a blueprint to help in creating their own. The book has been translated into English and was sent to the regional offices



in Dar es Salaam and Medan, where working groups will be established with the charge of contextualising the content. Partnership manuals specific to Asia and Africa will be available by 2015.

Multimedia PowerPoint presentation

To empower partnership groups to use the partnership guidelines more intensively, the UEM has published a multimedia PowerPoint presentation in the German language with the title "Growing Together as God's People – Partnership Guidelines for the UEM and its Members", together with a handbook of pedagogical material. The professional presentation supports the development of guidelines for partnership groups, while the handbook helps groups make practical use of the presentation and gives ideas for group work. The presentation is a result of the International Partnership Conference, which suggested that the partnership guidelines be made more attractive and disseminated further.

*Naomi Kisting
(ELCRN) and
Frauke Bùrgers,
Head of CMLS*



European Jews, Christians, and Muslims meet in Wuppertal

In March 2014, fifty men and women from England and Germany came together for the 41st International Student Conference of Jews, Christians, and Muslims in Europe (JCM) at the Auf Dem Heiligen Berg (On the Holy Mountain) conference centre in Wuppertal.

JCM has been a pioneer in facilitating meetings among representatives from the three Abrahamic religions. Among numerous interreligious initiatives, many of which were often themselves launched by the JCM experiment, JCM continues to stand out for its unusually open and direct personal meetings between people of different religions. For ten years, the UEM has been one of the sponsors of the now forty-year JCM process, along with Jewish and Islamic organisations.

The theme of this year's meeting was "Dialogue and Beyond: Interfaith Contributions to a Just Society". Forty years of dialogue have not only given participants in the JCM process (who now number in the thousands) a better understanding of other religions, they have also encouraged them to be sensitive and open to others. It was easy to notice this in the interreligious discussion groups, which represent the core of all JCM conferences. A few clear ground rules create a protected atmosphere for discussion, where prejudices and biases can be addressed frankly and openly within the group. For example, one rule is that each person speaks for themselves; no one speaks in the name of their religious community or institution. This creates an atmosphere of trust and friendship, where little groups will sit together until late at night, sharing elements of their lives and beliefs. The high point of the conference came at the end of the week, when the religious communities

represented at the conference invited one another to take part in their respective worship services.

Pastoral college in South Africa

Thirty pastors and theology lecturers spent the beginning of November 2013 at Mariannhill in South Africa, studying and working together on the topic of "Community in Times of Globalisation". They came from Germany, South Africa, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Namibia, Rwanda, and the Democratic Republic of Congo, and deliberated on their work as pastors in view of the challenges of globalisation. The pastoral college was a joint effort led by the UEM, the Institute for Mission, Ecumenism and Global Responsibility of the Evangelical Church of Westphalia, and the Department for Religion and Theology of the University of KwaZulu Natal.

Each day of the seminar programme was devoted to a group of themes, including HIV/AIDS, gender, the critical relationship between church and state, joblessness, and poverty, as well as pastoral identity. Lectures by experts in these subjects created a starting point for work in each group of themes. All participants contributed their own experiences from their respective contexts, and reflected these theologically in their suggestions for discussion. The programme also included group work, excursions to congregations, and projects in KwaZulu Natal.

All of the presentations from the pastoral college are being compiled into a book on the theme of "Community in Times of Globalisation" that should serve as a reference far beyond the event itself.

Our tasks: Diaconia

Because we confess that all human beings are created in the image of God:

- we maintain grassroots networks to fight HIV and AIDS and care for orphans, widows, and people infected with HIV
- we work to improve peoples' living conditions, especially those with special needs
- we strive to improve medical care and promote physical and psychological health for all people
- we support churches as they assist people in need as a result of human or natural disasters

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Supporting churches in emergency cases

Typhoon Haiyan/Yolanda

Emergency work was again a major task for some of the UEM member churches over the last two years. The Philippines were badly hit by typhoon Haiyan/Yolanda in November 2014. The UCCP did its utmost to support the people in need, but was also severely affected as many churches and church institutions had been damaged or even been destroyed. The UEM community stood together as one and supported the UCCP with substantial financial means as well as prayers and solidarity actions. The visits of moderator Regine Buschmann and vice-moderator Barbara Rudolph to Tacloban in January 2014 were highly appreciated, as was the visit by ARB members and Asia staff after the Asia regional board meeting in Cebu in February. With the UEM's support, the UCCP has now begun rebuilding churches and houses and helping to

restore people's livelihoods by supplying items such as fishing boats, seeds, and livestock to the affected fishers and farmers in the Visayas region.

Volcano eruptions

Two volcano eruptions in Indonesia challenged other UEM member churches. In North Sumatra, the GBKP took care of thousands of refugees after the eruptions of Mount Sinabung in Karoland. The refugees are still being cared for at the GBKP shelter, putting the church at the limits of its capacities but also showing the importance of the church to the people there. The solidarity of other Asian churches also came to the fore during this time, just as it did after another eruption of Mount Kelud in East Java, where the GKJW had to take care of some thousand refugees as well.

The UEM supported GBKP financially with a retreat for the 182 volunteers.



The Philippines were badly hit by typhoon Haiyan.



Regine Buschmann, Moderator, and Reverend Barbara Rudolph, Vice Moderator, distributed relief goods.



Drought in Namibia

The Namibian drought in 2013 affected hundreds of thousands of people. Together with the Lutheran World Federation (LWF), the UEM supported its member church ELCRN in giving aid to the people in danger of starvation and loss of livelihood.

Conflicts in eastern Congo

The CBCA played a major role in caring for the refugees during the conflicts in eastern Congo, providing medical help in its hospitals and health centres as well as counselling for the traumatised children and adults. In a region without functioning structures of the state, the CBCA remained a tower of strength to the people (see also the “Advocacy” chapter). In the last month the situation seems to have settled down a bit, giving the church more space to reach out to the people.

UEM started organising a qualified certification course on trauma healing for grassroots-level staff.

International Diaconia Programme

The International Diaconia Programme continues to develop well. The main challenge, as before, continues to be how to address the many and various possibilities and offers/demands for cooperation and engagement under the programme. It is very difficult to decide what to take up – so many issues are innovative, needed, and appropriate for the UEM – and, even more difficult, what to simply leave out. The UEM can bring its international perspectives and contacts into the ongoing debates in our society and looks forward to the discussions planned about the future structure of the International Diaconia programme. One part of future development is third-party funding, which the UEM hopes to increase.

