



Concluding Remarks

This report does not claim completeness. As stated in the first section, its purpose is to provide information on some of the essential work of the LWF during the period under review. It should, therefore, be studied in the context of other reports to member churches from 1997 to 2003. These include letters from the General Secretary to the member churches on specific issues, Council resolutions, visits to member churches, regional church leaders' conferences and other gatherings involving representatives from member churches, as well as the information regularly provided

via *Lutheran World Information (LWI)* to the member churches.

On behalf of the Council, its committees, and the Federation's staff, I express deep appreciation for the support received from member churches, related agencies and the ecumenical community since the Ninth Assembly.

A handwritten signature in black ink, enclosed in a hand-drawn oval. The signature is stylized and appears to be 'Ishmael Noko'.

Rev. Dr. Ishmael Noko
LWF General Secretary



**From Hong Kong
to Winnipeg**



Appendices



**From Hong Kong
to Winnipeg**



Constitution of the Lutheran World Federation

(as adopted by the LWF Eighth Assembly, Curitiba, Brazil, 1990, including amendments adopted by the LWF Ninth Assembly, Hong Kong, 1997)

I. Name

The name of the body organized under this Constitution shall be The Lutheran World Federation.

II. Doctrinal Basis

The Lutheran World Federation confesses the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the only source and norm of its doctrine, life and service. It sees in the three Ecumenical Creeds and in the Confessions of the Lutheran Church, especially in the unaltered Augsburg Confession and the Small Catechism of Martin Luther, a pure exposition of the Word of God.

III. Nature and Functions

The Lutheran World Federation is a communion of churches which confess the triune God, agree in the proclamation of the Word of God and are united in pulpit and altar fellowship.

The Lutheran World Federation confesses the one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church and is resolved to serve Christian unity throughout the world.

The Lutheran World Federation:

- furthers the united witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ and strengthens the member churches in carrying out the missionary command and in their efforts towards Christian unity worldwide;
- furthers worldwide among the member churches diaconic action, alleviation of human need, promotion of peace and human rights, social and economic justice, care for God's creation and sharing of resources;
- furthers through cooperative study the self-understanding and the communion of member churches and helps them to act jointly in common tasks.

IV. Scope of Authority

As instrument of its autonomous member churches the Lutheran World Federation may take action in matters committed to it by the member churches. It may act on behalf of one or more churches in such specific tasks as they commit to it. It may request individual member churches to assume tasks on behalf of the entire Communion.

V. Membership and Other Forms of Affiliation

1. Member Churches

The Lutheran World Federation consists of churches which accept the doctrinal basis set forth in Article II of this Constitution.

Each church which applies for membership in the Federation shall declare its acceptance of this Constitution.

Reception into membership shall be decided by the Federation in the Assembly, or in the interim, by the Council.

Membership in the Federation may be terminated by withdrawal. Upon recommendation of the Council, the Assembly may suspend or terminate the membership by a two-thirds vote of the delegates.

Procedures relating to membership shall be governed by the Bylaws.

2. Recognized Churches, Councils and Congregations

The Lutheran World Federation may recognize as eligible to participate in the work of the Federation non-member churches, councils or congregations which accept the doctrinal basis set forth in Article II of this Constitution (Associate Membership).

The granting, conditions and continuation of such recognition shall be governed by the Bylaws.

VI. Organization

The Lutheran World Federation shall exercise its functions through the Assembly, the Council, the Secretariat and appropriate instrumentalities of the member churches. In all these functions of the Federation, ordained and lay persons, men, women and youth shall be eligible to participate.

VII. Assembly

1. The Assembly shall consist of representatives of the member churches of the Federation. As the principal authority of the Lutheran World Federation, the Assembly shall:
 - be responsible for the Constitution;
 - give general direction to the work of the Federation;
 - elect the President and the members of the Council;
 - act on the reports of the President, the General Secretary and the Treasurer.
2. The Assembly shall normally be held every six years with the time, place and program to be determined by the Council.

Extraordinary Assemblies may be called by the Council and shall be called at the request of one-fifth of the member churches.

3. The number of representatives to the Assembly and their distribution among the member churches shall be determined by the Council.

