Global Ministries of the Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ) and the United Church of Christ

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position: Global Relations Minister, Africa
Department: Partner Relations
Reports to: President/CEO, Disciples Overseas Ministries and Co-Executive, Global Ministries
Location: Indianapolis, Indiana (hybrid)
Status: Exempt, Full-time

Overview: Join a Global Ministry of Partnership, Witness and Service

Global Ministries, the common witness of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and United Church of Christ (DOC and UCC), is seeking a passionate and experienced leader to serve as Global Relations Minister, Africa.

This position provides strategic leadership for Global Ministries' engagement across Africa, serving as the primary relationship steward with churches, ecumenical partners, theological institutions, and community organizations throughout the region. The Global Relations Minister works collaboratively with global partners, mission personnel, church constituencies, and advocacy networks to strengthen relationships, support mutual ministry, and advance shared priorities in mission and justice.

The successful candidate will bring deep intercultural competence, a commitment to global Christian mission, and a strong understanding of the church's role in accompaniment, advocacy, and ecumenical partnership.

Position Summary

The Global Relations Minister (Africa) administers the Africa Office of Global Ministries and serves as the primary liaison to churches, ecumenical bodies, communities, and other ministry partners throughout the region.

The position is responsible for:

- Maintaining and strengthening relationships with partner churches and organizations.
- Supporting and supervising mission co-workers assigned to the region.
- Providing regional leadership in advocacy, education, and interpretation.
- Managing regional budgets and special funds.
- Representing Global Ministries within ecumenical and interfaith organizations.

- Identifying opportunities for mutual ministry, mission engagement, and resource development.

As a member of the Global Ministries staff team, the position also reports programmatically to the Co-Executive and Associate General Minister of theUCC.

Key Responsibilities:

Partner Relationships and Regional Leadership

- Develop and maintain strong relationships with churches, ecumenical organizations, communities, and ministry partners throughout Africa.
- Explore and develop opportunities for mutual ministry, including mission personnel assignments, grant partnerships, educational resources, and collaborative initiatives.
- Provide expertise regarding the religious, social, political, economic, and cultural realities of the region.
- Interpret partner ministries and regional concerns to church constituencies and supporters.

Mission Personnel

- Participate in the recruitment, interviewing, orientation, and placement of mission co-workers.
- Administer mission personnel appointments throughout the region.
- Supervise mission co-worker performance and provide ongoing support.
- Provide pastoral care and recommendations for professional development.

Advocacy and Public Witness

- Collaborate with partners and Global Ministries staff to identify regional advocacy priorities.
- Work with the Global Advocacy Team to advance justice initiatives affecting partner communities.
- Promote awareness of regional concerns among DOC and UCC constituencies.

Administration & Resource Development

- Develop and administer the Africa Office budget and special funds.
- Recommend funding priorities and staffing needs.
- Collaborate with Resource Development staff to identify and secure funding for regional priorities.
- Supervise the Africa Office Program Assistant.

Church & Ecumenical Engagement

- Represent Global Ministries within ecumenical and interfaith settings.
- Maintain relationships with ministries throughout the DOC and UCC.
- Participate in denominational gatherings including General Synod, General Assembly, and regional and conference meetings.
- Serve on relevant boards, commissions, and foundations as needed.

Travel

- Extensive domestic and international travel is required.

Qualifications and Desired Skills:

Required:

- Bachelor's degree in theology, religion, international studies, or a related field, or equivalent experience.
- Demonstrated commitment to global Christian mission.
- Understanding of ecumenical and cross-cultural ministry.
- Knowledge of or experience working and living in Africa.
- Ability to engage complex intercultural, theological, and international issues.
- Strong written and oral communication skills.
- Experience in program planning, implementation, and evaluation.
- Experience developing and managing budgets.
- Demonstrated supervisory experience.
- Ability to work collaboratively within a team environment and across multiple constituencies.
- Flexibility and willingness to travel extensively.

Preferred:

- Advanced degree in theology, international studies, missiology, or a related field.
- Commitment to and experience within the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) or the United Church of Christ, as well as an understanding of the churches' polities and structures.
- Experience working within ecumenical organizations and networks.

What We Are Looking For

The ideal candidate will be:

- A relationship-builder who values mutuality and partnership.
- An effective communicator across cultures and contexts.
- A collaborative leader who thrives in ecumenical settings.
- Passionate about global mission, justice, and accompaniment.
- Able to think strategically while remaining attentive to pastoral relationships.
- Committed to strengthening the church's global witness.

- Fluency in English
- Proficiency in French and at least one African language is highly desirable.
- Demonstrated ability to communicate effectively across linguistic and cultural contexts.

Why Work With Disciples Overseas Ministries?

Disciples Overseas Ministries (DOM) and Global Ministries, offer the opportunity to contribute to meaningful, global, faith-based work that connects churches, communities, and mission partners around the world. Our Indianapolis-based office is a flexible hybrid work environment, balancing in-office collaboration with remote work options. Employees enjoy a comprehensive benefits package, including employer-paid health insurance, dental and vision coverage, pension benefits, paid covered parking, access to an on-site fitness facility, and ongoing professional development opportunities. Just as importantly, team members join a collaborative, mission-driven workplace where their gifts and expertise contribute to strengthening the church's global witness.

Application Process

To apply please send a resume and cover letter to employment@dom.disciples.org. Applications will be accepted and considered until the position is filled.

Disciples Overseas Ministries is an Equal Opportunity Employer and is committed to creating a diverse and inclusive workplace that reflects the global nature of the church and its mission.