

## Friends World Committee for Consultation – World Conference

An FWCC World Conference happens once in a generation. The last one was held in 1991 in three global locations. This World Conference, with 1,000 delegates, will be about three times larger than a Triennial. It offers a profoundly deep spiritual experience that changes lives, keeps delegates involved in FWCC long term, and has a ripple effect on the worldwide body of Friends.

This World Conference will be held August 21-28, 2012 in Nakuru, Kenya (about a 3 hour motor-coach ride from Nairobi). The theme is *Being salt and Light: Friends living the Kingdom of God in a broken world*. Information will continually be added at <http://www.saltandlight2012.org>.

Because it is a single-location conference, it is hoped that a diversity of global Friends will be assured. Of the 1,000 delegates, 100 will be interpreters and translators, local and international planning personnel, and the FWCC Central Executive Committee. 600 are invited as named delegates from global yearly meetings – ILYM is invited to send four delegates. And 300 spaces will be available for observers, open by application.

A World Conference is more like a family reunion; not much business is conducted. Delegates will explore theological aspects of the full theme, and practical (mending) aspects will tie in with the simultaneous work of the Global Change Initiative, a project initiated at the 2007 FWCC Triennial and managed by the FWCC World Office – see <http://www.fwccglobalchange.org>. At the World Conference, there will be a special effort to involve yearly meetings currently unaffiliated with FWCC.

ILYM is asked to respond to the FWCC World Office by September 30, 2010 indicating whether we will name delegates to all four positions. We are asked to send to the FWCC World Office by December 31, 2010 the names and addresses of ILYM's delegates.

In the fall of 2010, the number of additional observers will be evaluated, and the application process will be opened for the 300+ observer positions. These positions will be assigned with the goal of assuring global diversity.

In January 2011, delegates and accepted observers will receive registration forms and bills. The registration fee is on a global sliding scale, with global Northerners likely to pay \$800 to \$900 for the 9-day conference. Air fare costs are difficult to predict at this time, but could range from \$1,300 to \$2,000. ILYM has been saving up a travel fund for our representatives, but it won't cover the full cost. Furthermore, all Friends groups and individual Friends are asked to contribute to the FWCC World Office travel assistance fund, to help extend meaningful invitations to Friends from the global patchwork of Quakerism. North, south, east, west, rich, poor, liberal, conservative, evangelical – we all have gifts to offer and stories to take in.

After the World Conference, but not necessarily on a triennial basis, there will be a 300-person International Representatives Meeting. The World Office is soliciting ideas for sites, bearing in mind that visa restrictions into the global North impede the inclusiveness and diversity goals, making it a problematic destination.