Each member church shall have the right to have at least one representative in the Assembly.

Due regard shall be given to the numerical size of member churches and their distributions by continents and countries.

4. The Council may invite representatives of the Lutheran congregations in union church bodies or of Lutheran associations and organizations to the Assembly in a consultative capacity if these are not represented by member churches.

The number of these representatives shall be determined by the Council.

VIII. Council

1. The Council shall be composed of the President, the Treasurer, and 48 persons to be elected by the Assembly.

Upon nomination by the churches, 48 members of the Council shall be elected by the Assembly by a majority of the votes cast.

The Assembly shall have the right to elect persons other than those nominated by member churches and other than those who are delegates to the Assembly provided the consent of the relevant member churches is given.

Election procedure and distribution of seats to the continents and countries shall be governed in the Bylaws. A due representation of ordained and lay persons, women, men and youth shall be observed.

The term of office of the Council shall end at the close of the next ordinary Assembly. Members of the Council shall be eligible for one reelection.

2. The Council is responsible for the business of the Federation in the interim between ordinary Assemblies.
3. The Council shall elect the General Secretary (*Article XII.*) and the Treasurer (*Article X.*) and prescribe their duties.

The term of office of persons elected by the Council may be terminated before expiration by a two-thirds vote of the members of the Council.

The Council shall decide on the structure of the Secretariat and present an annual report to the member churches.

4. Upon death or incapacity of the President, the Council shall elect a president within three months.

If a member of the Council can no longer be present for his/her term of office, the Council elects in consultation with the member church a deputy for the remaining term of service.

5. The Council shall decide on the budgets of the Federation. It shall receive the audited accounts and approve them.
6. The Council shall elect the Vice-Presidents from among its members taking into consideration the seven geographical areas.

The Council shall elect from among its members an Executive Committee and Program Committees as required and appoint their chairpersons.

The Executive Committee shall be composed of the following persons: The President, the Vice-Presidents, the Treasurer and the chairpersons of the Program Committees.

For the Program Committees the Council elects for its term of office up to 30 advisers with voting rights in the committees.

The Council may appoint Standing Committees or *ad hoc* sub-committees as required.

The Executive Committee shall pursue the duties assigned to it by the Council to ensure the proper functioning of the Federation.

Among other things, it determines who is entitled to sign on behalf of the Lutheran World Federation within the Council or the administration.

The Executive Committee shall serve as the Personnel Committee. It shall also serve as the LWF Board of Trustees.

IX. National Committees

The member churches in each country may constitute a National Committee to coordinate the relationships to the Federation. The right of direct communication between the member churches and the LWF shall be retained. Each National Committee shall present to the Council an annual report on its activities.

X. Officers

1. President

The election of the President by the Assembly shall be by a majority of the votes cast in a written ballot.

The President shall assume office immediately after the close of the Assembly at which the election was held. He/she shall hold office until the close of the following ordinary Assembly and shall not be eligible for a second term.

The President shall be the chief official representative and spokesperson of the Federation. He/she shall be the presiding officer of the Assembly, the Council and the Executive Committee.

The President shall oversee the life and work of the Federation, in consultation with the Treasurer and General Secretary.

2. Treasurer

The Treasurer shall be elected by the Council at its constituting meeting and shall hold office until the close of the following ordinary Assembly.

The Treasurer shall oversee the financial activities and shall counsel the President and the General Secretary in this respect.

XI. Secretariat

The Federation shall have a Secretariat adequate to carry out its tasks.

The Council shall authorize the structure and the Terms of Reference of the Secretariat.

XII. General Secretary

The General Secretary shall be responsible to the Council for his/her work. He/she shall conduct the business of the Federation and carry out the decisions of the Assembly and the Council.

The General Secretary shall report to the Assembly and the Council.

XIII. Finances

The Council shall authorize the Statement of Needs for transmission to the member churches, National Committees and other agencies, commending it for support through designated and undesignated contributions.

The Council shall allocate membership fees to be paid by member churches. The Council shall receive the auditor's report and adopt the annual financial report. The member churches shall receive an annual financial report.

