



CRC Missions International Framework

Index

Mission Framework Terms	3
International Vision	5
The Australian International Missions Team (AIMT)	6
Explanation of the CRC International Vision	7
ACNC Compliance Requirements.....	8
Missions Groups and Fields with the CRCMI.....	9
International Leaders Gathering (ILG).....	12
Financing the CRC Mission Fields	13
Missionary Resettlement Fund	14
Leaving a Legacy for Global CRC Missions	14
Sending Funds Overseas	15
Credentialing and Affiliating	16
CRCMI Member Field	18

Mission Framework Terms

This glossary serves as a foundation for understanding the Framework structure and governance of CRCMI, emphasizing a shared vision and collaborative efforts to expand the kingdom of God globally.

- **Great Commission:** The Biblical command to “make disciples” by teaching and training disciples for Christ.
- **Framework:** Is the procedure and structural guidelines that have been established by the AIMT to assist with linking the CRCA and Mission Groups.
- **Affiliating:** Is the response of the AIMT acknowledging, an Advocate, a Liaison, or a Field as part of the CRCMI.
- **International Leaders Gathering:** Is a meeting of Liaisons, National Leaders, AIMT members for the purpose of fostering unity in the CRC Family.
- **Missionary Resettlement Fund:** Is a fund administered by the AIMT to assist with the settlement of an approved retiring Missionary.
- **Mission Group:** Is a pastor, or a church, Spiritual Institution that is working with a CRCA pastor or church.
- **ACNC:** Is the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission, the regulatory authority for charities and not-for-profit organisations including religious organizations, (churches) within Australia.
- **AIMT:** Is the Australian International Missions Team that are the board of directors of CRCMI and are responsible to the CRCA.
- **AMD:** Australian Missions Director of the AIMT.
- **Interim Advocate:** A CRCA pastor that has adopted a nation or area but has not yet provided direct support or conducted visits.
- **Support Advocate:** A CRCA pastor that provides financial support to a nation or area but has not yet visited.
- **Regional Advocate:** A CRCA pastor that provides support and makes occasional visits to a nation or area.
- **Group Liaison:** A CRCA pastor that makes regular visits (either individually or as part of a group of churches) to a nation or area.
- **Field Liaison:** A CRCA pastor that oversees missions work in a specific nation or area.
- **Global Liaison:** A CRCA pastor linked to the AIMT that coordinates and liaises between Field Liaisons and National Field leaders across multiple nations or a larger region.
- **CRC or CRC Family:** are the collective terms used to refer to all the churches and Spiritual Institutions working together and identifying themselves as part of the global CRC Family.
- **Friendship Group:** churches and pastors in another nation or area involved with CRCA pastors and churches that choose not to pursue CRCMI membership and become part of CRC Family.
- **Network Group:** Is a pastor, or church, or Spiritual Institution working under a CRCA church in a multi-site arrangement.
- **Branch Group:** Is a church or Spiritual Institution working under a CRCA church wanting to have their particular church or Spiritual Institution recognised as part of CRCMI.
- **Affiliated Field:** A group of churches or Spiritual Institutions in an area working toward becoming a CRCMI Member Field.
- **Member Field:** A group of churches and Spiritual Institutions fully recognized as members of CRCMI.
- **Local Executive:** the term used for a newly established Board of Governance for an NGO or entity in a new Member Field
- **CRCMI:** The abbreviation for *CRC Missions International Inc.*, the board of which is the AIMT.
- **CRCA:** The abbreviation for *CRC Churches International (Australia)*, most times to identify Australian CRC pastors or churches.
- **Missions Office:** Is the office of CRCMI overseen by the AIMT for support to CRCA and its missions' endeavours.

- **Missions Group:** Is the mission's area or pastors or Spiritual Institutions that a CRCA pastor is working with.
- **CRCMI Missionary or Missionary:** The title given to a credentialed individual working as a missionary with CRCMI.
- **CRC Charter or Charter:** Outlines CRCA International's vision, values, and governance structure, emphasizing unity, autonomy, and accountability.
- **CRC Movement:** The CRC Churches that are working together around the world.
- **Field:** Is the term used to Identify a nation or area that is working with the CRCMI.
- **NGO:** In this Framework, is a nonprofit, non-governmental organization (NGO) operating as the legal entity administering the Missions Field as part of the CRC Family, with an appointed team and National Leader.
- **NE:** National Executive of the CRCA.
- **National Leader:** is the leader of a Member Field most times the national chairman in a nation. Many times would also act as the Field Liaison.
- **International Competencies:** The requirements to be completed as a CRCMI Missionary or a CRCMI Local Pastor or CRCMI National Pastor.
- **Credential or Credentialing:** Is an official recognition granted to an individual by CRCMI who have demonstrated a calling, the competencies required and commitment to Christian ministry allowing the individual to serve as a CRCMI Missionary, Local Pastor, National Pastor.
- **Field Leader:** Is the national leader of a group of churches in a nation of area that has been indorsed by CRCMI and is identified as a sister church movement with the CRC Family.
- **Spiritual Institution:** is a ministry like a training college, a school, an early learning centre, a care centre, a children's home, etc. that is working with the CRC.
- **Missionary:** refers to an individual identified and Credentialed by the CRCMI that has a minimum Biblical training to a Certificate III in Christian Ministry and Theology or equivalent
- **Local Pastor:** refers to an individual identified and Credentialed by the CRCMI that has a minimum Biblical training to a Certificate III in Christian Ministry and Theology or equivalent.
- **National Pastor:** refers to an individual identified and Credentialed by the CRCMI that has a minimum Biblical training to a Diploma in Christian Ministry and Theology or equivalent
- **Charity self-evaluation:** Is the requirement of ACNC to do an annual evaluation on all missions' activities and funding to be submitted as part of an Australian churches AGM.
- **Declaration of Commitment and Reliability:** A declaration that is signed by a Pastor, church eldership or board member of a Spiritual Institution, wanting to become part of CRCMI.

