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Suggested Title: Strategic and Comprehensive Plan for Ministry with the Hispanic/Latino Population in the United States

Discipline Paragraph: Add New Paragraph after No. 654

General Church Budget Implications: None

Global Implications: None

Rationale:

According to the 2010 US census Hispanic/Latino population increased 56% in the past ten years with an estimated total of 50.5 millions. This presents our church a large mission field and the opportunity to make Disciples for Jesus Christ. This legislation calls Annual Conferences to give priority to ministries with Latino Communities.

New Par. 655 There shall be an annual conference committee on Hispanic/Latino Ministries or other structure to support the development, implementation and evaluation of a Hispanic/Latino Ministries comprehensive plan of action and the strategies for working with the Hispanic/Latino persons of all generation in the community. The membership of the committee shall be nominated and elected by the established procedures of the respective annual conference. The committee shall include at least 1/3 Hispanic/Latino persons, clergy, laity women and men.

The conference comprehensive plan for Hispanic Ministries shall be ready by the 2014 session of annual conference. The action plan shall include strategies to: (1) strengthen existing ministries and congregations, (2) start new congregations and ministries, including intentional ministries with children and youth, (3) identify, equip, and deploy elders, local pastors, lay missionaries, lay certified ministers, and other lay leaders who can serve in this mission and ministry, (4) identify financial and material resources to support and maintain its implementation. The plan shall be based on a clear analysis of the socio-economic, cultural and religious realities of the community where the conference is located.

The Plan shall be presented to the respective not later than the 2014 Annual Conference. The Council of Bishops, The Connectional Table, and the National Committee on Hispanic/Latino Ministries shall monitor the development of the annual conference plan and its implementation.

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Entity: Methodists Associated Representing the Cause of Hispanic Americans (MARCHA)

President: Raúl B. Alegría

Executive Director: Elías Galván

Phone: 480 643 0013

E-mail Address: [galvan222@msn.com](mailto:galvan222@msn.com)

Signature of Authorized Submitter: Raúl B. Alegría