Capacity building and qualification at all levels

The International Master Course in Diaconic Management has been very successful. The first course ended in April 2013 with a graduation ceremony and an international symposium, “Studying Globally, Managing Contextually, Acting Responsibly”.

The second course started in May 2013 with eight women and five men, who came from Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Cameroon, Rwanda, DRC, Tanzania, South Africa, and Namibia. The courses are evaluated according to content, outcome, and financial feasibility for the future of the programme.

UEM continues to offer international diaconic internships for students in the areas of diaconia, social work, and health sciences. In 2013, three interns got an inside view of several diaconic institutions in Namibia and Botswana. In 2014, five students from Bochum and Bielefeld will have a chance to work in institutions in the Philippines. Each year at least one of the students has had to cancel or shorten the internship for personal reasons, but the impact of the internship seems to be valuable: participants have spoken of changed views and the big impressions the experiences have left on them. Some participants have already written their bachelor's thesis about topics arising from their stay abroad.

In cooperation with SEKOMU University, Tanzania, UEM sent several short-term lecturers to support the bachelor's study course on Mental Health.

Mutual learning

In March 2013, a workshop on the topic of marginalised children was conducted at the Centre for Mission and Diaconia in Bethel, Bielefeld. Eight participants from UEM member churches and associated churches in Ghana and Argentina discussed and exchanged knowledge, views, and experiences, and ultimately recommended mainstreaming the issue through sermons and programmes.

In June 2014, the UEM hosted an international workshop on inclusion together with the heads of institutions for children with disabilities from all three regions.

A major highlight was the publication of the first issue in a new book series, “Diaconia in Practice”. Diaconic institutions in Africa and Asia are working to increasingly high standards today. Because there are few good hands-on manuals available in English for hospitals and social services, however, UEM launched this new book series. The first volume of the series offers practical guidance on providing treatment and support for individuals with intellectual disabilities suffering from psychiatric disorders. The UEM published this book in cooperation with Stiftung Liebenau, the St.-Lukas Klinik, and the v. Bodelschwingh Foundation Bethel.

Thematic Focus Areas

Ageing and the various forms and issues connected with it were a major topic in 2013. A report on the topic of Ageing in the UEM was discussed and published. A workshop on “Changing Society: Ageing in Ghana, Togo, and Germany” was conducted in cooperation with the Norddeutsche Mission.



*Students of the first
International Master
Course in Diaconic
Management*



The UEM also published a DVD and workbook of a workshop with former missionaries from Germany and Tanzania, entitled “Wazee – Images of Old Ages”.

In cooperation with the von Bodelschwingh Foundation Bethel (vBF Bethel), the UEM organised a visit and exchange for the leaders of a home for the elderly in North Sumatra. They were sent by the GBKP to experience old-age care in Germany. A cooperation between the vBF Bethel and the United Church of Christ of the Philippines on the topic of age care education was started and is being supported by the UEM.

Roles of deaconesses and deacons

In cooperation with two UEM member churches in Tanzania, the UEM is giving four deaconesses the financial support to obtain a government-approved education.

Inclusion

As part of the UEM poster and fundraising campaign on the topic of inclusion, the UEM is using its function as public advisor to help assist people with mental disabilities. The UEM was asked to organise a bachelor qualification for a Tanzanian pastor with physical disabilities. The challenges of finding a suitable university were met, and the pastor will be able to take part in the bachelor's course in mission studies and international diaconia in Hermannsburg, Germany. The challenge of finding financial support for this unique situation has not yet been solved, however.

Centre for Mission and Diaconia

The links between the International Diaconia Programme and the traditional educational work of the Centre of Mission and Diaconia are obvious in many ways.

The programme of “Diakonie erleben” (experience diaconia) for confirmation classes was run in cooperation with the vBF Bethel during the Easter holidays 2013. A manual for the work with confirmands on the issue of handling and wasting food, “Ab in die Tonne”, was published in 2013.

Language courses to support communication and understanding among UEM members, their partnership groups, and volunteers were conducted throughout 2013. Besides Kiswahili, Bahasa Indonesia, and Tagalog/Filipino, a new course on Kinyarwanda was also established.

The long-term collaboration between the former Bethel Mission and UEM member churches was recognised during an exhibition celebrating 125 years of East African Mission and the international festival in Bethel.

Once the UEM Council made its decision about the future of the Centre for Mission and Diaconia, the year 2013 was devoted to conceptual discussions, during which the CMD has been working on developing decentralised programmes for confirmation classes and on training and qualifying volunteers. The restructuring of the CMD also includes a change to the fair trade shop, Weltladen, which has been running for 34 years.

How we work together

Our members from Africa, Asia, and Germany have equal rights in governance. Our decision-makers – women, men, and young adults – come from all three continents. All decisions about our work are taken on the basis of our common rules and regulations and our joint budget. We manage the resources entrusted to us transparently and conscientiously and account for them together in faithful stewardship. In working and living together, we learn from each other and are willing to be transformed and renewed as we experience that our partaking in God's mission also changes our lives and our work.

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Following the restructuring of 2008 and 2009, the last two years have been characterised by a consolidation process in both personnel management and the financial administration of the UEM. In spite of the volatile financial markets, the UEM was able to stabilise its income base, especially regarding investment proceeds and rental income. As for the demographic developments in Germany, the UEM expects donations in Germany to decrease in the long run and has thus started to widen its fundraising approach to Asia and Africa with the "United Action" campaign, increasing ownership by the churches in the South.

Managing resources: Income development and investments

The UEM relies on contributions from its members, revenue from donations, reimbursements of expenditures for personnel exchange and volunteers, and proceeds from leases and investments. All members have honoured their commitments and some have even exceeded their pledges. The income from investments was at normal levels in 2013 but is expected to decline in the coming years because of the low returns in the European financial markets. The UEM has invested the majority of its funds with two internationally renowned investment companies. An investment committee whose members have bank expertise or other economic qualifications monitors and evaluates the performance of the UEM funds on a regular basis. During the global financial crisis, all investment companies followed a strategy of risk

aversion and decreasing investment in stocks, focusing mainly on bonds and products with high investment grades. Investment proceeds were transferred by the investment companies as budgeted.