International Vision

Words from Our Australian CRC Churches International Chairman

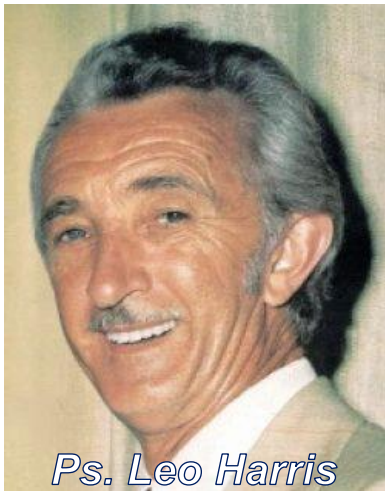
In an address at a CRC conference, Ps Bill Vasilakis said: *"While in Africa, I felt strongly that God wants every CRC church in Australia—no matter how small—to 'Adopt a Nation' and lift their faith to believe they can be used by God to establish a local church base or humanitarian venture in that nation. May 'Adopt a Nation' become a rallying call that stimulates prayer, faith, and action to achieve our 2045 vision."*

"To have a presence in every nation by 2045, the Australian International Missions Team cannot—and should not—control or manage this fresh, Acts-style apostolic evangelism that God wants to reignite in the CRC Churches. It is crucial that we decentralise the vision, making it a natural, organic process that aligns with the autonomous nature of our movement..."



Ps. Bill Vasilakis

Acknowledgment



Ps. Leo Harris

Pastor Leo Harris (deceased), the visionary founder of the CRC Churches in Australia and New Zealand, was a man with an unrelenting passion for missions and the Gospel. His deep love for Christ and unwavering dedication to the Great Commission led him to establish Churches and Bible schools, equipping believers to spread the Gospel with power and purpose.

Today, his legacy lives on as the CRC continues to fulfill Christ's vision of reaching the world for Christ.



Ps Barry Silverback

We recognise and honour the apostolic ministry of Ps Barry Silverback, who pioneered many CRC Fields in the Pacific and Asia.

We support and celebrate the entrepreneurial initiative and apostolic drive of many Australian CRC pastors and local churches involved in global missions.

A Presence in Every Nation by 2045

What does "a presence in every nation" mean?

While it may vary between nations, "a presence in every nation" refers to: **"An active, ongoing ministry involvement in a nation,"** by forming an affective ministry base within that nation.

The purpose is to fulfill the Great Commission of Jesus: *"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."* (Matthew 28:19-20).

The Australian International Missions Team (AIMT)

The Australian International Missions Team (AIMT) serves as the governing board of CRC Missions International (CRCMI), overseeing and advancing the missions mandate of CRC Churches International Australia (CRCA). Tasked with administering the global mission's strategy, the AIMT aligns its work with the vision of a presence in every nation by 2045 (Matthew 28:19–20).

As the Board of CRCMI, the AIMT is accountable to the CRC Churches International (CRCA) National Executive (NE), ensuring that all missions activities adhere to the Vision, Mission, Values, Ministry Focus, Principles, and Beliefs articulated in the CRC Charter.

The AIMT operates as stewards of this mandate, championing world evangelism and promoting the Great Commission with CRCA pastors and CRCMI Affiliate or Member Fields, and support the work of Interim, Support, and Regional Advocates, as emphasized in Acts 1:8: *"You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."*

Key Responsibilities of the AIMT

Governance and Accountability

- Serve as the Board of CRCMI, providing oversight and governance.
- Report to and remain accountable to the NE.
- Adhere to the Vision, Mission, Values, Principles, and Beliefs outlined in the CRC Charter.
- Assist CRCA churches with Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission (ACNC) requirements.

Strategic Oversight and Collaboration

- Administer the outworking of the CRCA International Strategic Directions.
- Collaborate with CRC Churches to fulfill the vision of a presence in every nation by 2045.
- Frame and recommend an annual missions' budget to the NE.
- Approve CRCMI missions' expenditures in alignment with the approved budget.
- Promote and manage overseas mission projects and personnel supported from CRCA.

Support and Development

- Support the work of CRCMI Fields.
- Establish training programs for the development of Global missions.
- Facilitate the sending and support of endorsed Fields and Missionary.
- Provide support to CRCMI pastors and leaders in other nations, during visits to Australia.
- Encourage and facilitate missions training and education across the CRCA.

