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GBC

Update on Second Meeting of Global Vaishnavi Diksha Guru Committee

| July 30, 2026

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Hare Krishna Devotees,

Please accept our humble obeisances. All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

The Global Vaishnavi Diksha Guru (GVDG) Committee held its second meeting on 28 July 2026 under the chairmanship of Govardhana Dasa, First Vice-Chairman of the GBC Executive Committee, as part of its ongoing deliberations on the GBC resolution concerning Vaishnavi Diksha Guru (VDG).

Representatives from the following Regional Governing Bodies (RGBs) and zones were present: African RGB, Euro RGB, Fiji, India Bureau, Latin America RGB, Middle East, North America RGB, Russia, and Singapore.

The meeting began with prayers and a reading from the Bhagavad-gita. Three presentations were then shared by Regional Governing Body (RGB) representatives of India Bureau, North America RGB and Latin America RGB, outlining their respective perspectives and considerations relating to the subject.

Following the presentations, committee members engaged in a detailed discussion and shared a range of views. The discussion considered the importance of examining relevant research and supporting evidence comprehensively, understanding the subject in the light of both Srila Prabhupada's teachings and shastra, and maintaining a clear focus on the prescribed spiritual qualifications for diksha guru.

Members also reflected on cultural, geographical and practical considerations, as well as the importance of ensuring that any future recommendations are carefully considered, consistent with established principles, and supported by an appropriate level of consensus.

It was noted that certain matters would benefit from further examination, including the appropriate voting threshold (e.g., 51% versus 75%) for significant doctrinal matters such as VDG and the framework for understanding Srila Prabhupada's statements regarding "not so many" women diksha gurus.

The meeting concluded with appreciation for the presentations and for the thoughtful participation of all committee members.

- *Issued by GBC Communications*