In 2013 the UEM Council decided to invest some money in Maendeleo Bank in Dar es Salaam. Since then, the bank has been registered with the Central Bank of Tanzania and started business operations on 9 September 2013. The bank has so far performed better than the projections of the business plan. Acquisition of customers has exceeded expectations to the extent that the bank is currently negotiating with the ECD about expanding office space. The managing director is positive that the first payment of dividends to stakeholders will be possible after three years, as projected in the business plan. The UEM has a right to a seat on the board of directors. During the 2014 financial year, the value of the UEM's shares has increased by 20 per cent, from TSH 723.1 million to TSH 867.7 million. In applying the lower of cost or market principle, the UEM balance sheet shows the original purchasing price. The UEM has also supported the microfinance project CAMED in Cameroon. The Executive Secretaries for Africa and Finance & Administration met the Board of Directors and the General Manager in 2013 in order to get insight information on the progress made.

Over the past two years, the UEM has been able to stabilise its income sources and in 2013 was even able to increase the donations it took in, particularly because of the enormous



"Walk a mile" was a successful event for United Action.

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response to the emergencies in Indonesia and the Philippines. A task force with members from the Fundraising Team, the Asia Department and the Communication and Media Team took charge of coordinating communication, fundraising, and project implementation for the typhoon relief work in the Philippines and the volcano eruptions in Sumatra and Java. The Management Team adopted an emergency plan for the UEM based on the experiences with these three natural disasters.

The fundraising results show an increase of 24 per cent in donations from €2.84 million to €3.53 million, partly due to the high emergency response to the typhoon in the Philippines but also because of the United Action results and the fact that more church districts and congregations are transferring project funds via the UEM. With the demographic developments in Germany decreasing the numbers of church members and the high level of competition between charitable institutions in mind, however, it is evident that new avenues for fundraising must be assessed. New areas of institutional fundraising have been established. In addition to the funding of the North-South volunteers programme, the UEM was able to gain the support of the German government for four South-North volunteer positions. The scholarships for the diaconia master's programme have also been funded by various institutions. Finally, a three-year agreement with the Italian Waldenser Church has been signed that will support UEM programmes with up to €200,000 annually from Italian government funds.

United Action

Based on the GA decision in Berastagi/Indonesia in 2012 and the endorsements during the Regional Assemblies Asia and Africa in 2013, members in both regions succeeded in implementing the United Action campaign and responding to the emergencies in the Philippines and Indonesia at the same time. The target of €50,000 for 2013 was exceeded in both regions. Total income of €72,000 from African and Asian members has been accounted for in the regional offices and in Wuppertal.

Several Asian members directly contributed to assisting the typhoon victims and the people that lost their homes after the volcano eruptions in Sumatra and Java. For example, the auditors have established that the congregations and districts of the Sumatran members contributed more than €75,000 to the GBKP to help the Sinabung victims, not counting the thousands of hours of work by volunteers. A solidarity fund was also initiated in Africa to support sisters and brothers affected by human or natural disasters: African churches gave financial contributions to the CBCA (affected by war), the ELCRN (affected by drought), and the UCCP (affected by the 2013 typhoon). Council and Management Team members supported the United Action campaign throughout the year.

A wonderful example of a successful project within the framework of United Action was the "Walk a Mile" event on

the 180th birthday of I.L. Nommensen on 6 February 2014, a walk by hundreds of members from all the Sumatran UEM churches, including the UEM moderator and vice moderator for Asia as well as the leaders of eight UEM member churches, Nommensen's great-great-great grandson, and a UEM Council member. After the walk, the moderator and the vice moderator laid the cornerstone for a new building on the campus of HKBP Nommensen University. Several items were auctioned immediately following the service, in a church filled to capacity on an ordinary working day, and these generated more €5,000, especially the walking sticks used by the moderator during her walk and in her sermon on Psalm 23. The "Walk a Mile" event is a great example of the creativity in fundraising in the Asia region and might institute a new tradition among the Asian UEM members.

Both Regional Boards have discussed several ideas and strategies for how to reach the target of €150,000 for 2014. The UEM Sunday and UEM Week will play a special role in both regions. Ambassadors have been appointed to the Africa Region in particular, while the Asian members have distributed 10,001 delightful boxes to families to be used for small currency donations that will be collected during 2014. All AsRA members have already committed themselves to contribute to United Action personally.

Working together: Personnel development

During the last two years the UEM has been compiling comprehensive personnel guidelines, both by integrating existing policies and developing new concepts. Guidelines on dealing with emergency situations such as war, assault, and natural disasters are being finalised. Staff from all levels of the UEM administration have received further training in different professional fields.

Attention to gender and other aspects of the German General Law on Equality (AGG) has been observed continuously during the personnel recruitment process for Mission House, the CMLS, and the CMD. The percentage of female staff at the UEM has slightly increased, from 68 per cent in 2012 to 69 per cent in 2014. The gender ratio in executive positions (Management Team and a few others) has been maintained (62 per cent male, 38 per cent female) throughout 2013 and 2014. A third of the UEM positions in the Wuppertal office are part-time positions.

As for international personnel exchange, a total of 27 positions are currently filled in Africa, Asia, and Germany. In addition, several senior experts and short-term consultants have been assigned to assist the churches in the programme areas of diaconia, advocacy, and theological training. The gender ratio in personnel exchange has remained stable since 2010 (46 per cent female, 54 per cent male). As of June 2014, a total of nine staff members are employed in the North-South exchange. Two positions are partly financed by the EED. The Protestant Church in Germany also reimburses part of the position in the ELCT-ECD because the staff mem-



ber also serves the German congregation in Dar es Salaam. Seven staff members from Africa and Asia are serving in German districts, congregations, or institutions (South-North) and eleven staff members occupy positions in the South-South exchange programme.

Managing resources: Annual accounts

The CURACON auditing firm in Düsseldorf, Germany audited the financial statements of the UEM for 2012 and 2013 in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards. The audit was performed with knowledge of the UEM's activities and the economic and legal environment of the UEM, with particular consideration for the changes in the UEM constitution. Since 2010, the UEM has maintained the UEM Trust in order to safeguard its pension obligations to former employees. The initial capital of €2,000,000 has decreased over time to €1,635,000 based on the actuarial calculations of an insurance company. The balance was therefore transferred to the UEM Foundation. As a consequence of all the measures taken by the UEM, the auditors were able to issue an unqualified opinion for the audits in 2012 and 2013.

