

**Sequence of events in seeking a visa for the Rev. Dr. Collin Cowan,
General Secretary of the Council for World Mission,
32-34 Great Peter St, London SW1P 2DB.**

- 2009 CWM registers with the UKBA to be a sponsoring organisation. Awarded A status for Tier 2 applications. Anticipating one new member of staff in 2009-10, CWM requests and receives one Certificate of Sponsorship.
- July 2010 The Coalition Government reduces every organisation's quota of CoS's by 10%, thus withdrawing CWM's one certificate.
CWM Trustees appoint Rev. Dr. Collin Cowan from Jamaica as General Secretary.
- August 2010 CWM asks for Special Permission to apply for a visa for Dr. Cowan.
- October 2010 Request denied by UKBA on grounds that Dr. Cowan would not take up office until January 2011 and application could not be made more than 90 days in advance.
Application resubmitted at the 90-day point. Rejected again – the window had been changed to 60 days.
- November 2010 On legal advice, the third submission is for an Intra-Company Transfer Licence.
- December 2010 ICT application refused because CWM is a federation of independent churches, not a single company. Not a helpful approach in any case, in view of CWM officers.
Interview requested with Rt. Hon. Theresa May. Help of Westminster MP sought.
- January 2011 MP takes the matter up with the CEO of the UKBA.
CWM receives a letter from Jeremy Oppenheim on behalf of Theresa May suggesting that CWM resubmit a Certificate of Sponsorship (AR) form requesting urgent consideration by the deputy director for sponsorship.
- February 2011 Two CWM officers meet with Jeremy Wright MP, a Conservative Party Whip. He undertakes to write to the Minister of Immigration to request a meeting.

Third letter from the UKBA denies CWM's application for Special Permission. The reason for denial is "unacceptable – out of date." CWM takes advice from Sheffield Sponsor Licence Unit and submits a fourth time.

Fourth letter from UKBA denies application for Special Permission: "you have not supplied a COS code for the post". Resubmitted using COS code 1112.
- March 2011 Fifth letter from UKBA denies application: "post not on the current Shortage Occupation List". Also, "From 6 April 2011 we propose making further changes to the Tier 2 eligibility criteria and also introduce an annual limit on migrant numbers... you will be able to apply for a restricted CoS using the new on-line application form from mid-March... you will be contacted shortly with further information on how to apply for a CoS under the proposed annual limit."