XIV. Amendments and Bylaws

1. Amendments

Amendments to this Constitution may be made by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast at any ordinary Assembly, provided notice of intention to amend shall have been submitted through the General Secretary to the member churches, three months before the Assembly.

Amendments shall become effective one year after their adoption by the Assembly unless objection has been filed with the Council by at least one-third of the member churches.

2. Bylaws

The Council shall adopt Bylaws to this Constitution. Such Bylaws adopted or amended by the Council shall become effective one year after their adoption unless objection has been filed with the Council by at least one-third of the member churches.

The Assembly may adopt, amend or rescind Bylaws by a majority of the votes cast. Such decisions shall become effective after one year unless objection has been filed with the Council by at least one-third of the member churches.

Bylaws of the Lutheran World Federation

(as adopted by the LWF Council, Chicago, USA, 1991, including amendments adopted by the LWF Ninth Assembly, Hong Kong, 1997)

1. Legal Status and Headquarters

1.1 Legal Status

The Lutheran World Federation (hereafter the “Federation” or the “LWF”) shall be a non-profit association incorporated and registered under Article 60 and following of the Swiss Civil Code.

1.2 Headquarters

The legal headquarters of the Federation shall be in the Canton of Geneva, Switzerland.

2. Membership

(LWF Constitution, Articles V and IX)

2.1 Membership Application Procedure

A church applying for membership shall submit to the General Secretary:

- a. a completed application form;
- b. minutes of the church’s appropriate decision-making body evidencing that the church accepts the LWF Constitution and wishes to apply for membership;
- c. the constitution of the church;
- d. a brief statement of the history and background of the church;
- e. such other information as the General Secretary may require.

2.2 Criteria for Evaluating Membership Applications

2.2.1 The following conditions must be met for the approval of a membership application:

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- a.* the church must formally accept the doctrinal basis of the LWF;
 - b.* the church must be an autonomous body;
 - c.* the church which applies for membership must consist of more than one local congregation.

2.2.2 Additionally, the views of other member churches and, where applicable, National Committees in the particular country or area are to be heard.

2.3 Continuation, Suspension and Termination of Membership

2.3.1 Continuation of Membership

If a merger takes place involving only member churches, the new church may declare that it wishes to belong to the Federation and on the basis of that declaration it will be considered a member church.

If a merger takes place involving one or more member churches and one or more non-member Lutheran churches, the new church may declare that it wishes to belong to the Federation and on the basis of that declaration it will be considered a member church.

If a merger takes place involving one or more Lutheran churches and one or more non-Lutheran churches, the united church, having first consulted with the respective world communions, may apply for membership in the Federation, also if it is a member or is qualified for membership in another world communion.

2.3.2 Suspension of Membership

Upon the recommendation of the Council, a church's membership in the LWF may be suspended by a two-thirds vote of the Assembly. The suspended church shall be allowed to send representatives to the Assembly with a right to speak but not to vote or hold elective office.

2.3.3 Reinstatement of a Suspended Church

The membership in the LWF of a suspended church shall be reinstated upon an agreement by a two-thirds vote of the Assembly or Council that the reasons for suspension no longer exist and that full membership should be reinstated.

2.3.4 Termination of Membership

A church's membership in the LWF terminates:

- a.* if the General Secretary receives written notice of the church's withdrawal from the Federation; or
- b.* if, upon recommendation of the Council, the Assembly votes by a two-thirds majority to terminate the membership; or

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- c.* if the church ceases to exist as an autonomous body.

2.4 Associate Membership, Recognized Councils and Recognized Congregations

2.4.1 Application

Churches, councils, and congregations which accept the doctrinal basis set forth in Article II of the LWF Constitution may apply for associate membership or recognition by the Federation. When applying, they shall submit to the General Secretary:

- a.* a completed application form;
- b.* minutes of the applicant's appropriate decision-making body evidencing that the applicant accepts the doctrinal basis set forth in Article II of the LWF Constitution and wishes to apply for associate membership or recognition;
- c.* the constitution of the applicant;
- d.* a brief statement of the history and background of the applicant;
- e.* a statement of reasons why associate membership or recognition rather than full membership is being sought;
- f.* such other information as the General Secretary may require.