Credentialing and Affiliating

- Act as a Credentialing body for new pastors applying to join the CRCMI and the CRC Movement.
- Serve as an Affiliating body for new churches and Spiritual Institutions seeking recognition with the CRC Movement.
- Commission new Affiliate or Member Fields and acknowledge them within the CRC Movement.

Liaison and Advocate

- Work with Interim, Support, and Regional Advocates to strengthen missions' engagement.
- Recognize, support and work with Group, Field, and Global Liaisons.

Resource Management

- Assist in the raising of funds through donations, gifts, grants, and bequests to support the CRCMI and CRCA Missions Strategic Directions.
- Manage the CRCMI Missions Budget and oversee all finances processed through the Missions Office.
- Oversee the Missionary Resettlement Fund in accordance with policy.
- Operate financial instruments, including bank accounts, for CRCA Missions operations and Fields.
- Create processes where CRCA churches can support missions.

Policy and Guidance

- Produce model documents for use in missions' activities
- Develop documents for training of mission's teams
- Provide advice on requests from other nations for relationships (Member, Affiliate, or Group Fields).
- Offer guidance on Mission projects for sponsorship.
- Help in arranging compliance with safeguarding standards for children and vulnerable people.

Leadership and Appointments

- Recommend members for the AIMT to the NE for appointment.
- Convene the CRC International Leaders Gathering to foster collaboration and sharing among international leaders.
- Appoint an Australian Missions Director AMD to:
 - Serve as the Chairman of AIMT, the board of CRCMI
 - Report to the NE.
 - Receive directions from the NE.
 - Recruit staff for the Missions Office.
 - Oversee recruitment and strategic direction within the AIMT.

Through strategic planning, collaboration, and leadership, the AIMT helps in advancing the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19–20) while safeguarding the integrity and values of the CRC Family.

Explanation of the CRC International Vision

What is "a presence" in a nation?

What it is not:

- A tourist trip.
- An occasional visit to preach and then move on.

What it is:

- The establishment of a sustainable international ministry base within a nation, known as a Field.

How is "a presence" in a nation established?

- A CRCA pastor commits to establishing and supporting an international ministry base in a nation through:
 - Prayer: Ongoing intercession for the nation and the Field.
 - Financial Support: Providing resources to sustain and grow the Field.
 - Ministry Efforts: Sending ministry teams or workers to serve and support the Field.
 - Ongoing Engagement: Regular communication with and active involvement in the life of the Field.

Typical Commitments Include:

- Regular visits by a CRCA pastor or church to the Field, ensuring consistent connection.
- Sustained communication to strengthen relationships and provide ongoing support.

This approach reflects an apostolic investment in the field and demonstrates a long-term commitment to advancing the gospel in that nation. Such engagement may involve sending both short-term and long-term missionaries to actively serve and build capacity at the Field.

ACNC Compliance Requirements

The ACNC has established standards that govern registered charities and religious organizations, including churches, operating missions works outside Australia. These standards apply to activities such as:

- **Undertaking activities overseas:** Examples include providing medical assistance, missionary work, building housing, and running education programs.
- **Sending money or supplies overseas:** Financial or material support to mission fields or partners abroad.
- **Sending people overseas:** This includes cultural exchanges, research, or volunteers assisting in projects.
- **Buying goods or services from overseas:** Procurement of materials or services for mission purposes.
- **Working with or funding third parties operating outside Australia:** Supporting organizations that carry out activities on behalf of the charity.

Important Note:

A charity is considered to be operating outside of Australia if it engages in any of these activities, even when:

- Only a small amount of money is sent overseas.
- Overseas activities form only a minor part of the charity's overall operations.
- Activities are undertaken by another organization on the charity's behalf.

External Conduct Standards

To ensure compliance, the ACNC has formulated 4 External Conduct Standards, which must be adhered to. Copies of these standards and the CRCA Missions Framework & Policies are available on the CRCA Missions Website or by contacting the CRCA Missions Office.

1. **External Conduct Standard 1:** Activities and control of resources (including funds).
2. **External Conduct Standard 2:** Annual review of overseas activities and record-keeping.
3. **External Conduct Standard 3:** Anti-fraud and anti-corruption measures.
4. **External Conduct Standard 4:** Protection of vulnerable individuals.

CRCA Church Responsibilities

Each church involved in overseas missions is required to:

- **Self-Evaluation:** Conduct an annual evaluation of the outcomes of any money sent or personnel deployed to assist in overseas missions. Assess whether the resources were used effectively and ethically.
- **Record Keeping:** Store detailed records of these evaluations for seven years. Include this information as part of the church's charity records.
- **Improvement Plan:** Document any areas needing improvement. Create an action plan based on these notes to address identified issues and enhance mission efforts.
- **Safeguarding Standards:** Ensure compliance with safeguarding requirements, particularly for children and vulnerable individuals.

Compliance Support - For further information or assistance in implementing these ACNC standards, please refer to the resources available on the <https://crcmissions.international>, contact the Missions Office, or contact ACNC. By adhering to these standards, churches can ensure their overseas mission activities align with both legal requirements and ethical best practices.