Real estate: Conference Centre Wuppertal

Based on a feasibility study and an architects' competition thoroughly assessed by the Finance Committee, the Council decided to alter and renovate the conference centre on the Holy Mountain in Wuppertal. Most of the building work was

completed in 2013. At the same time the EKIR built a new kitchen and dining hall adjacent to the conference centre. Both buildings are now operated by a charitable limited liability company under the supervision of a new business manager with hotel experience. Both stakeholders had subsidised the conference activities heavily in recent years. The conference centre began operations in September 2013 under quite difficult circumstances, since the construction work on both buildings was still going on. The business manager has worked tirelessly to merge the different teams and serve the customers. In spite of all difficulties, including a very high rate of employee illness, she has succeeded in raising the standards in catering, accommodation, and customer service significantly. External guests in particular have appreciated the quality of services and the friendliness of staff. The number of rooms sold during the first nine months was higher than expected, but it will take several years until the annual expenditure is fully offset by the actual income.

Transparency and conscientiousness: The DZI Seal



In 2006 the German Central Institute for Social Issues (DZI) awarded its seal of approval for charitable contributions to the UEM for the first time. By awarding this certificate every year since it was first bestowed, this highly renowned German institute has certified that the UEM is conscientiously using the money entrusted to it, acting in accordance with its UEM constitution, and that the UEM provides transparent

accounting. Even after revising its guidelines, the DZI again renewed the seal in 2013 and 2014, following a thorough assessment. The UEM is allowed to use the DZI seal in all of its publications to prove that its financial administration adheres to accepted standards.

Faithful stewardship: The UEM Foundation

The UEM Foundation was established in 2005 in order to ensure the financial sustainability of the UEM. Supporters of the foundation either contribute to the work of the UEM in general or to specific programme areas. Since 2010 the capital of the foundation (including reserves) has grown 17 per cent, from €5,881,060 on 1 January 2012 to €6,874,134 on 31 December 2013. This growth is a result of the capital transfer from the UEM trust, the transfer of three houses in Wuppertal from EKiR to UEM ownership, and the proceeds from legacies and additional endowment contributions from members in Asia, Germany and Africa. The success in raising additional endowment contributions for the UEM Foundation is another good sign that members' growing sense of responsibility for UEM affairs includes financial support.

Ecumenical cooperation

The UEM continues to be a faithful and reliable player in ecumenical circles, for example in cooperation with the LWF and WCC. Its membership in the Council for World Mission and Evangelism (CWME) is current as well. The General Secretary continues to follow the proceedings of the ACT Alliance. The collaboration with the CEVAA and CWM, which was vibrant in the past, has cooled off after changes in leadership in both agencies and the CWM move to Singapore,

but it should see a revival in 2014 with the meeting convened by the CWM. The Council of Churches in Indonesia (PGI) that has been so helpful to the UEM for many years has submitted a request to be recognised formally as a cooperating non-member church.

In Germany, the membership in the Evangelisches Missionswerk (EMW) continues and the UEM hosted its General Assembly in October. Bread for the World, the Protestant Development Service (EED), has entered a cooperation agreement with the EMW that UEM has signed, making sure that there is room for individual EMW members to be able to have bilateral agreements with the EED. The UEM and Bread for the World are currently working on such a bilateral agreement. The UEM also has formal cooperation agreements with two mission organisations with which it shares members, exploring ways to engage in joint activities and sharing: Evangelische Mission in Solidarität (EMS) and Norddeutsche Mission.

Communication and media

The main task for the UEM's Communication and Media work in 2013 was to enhance the UEM's presence in electronic media. Following the successful use of Facebook in the Asia region, a similar campaign was launched in Germany in October 2013 and proved to be a very useful channel of communication within the region. The development of an international communication concept started in 2013 and will be finalised in 2014.

A redesign of the UEM Internet site is in progress and a special version for mobile devices will follow immediately. The Medan Office publishes the "Mission Spark" newsletter monthly and uses Facebook to provide the Asian members

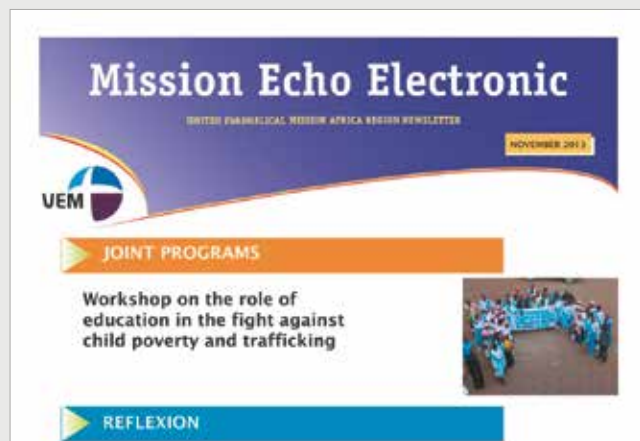
*Mission evenings
maintain close ties
to people engaged in
ecumenical work.*



with the latest information. “Mission Echo”, the newsletter for the African Region, also plays an important role in providing the members in Africa with current and background information. The linkages among the communication work in all three regions are not completely satisfactory yet and shall be improved within the next two years.

In Germany, the UEM’s presence in member churches and their partnerships was enhanced. Proprietary events such as “mission evenings” have become a vital part of the strategy to maintain close ties with the people engaged in ecumenical work. As a result of the new communication concept, the printed publications have sharpened their profile and are playing a consistently important role within the German region.

To develop the professionalism in media work even more, the UEM is supporting media training for partnership members as well as church journalists. A 2013 seminar for people responsible for partnership work proved to be very successful, and a workshop for journalists of African member churches was also well received. This strategy will be continued and enhanced.



Report from the UEM Council to the UEM General Assembly for 2014 in Wuppertal, Germany

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Since the sixth General Assembly in Berastagi, the UEM Council has held five regular meetings. Four of them took place here in Germany, mostly in Wuppertal and one in Bethel/Bielefeld. The March 2013 meeting was held in Dar es Salaam. Initially it was planned for Botswana, but the very difficult and unforeseeable visa procedures meant that the General Secretary and I had to decide to change to Tanzania. We are very thankful to the Eastern and Coastal Diocese in Dar es Salaam and especially Bishop Dr Alex Malasusa, who took over the role of the hosting church and made the meeting in Africa possible.