2.4.2 Criteria for Evaluating Applications for Associate Membership

2.4.2.1 The following conditions must be met for the approval of an application for associate membership:

- a.* the church must formally accept the doctrinal basis as set forth in Article II of the LWF Constitution;
- b.* the church must be an autonomous body;
- c.* the church which applies for membership must consist of more than one local congregation.

2.4.2.2 Additionally, the views of other member churches and, where applicable, National Committees in the particular country or area are to be heard.

2.4.3 Definitions

2.4.3.1 Associate Membership (Recognized Church)

An associate member church may participate in all activities of the Lutheran World Federation; its representatives to the Assembly shall

have the right to speak but not to vote or hold elective office. The Council shall allocate membership fees to be paid by associate member churches, using the same criteria as for full membership.

Associate membership status may be granted to a church or a church judicatory which:

- a.* has a distinctively Lutheran character in its confession and practice, or includes member congregations or churches which have such a character; and
- b.* as an autonomous identity.

2.4.3.2 Recognized Council

A recognized council may participate in all activities of the LWF; its representatives to the Assembly shall have observer status.

A recognized council status may be granted to a council which:

- a.* has a distinctively Lutheran character in its confession and practice, or includes member congregations or churches which have such a character; and
- b.* has an autonomous identity.

2.4.3.3 Recognized Congregation

A recognized congregation may participate in all activities of the LWF; its representatives to the Assembly shall have observer status.

A recognized congregation status may be granted to a congregation which:

- a.* has a distinctively Lutheran character in its confession and practice;
- b.* has an autonomous identity; and
- c.* has no possibility of joining another Lutheran World Federation member church.

2.4.4 Granting and Termination

Associate membership or recognition status may be granted by vote of the Assembly or the Council. Associate membership or recognition may be terminated by vote of the Assembly or the Council or by withdrawal.

2.4.5 Periodic Review

The General Secretary shall periodically review, with associate member churches, recognized councils and recognized congregations, their relationship to the LWF. One year before the Assembly, the General Secretary shall report to the Council concerning the reviews.

2.5 Official Lists

The General Secretary shall maintain and periodically publish an official list of member churches, associate member churches, recognized churches, councils and congregations, and national committees.

3. The Assembly

(LWF Constitution, Article VII)

3.1 Meetings

3.1.1 The Assembly of the Federation shall normally be held every six years at the call of the President. The time, place and program of each Assembly shall be determined by the Council.

3.1.2 An extraordinary Assembly with specific and limited agenda may be called by the Council.

3.2 Delegates

3.2.1 The Assembly shall consist of representatives of the member churches of the Federation. The total number of representatives shall be determined and apportioned to the member churches by the Council.

3.2.2 The member churches shall choose their own representatives to the Assembly. Due regard shall be given by the Council and the member churches to a balanced participation of ordained and lay persons, men, women and youth in accordance with the relevant Standing Resolutions.

3.3 Rules of Procedure

The Assembly shall at its first session adopt by majority vote rules of procedure.

4. The Council

(LWF Constitution, Article VIII)

4.1 Membership

4.1.1 The members of the Council shall be elected by the Assembly in accordance with the LWF Constitution. Each member must have the endorsement of his/her member church.

4.1.2 The Council shall review the distribution of its membership according to geographical areas and propose to each Assembly a formula for the distribution of the members of the Council to be elected.

4.1.3 Members of the Council may be reelected only once.

4.1.4 The President, the Treasurer and the five Vice-Presidents shall be elected so that one person shall come from each of seven geographical areas. As provided by the Constitution, the Treasurer shall be elected by the Council either from among its members or from outside. The Treasurer is to be a full member of the Council.

4.1.5 Upon the death or incapacity of the President, the Treasurer, in consultation with the Executive Committee and the General Secretary, shall within three months convene a meeting of the Council to elect a President who shall serve until the next Assembly.

In the Council meeting called for this purpose, the first item of business shall be the election of a person to chair the meeting and guide the electoral process.

4.1.6 Should a member of the Council not complete his/her term of office, the Council, after consultation with the member church, shall elect a replacement for the remaining term of service.

4.1.7 If the Council is informed in writing by the member church of one of its members that that person no longer enjoys the endorsement of the member church, the Council may declare that person's seat vacant. In that case the Council, after consultation with the member church, shall elect a replacement for the remaining term of office.