Missions Groups and Fields with the CRCMI

Identifying Missions Groups and Fields

Churches, ministries, and pastors in other nations may have different levels of engagement. A group of churches, ministries, and pastors in a nation or area may also vary in their connection to the CRC family. To provide clarity, we have created classifications of Groups and Fields:

Identifying Groups:

- **Friendship Group**
 - Is where a CRCA pastors or church co-operates with a non-CRC Mission Group in a nation or area.
 - There is no expectation that the Mission Group will become a CRCMI Member or become part of the CRC Movement but remains as a group of friends working with the CRCA pastor or church.
- **Network Group**
 - A Mission Group may continue indefinitely working with the partnering CRCA Church as a Network Group.
 - A Network Group can operate like a site church with the partnering CRCA church functioning similarly to a multi-site church.
 - It would therefore be the responsibility of the partnering CRCA church to administer all the required compliance as a multi-site church.
 - A Network Group will not come under the jurisdiction of the CRCA or CRCMI unless they meet the requirements set out in the CRCMI Framework for Credentialing and Affiliation.
 - A Network Group may apply directly to come under a recognised Member Field if that Member Field is also fully registered as an entity or NGO in the nation.
- **Branch Group**
 - A Missions Group in conjunction with the partnering CRCA pastor may apply for to be recognised as a Branch Church with CRCMI meeting the requirements for Credentialing and Affiliation.
 - Upon acceptance the partnering CRCA pastor and respective Liaison will be notified.

Identifying Fields:

- **Affiliated Field**
 - A Mission Group of churches or Spiritual Institutions working towards becoming a CRCMI Member Field.
 - The Mission Group or Spiritual Institutions will maintain a relationship with partnering CRCA Church and be identified with the Field Liaison (the partnering CRCA pastor may be recognised as the Field Liaison) during this transition period.
- **Member Field**
 - A Mission Group of churches or Spiritual Institutions fully recognized as part of a CRCMI Field.
 - These churches and Spiritual Institutions enjoy all the rights and responsibilities of sisterhood with other CRCMI Member Fields and remain in contact with the Field Liaison. Many times, at this stage the National Leader would be the Field Liaison. If this is the case, then the National Leader will directly connect with the Global Liaison to ensure the ongoing development of the CRC Movement.

Identifying Advocates

To clarify the levels of engagement and responsibility for CRCA pastors, the following categories of Advocates have been established. An Advocate is a CRCA pastor committed to partnering and developing a Mission Group through stages of involvement,

- **Interim Advocate**

- A CRCA pastor who has a vision and **adopts** a heart for a nation or area but has not yet been directly involved in supporting or visiting a Missions Group.
- The Interim Advocate focuses on prayer, exploration, and the initial development of a vision for engaging with a Missions Group.

- **Support Advocate**

- A CRCA Pastor who has **embraced** a nation or area and has begun to provide support for a Missions Group.
- While they have started to engage in giving or other forms of assistance, they have not yet established a strong relationship with the Missions Groups or regularly visited the Missions Groups.

Identifying Liaisons

As Missions Groups develop and form a strong connection with CRCA pastors, the AIMT supports this growth by identifying Liaison roles to strengthen and organize mission work as it transitions from a Group to a Field.

- **Group Liaison**

- A Group Liaison is a pastor or missions director of a CRCA Church that maintains **regular contact** and arranges visits to a Missions Group.
- Their role may include engagement with a pastor, church, and Spiritual Institution etc.
- The Group Liaison keeps the Global Liaison informed of activities, enabling AIMT to provide support and co-ordination.

- **Field Liaison**

- A Field Liaison is a pastor or missions director of a CRCA Church identified by the AIMT that maintains regular contact and **arranges visits** to several Missions Groups usually within a single nation.
- This may involve input to pastors, churches, and Spiritual Institutions.
- For Fields that have become established and formed their own entity or NGO as a Missions Field within the CRC Movement, the National Leader is referred to as the Field Liaison.
- The Field Liaison regularly informs the Global Liaison of activities who in turn communicates to the AIMT, enabling AIMT to provide support and co-ordination.

- **Global Liaison**

- A Global Liaison is typically a member of AIMT or someone working in **collaboration with AIMT**.
- Their responsibilities include:
 - Co-ordinating with Group and Field Liaisons to ensure effective collaboration.
 - Linking CRCA Churches interested in missions with existing Missions Groups and Fields.
 - Linking CRCA Churches with new Fields.
 - Helping with addressing compliance issues and ensuring mission work aligns with CRCMI, and CRCA, and ACNC standards and values.

Encouragement

- **Global Focus:**

CRCA pastors and churches are encouraged to extend their focus beyond their local church mission (*Jerusalem*) to embrace global outreach (*Judea, Samaria, and to the ends of the earth*). As Acts 1:8 states: *"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."*

- **Engage in Missions:**

If you are a CRCA pastor not yet engaged in missions, we urge you to connect with an unreached people group or nation and join our global CRC Movement.

- **Church Tithing to Missions:**

Has your church committed to tithing from its tithe to support missions?