The newly elected council took up its duties right after the General Assembly in Berastagi. We are working in a good, friendly, and very effective atmosphere. The transitional period from 2008 to 2012 was put to effective use to learn how the newly amended constitution would work in practice. The new council is very well-prepared and is working according to the new constitution.

One of the main tasks of the council is the supervision and evaluation of the members of the UEM Management Team (MT). Supervision is carried out by hearing the annual work reports from all departments and the discussion of aims and goals from the point of view of the representatives from all three UEM Regions. The council is very satisfied overall with the work performance of the MT members and is aware of the large workload. Evaluation of MT members will start in the council meeting right after this GA. I will report to the GA in 2016.

The council is responsible for hiring MT members. Dr Robinson Butarbutar (Dept. Training and Empowerment) left the UEM in summer 2013 because his contract had come to an end and his church (HKBP) needed him back to render his services as lecturer at Pematangsiantar University. His successor is Dr Andar Parlindungan (HKBP as well), who took over in January 2014. The second personnel issue is that the Executive Secretary for Finance and Administra-

tion Jürgen Borchardt has decided to leave the UEM by the first of August to join Kindernothilfe. We are sad to see him go, but we wish him all the best for his new assignment. His successor Reinhard Eckert started work at the UEM on 1 June and we warmly welcome him to our UEM family.

The renovation of the CMLS (Centre for Mission and Leadership Studies) and the “Holy Mountain” conference centre was a topic in quite a few of our meetings. The former council had released a large amount of money for the renovation and rehabilitation of the conference centre. Now all of you can see the wonderful results. I believe that you will agree with me that we now have a well-equipped and comfortable place to stay and work and I hope that this will be a good and lasting collaboration with the church institutions on the Holy Mountain.

The future of the former Mission house in Bethel, now the Centre for Mission and Diaconia (CMD), was and still is a topic to be discussed and decided upon. The financial investment to renovate the house would be quite high, while the operation of the house is costly as well and will never result in a balanced budget or a surplus. A new concept for UEM Diaconia work with offices based in Bethel is underway. The old Mission house will be returned to the Bethel institutions and a new building for the UEM offices must be found.

Natural disaster and human violence has been a constant threat to our UEM members in recent years. We are very happy and thankful to God that the civil war in eastern Congo has come to an end. We continue praying for the people in our member church CBCA, and in the whole region, that after almost 25 years of war they will now have the chance to learn to live in peaceful times again. And we hope for our sisters and brothers that this peace may last. Natural disasters have hit our members in the Asia region especially hard. Typhoon Yolanda in the Philippines, the eruption of the Sinabung volcano in North Sumatra Karo



UEM's council met in Bielefeld in March 2014 for its meeting. Members of the management team were also present.

Land (GBKP), and the eruption of the Kelud volcano on the island of Java (GKJW) have affected and continue to affect thousands of church members from our churches in the respective regions. The council is very grateful for the great sense of community the members of UEM have shown to one another during these calamities. Not only have monetary donations been given in large amounts from all over our constituency, but prayers and solidarity visits to the churches and congregations have also helped the victims not give up hope. The UEM Council would like to express its sincere thanks for all types of assistance. They show how very much our organisation has grown together as a global family.

The topic of "education on all levels" came from a decision by the GA in Borkum in the year 2008. Education is key to the development of individuals and organisations. The council not only received reports from MT members on the development of this area of work, but also decided on a concept for non-academic and undergraduate scholarships in order to training people in our member churches in Africa and Asia.

Time and again, the council has had to deal with amendments to our standing orders, especially the ones from the regions. Though it sometimes seems to be tiring, this is a necessary process. Standing orders are a living instrument

to organise our work. The more used to our procedures we get, the more detailed the adjustments to the legal framework must be. Even for this General Assembly, therefore, there will be amendments to our standing orders that will need to be dealt with.

The council supervises the financial performance of the UEM, and we are very satisfied with it. The performance of the UEM's financial investments has largely stabilised following the global financial crisis. The "United Action" campaign was launched in Africa and Asia with wonderful results. Quite a few of GA delegates have been participating in the activities. The UEM Foundation is performing very well as well. You will read and hear more about it during this General Assembly when Jürgen Borchardt gives his latest report.

I would like to personally take this opportunity to thank all of you as representatives of our members in Africa, Asia, and Germany for your constant support for the development of our organisation. During my journeys to Africa and Asia I have seen and felt very vividly how much our United Evangelical Mission has grown into a UEM family in three continents. It is my privilege to serve as your moderator.

Deacon Regine Buschmann, Moderator

Annual financial statement

Balance sheet for the years ended 31 December, 2012
and 31 December, 2013

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Assets in €

	31.12.2013	31.12.2012
A. Fixed Assets		
I. Tangible fixed Assets		
1. Land with Offices and other Buildings	5,725,845.73	1,444,301.35
2. Land with residential Buildings	1,532,626.61	1,223,453.92
3. Land without Buildings	364.00	364.00
4. Leasehold	5,799.17	5,869.04
5. Office Equipment	182,261.62	220,267.79
6. Vehicles	48,404.49	68,258.42
7. Assets under Construction	372,147.30	2,245,518.48
	7,867,448.92	5,208,033.00
II. Financial Assets		
1. Shares in affiliated Companies	919,000.00	0.00
2. Other long-term Equity Investments	350,002.00	69,977.22
3. Cooperative Shares	69,977.22	69,977.22
4. Other long-term Securities	40,174,200.86	43,389,356.91
of which to UEM-Foundation: € 5,761,374.07		(5,761,374.07)
of which for Pensions and special Funds		
for Member Churches € 9,720,414.17		(9,720,414.17)
4. Other loans	1,736,464.69	1,760,213.00
of which to UEM Trust € 1,635,219.04		(1,760,213.00)
	43,249,644.77	45,219,549.13
	51,117,093.69	50,427,582.13
B. Current Assets		
I. Inventories	12,300.00	12,300.00
II. Receivables and other Assets		
1. Trade Receivables	6,769.99	5,769.81
2. Receivables from affiliated companies	2,099.73	0.00
3. Other Assets	796,480.51	615,753.09
of which to UEM-Foundation € 124,993.07		(0.00)
	805,377.23	621,522.90
III. Cash-in-hand, Bank Balances	2,824,327.57	2,933,157.40
UEM Foundation € 262,003.07		(174,964.11)
	3,642,004.80	3,181,510.52
C. Prepaid Expenses	45,763.63	41,462.26
D. Excess of plan assets over partial-retirement	6,662.61	0.00
	54,811,524.73	54,036,024.69