4.2 Rules of Procedure

The Council shall adopt by majority vote rules of procedure at the beginning of each of its meetings.

4.3 Meetings

4.3.1 Regular Meetings

The Council shall normally meet once in each calendar year.

4.3.2 Extraordinary Meetings

Extraordinary meetings of the Council may be called by the President with the concurrence of the Executive Committee. Extraordinary meetings shall also be called by the President if one-third of the members of the Council make written request.

At least one month's notification must be given of such a meeting and only business mentioned in that notification can be transacted at the meeting.

The presence of half of the members of the Council shall constitute a *quorum* for an extraordinary meeting of the Council.

Once called, an extraordinary meeting may not be canceled or postponed unless two-thirds of the members, including the President and a majority of the Executive Committee, concur.

5. Program and Standing Committees

(LWF Constitution, Article VIII)

5.1 Program and Standing Committees

As provided in the LWF Constitution, Program and Standing Committees shall be established by the Council.

5.2 Advisers

- 5.2.1 The Council may appoint up to 30 advisers to provide professional competence and expertise to the Program and Standing Committees. Each adviser must have the endorsement of his/her church. These advisers, who shall serve for the term of the Council, shall be full members with vote of the committees; they shall have voice but no vote in sessions of the Council.
- 5.2.2 Should an adviser not complete his/her term of office, the Council may elect a replacement for the remaining term of service.
- 5.2.3 If the Council is informed in writing by the member church of one of its advisers that that person no longer enjoys the endorsement of the member church, the Council may declare that person's seat vacant. In that case the Council may elect a replacement for the remaining term of office.

5.3 Terms of Reference

The Council shall adopt terms of reference in order to guide the work of Program and Standing Committees and such other bodies as shall be appropriate.

5.4 Meetings

Program and Standing Committees shall normally meet at the time of the Council meeting. The Program and Standing Committees shall report to the Council which acts on all necessary recommendations.

5.5 Election of Chairpersons

The Council shall elect from among its members chairpersons and if required vice-chairpersons for each Program and Standing Committee. The LWF Treasurer shall *ex officio* be chairperson of the Program Committee of the Office for Finance and Administration.

6. Project Committee

- 6.1 There shall be an LWF Project Committee which is to oversee LWF project criteria, review project screening and approve projects.
- 6.2 The Project Committee shall be appointed by and be responsible to the Council which shall also approve its Terms of Reference. The Committee shall serve from Assembly to Assembly.
- 6.3 The Project Committee shall report to the Council through the Council's Program Committee for Mission and Development.
- 6.4 There shall be eight members of the Project Committee representing seven geographical areas of the world. The chairperson of the committee shall be appointed by the Council from within its own members.

7. The Executive Committee

(LWF Constitution, Article VIII)

The Executive Committee shall be composed of the following persons: the President, the Vice-Presidents, the Treasurer and the chairpersons of the Program Committees.

7.1 Meetings

The Executive Committee shall normally meet semiannually, with one meeting in conjunction with the annual Council meeting. Extraordinary meetings may be called by the President or by half of the members. Two-thirds of the members shall be necessary for a *quorum* for such meetings. At least one week's notification of an extraordinary meeting shall be given to all members of the Executive Committee.

7.2 Responsibilities

The Executive Committee is the appointing authority of staff with programmatic and supervisory responsibilities with the exception of Cabinet members, who are appointed by the Council. The Executive Committee serves as the LWF Personnel Committee and Board of Trustees. It shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Council.

7.3 Membership

At least four of the members of the Executive Committee shall be women and at least four shall be men. Geographical representation shall be considered in their selection.

8. Election of General Secretary

(LWF Constitution, Article XII)

8.1 One year before the end of the General Secretary's term of office, the Council shall appoint a Search Committee for the position of General Secretary consisting of seven persons, four of whom shall be members of the Council. The Council appoints the chairperson and secretary for the committee from among the seven members. At the same time, member churches shall be invited to submit nominations for the position of General Secretary; such nominations shall be submitted in writing and with *curricula vitae* to the Search Committee which in turn shall submit all nominations together with its recommendations to the Council which, at its next ordinary meeting, shall elect a General Secretary who shall serve for a seven-year term.

