

Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses



The Ridgeway, London, NW7 1RN Telephone: 020 8906 2211

COB:COG July 31, 2013

TO ALL CONGREGATIONS

Re: 2014 international conventions

Dear Brothers:

We are pleased to inform you that several international conventions are being planned for 2014 in various parts of the world. Approved delegates from all congregations in the Britain branch are invited to the following conventions: Atlanta, Georgia; East Rutherford, New Jersey; Indianapolis, Indiana; and Landover, Maryland in the United States; Frankfurt, Germany; and Melbourne, Australia.

The selected delegates will not be required to use a specific travel agency. The emphasis will be for the delegates to benefit, not only from the spiritual association during the three-day convention, but also to spend two or three additional days with the local brothers before or after the convention so "that there may be an interchange of encouragement among you, by each one through the other's faith." (Rom. 1:12) This might include sharing in the ministry with local brothers, being with them at evening gatherings, or visiting local points of interest together.

For those wishing to apply for one of the 2014 international conventions, please note the following requirements. Members of the congregation 19 years of age (as of January 1, 2014) or older who serve as elders, as ministerial servants, or in some form of full-time service or exemplary publishers who have been baptized for 20 years or longer (as of January 1, 2014) may apply. (The exemplary baptized mates of such ones may apply as well.) Baptized and unbaptized minor children who are exemplary publishers between the ages of 12 (as of January 1, 2014) and 19 years and are still living at home will be permitted to accompany their baptized parent(s). Single persons may apply if they have prearranged a room-mate of the same sex or if they agree to pay the single supplement price for a single occupancy hotel room. The branch offices involved will not be making special arrangements for two single delegates to share a room. All applicants should be in good health and not in need of the assistance of someone else, nor be dependent on a wheelchair, an auxiliary oxygen supply, or similar health-related devices. Of course, all applicants should give attention to important factors such as their personal finances and family responsibilities.

After this meeting, the congregation secretary will be providing applications and instructions to interested ones who meet the aforementioned requirements. Only those who are definitely interested and anticipate being able to afford to attend one of these conventions should apply. The organization is kindly asking that only applicants who are selected as delegates make plans to attend one of these international conventions. Problems arise and matters get complicated for the organization when individuals who are not selected to attend make arrangements in connection with these events. Please keep in mind that due to limitations at each convention city, only a limited number of applicants can be selected. Applications should be filled in and returned to the Congregation Service Committee no later than **August 31, 2013**.

We appreciate your cooperation with these arrangements. We trust Jehovah's rich blessing will be upon the 2014 international conventions. Please accept an expression of our warm love and best wishes.

Your brothers,

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COB:COC July 31, 2013

Page 2

cc: Travelling overseers

PS to the coordinator of the body of elders:

Please have this letter read to the congregation during your next Service Meeting and after your next *Watchtower* Study. Thereafter, a copy of this letter and a copy of the *Applicant Instructions* should be placed on the noticeboard. The secretary should stay involved with these proceedings and continually remind potential applicants of the need to submit applications as soon as possible.