



Covenant of WCCM (South Africa)

A. Purpose of the Covenant

To establish an operating framework and governance structure to ensure that the living tradition of Christian Meditation as developed by John Main OSB and the World Community for Christian Meditation (WCCM) continues to be shared as broadly as possible throughout South Africa.

B. WCCM (SA)'s Mission Statement

To communicate and nurture meditation as passed on through the teaching of John Main OSB in the Christian tradition and in the spirit of serving the unity of all.

C. The Community of WCCM (SA) (the Community)

The Community of WCCM (SA) currently comprises the following elements:

1. **MEDITATOR** is a person who practises Christian Meditation and is recognised by WCCM (SA) as following the faithful expression of the teaching. A Meditator usually, but not necessarily, belongs to a Group.
2. **GROUP** is a number of persons who meet on a regular basis, within a defined geographical area at local or regional levels, to practise Christian Meditation.
3. **REGIONAL COORDINATOR** is a Meditator who agrees to coordinate all Christian Meditation activities within a defined region of South Africa.
4. **NATIONAL COORDINATOR** is a Meditator who sees to the proper functioning and wellbeing of the Community in South Africa as a whole. The national community selects the National Coordinator usually in consultation with the Director of WCCM and the International Team.
5. **NATIONAL COUNCIL** comprises the national coordinator, the regional coordinators and other invited members in three metropolitan areas of South Africa.

D. Responsibilities of WCCM (SA) National Coordinator and Council

1. First and foremost, the overarching mandate is to articulate a vision to sustain and promote the practice and development of Christian Meditation throughout South Africa and to oversee the Community's life and growth.

2. To promote the practice and development of Christian Meditation in South Africa, the National Council will coordinate activities such as:
 - WCCM (SA) website design, development and maintenance
 - Development of a sense of community among Meditators by encouraging and supporting the formation of Groups at local level and of regional Groups as appropriate
 - Identification and up-to-date maintenance of a register of Groups of Christian Meditation in South Africa
 - Timely communication and information to Meditators and Groups about events at national and international levels
 - Development of regional co-ordination
 - Organisation of a Christian Meditation outreach programme to schools
 - Organisation of annual regional retreats, Essential Teaching Weekends, and National Conferences
 - Production and distribution of an electronic quarterly Newsletter
3. To oversee WCCM (SA)'s life and growth, the National Council will:
 - Ensure that appropriate governance structures are in place to carry out its mandate and to address necessary issues of succession and continuity
 - Foster and guide dialogue and meditation among Christians of all denominations as well as with representatives of the contemplative communities of other religions and sacred traditions.
4. The National Council exists to serve in the spirit of the Gospel the individual Meditator in his/her personal spiritual journey and to support and encourage Groups and the Regional Coordinators.
5. In the conduct of its affairs WCCM (SA) will be inclusive, democratic, broadly consultative and transparently accountable in its finances and otherwise to the Community and will report thereon on an annual basis.
6. The National Council will make an effort to ensure that Christian Meditation activities are well coordinated in all areas of South Africa and will maintain close links with WCCM, its Guiding Board and International Centre.
7. WCCM (SA) shall work in collaboration with other organisations of similar interest in order to further its outreach within South Africa and neighbouring countries.
8. Where possible, the National Council will meet three times per year either in person at national WCCM (SA) events, or on-line through virtual conferencing platforms.

E. Review and Amendment

This Covenant may be reviewed and amended by agreement of the members of the National Council in consultation with all groups affiliated to WCCM (SA).