If the next ordinary meeting of the Council is the first meeting of the new Council immediately after an Assembly, the Council shall have the right to postpone the election to the next ordinary meeting of the Council.

The General Secretary shall be eligible for reelection.

8.2 Upon the death, incapacity or resignation of the General Secretary, the Deputy General Secretary shall become the Acting General Secretary until the appointment of a new General Secretary.

The Acting General Secretary, in consultation with the President, shall immediately invite member churches to submit nominations for the position of General Secretary.

At the same time, the Executive Committee shall appoint a Search Committee for the position of General Secretary consisting of seven persons, four of whom shall be members of the Council. The Executive Committee shall also appoint the chairperson and secretary for this committee from among its members. All nominations from member churches together with *curricula vitae* shall be considered by the Search Committee. The Search Committee shall submit all nominations together with its recommendations to the Council which at its next ordinary meeting, or at an extraordinary meeting if necessary, shall elect a General Secretary who shall serve through the next ordinary Assembly.

9. National Committees

(LWF Constitution, Article IX)

A National Committee consists of representatives of the LWF member church(es) in any one country, including members of the LWF Council from that country. It may also include as consultants representatives of other non-member Lutheran churches in that country.

9.1 Role of a National Committee:

9.1.1 To facilitate greater unity of the Lutheran churches in its own country.

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- 9.1.2 To provide a channel of liaison and coordination between the LWF and its member churches, without violating the right of a member church to communicate directly with the LWF or *vice versa*.
 - 9.1.3 To study and act on regional and national matters as mandated by the member churches involved.
 - 9.1.4 To follow up Assembly and Council resolutions to be fulfilled at national and church levels.

10. Governing Documents

In addition to its Constitution and these present Bylaws, the Lutheran World Federation shall be governed by a number of official documents.

- 10.1 **Rules of Procedure for an Assembly** as approved at the first session of each Assembly (*cf.* 3.3 above).
- 10.2 **Rules of Procedure for the Council** as approved at the beginning of each meeting of the Council (*cf.* 4.2 above).
- 10.3 **Standing Resolutions** as approved by LWF Assemblies or Council meetings.
- 10.4 **Terms of Reference for the Executive Committee** as approved by the Council.
- 10.5 **Terms of Reference that apply to all Council Committees**, including the LWF Project Committee, as approved by the Council. The Council shall also approve Terms of Reference for such additional and *ad hoc* committees as it shall establish.
- 10.6 **LWF Headquarters Personnel Policies** as approved by the Executive Committee as LWF Personnel Committee.
- 10.7 **LWF Headquarters Personnel Regulations** as approved by the General Secretary.
- 10.8 **Constitution of the LWF Staff Representative Council and its By-laws** as approved by the Executive Committee.
- 10.9 **Charter of the Staff Welfare Plan (SWP) of the Lutheran World Federation** with Standing Orders of the Board of the SWP, Regulations for the Election of Members of the Board of the Foundation, Provident Fund Regulations as well as Pension Fund Regulations as resolved by the Governing Board of that Staff Welfare Plan.

New LWF Member Churches 1997–2003

Since the LWF Ninth Assembly, the Council has received the following churches into membership:

2002 LWF Council Meeting, Wittenberg, Germany

Full Membership

Lutheran Church of Rwanda

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Zambia

Christian Communion of Indonesia Church in Nias (AMIN)

Lutheran Costarican Church

Withdrawal of Membership

The Lutheran Church of the Republic of China [Taiwan]

2001 LWF Council Meeting, Geneva, Switzerland

Full Membership

Lanka Lutheran Church [Sri Lanka]

Nias Protestant Christian Church [Indonesia]

2000 LWF Council Meeting, Turku, Finland

Full Membership

Pakpak Dairi Christian Protestant Church [Indonesia]

The United Protestant Church [Indonesia]

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Myanmar (Lutheran Bethlehem Church)

