

THE BASIS OF FAITH OF INTERSERVE

The work of INTERSERVE is conducted in accordance with the following doctrinal basis, to which each participant must subscribe:

We believe that there is one God who has revealed Himself to be three eternal persons whom we confess as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The Father is the Almighty Creator of heaven and earth and He so loves men and women that he sent Jesus Christ to save them from condemnation and eternal death. Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God became fully human and by His sacrificial death on the Cross and by His resurrection from the dead, provided the redemption which saves those who come to Him in repentance and faith. The Holy Spirit continues Christ's work of convicting of sin and creating faith. He imparts unity among God's people and to them He gives power and love as well as gifts for different kinds of ministry.

We accept that all men and women are by nature spiritually unresponsive to God and are disobedient to God's will. Each person needs to be regenerated by the Holy Spirit in order to receive eternal life.

We acknowledge that the Church is God's instrument for mission and evangelisation. The local congregation in its worship, sacraments and fellowship, together with its evangelism and social care witnesses to the love and justice of God.

We affirm that the Bible, both Old and New Testaments, is the uniquely inspired Word of God and is the only and wholly trustworthy test of faith and conduct.

We confess Jesus Christ to be the only Saviour and Lord and we affirm His deity, virgin birth, incarnation, substitutionary death, bodily resurrection, ascension and personal return.

Commitment to this basis of faith does not mean uniformity of belief that excludes different points of view in areas that are not part of this foundation statement. It is recognised that participants come from churches of many denominations and

emphasis, but the points on which they differ are less important than those on which they are united. Each participant is committed to the principle of Phil 2:5-8. Loyalty to the Lord Jesus Christ demands repudiation of both heresy and schism.

Thus participants are committed to an attitude of servanthood as they join together in a fellowship drawn from, and in ministry with, many denominations of the Christian Church.

AN APPROPRIATE LIFESTYLE

Participants agree to be guided by the ethos, policies and strategy of Interserve in their conduct and activities throughout the period of their placement with the On Track programme, which also includes holidays within a Region

ACCOUNTABILITY TO THE REGIONAL LEADERSHIP

Participants are ultimately accountable to the Field Leader of Interserve. In practice they are accountable to the Regional Coordinator for On Track and to the person responsible for the project to which they are assigned. They are responsible for telling the RCOT where they are at all times and advising the RCOT of travel plans or other changes.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

On Track participants are normally expected to finance all aspects of accepting a placement from their own sources. This includes: return airfare, visas, immunisations, insurance, living expenses on location and any holiday travel or activities. Usually the receiving project will be responsible for any work related expenses.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR CONFIRMING A PLACEMENT

When accepted as a suitable candidate for On Track, participants agree that

- they will accept the location offered on the basis of their stated interest, except where personal or family illness, financial difficulties or major change in circumstances prevent their participation.
- they acknowledge and understand that Interserve acts purely and solely as their agent for the purpose of placing them in the project and that they undertake the programme at their own cost, expense and risk, and they further declare that they will not at any time now or hereafter make any claim for damages, loss or for any financial or legal reason whatsoever arising out of the programme.
- they accept that all placements offered by Interserve with On Track are subject to the availability and granting of visas and the absence of war or major civil disorder in the country or region of placement.

ADEQUATE PREPARATION BEFORE ARRIVING ON LOCATION

Participants agree to give time to prepare themselves for living in the country of their placement. This will include reading about the country, the project; the principles of Christian mission, as well as communicating with their home church to encourage prayer and pastoral support and attendance at an orientation programme.

REPORTING ON RETURN TO HOME COUNTRY

Participants agree to submit a written report to the NCOT at the conclusion of their programme and to take part in at least one promotional event at the request of Interserve in their home country, at some point during the year after the end of their placement. They may also report to their home church and other groups concerning their experience. In all that they say, write or publish outside the Fellowship of Interserve they agree to abide by Interserve's guidelines on security in order to safeguard the ongoing ministry overseas of local and expatriate Christians.

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Signed: _____ Date: _____

ON TRACK COMMITMENT

In applying for a placement with the Interserve On Track programme, participants recognise that for the duration of their time with On Track they are joining the Fellowship of Interserve and agree to abide by their commitment to:

- The Aims and Purposes of On Track
- The Basis of Faith of Interserve
- An appropriate lifestyle
- Accountability to the Regional leadership
- Arrangements for financial support
- Arrangements for confirming a placement
- Adequate preparation before arriving on location
- Appropriate procedures for reporting on return to home country

AIMS AND PURPOSES OF ON TRACK

1. To stimulate an interest in cross-cultural world mission.
2. To enable Christians to understand and appreciate the human needs and Christian community of another culture.
3. To help participants grow in faith and increase in maturity
4. To facilitate the long term recruitment of Partners for Interserve or other similar organisations.
5. To encourage involvement in the sending countries and support of Partners through prayer, friendship and finance.
6. To contribute to Interserve Regional strategy and to the well being of Partners by providing skilled and professional short term assistance to meet specific need.

