



MERCY GLOBAL ACTION CLIMATE CHANGE AND WATER TASK FORCE

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Role/Purpose

The role of the MGA Climate and Water Task Force is to raise a voice about climate change and water ahead of COP 26 and provide direction and leadership to the Mercy World on justice issues related to the impact of climate change and water, and recommendations moving forward. This includes:

- Reflection on the issues and impacts of climate change and water through the lens of Mercy, including but not limited to, a human rights analysis and Catholic social teaching.
- Connecting with the Mercy World on justice issues in relation to climate change and water, particularly regarding the degradation of earth and the displacement of persons.
- Raising awareness throughout the Mercy World on those most at risk and /or vulnerable to the impact and recommendations.
- Building capacity throughout the Mercy World by preparing materials for reflection, events leading to COP 26 and action on climate justice and water.
- Advocating throughout the Mercy World on justice issues related to climate change and water using the Mercy Justice Advocacy Approach
- Optimising the Sisters of Mercy special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council at the United Nations and observer status to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change on issues related to climate change and water

Term

The Terms of Reference are effective from August 2021 and continue until November 2021, unless otherwise agreed by the Task Force Members.

Membership

This Task Force comprises the following members:

Roles and Responsibilities

Colleen Swain, Mercy Global Action Leadership Development and Advocacy Associate, will chair this Task Force. Colleen will undertake the following tasks:

- Prepare an agenda and any other relevant papers for each Task Force meeting.
- Maintain a focus on the agreed scope and outcomes of the Task Force
- Coordinate Task Force responses
- Liaise with the Task Force Secretary
- Keep MGA Head abreast of the issues discussed on the Task Force

A member of the MGA team will act as Secretary for this Task Force and will undertake the following tasks:

- Email Task Force Members with a prepared meeting agenda and any other supporting papers prior to each Task Force meeting.
- Email members with the Zoom link for each Task Force meeting.
- Attend all Task Force Meetings virtually and take notes.
- Email all Task Force members the notes from the meeting, no later than one week after meeting.
- Act as a conduit for information sharing.
- Other administrative tasks as needed.

The members of the Task Force will commit to:

- Attending all scheduled Task Force meetings.
- Collaborating with all members of the Task Force and co-opting other expertise when necessary.
- Sharing information and ideas through open and honest dialogue.
- Making timely decisions and taking appropriate action to not hold up the project.

Meetings

The first Task Force meeting will take place at an agreed date and time in August 2021. Any further meeting dates and times will be agreed upon by the Task Force.

All Task Force meetings will be virtual and operated within Zoom. These zoom calls will be recorded for the purpose of minute taking. Once minutes are complete, the recording will be deleted by the Task Force secretary. It is anticipated that Zoom calls begin no earlier than 6am and no later than 9pm

All Task Force meetings will not exceed 90 minutes, if in exceptional circumstances the time needs to be longer, this must be agreed upon by all members of the Task Force.