- Contributions can be made through the Missions Office.
- This reflects God's heart for reaching the nations. **Numbers 18:26:** *"When you receive the tithe..., you must present a tenth of that tithe as the Lord's offering."*

- **Personal Missions Engagement:**

- Have you considered tithing your ministry time by going on a mission trip every year?
 - This practice aligns with the biblical principle of stewardship and the Great Commission, reflecting God's call to reach the nations. **Matthew 28:19-20:** *"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations..., teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you."*
- If you are unsure where to start, contact the Missions Office for assistance and support.

- **Building Cooperation:**

- While individual initiative is valued, we also encourage collaboration between Missions Advocates, Liaisons, and their associated Groups and Fields.
- This co-operation fosters interdependence, allowing us to learn from one another and enhance our collective efforts.
- When multiple CRCA Churches have contacts in the same nation or area, collaboration can strengthen and streamline our global mission endeavours.

- **New Mission Areas:**

When a CRCA Pastor or Church begins working with a new Mission Group - whether establishing a new local church or ministry or partnering with an existing church or ministry - these efforts are considered part of the global outreach of CRCA. This work aligns with the CRCA International Vision.

- **Development of Mission Groups:**

- Mission Groups will be developed and supported by the resources of the CRCA church involved or in partnership with other churches and individuals.
 - The Missions Group may continue indefinitely as a 'local CRCA church' operating similarly to multi-site church. It would therefore be the responsibility of the partnering CRCA to administer all the required compliance as a multi-site church.
 - Multi-site churches will not come under the jurisdiction of the CRCMI unless they meet the requirements set out in the CRCMI Framework.
 - Alternatively, they may apply for recognition as a CRCMI Member Church or to the Mission Field if it has an established NGO, while maintaining the connection with the partnering CRCA church.

Field Liaisons and Global Liaisons

As CRCA pastors and the CRC Movement continue to engage in missions, there will be ongoing movement and collaboration between those serving as Advocates and Liaisons. These roles are vital in ensuring the effective co-ordination and expansion of missions work globally.

Field Liaisons (can be the National Leader of a nation with a legal registered entity or NGO) oversee missions work within specific nations or areas, providing input to local Pastors, Churches, and Spiritual Institutions. They maintain regular contact with these Fields, offering mentorship while ensuring alignment with the vision of the CRC Movement. In contrast, Global Liaisons operate, liaising between the Field Liaisons (who could be National Field Leaders) and the **AIMT**. Their role is strategic, coordinating efforts across multiple nations to achieve the vision of **a presence in every nation by 2045**.

This structure operates in faith, trusting God to open new doors for missions in nations where there is currently no CRC presence. Hebrews 11:1 reminds us that "faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." Together, through Field and Global Liaisons, we move closer to fulfilling the vision of **a presence in every nation by 2045**.

International Leaders Gathering (ILG)

The ILG serves as a crucial platform for all CRC Fields to unite as a global CRC Family. This gathering provides an opportunity for encouragement, inspiration, and collaboration as we collectively work towards the vision of establishing a presence in every nation by 2045.

As the CRC Movement continues to grow worldwide, the diversity of its members presents unique challenges and opportunities. Many Fields face logistical challenges that prevent them from assembling in a single location. Additionally, time differences and the increasing number of non-English-speaking nations with vibrant ministries requires innovative approaches to ensure inclusivity and meaningful participation. To address these needs, virtual gatherings have become an essential tool for fostering connection and engagement.

To enhance collaboration and communication, Global Liaisons have been introduced. These individuals play a pivotal role in co-ordinating efforts within specific regions and linguistic groups, ensuring that emerging Fields receive the support they need to thrive.

The gathering brings together CRC National Leaders, key pastors from Member Fields, selected pastors from Affiliated and Member Fields, Field & Global Liaisons and the AIMT. Together, we work to fulfill the CRC's international vision while addressing the practical needs of growing ministries.

The ILG is traditionally held in October, following the Australian National CRC Conference and the Bible school graduation ceremonies in various nations. These graduations often represent significant milestones, such as Bible college completions and pastoral ordinations, highlighting the ongoing development of leadership within the CRC Movement globally.

Objectives of the ILG

- Relationship Building: Strengthening bonds between leaders across all fields.
- Best Practices: Sharing insights and strategies to fulfill International Strategic Directions.
- Collective Discussions: Addressing global issues of shared relevance and concern.
- Field Needs: Highlighting and responding to significant needs within the Fields.
- Prayer: Engaging in powerful intercession for nations, leaders, and the vision of the CRC Family.

This gathering is a cornerstone for fostering unity, collaboration, and mutual growth within the global CRC Family.

Financing the CRC Mission Fields

An effective and ordered framework for financing CRC Mission Fields is essential to ensure compliance with the ACNC regulations and to support the ongoing growth of CRC Family. All funds sent to Missionaries or mission Field, by a CRCA church should be processed through the Missions Office. This simplifies compliance and aids in the required annual ACNC Charity self-evaluation, including record keeping, improvement plan, and safeguarding standards.

NOTE: Additionally, when a CRCA church sends a team on a mission trip outside Australia, the trip and its outcomes must also be included the CRCA Churches ACNC charity self-evaluation and submitted at the local CRCA churches AGM. As Paul reminds us in **2 Corinthians 8:21**, *"We are taking pains to do what is right, not only in the eyes of the Lord but also in the eyes of man."*

Natural Disasters

In the event of major natural disasters, particularly those affecting the CRC Movement:

- The Field or Global Liaison may report to the AIMT for distribution of this information and needs to CRCA churches, encouraging prayer and support.
- If deemed appropriate, the AMD may initiate a general appeal for financial contributions.
- Donations will be collected and forwarded through the Missions Office, ensuring transparency and accountability.