Equity and Liabilities in €

	31.12.2013	31.12.2012
A. Equity		
I. Agreed Capital	7,925,024.16	7,925,024.16
II. Endowment UEM-Foundation		
1. Initial Capital	200,000.00	200,000.00
2. Endowment Contributions	6,358,395.79	5,863,364.53
	6,558,395.79	6,063,364.53
III. Reserves	27,015,983.52	27,015,983.52
of which to UEM-Foundation € 155,496.92		(155,496.92)
IV. Profit brought forward	3,346,251.89	2,489,090.16
of which to UEM-Foundation € 0-00		(0.00)
V. Annual net loss (-) / annual surplus	- 1,620,430.14	857,161.73
of which to UEM-Foundation € 33,447.27		(0.00)
	43,225,225.22	44,350,624.10
B. Accruals		
1. Accruals for Pensions	1,498,141.00	1,634,002.00
2. Other Accruals	2,851,709.65	2,320,515.32
of which to UEM-Foundation € 33,447.27		(0.00)
	4,349,850.65	3,954,517.32
C. Liabilities		
1. Trade Liabilities	546,783.20	333,274.65
of which with a remaining Term of up to one Year		
€ 546,783.20		(333,274.65)
2. Other Liabilities	6,684,164.49	5,394,668.81
of which with a remaining Term of up to one Year		
€ 6,684,942.85		(5,394,668.81)
of which to UEM-Foundation € 124,993.96		(0.00)
	7,230,947.69	5,727,943.46
D. Deferred Income	5,501.17	2,939.81
	54,811,524.73	54,036,024.69

Income Statement 2013 and 2012

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in €

	2013	2012
1. Revenues		
a) Received Donations	2,221,721.69	1,870,876.39
b) Member/Contributions	5,722,460.00	5,693,000.00
c) Other Assistance and Revenues	64,243.95	150,533.77
d) Dedicated Donations	1,266,056.37	970,637.51
e) Rental Income	528,269.05	502,388.50
	9,802,751.06	9,187,436.17
2. Other operating Income	2,767,295.51	1,305,855.37
	12,570,046.57	10,493,291.54
3. Cost of Materials	477,279.67	364,407.16
	12,092,766.90	10,128,884.38
4. Personnel Expenses		
a) Wages and Salaries	4,399,210.80	4,116,083.06
b) Social security, post-employment and other Employee benefit Costs	1,759,529.34	1,156,348.02
	6,158,740.14	5,272,431.08
5. Depreciation of tangible fixed Assets	383,131.99	341,801.48
6. Other operating Expenses	9,468,245.37	9,619,975.42
	16,010,117.50	15,234,207.98
7. Income from long-term Equity Investments	4,022.94	4,022.94
8. Income from other long-term Securities (of which: interest Expenses from discounting accruals € 87,961.00)	2,263,973.49	7,006,901.20
9. Other Interests and similar Income	397,337.81	17,389.01
10. Write downs of long-term financial Assets	0.00	686,808.97
11. Interest and similar Expenses (of which: interest Expenses from compounding the accruals € 87,961.00)	368,413.78	380,936.81
		(87,961.00)
	2,296,920.46	5,960,567.37
12. Results from ordinary Activities	- 1,620,430.14	855,243.77
16. Taxes on Income	0.00	- 1,917.96
17. Annual net loss (-) / annual net surplus (of which to UEM-Foundation € 33,447.21)	- 1,620,430.14	857,161.73
		(0.00)

Audit Report for 2012

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Auditor's Report

To the Vereinte Evangelische Mission - Gemeinschaft von Kirchen in drei Erdteilen -, Wuppertal
- (United Evangelical Mission - Communion of churches in three continents) -:

We have audited the annual financial statements, comprising the balance sheet and the income statement, together with the bookkeeping system, of the Vereinte Evangelische Mission - Gemeinschaft von Kirchen in drei Erdteilen -, Wuppertal, - (United Evangelical Mission - Communion of churches in three continents) - for the business year from January 1 to December 31, 2012. The maintenance of the books and records and the preparation of the annual financial statements in accordance with German commercial law are the responsibility of the association's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the annual financial statements, together with the bookkeeping system, based on our audit.

We conducted our audit of the annual financial statements in accordance with § [Article] 317 HGB ["Handelsgesetzbuch"; "German Commercial Code"] and German generally accepted standards for the audit of financial statements promulgated by the Institut der Wirtschaftsprüfer [Institute of Public Auditors in Germany] (IDW). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit such that misstatements materially affecting the presentation of the annual financial statements in accordance with [German] principles of proper accounting are detected with reasonable assurance. Knowledge of the business activities and the economic and legal environment of the institution and expectations as to possible misstatements are taken into account in the determination of audit procedures. The effectiveness of the accounting-related internal control system and the evidence supporting the disclosures in the books and records, the annual financial statements are examined primarily on a test basis within the framework of the audit. The audit includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the annual financial statements.

We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Our audit has not led to any reservations.

In our opinion, based on the findings of our audit, the annual financial statements comply with the legal requirements.

Düsseldorf, May 14th., 2013

CURACON GmbH
Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft
Zweigniederlassung Düsseldorf

signed Wendt
Wirtschaftsprüfer
[German Public Auditor]

signed Grzyszcak
Wirtschaftsprüferin
[German Public Auditor]

*Due to legal regulations, the English version of the auditor's report cannot be signed personally.
For the original signed German version please contact UEM's Finance and Administration Department.*

Audit Report for 2013

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Auditor's Report

To the Vereinte Evangelische Mission - Gemeinschaft von Kirchen in drei Erdteilen -, Wuppertal
- (United Evangelical Mission - Communion of churches in three continents) -

We have audited the annual financial statements -comprising the balance sheet and the income statement and the notes to the financial statements, together with the bookkeeping system of the Vereinte Evangelische Mission - Gemeinschaft von Kirchen in drei Erdteilen -, Wuppertal, - (United Evangelical Mission - Communion of churches in three continents) - for the business year from January 1 to December 31, 2013. The maintenance of the books and records and the preparation of the annual financial statements in accordance with German commercial law are the responsibility of the association's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the annual financial statements, together with the bookkeeping system, based on our audit.

