



CRC MISSIONS
Policy 1.0
International Vision

February 2013



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International Vision

1. Summary of International Vision

A presence in every nation by 2045.

What is a presence in every nation?

A Presence in Every Nation may vary considerably between different nations however it can be described as:

“An active ongoing ministry involvement in a nation”

The purpose of this being aimed toward fulfilling the Great Commission of Jesus.

2. Explanation of International Vision

2.1 What is a presence in a nation?

What it is not:

- A tourist trip
- An occasional visit to preach and move on

What it is:

- A commitment to involvement in a nation by
- Prayer
- Finance
- Ministry going to the field
- Ongoing ministry on the field

It would normally be expected that this would involve at least one visit per year by senior ministry personnel from an existing CRC church in another country, as well as, regular communication by email, phone, Skype etc. It will preferably involve an apostolic ministry investment in that nation, and an ongoing commitment over time. It may involve short or long term missionaries who actively serve the church in another nation.

It could also be a targeted prayer focus for a nation together with prayer walks in that nation.

The church/field being visited may or may not ever be a CRC Churches International church/movement, but it is recognised by those involved, that the CRC minister/church is making a significant contribution to the ministry in the country visited.

It is recognised that churches may be exploring connecting with contacts in various countries which could in time develop to be a significant presence in that country.

2.2 How can the vision be fulfilled?

Pastor Bill Vasilakis in his address to the State Conferences in October 2011 said:

“1.4 I distinctly felt while in Africa that God wants every CRC church in Australia (no matter how small) to “Adopt a Nation” and to lift their faith level to believe that they can all be used by God to establish a local church base or humanitarian venture in that nation. May “Adopt a Nation” become another catch-cry that will stimulate prayer, faith and action to achieve our 2045 vision.

To have a presence in every nation by 2045, the Australian Missions Office will not be able to, and should not try to, control or manage this fresh Book of Acts style apostolic evangelism thrust that God wants to refire in the CRC.

It is very important that we decentralize the outworking of the vision so that it is not a top down, hierarchical thing from us, but a natural, organic phenomenon that flows with the responsible autonomous nature of our movement. This will not in any way hinder the interdependent aspect of our movement where we collectively continue to initiate, finance and oversee some movement wide, big, bold projects like we have done in Port Moresby PNG, Cebu in the Philippines and Colombo, Sri Lanka and now Walhalla USA, over the past 20 years.”

- We recognise and honour the apostolic ministry of Ps B. Silverback who has pioneered the existing CRC fields.
- We endorse and embrace entrepreneurial initiative and apostolic thrust of many CRC pastors and local churches in global mission.
- We encourage every pioneering/apostolic minister to pioneer in Jerusalem (their local mission), as well as Judea, Samaria, and the ends of the earth (global mission).
- We encourage every CRC minister/local church, if you are not pioneering in global mission that you link with others who are doing this and be part of the forward thrust so that every CRC minister and every church is involved in both local and global mission.
- Whilst endorsing and encouraging individual initiative, we also encourage building co-operation between and within fields as a genuine expression of interdependence in all our mission efforts so that we can all learn from one another and help each other in advancing the cause of global mission. This is particularly relevant where several CRC churches have contacts in the one country.
- Where a CRC local church, CRC credentialed minister or a missions organisation led by a CRC credentialed minister starts to work in a new global field – establishing new local churches, or working with existing national churches, that field and those churches are a global outreach of the particular local church or minister and hence are part of fulfilling our CRC International Vision. They may become Affiliate Fields (See Policy 2.0, Item 2.1) of the particular CRC local church/CRC credentialed minister and may be referred to as a CRC local church field and may be known by such names as “SECC Mission Field – Cambodia” or “Family Centre Mission Field – East Timor” etc. However if the new field wishes to maintain an identity separate from CRC Churches International they may become Partner Fields (See Policy 2.0, Item 2.1) with the particular CRC local church/CRC Credentialed Minister.
- Such fields will be developed and supported by the resources of the particular local church involved or perhaps in partnership with a number of other local churches. Such fields may for various reasons continue indefinitely as a ‘local church field’, like a multi-site church. On the other hand, they may apply for recognition as a CRC Member church/field, while preferably still maintaining close relationships with the pioneering church.