Funds for Fields

Fundraising for specific nations or areas should be conducted by CRCA pastors serving as Support Advocates, Regional Advocates, Group Liaisons, or Field Liaisons.

- The Missions Office is available to assist with facilitating appeals when requested.
- The Missions Office is not responsible for raising and providing funds to mission areas.
- CRCA pastors should not make direct appeals to other CRCA churches without first contacting the AMD.
- The Missions Office provides an efficient and compliant system for managing and sending finances.

Special CRC Movement Projects

When the AIMT identifies a Field or project that could benefit through joint fundraising across CRCA churches:

- The AIMT will prepare a detailed appeal that includes:
 - Background of the mission.
 - Specific needs.
 - Cost estimates and expected outcomes.
- Appeals will proceed only when the field is a legally recognized entity or NGO and is properly filed and stored with the Missions Office.
- For property or building-related projects, all documentation (e.g., titles) must be filed and stored with the Missions Office before initiation.
- Evaluation is required before commitments are made, considering:
 - Start-up costs.
 - Ongoing running costs.
 - Long-term sustainability.
 - Expected outcomes.

Adjustments to Long-Term Support

In cases where a CRCA church is supporting a mission's area and needs to adjust a financial commitment:

- Six (6) months' notice must be provided to the Field Liaison and the Missions Office.
- This ensures alternative arrangements can be made, reducing unnecessary stress for the mission Field.

Missionary Resettlement Fund

The Missionary Resettlement Fund is a fund managed by the AIMT and aims to support missionaries returning to Australia after serving in the field for more than three years. This fund provides small financial assistance for re-establishment needs such as rental deposits, furniture, transportation, and other essential costs.

Requirements for Eligibility

1. Endorsement & Term of Service:

- The Missionary must have been sent with the written endorsement of the AIMT.
- The Missionary will have returned to missionary service after their furlough, to commence their fourth year of missionary service.
- The Missionary must have returned to the mission field for a second term within one year of starting furlough, following the initial three-year term.
- The fund will be calculated based on the Missionary's original starting date on the field.

2. Fund Allocation Formula:

- Single Missionary: \$1,000 per annum (plus interest).
- Married Couple: \$2,000 per annum (plus interest).
- The funds set aside for a Missionary will only be accessible once they permanently return to resettle.

3. Notification and Access:

- When a Missionary notifies the AIMT of their intention to resettle, they will be informed of the funds held for them, and determine the most appropriate way to make the funds available.

Options for Fund Distribution

- Superannuation: Funds may be paid into the Missionary's superannuation account.
- Direct Payment: Funds can be provided directly to the Missionary.
- FBT Account: Where applicable, funds may be distributed via a Fringe Benefits Tax (FBT) account.

Funding the Missionary Resettlement Fund

1. Contributions:

- An offering is collected from CRCA churches at a National Conference meeting each year.
- Additional contributions to the fund can be sent at any time to the CRC Missions Office.

Leaving a Legacy for Global CRC Missions

Australian Church members can leave a lasting impact by including **CRC Missions International (CRCMI)** or a specific mission Field in their Will. These gifts or bequests help to finance and ensure the ongoing mission to share the Gospel and establish a presence in every nation.

To include CRCMI or a specific mission field in a Will, consult your legal advisor and use the following wording: *"I give and bequeath [specific amount, percentage, or asset] to CRC Missions International (CRCMI) [or specify the mission field/project], to be used for its mission purposes in accordance with its objectives."*

For more information, contact the **Missions Office**.

Your generosity helps transform lives and fulfill the Great Commission globally. **Matthew 6:20** *"Store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal."*

The AIMT will oversee gifts and bequests, ensuring:

- Maximization of investment revenue.
- Preservation of assets.
 - Effective allocation of funds to global mission efforts.

Sending Funds Overseas

CRCA churches must adhere to **ACNC External Conduct Standards** when sending funds (and personally going) overseas, to ensure transparency, accountability, and compliance with ACNC regulations. Below is the policy framework for sending funds overseas through the Missions Office:

Process for Sending Funds

To streamline compliance and provide transparency, all overseas funds should be sent through the Missions Office:

- **Preparation:** Transfer funds to the CRC Missions account at least three weeks before the intended overseas transfer date required. Provide detailed information about the purpose of the funds and the recipient.
- **Approval:** All transfers are subject to AIMT approval in line with ACNC requirements.

Discounted International Transfers:

- The Missions Office has secured discounted international transfer rates through **Commonwealth Bank (CBA)** and **StoneX**, with rates 10–17% better than standard bank international transfer rates and no commission. A 5% levy is deducted from all funds for operational costs (to run the Missions Office), ensuring cost-effectiveness and efficiency.