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We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Our audit has not led to any reservations.

In our opinion, based on the findings of our audit, the annual financial statements comply with the legal requirements and give a true and fair view of the net assets, financial position and results of operations of the Vereinte Evangelische Mission - Gemeinschaft von Kirchen in drei Erdteilen -, Wuppertal, - (United Evangelical Mission - Communion of churches in three continents) -. In accordance with [German] principles of proper accounting.

Düsseldorf, April 25, 2014

CURACON GmbH
Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft
Zweigniederlassung Düsseldorf

signed Grabow
Wirtschaftsprüfer
[German Public Auditor]

signed Grzyszczyk
Wirtschaftsprüferin
[German Public Auditor]

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The UEM members:

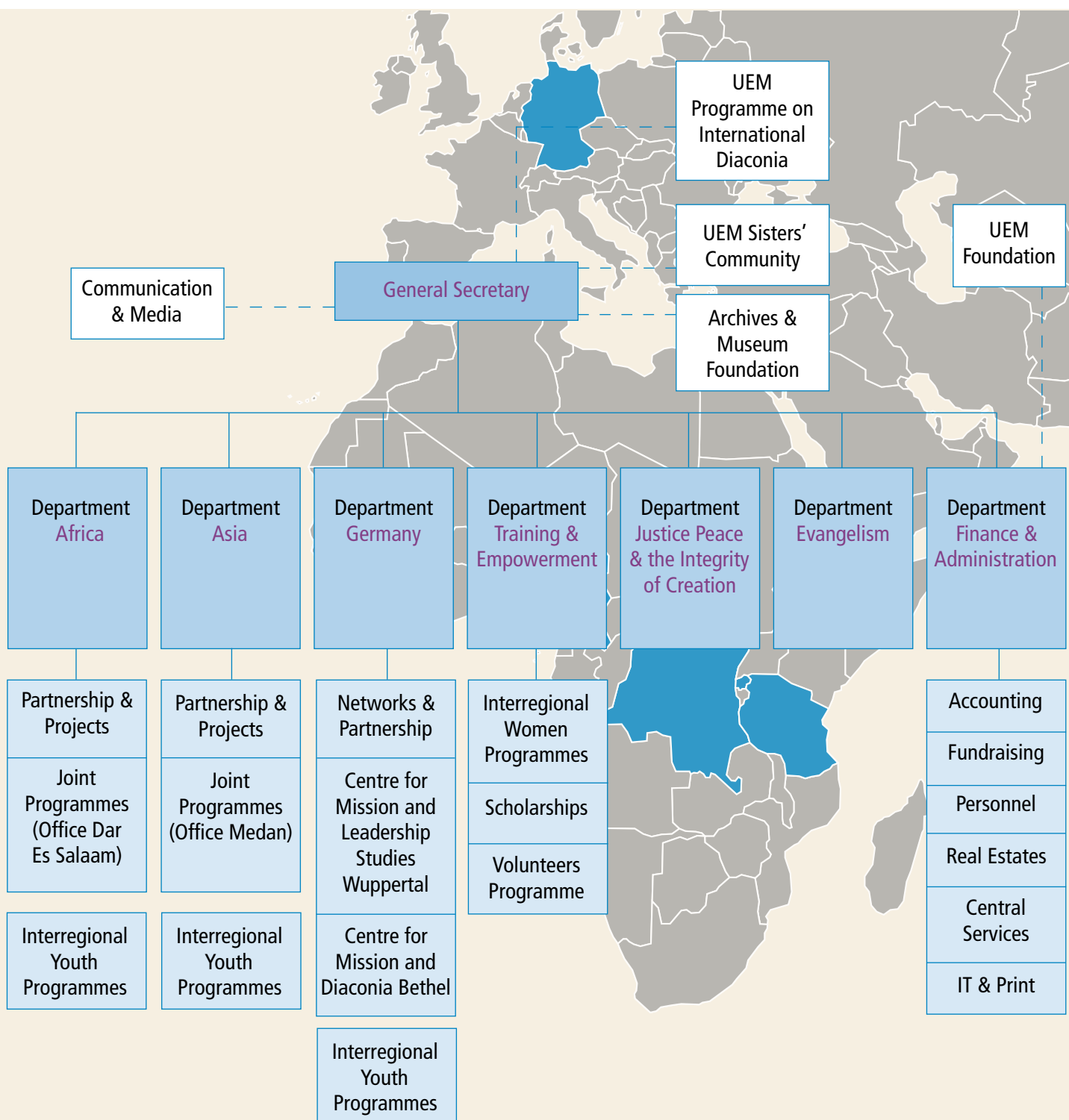
BNKP	Banua Niha Keriso Protestan – Nias Christian Protestant Church (Indonesia)
CBCA	Communauté Baptiste au Centre de l’Afrique – Central Africa Baptist Community (DR Congo)
CADELU	Communauté Association des Eglises Evangéliques de la Lulonga – Association of Evangelical Churches of the Lulonga River (DR Congo)
CDCC	Communauté des Disciples du Christ au Congo – Community of the Disciples of Christ in the Congo (DR Congo)
CRC	Chinese Rhenish Church Hongkong Synod
EAR	Eglise Anglicane au Rwanda – Anglican Church of Rwanda
ECC	Eglise du Christ au Congo – Church of Christ in the Congo
EEC	Eglise Evangélique du Cameroun – Evangelical Church of Cameroon
EKHN	Evangelische Kirche in Hessen und Nassau – Evangelical Church of Hesse and Nassau (Germany)
EKiR	Evangelische Kirche im Rheinland – Evangelical Church in the Rhineland (Germany)
EKKW	Evangelische Kirche von Kurhessen-Waldeck – Evangelical Church of Hesse-Waldeck (Germany)
EKvW	Evangelische Kirche von Westfalen – Evangelical Church of Westphalia (Germany)
ELCB	Evangelical-Lutheran Church in Botswana
ELCRN	Evangelical-Lutheran Church in the Republic of Namibia
ELCT / ECD	Eastern and Coastal Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania
ELCT / KAD	Karagwe Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania
ELCT / NED	North-Eastern Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania
ELCT / NWD	North-Western Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania
EPR	Eglise Presbytérienne au Rwanda – Presbyterian Church of Rwanda
ERK	Evangelisch-reformierte Kirche – Evangelical-reformed Church (Germany)
GBKP	Gereja Batak Karo Protestan – Batak Karo Protestant Church (Indonesia)
GKI-TP	Gereja Kristen Injili di Tanah Papua – Evangelical Church in West Papua (Indonesia)
GKJTU	Gereja Kristen Jawa Tengah Utara – Christian Church of North Central Java (Indonesia)
GKJW	Gereja Kristen Jawi Wetan – Christian Church of Eastern Java (Indonesia)
GKPPD	Gereja Kristen Pak Pak Daiiri – Pakpak Daiiri Christian Protestant Church (Indonesia)
GKPA	Gereja Kristen Protestan Angkola – The Christian Protestant Angkola Batak Church (Indonesia)
GKPI	Gereja Kristen Protestan Indonesia – Indonesian Protestant Christian Church (Indonesia)
GKPM	Gereja Kristen Protestan Mentawai – Protestant Christian Church in Mentawai (Indonesia)
GKPS	Gereja Kristen Protestan Simalungun – Protestant Christian Simalungun Batak Church (Indonesia)
GPKB	Gereja Punguan Kristen Batak – Batak Christian Community Church (Indonesia)
HKBP	Huria Kristen Batak Protestan – Batak Protestant Christian Church (Indonesia)
HKI	Huria Kristen Indonesia – Christian Church in Indonesia (Indonesia)
MC-SL	Methodist Church of Sri Lanka
LL	Lippische Landeskirche – Church of Lippe
UCCP	United Church of Christ in the Philippines
vBS	v. Bodelschwinghsche Stiftungen Bethel – v. Bodelschwingh Foundation Bethel (Germany)

