Modify ¶ 548.1 as follows:

An ordained minister who has served a term or part of a term as a bishop in a central conference where term episcopacy has prevailed shall, upon retirement from the effective relation in the ministry, be paid a retirement benefit from the Global Episcopal Pension Program, in accordance with its terms, an allowance from the General Episcopal Fund in such sum as the General Council on Finance and Administration shall determine for the years during which the ordained minister served as a bishop.20

August 15, 2019

/s/ A. Moses Rathan Kumar

General Secretary, GCFA

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Rationale:

This amendment updates language to reflect the adoption of the Global Episcopal Pension Program, covering retirement benefits for central conference bishops, as outlined in ¶ 408 (e.g., ¶¶ 408.1c and .2-.4).

August 15, 2019

/s/ A. Moses Rathan Kumar

General Secretary, GCFA

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Modify ¶ 807.1 as follows:

To receive, collect, and hold in trust for the benefit of The United Methodist Church, and its general funds, or its general agencies any and all donations, bequests, and devises of any kind, real or personal, that may be given, devised, bequeathed, or conveyed to The United Methodist Church as such or to any general fund or agency of The United Methodist Church for any benevolent, charitable, or religious purposes, and to administer the same and the income therefrom in accordance with the directions of the donor, trustor, or testator.

August 15, 2019

/s/ A. Moses Rathan Kumar

General Secretary, GCFA

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Rationale:
This change reflects the reality that general agencies regularly and directly receive donations, bequests, and devises from donors. It is unnecessary, and often not possible, for GCFA to be an intermediary in such instances.

August 15, 2019

/s/ A. Moses Rathan Kumar

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Modify the second sentence of ¶ 807.18 as follows:

Such guidance and consultation may, as the council deems appropriate, include: establishing relevant professional standards, training programs, continuing education, and certifications; encouraging participation in associations related to these services (for example, the Professional Administrators Association of the United Methodist Connectional Structure (PAUMCS) Church Secretaries, the United Methodist Network of Practice, the National Association of Commissions on Equitable Compensation of The United Methodist Church, the United Methodist Information Technology Association, and the United Methodist Church Conference Chancellors Association, or similar organizations); and providing staff and/or in-kind services to such associations.

August 15, 2019

/s/ A. Moses Rathan Kumar

General Secretary, GCFA

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Rationale:

This reflects the recent name change of the organization.

August 15, 2019

/s/ A. Moses Rathan Kumar

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To offer administrative services, and to charge reasonable and appropriate fees for such services, to other non-United Methodist churches and religious organizations. The council shall not expend general Church funds in the provision of such services.

August 15, 2019
/s/ A. Moses Rathan Kumar
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Rationale:

Taking this step will help the ministry of GCFA by potentially spreading its fixed costs over a wider base, which will assist GCFA in serving the UMC denomination in a more cost-efficient manner.

August 15, 2019

/s/ A. Moses Rathan Kumar

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Modify the second sentence of ¶ 818.6 as follows:

Official travel of an effective bishop shall be interpreted to include: (1) all visitations to local churches and to institutions or enterprises of The United Methodist Church within the area; (2) such travel outside the area, but within the jurisdiction or central conference, as is approved by the College of Bishops; and (3) such other travel as may be consistent with guidelines approved by the General Conference as being within the meaning of official travel.

August 15, 2019

/s/ A. Moses Rathan Kumar

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Rationale:

This change makes it clear that “official travel” applies equally to bishops in the jurisdictions and central conferences.

August 15, 2019

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