Steps for Fund Transfers

Donor Action:

- Visit the Missions International website.
- Obtain the Bank details and arrange the direct transfer of the funds to the CRCMI account (note if funds are sent via a card – the card fees will be deducted from the amount of funds available).
- Email the Missions Office with the following details:
 - Donor name
 - Donor Church name
 - Donor Contact information.
 - Amount to transfer.
 - Recipient's name,
 - Recipient's WhatsApp/email
 - Recipient's address,
 - Recipient's Swift code,
 - Recipient's account details,
 - Recipient's nation
 - Purpose of the donation.
 - Any additional instructions.

Missions Office Action:

- Verify recipient details via WhatsApp or email.
- Load recipient details into the transfer system (CBA or StoneX).
- Obtain approval from an AIMT appointed member for the transfer.
- Transfer funds to the recipient.
- Confirm receipt of funds with the recipient via WhatsApp.

Post-Transfer Accountability:

- Ensure the recipient provides proof of how funds were used (e.g., receipts, photos, or reports).
- Store all documentation for compliance purposes.

Non-Compliance with Fund Usage

- If a recipient fails to provide confirmation that previous funds were used for the intended purpose, future funds will be held back, and the Missions Office will seek instructions from the donor.

This process assists CRCA churches comply with ACNC requirements, safeguarding the integrity of missions funding and facilitating effective stewardship of resources. As Paul teaches in **1 Corinthians 4:2**, *"Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful."*

Credentialing and Affiliating

Process of Credentialing and Affiliating into the CRC Movement via CRCMI

To fulfill the CRCA Vision of “**A presence in every nation by 2045,**” we must establish a clear, positive, and efficient process for recognizing new Ministries into the CRCMI and the broader CRC Movement, while ensuring that all recognized as being part of the CRC uphold the credibility, integrity, and values required by the Charter of the CRC.

This process must also facilitate co-operative relationships with non-CRCMI Ministries

Missions Groups seeking CRC Credentialing and Affiliating.

For Ministries seeking formal recognition as members of the CRC Movement, a **multi-stage process** is required. This ensures alignment with CRC values and principles while maintaining due diligence.

Requirements for Initial Connection to the CRC Family

The process begins with a CRCA Pastor building a relationship with a pastor, ministry or Spiritual Institution over time. This relationship provides an opportunity for assessment and development of trust, ensuring alignment with CRC principles.

To progress toward recognition, the Ministry Group must:

Build Relationships

- Establish mutual trust and a shared commitment to partnership with the CRCA pastor.
- Demonstrate willingness on both sides to invest in and sustain the relationship.

Undergo Due Diligence

- Evaluate the Ministry Groups moral and financial integrity.
- Confirm the presence of a credible local leadership structure in the missions Field.

Training

- Undertake training focused on responsibilities toward children and vulnerable people, ensuring compliance with safeguarding standards.
- Possess sound Pentecostal Biblical knowledge equivalent to at least a Certificate III (Diploma for a national credential) in Christian Ministry and Theology.

Competencies

- Complete the requirements outlined in the CRCMI International Competencies.
- Understand the CRC Charter
- Sign the Declaration of Commitment and Reliability, committing to upholding CRC Movement values, responsibilities, and ethical standards as a condition of Affiliation or Credentialing.

Submit a Formal Application

- Complete the application process to be recognized as one of the following:
 - **CRCMI Missionary** (Minimum: Demonstrate a Biblical knowledge equivalent to a Certificate III in Christian Ministry and Theology)
 - **CRCMI Local Pastor** (Minimum: Demonstrate a Biblical knowledge equivalent to a Certificate III in Christian Ministry and Theology)
 - **CRCMI National Pastor** (Minimum: Demonstrate a Biblical knowledge equivalent to a Diploma in Christian Ministry and Theology)

Formal Application Process

Once all requirements are met, the CRCA pastor will submit the application to the AIMT for review and confirmation. Upon approval by the AIMT, the Applicant will be granted a CRCMI Credential as one of the following:

CRCMI Missionary or CRCMI Local Pastor or CRCMI National Pastor

This Credential signifies official recognition of the Applicant as part of the CRCMI .

Ordinations: The ordination of a **CRCMI Missionary, CRCMI Local Pastor, or CRCMI National Pastor** will typically occur in their home nation. Whenever possible, the ordination will involve the partnering **CRCA Pastor**, most likely serving as the **Group or Field Liaison**.

Recognition and Authority

- A **CRCMI Credential** is recognized within the CRC Movement and is limited to the date on the credential. The CRCMI Credential does not grant any authority within Australia.
- However, a CRCMI Credential may not hold formal authority within the Applicants nation unless it is acknowledged by the local government or religious authorities.
- The **AIMT** will notify the Applicant and the CRCA Pastor and the **Field Liaison** upon recognition, approval or rejection.

Ongoing Relationship

The Applicant's ongoing connection to the CRC Movement must be actively maintained through:

- **Regular Communication:** Maintaining contact with the CRCA Pastor and the Group or Field Liaison.
- **Cooperation:** Working collaboratively with other members of the CRC Family.
- **Accountability:** Adhering to CRC Movement values, principles, and standards.

CRCMI Recognition (Church or Spiritual Institution)

For Ministries such as **Churches** or **Spiritual Institutions** seeking formal recognition as members of the CRC Movement is a multi-stage process ensures alignment with CRC values, principles, and governance standards.