1999 LWF Council Meeting, Bratislava, Slovak Republic

Full Membership

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Mozambique

Lutheran Church in Singapore

Malagasy Protestant Church in France

Associate Membership

Japan Lutheran Church

Lutheran Members of Dialogue Commissions 1997–2003

Anglican-Lutheran International Working Group (1999–2002)

Co-Chair

Bishop em. Dr Ambrose MOYO, Zimbabwe

Members

Dr Kirsten BUSCH NIELSEN, Denmark
Rev. Dr Hartmut HÖVELMANN, Germany
Prof. Dr Michael ROOT, USA

Consultant

Prof. Dr Ola TJØRHOM, Strasbourg, France

Co-Secretary

Rev. Sven OPPEGAARD, LWF

Lutheran-Roman Catholic Commission on Unity

Co-Chair

Bishop Dr Béla HARMATI, Hungary

Members

Prof. Dr Kristen KVAM, USA
Bishop Dr Samson MUSHEMBA, Tanzania
Rev. Prof. Dr Ricardo PIETRANTONIO, Argentina
Prof. Dr Turid KARLSEN SEIM, Norway
Prof. Dr Yoshikazu TOKUZEN, Japan
Rev. Dr Pirjo TYÖRINOJA, Finland
Prof. Dr Gunther WENZ, Germany

Consultants

Prof. Dr Theo DIETER, Strasbourg, France

Prof. Dr David S. YEAGO, USA

Co-Secretary

Rev. Sven OPPEGAARD, LWF

Lutheran-Orthodox Joint Commission

Co-Chair

Archbishop Prof. D. Georg KRETSCHMAR, Russian Federation (co-chair since 2002)

Bishop em. Dr William H. LAZARETH, USA (co-chair until 2001)

Members

Prof. Dr Anna Marie AAGAARD, Denmark (until 2000)

Rev. Dr Stephanie DIETRICH, Norway

Prof. Dr Karl Christian FELMY, Germany

Bishop Dr Lars ECKERDAL, Sweden (until 2000)

Bishop Esbjörn HAGBERG, Sweden (since 2002)

Prof. Dr Bruce MARSHALL, USA

Prof. Dr Eeva MARTIKAINEN, Finland

Rev. Dr Hermann PITTERS, Romania

Rev. Dr Roman PRACKI, Poland

Prof. Dr Risto SAARINEN, Finland

Rev. Klaus SCHWARZ, Germany

Rev. Dr Jeffrey SILCOCK, Australia

Consultant

Prof. Dr Mickey MATTOX, Strasbourg, France (since 2000)

Co-Secretary

Rev. Sven OPPEGAARD, LWF

Lutheran-Reformed Joint Working Group (1999–2001)

Co-chair

Bishop Guy EDMISTON, USA

Members

Prof. Dr Luis Henrique DREHER, Brazil

Superintendent Dieter LORENZ, Germany
Rev. Fui-Yung CHONG, Malaysia

Consultant

Prof. Dr André BIRMELÉ, Institute for Ecumenical Research, Strasbourg, France

Co-Secretary

Rev. Sven OPPEGAARD, LWF

Lutheran-Seventh-day Adventist Conversation (1994–1998)

Co-Chair

Prof. Dr Faith E. ROHRBOUGH, USA

Members

Rev. Dr Erwin BUCK, Canada
Rev. Dr Nelson KILPP, Brazil
Prof. Dr Naohiro KIYOSHIGE, Japan
Bishop Ole Chr. KVARME, Norway
Dr Mariette RAZIVÉLO, Madagascar
Rev. Dr Jörg ROTHERMUNDT, Germany

Consultant

Prof. Dr Risto SAARINEN (Finland/Strasbourg)

Co-Secretary

Rev. Sven OPPEGAARD, LWF



**From Hong Kong
to Winnipeg**



Council Members

1997–2003

Executive Committee

President

Bishop Dr Christian **KRAUSE**, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Brunswick, Germany

Vice-Presidents

Bishop H. George **ANDERSON**, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (until 2002)

Bishop Mark S. **HANSON**, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (since 2002)

Bishop Dr Július **FILO**, Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in the Slovak Republic

Ms Parmata **ISHAYA**, The Lutheran Church of Christ in Nigeria

President Rev. Huberto **KIRCHHEIM**, Evangelical Church of the Lutheran Confession in Brazil