Other abbreviations:

EKD	Evangelische Kirche in Deutschland – Evangelical Church in Germany
GA	General Assembly
JPIC	Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
RC-SA	Rhenish Church South Africa
RDIS	Development department of the EAR
TE	Training & Empowerment department of the UEM

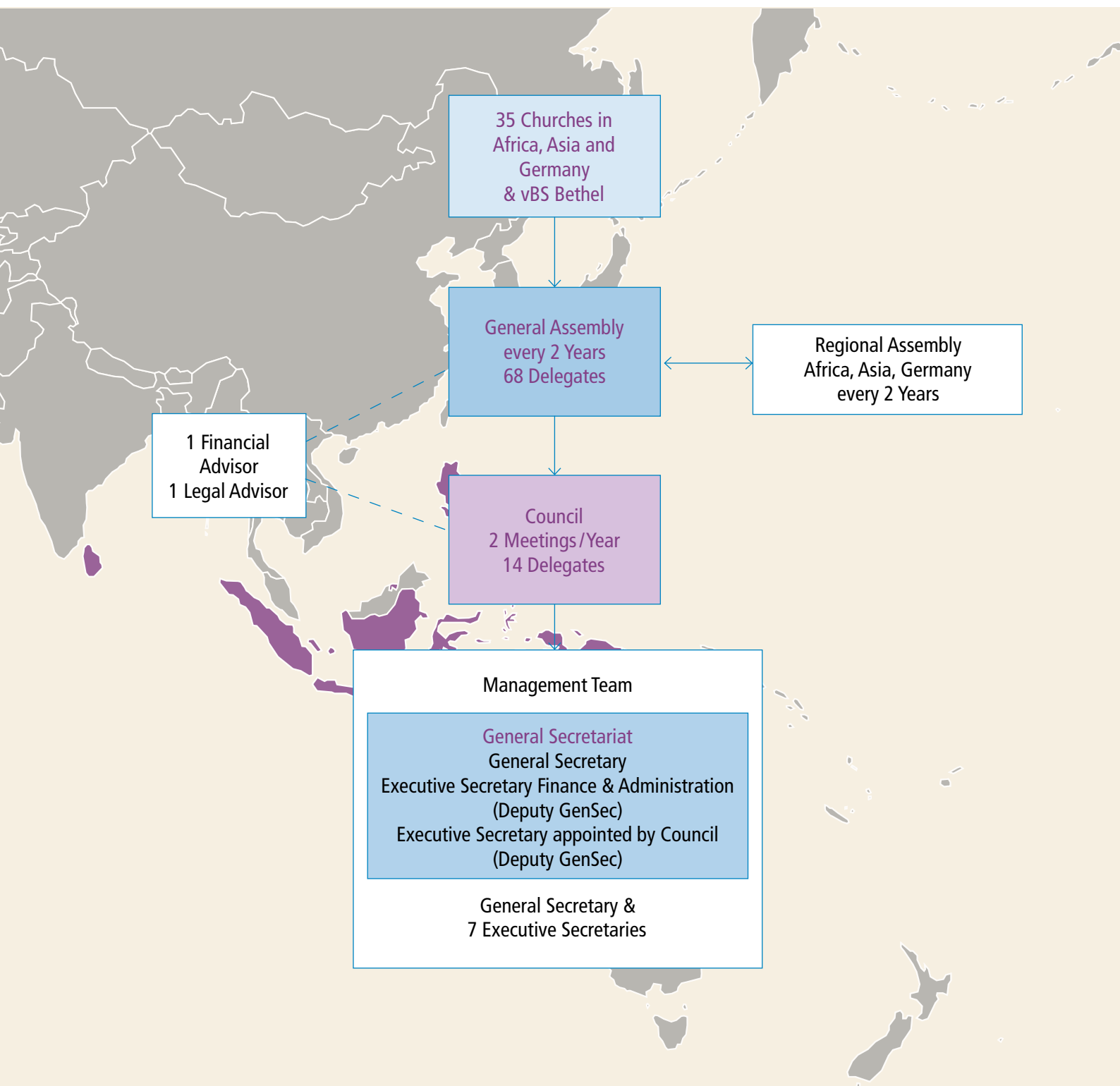
Working structure UEM

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Governance structure UEM

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Rudolfstrasse 137 · D-42285 Wuppertal · Germany
Phone +49 (0) 202 89004 - 0 · Fax +49 (0) 202 89004 - 179
E-mail info@vemission.org · Internet www.vemission.org
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United Evangelical Mission
Communion of churches
in three Continents

Rudolfstrasse 137
D-42285 Wuppertal
Fon + 49 (0) 202 89004 - 135
Fax + 49 (0) 202 89004 - 179
info@vemission.org
www.vemission.org



Deutsches
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