

**MINUTES**  
**Stated Meeting**  
**COMMITTEE ON THE**  
**OFFICE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**  
**March 16, 2023**  
**Video Conference**

<p><b>WELCOME</b></p> <p>The Stated Meeting of the Committee on the Office of the General Assembly (COGA) convened via video conference at 12:02 p.m. by Moderator Eliana Maxim.</p>	<p><b>WELCOME</b></p>
<p><b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF NATIVE AMERICAN LAND AND OPENING PRAYER</b></p> <p>Miguel Rosa Morales led the acknowledgement of the sacred ground of our indigenous ancestors and then opened the meeting with prayer.</p>	<p><b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF NATIVE AMERICAN LAND AND OPENING PRAYER</b></p>
<p><b>APPROVE AGENDA [1.1]</b></p> <p>By consensus the Committee approved the meeting agenda.</p>	<p><b>AGENDA APPROVAL [1.1]</b></p>
<p><b>ATTENDANCE</b></p> <p>The following persons were present for all or part of the meeting:</p> <p><b><u>COGA Members</u></b>          Eliana Maxim, Moderator          Dave Davis, Vice Moderator          Stephanie Anthony          Sam Bonner          Joe Chu          Lynn Hargrove          Chenyangu Khonje          Blythe Kieffer          Ximena Leroux          Leanne Masters          Miguel Rosa Morales          Robin Pugh          J. Herbert Nelson II, ex officio</p> <p><b><u>Excused</u></b>          Andy James          Ruth Santana-Grace, Co-Moderator of the 225<sup>th</sup> GA (2022)          Luis Ocasio Torres</p> <p><b><u>Excused, continued</u></b>          Sallie Watson</p>	<p><b>PARTICIPANTS</b></p>

<p><b><u>OGA Staff</u></b>  Jayne Culp  DeAmber Clopton  Luci Duckson-Bramble  Kate Duffert  Tricia Dykers-Koenig  Laurie Griffith  Rick Jones  Kerry Rice</p> <p><b><u>Other Guests</u></b>  April Davenport, ASG  Ruth Gardiner, ASG  Ian Hall, ASG  Mike Kirk, ASG  Kathy Lueckert, President, ASG</p>	
<p><b>REPORT OF THE COGA MODERATOR</b></p> <p>E. Maxim reported that she and D. Davis had a very good conversation with Unification Commission Co-Moderators Felipe Martinez and Christi Scott Ligon.</p> <p>COGA, the Unification Commission, and the PMAB will gather during the upcoming Stated Meeting in April.</p> <p>Moderator Maxim also gave an overview of the work groups planned for the April meeting and shared that she, D. Davis, K. Rice, and J.H. Nelson will be getting together soon for a work meeting.</p>	<p><b>REPORT OF THE COGA MODERATOR</b></p>
<p><b>STATED CLERK UPDATE</b></p> <p>J. Herbert Nelson, II shared an update on the Office of the General Assembly.</p> <p>The referral below, from GA225, has been forwarded to one of the workgroups.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MC-11 - On Memorializing Non-Ordained Servants of the Church</li> </ul> <p>K. Duffert shared the voting tallies for the Proposed Amendments to the Constitution of the PC(USA) of today.</p>	<p><b>STATED CLERK UPDATE</b></p>
<p><b>UPDATES</b></p> <p><b>Unification Commission - D. Davis</b>  Their first in-person meeting was held earlier this month. The commission has broken out into four work groups:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Governance</li> </ol>	<p><b>UPDATES</b></p>

<p>2. Finances 3. Common Mission 4. Consultations</p> <p>Meeting in person for the Commission was very helpful.</p> <p><b>Standing Rules Special Committee - L. Masters</b> The committee is just getting started. Leeanne will ask the committee to determine best ways for COGA to communicate with them.</p> <p><b>Stated Clerk Nominating Committee - L. Masters</b> Leeanne Masters, committee vice moderator, provided an update in Moderator Sallie Watson’s absence due to her sabbatical. They have created a timeline for their work and will be consulting with the COGA Stated Clerk Review work group, in accordance with the Standing Rules. Work teams are being set up and scheduled, and in the fall the committee will begin accepting applications.</p> <p><b>Planning for April Joint Session with PMAB - E. Maxim</b> Moderator Maxim encouraged COGA members to make travel arrangements for the April meeting if they have not already done so. She shared the general schedule for the three-day meeting which includes time as COGA, with the Presbyterian Historical Society Board, as well as with the PMAB and the Unification Commission.</p>	
<p><b>MEET IN WORKGROUPS FOR 2023-2024</b></p> <p><b>Following are descriptions and members of the workgroups that met:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Referrals and Business:</i> Group will review and make necessary written comments for referrals MC-11, TWE-12, and other business items for GA226 that may arise. These will then be recommended to COGA for adoption. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A. James, S. Watson, L. Ocasio Torres, B. Kieffer, S. Bonner</li> <li>○ K. Duffert, staff</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <i>Transition to Unification:</i> Group will discern critical pieces related to governance and ecclesial organization to share with the Unification Commission. They will also define how to best support OGA/COGA in the unification process. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ S. Anthony, M. Rosa, L. Hargrove, J. Chu</li> <li>○ J. Oh, staff</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <i>Stated Clerk Review:</i> The Standing Rules call for an end of term review of the Stated Clerk be completed and submitted to the Stated Clerk Nominating Committee. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ C. Khonje, R. Santana-Grace, X. Leroux</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>COGA WORKGROUPS</b></p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ R. Gardner, staff</li> <li>● GA228: Group will consider and recommend to COGA a proposed format model for GA228. Location of that assembly is still to be determined. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ D. Davis, R. Pugh, L. Masters, E. Maxim</li> <li>○ T. Dykers Koenig, staff</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<p><b>RETURN FROM WORKGROUPS</b></p> <p>Upon return from time spent in workgroups, Moderator Maxim opened the floor for questions, concerns or mini-reports.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ S. Anthony reported from the Transition to Unification group</li> <li>○ C. Khonje reported from the Stated Clerk Review group</li> <li>○ D. Davis reported from the GA228 group</li> </ul>	<p><b>RETURN FROM COGA WORKGROUPS</b></p>
<p><b>ADJOURNMENT WITH PRAYER</b></p> <p>Moderator Eliana Maxim adjourned the meeting with prayer at 1:06 pm.</p>	<p><b>ADJOURNMENT WITH PRAYER</b></p>

Respectfully Submitted,

Jayne Culp