World Alliance of Reformed Churches



Semper reformanda

150 route de Ferney
PO Box 2100
1211 Geneva 2 - Switzerland
Web: www.warc.ch
Email: warc@warc.ch
President: Rev. Dr. Clifton Kirkpatrick
General Secretary: Rev. Dr Setri Nyomi

Theology and Ecumenical Engagement Rev. Dr. Douwe Visser – Douwe.Visser@warc.ch Tel: +41.22 791 6239

Fax: +41 22 791 6205 Assistant: Veronika Darras – Veronika.Darras@warc.ch

> Tel: +41.22 791 6235 Fax: +41 22 791 6505

JULY 2009

To the Executive Secretaries of WARC Member Churches

To Presidents/Principals and/or Deans of Reformed Theological Faculties and Seminaries

THE WORLD ALLIANCE OF REFORMED CHURCHES' SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME

For some years past the World Alliance of Reformed Churches has been privileged to **link** prospective post-graduate students with a number of Reformed seminaries which generously offer places to our applicants. Many students have benefited from this scheme, and we would be deeply grateful if other seminaries would consider candidates applying through the Department of Theology.

PROCEDURE

- 1. The responsible officers of WARC member churches will receive every two years from the Theological Secretary a current list of the participating seminaries, together with full information. Candidates must be in, or training for, the ministry of member churches of WARC.
- 2. The responsible officer of a WARC member church shall obtain from the Theological Secretary one application form for each named candidate whom the church is willing to nominate for a scholarship. Kindly furnish us the following information about the applicant: name, age, educational qualifications, ministerial experience, desired area of specialization for the post-graduate studies and the name of the institution to which the applicant would like to apply.

Preference will be given to candidates who are under 45 years of age and who have not benefited previously from a scholarship programme for theological studies overseas. A member church of WARC may request two scholarship application forms for named candidates each year, provided one of them is for a woman candidate.

World Alliance of Reformed Churches



Semper reformanda

- 3. Forms may be requested between 1 June and 30 September each year. In order to ensure accurate record keeping, this office will distribute application forms only for named individuals. Quantities of blank forms cannot be supplied, and the participating institutions will not act upon photocopied forms, or upon forms which have not been countersigned by this office.
- 4. Completed scholarship application forms, together with specified supportive information shall be sent to the seminary of the church's and candidate's choice between 1 October and 31 December, with a view to possible commencement in the <u>following</u> academic year.
- 5. The participating seminaries will conduct their selection procedures in their customary way and advise all candidates and the Theological Secretary of the outcome.
- 6. Since most scholarships are of one year's duration and lead to a Master's degree, applicants should normally be graduates or be on the point of graduating. Further, since the participating institutions teach through the medium of English a high degree of competence in that language is required. TOEFL evidence should be provided in the case of those whose mother tongue is not English.
- 7. A candidate's home church is involved in this procedure (a) so that the Alliance and the participating institutions have the confidence that the candidate has the backing of his or her church, (b) so that the choice of seminary may be discussed with the candidate locally; and (c) so that the candidate may be given his or her travel expenses and any other assistance called for.
- 8. The Scholarship programme covers the candidates only. Spouses and children, in case they wish to join the candidate, must secure other means of support, and consult the institutions concerned regarding accommodation and related issues.
- 9. Any other information about facilities for post-graduate studies in theology other than in the seminaries listed in the WARC Scholarship Programme should be forwarded to the National Council of Churches in your respective countries.

Please note that **no requests for financial assistance from WARC** can be entertained and the application form should only be sent to one of the theological faculties and seminaries listed as participating in the WARC Scholarship Programme.

Dr Douwe VISSER Executive Secretary, Office for Theology