

Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses



The Ridgeway, London, NW7 1RN Telephone: 020 8906 2211

SDE:SDG January 26, 2015

TO ALL BODIES OF ELDERS

Re: Interpretation for the visit of headquarters representatives

Dear Brothers:

As we eagerly anticipate the visit of the headquarters representatives on the weekend of April 25-26, consideration has been given to how publishers in foreign-language and sign-language congregations might derive the maximum benefit from the spiritual food that will be presented. (1 Cor. 14:9) In this regard, we would like to offer the following direction.

Although the branch is unable to arrange for foreign-language and sign-language interpretation, we are happy for local elders to make whatever arrangements are practical in this regard. This would involve assigning qualified interpreters to provide simultaneous interpretation. The elders can determine which exemplary publishers are best suited for such a privilege. Since the programme will be approximately three hours long, including a summary of the *Watchtower* study and talks by both headquarters representatives, it would generally be best for more than one interpreter to be used, if that is possible.

If sign-language interpretation is organized, the directions found in the October 19, 2012, letter to all bodies of elders should be followed. For other languages, interpreters do not need to stand on the platform. They will need to be equipped with headphones to enable them to hear the English programme clearly. It would be good to run through the practical arrangements with them in advance.

In order to prepare adequately for their role, assigned interpreters should attend the programme on Saturday, April 25, to familiarize themselves with the programme and take notes. This will allow them to carry out the necessary research on the Saturday evening, so as to provide good-quality interpretation on the Sunday.

As a necessary consequence of the above direction, foreign- and sign-language congregations that are arranging for simultaneous interpretation of the programme should be assigned to attend the programme on Sunday, April 26.

In principle, the above direction also applies to English-language congregations hosting foreign-language or sign-language groups. The local body of elders can determine whether it is necessary and practical to arrange for interpretation, taking into account the size of the group and the number of publishers who would benefit. If interpretation is arranged, it might be done in a second school room, so as not to cause undue disturbance to the rest of the congregation.

We trust that this direction will enable many thousands of our brothers and sisters in the foreign-language and deaf fields to benefit fully from the visit of the headquarters representatives, and we pray for Jehovah's blessing on the arrangements that are made.

Please accept our warm Christian love and best wishes.

Your brothers,

*Christian Congregation
of Jehovah's Witnesses*

cc: Circuit overseers