

**Notice of Motion 2015/216 Fossil Fuels and Climate Change**

*(To be considered Thursday 09:15)*

The Conference:

Welcomes the Report *Fossil Fuel and Investment* as part of the Methodist Church's continuing contribution to responding to the theological, economic and scientific challenges raised by climate change, inter alia found in the Conference Statement *Hope in God's Future* and the enormous contribution now made to this crucial issue by Pope Francis in *Laudato si'*.

Believes there are unique moral perspectives that people of faith can bring to questions of investment and sustainability and is grateful for the Report's promises of ongoing engagement;

Requests JACEI to continue to work with the CFB to develop clear criteria for possible divestment from fossil fuel companies, in accordance with the CFB Policy Statement on Climate Change, and including a timeline and conditions for possible reinvestment in the future, and to report on all these matters to Conference 2016, and subsequently as appropriate;

Encourages the Methodist people to study both this new Report and the CFB's Position and Policy Papers and

a) urges the CFB to continue to divest from companies which have significant holdings in Thermal Coal and Tar Sands or are primarily involved in exploration for fossil fuels, all such divestment to be completed by Conference 2017;

b) encourages the CFB to seek from companies especially in the fossil fuel, insurance and financial sectors a Low Carbon Business Plan incorporating a target of a maximum 2 degrees increase in global temperatures;

c) requests the CFB to develop and report on a strategy for increasing its investments in renewable energy, with a target of 5% of equities in mind, even if this involves modest 'risk';

Directs the Methodist Council to

Examine how these issues can be raised effectively with Her Majesty's Government, for example by adopting a high carbon price.

Ask JPIT to make as widely known as possible within current resources the information available from Operation Noah, A Rocha, Zero Carbon Britain, Christian Aid, All We Can and other appropriate bodies, for Districts, Circuits and Local Churches to explore this issue and take appropriate action.

**Proposed:** The Revd David Haslam

**Seconded:** The Revd Dr Roger L Walton

1. Mr Dudley Coates
2. The Revd Christine A Hawke
3. Mrs Elaine Robinson
4. Mr Timothy Baker
5. The Revd Dr Paul Nzacahayo
6. The Revd Nichola G Jones
7. The Revd Ian Howarth
8. The Revd Jeremy C Dare

**Budgetary Implications:** The Connexional Treasurer considers that this Notice of Motion has no budgetary implications provided that the work can be carried out by JACEI and the CFB within their existing work programme and existing priorities for 2015/16.

## **Notice of Motion 218: Amendment to the Reply to M30**

*(To be considered Wednesday)*

Delete the second paragraph of the reply and replace with:

‘The Conference recognises that Tax Justice is a crucial element in challenging injustice and addressing inequality, both in the UK and the wider world, and that it will not be achieved without considerable long-term effort, the Conference directs the Methodist Council to ensure the Connexional Team continues to work with Joint Advisory Committee on the Ethics of Investment (JACEI), the Central Finance Board (CFB), the Joint Public Issues Team (JPIT) and the Methodist Tax Justice Network (MTJN) for at least the next three years, as resources allow, and directs the Methodist Council to review progress in this area of work in early 2018 and to report to the Conference of that year.’

**Proposed:** The Revd David Haslam

**Seconded:** Mr John Cooper

(Signed by 8 other members of the Conference)

1. Mr Dudley Coates
2. Mrs Elaine Robinson
3. Mr Timothy Baker
4. The Revd Dr Paul Nzacahayo
5. The Revd Nichola G Jones
6. The Revd Olufemi R W Cole-Njie
7. The Revd Ian Howarth
8. The Revd Jeremy C Dare

**Budgetary Implications:**

The Connexional Treasurer considers that this Notice of Motion has no budgetary implications.