

**PETITION TO THE 2016 GENERAL CONFERENCE  
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**TITLE/SUBJECT MATTER: Miscellaneous Provisions About Annual Conferences  
Related to Global Church Structure**

**DISCIPLINE PARAGRAPHS: 33, 34, 35, 36**

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NO**

**PETITION TEXT   Revise ¶ 33 as follows:**

¶ 33. *Article II.*—The annual conference is the basic body in the Church and as such shall have reserved to it the right to vote on all constitutional amendments, on the election of clergy and lay delegates to the ~~General and the jurisdictional or central conferences~~ **Global, connectional and regional conferences**, on all matters relating to the character and conference relations of its clergy members, and...

**Revise ¶ 34 as follows:**

¶ 34. *Article III.*—The annual conference shall elect clergy and lay delegates to the ~~General Conference~~ **Global Connectional Conference** and to its ~~jurisdictional or central conference~~ **connectional conference and regional conference** in the manner provided in this section, Articles IV and V. The persons first elected up to the number determined by the ratio for representation in the ~~General Conference~~ **Global Connectional Conference and connectional conference** shall be representatives in that body **those bodies**. Additional delegates shall be elected to complete the number determined by ratio for representation in the ~~jurisdictional or central conference~~ **regional conference**, who, together with those first elected as above, shall be delegates in the ~~jurisdictional or central conference~~ **regional conference**. The additional delegates to the ~~jurisdictional or central conference~~ **regional conference** shall in the order of their election be the reserve delegates to the ~~General Conference~~ **Global Connectional Conference and connectional conference**. The annual

31 conference shall also elect reserve clergy and lay delegates to the ~~jurisdictional or central~~  
32 ~~conference~~ **regional conference** as it may deem desirable. These reserve clergy and lay delegates  
33 to the ~~jurisdictional or central conferences~~ **regional conferences** may act as reserve to the ~~General~~  
34 ~~Conference~~ **Global Connectional Conference and connectional conference** when it is evident  
35 that not enough reserve delegates are in attendance at the ~~General Conference~~ **Global**  
36 **Connectional Conference or connectional conference.**

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38 **Revise ¶ 35 as follows:**

39 ¶ 35. *Article V*—The clergy delegates to the ~~General Conference~~ **Global Connectional**  
40 **Conference** and to the ~~jurisdictional or central conference~~ **connectional conference and regional**  
41 **conference** shall be elected from...

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43 **Revise ¶ 36 as follows:**

44 ¶ 36. *Article V.*—The lay delegates to ~~General and jurisdictional or central conferences~~ **Global**  
45 **Connectional, connectional and regional conferences** shall be elected by... ..and are members  
46 thereof within the annual conference electing them at the time of holding the ~~General and~~  
47 ~~jurisdictional or central conferences~~ **Global Connectional, connectional and regional**  
48 **conferences.**

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50 **RATIONALE:** These amendments clean up language as pertains to the various proposed,  
51 global, connectional and regional conferences and the former general, central and jurisdictional  
52 conferences.

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