

WCMIR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

March 21, 2009 at the residence of Dr. Hamid Abdul Hai, 2 Keri Ln, Burr Ridge, Illinois

Participants

1. Dr. Hamid Abdul Hai
 2. Dr. Aslam Abdullah
 3. Dr. Irfan Ahmad Khan
 4. Dr. Zahid Bukhari
 5. Dr. Mohammad A Siddiqi
 6. Dr. Abidullah Ghazi
 7. Dr. Mujahid Ghazi (observer)
- The meeting started with recitation and tafseer of Qur'an by Dr. Irfan Ahmad Khan. He recited Verses 155-159 of Surah Al A'raaf. He explained that the first four surahs of Qur'an prepare Muslims to perform their duties for the Mission for which Allah made them vicegerents on the earth. Al-A'raaf is the sister surah of al-Ana'am. Al-Ana'am prepares Muslims for encountering with the world around them; Al A'raaf prepares them for the leadership role.
 - WCMIR President, Dr. Hamid Abdul Hai welcomed the members to the meeting. He said, "We have to find a reason and purpose for WCMIR; then we have to make a plan of action for WCMIR activities."
 - Dr. Siddiqi presented the financial report from January 1, 2008 to March 20, 09.
 - Members discussed the current situation of WCMIR and its role in interfaith work. The comments and observations could be summarized as follows.
 - a. WCMIR uniqueness would be to become a group that speaks and works against violence and injustice any where in the world.
 - b. Our niche should be a group that stands against exploitation of people in the name of religion.
 - c. WCMIR should remind people about the importance of human relations and human problems. It should motivate Muslims to get involved in solving human problems.
 - d. WCMIR should cooperate and engage with all groups and people who are interested in creating a universal moral force. WCMIR should reach out to groups, peoples and organizations that stand for social justice and human rights. Interfaith movement is the future of the world.
 - e. We should make WCMIR web site an important tool to link various interfaith groups and activities. The website can be a resource site to guide people about the techniques, skills, methodology, and approach to interfaith work.
 - f. WCMIR should work with local, regional, and national interfaith groups to create, expand, and strengthen interfaith forums and activities.
 - g. WCMIR should come out with a declaration about justice and human rights issues that concerns all people.
 - h. United States and India are the two prime locations for exemplary interfaith work.

Decisions

1. Dr. Aslam Abdullah will appoint a part time research assistant who will help him to prepare a directory of people and organizations who are involved in interfaith activities through out the world.
2. WCMIR will organize following national and international conferences during the next two years.
 - a. A U.S. national conference in Washington, D. C. in January, 2010. Dr. Zahid Bukhari and Dr. Sulayman Nyang will explore the initial requirements, locations and site etc. and will submit their report by the end of June 2009.
 - b. The General Assembly will be held in Turkey in May or June of 2010. Dr. Irfan Ahmad Khan will talk to Br. Ozdamir and other brothers and sisters in Turkey and submit a report by the end of June 2009.
 - c. Three regional conferences will be held one each in Europe, Africa, and Southeast Asia. Regional representatives will be requested to explore the possibilities, determine a date, develop a budget and a fund raising plan and submit a report by the end of June, 2009. For Europe, Dr. Ataullah Siddiqui and Dr. Imam Abdul Jalil Sajid, for Africa, Dr. Mustafa Ali, Br. Saad Abdallah, and Dr. Salman Nadvi, and for Southeast Asia, Dr. Farid Isahak and Dr. Kamar Oniah are requested to work on this and forward their reports to the secretary General, Dr. Aslam Abdullah by the end of June, 2009.
3. WCMIR will participate in Global Dialogue for Common Good conference in Chicago during May 31-June 2, 2009; in the Islamic Circle of North America Convention in Hartford, CT during May 23-25, 2009, and in the Council for the Parliament of World Religions Conference in Melbourne, Australia in December 2009.
4. WCMIR newsletter will continue to publish; however, it will be published more frequently as a quarterly publication. Dr. Siddiqi agreed to continue to publish the newsletter.
5. Website will be updated on a more regular basis and it will be made more interactive. This will be done under the supervision of Dr. Siddiqi.
6. WCMIR brochure will be updated and published for wider circulation. Dr. Siddiqi agreed to do this.
7. Fundraising programs will be made to raise the funds allocated in the budget. Dr. Siddiqi urged all executive committee members to actively participate and help raise the budget.
8. Next executive committee meeting will be held possibly in July, 2009.

The meeting ended at prayers by Dr. Irfan Ahmad Khan.

Budget
April 2009 – July 2010

Newsletter (publication & Postage)	5 x 1000.00	\$5,000.00
Research/ office assistant	15 x 15,000.00	\$15,000.00
Publication of Directory		5,000.00
Postage		1,000.00
Stationary including the brochure		1,000.00
Website maintenance		1,500.00
General assembly		40,000.00
Washington, DC conference		25,000.00
Assistance to the regional conferences (3x5000)		15,000.00
Global Dialogue of Civilization Conference		3,000.00
CPWR conference in Australia		5,000.00
Executive committee meetings and other travels		5,000.00

Total budget **\$121,500.00**

WCMIR-USA meeting
March 21, 3-6 p.m.

The executive committee members then proceeded to the headquarters of Iqra International Educational Foundation where the WCMIR-USA meeting was opened by Dr. Abidullah Ghazi. The meeting was chaired by Dr. Asad Husain, former member of the Board of Trustees, the Council for the Parliament of World Religions. Dr. Ghazi welcomed all participants and reminded them of the importance of interfaith work. He invited all the more than 30 participants to discuss various action plans to help develop a strategy and a plan of action for WCMIR-USA. The minutes of the meeting will be published by the WCMIR-USA and will be available at our website later.