Requirements for Connection to the CRC Family

The process involves collaboration between a CRCA Pastor, or a CRCMI Missionary, or Pastor, and two Elders of the church or two Board members of the Spiritual Institution seeking recognition.

To progress, the two Elders of the church or two Board members of the Spiritual Institution must:

- Demonstrate alignment with CRC Movement principles, governance, and the vision of "a presence in every nation."
- Undertake training focused on responsibilities toward children and vulnerable people to ensure compliance with safeguarding standards.
- Possess sound Pentecostal Biblical knowledge equivalent to at least a Certificate III in Christian Ministry and Theology.
- Sign the Declaration of Commitment and Reliability and commit to upholding CRC values, responsibilities, and ethical standards as a condition of affiliation.
- Complete the application process to be recognized as one of the following:
 - **CRCMI Church**
 - **CRCMI Spiritual Institution**

Formal Application Process

Once all requirements are fulfilled, the CRCA Pastor will submit the application to the AIMT for review and confirmation. Upon approval by the AIMT, the Church or Spiritual Institution will be granted Affiliation as one of the following:

CRCMI Church or **CRCMI Spiritual Institution**

Important Notes

Recognition and Authority

- A CRCMI Affiliation is recognized within the CRC Movement.
- The Affiliation may not hold formal authority within the nation unless acknowledged by the local government or religious authorities.

Regional Liaison Notification

- The AIMT will notify the CRCA Pastor and the respective Liaison.

This process allows for growth while safeguarding the integrity of the CRC Family. At this stage, the CRCA Pastor involved would normally be designated as the Liaison. If there are other CRCA initiatives or works in the same nation or area, the existing Group Liaison may be connected with the Field Liaison to promote harmonious collaboration and effective co-ordination.

CRCMI Member Field

A CRCMI Member Field represents a significant milestone in the progression of a nation's journey within the CRC Movement. It signifies that a group of Pastors, Churches, and Spiritual Institutions within a nation or area have been fully recognized as a part of the CRC Movement. These Pastors, Churches, and Spiritual Institutions enjoy all the rights, responsibilities, and privileges of sisterhood within the CRC.

Establishing a Member Field

As the work within a nation grows, several key developments lead to its recognition as a Member Field:

Credentialing:

- A significant number of pastors receive Credentials, and Churches and Spiritual Institutions are formally affiliated with CRCMI and the CRC Movement.

Field Liaison:

- The CRCA pastor who has invested in mentoring and supporting these ministries applies to the AIMT to have the nation or area recognized as a Member Field.
- Upon approval, this CRCA pastor normally assumes the responsibility of the Field Liaison, communicating from the Ministry Field and having contact with the Global Liaison.
- When the Ministry Field is legally registered as an entity or NGO, then it is normal that the National Leader would act as the Field Liaison.

Autonomy and Governance:

- A Member Field is characterized by self-governance, self-propagation, and self-supporting.
- At this stage, the Member Field is encouraged to register itself as a formal entity (e.g., NGO) within its nation under the CRCMI governance model.

Establishing an Executive:

- The Member Field must have established a Local Executive capable of managing credentialing, training future pastors, and supporting future affiliated churches and Spiritual Institutions in the nation.
- The Local Executive structure aligns with CRC Movement principles and supports ongoing development within the nation.

Safeguarding Standards:

- The Member Field demonstrates compliance with safeguarding standards, ensuring the protection of children and vulnerable people across its ministries.

Field Liaison

The **Field Liaison** serves as a critical link between the **Global Liaison** who then links with the AIMT. Their responsibilities include:

- **Input:**
 - Maintaining regular contact with Pastors, Churches, Spiritual Institutions in the Member Field.
 - Arranging visits to provide spiritual and practical encouragement.
- **Collaboration:**
 - Coordinating with the **Global Liaison** to ensure alignment with the CRC Family.
- **Developing the Member Field:**
 - As the Member Field progresses, it is common for the Field Liaison to be actively involved in the formation of the newly established local NGO or entity (distinct from an international NGO that is not in line with the principles of the CRC Family).
 - The Field Liaison provides guidance and support to ensure the successful development and functioning of the Local Executive.

- **Transition to National Leadership:**

- In nations where the Member Field is well-established and the NGO or entity has been functioning effectively for several years, it is appropriate for the National Leader of the Member Field to assume the title and responsibilities of Field Liaison.
- This role would then be overseeing governance and development within the Member Field and maintaining direct communication with the Global Liaison to ensure alignment with the broader CRC Movement vision and objectives.

Vision and Progression

- **Vision Alignment:**

- Each stage in the process - from Friendship Groups to Affiliated Fields to Member Fields - aligns with CRC's overarching mission of **establishing a presence in every nation by 2045**.

- **Progression:**

- Movement through these stages reflects the deepening commitment and growing relationship between CRCA Pastor and the Mission Groups and Fields they support.

- **Collaboration:**

- Strong co-operation between Advocates, Liaisons, and the AIMT ensures that support is culturally appropriate, effective, and aligned with the needs of the local mission.

each
ONE can



reach



plant



connect



teach



raise

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crc

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