Rev. Dr Prasanna **KUMARI**, The Arcot Lutheran Church, India

Treasurer

Ms Sigrun **MØGEDAL**, Church of Norway (until 2000)

Ms Inger J. **WREMER**, Church of Norway (since 2000)

Chairpersons of Program Committees

Bishop Dr Béla **HARMATI**, The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Hungary

Bishop Dr Samson **MUSHEMBA**, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania

Rev. Susan **NAGLE**, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Prof. Dr Joachim **TRACK**, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bavaria, Germany

Other Council Members

Rev. Thorbjörn **ARNASON**, The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Iceland

Mr Ipendra **BORGOARY**, Northern Evangelical Lutheran Church, India

Mr Alfonso **CORZO-GARCIA**, Evangelical Lutheran Church of Colombia (since 2002)

Ms Aberash **DINSA**, The Ethiopian Evangelical Church MekaneYesus

Ms Doreen T. **DLAMINI**, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Southern Africa

Ms Ermina **FREYTAG**, North Elbian Evangelical Lutheran Church, Germany

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Prof. Ernst-Christian **GERHOLD**, Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in Austria

Rev. Robert **GOYEK DAGA**, Church of the Lutheran Brethren of Cameroon

Dr Emmanuel **GRANTSON**, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Archbishop K.G. **HAMMAR**, Church of Sweden

Ms Renata **HINRICHS**, Silesian Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in the Czech Republic

Bishop Eero **HUOVINEN**, Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland

Ms Julia **ILONGA**, The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Namibia (ELCIN)

Dr Mary E. **JANSSEN VAN RAAY**, Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Kingdom of the Netherlands

Ms Dorothea **JETTER**, Evangelical Church in Württemberg, Germany

Mr Gabriel **KAMAU**, Kenya Evangelical Lutheran Church (until 1999)

Mr Paul Mbugua **KAMAU**, Kenya Evangelical Lutheran Church (since 1999)

Archbishop Jaan **KIIVIT**, Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church

Rev. Banjob **KUSAWADEE**, The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Thailand

Ms Ilse **LABADIE**, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Suriname (until 2000)

Rev. Dr **LAM** Tak-Ho, The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Hong Kong

Mr Wolfgang **LINDNER**, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Thuringia, Germany

Ms Anne-Marie **NDANGA-TOUE**, Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Central African Republic (until 1999)

Ms Zulma Ineyda **OJEDA**, Evangelical Lutheran Church of Colombia (until 2002)

Ms Dianha **ORTEGA-EHRETH**, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Rev. Ken-Phin **PANG**, Basel Christian Church of Malaysia

Bishop David P. **PISO**, Gutnius Lutheran Church – Papua New Guinea

Rev. Dr Benjamin **RABENOROLAHY**, Malagasy Lutheran Church

Bishop Philip J. **ROBINSON**, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Botswana

Ms Helle **ROSENKVIIST**, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Denmark

Bishop Telmor **SARTISON**, The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (until 2002)

Rev. Stefan **SCHALLER**, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chile

Rev. Beate **SCHELMAT – VON KIRCHBACH**, Evangelical Lutheran Church of Saxony, Germany

Landessuperintendent Hans **SCHMIDT**, Evangelical Lutheran Church of Hanover, Germany (until 2001)

Bishop Raymond L. **SCHULTZ**, The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (since 2002)

Ms Lydia **SIAHAAN**, Protestant Christian Batak Church, Indonesia

Bishop Harlen **SIMANGUNSONG**, The Indonesian Christian Church, Indonesia

Dr Ingrid **SPIECKERMANN**, Evangelical Lutheran Church of Hanover, Germany (since 2001)

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Mr Raymon Leslie **WIMPEL**, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Suriname (since 2000)

Bishop Munib A. **YOUNAN**, The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan

Ms Madeleine **ZARI-DOKA**, Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Central African Republic (since 1999)

Advisers to the Council 1997–2003

Rev. Dr Kajsa **AHLSTRAND**, Church of Sweden

Ms Brenda **AKPAN**, The Lutheran Church of Nigeria

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Rev. Christian **BALSLEV-OLESEN**, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Denmark (until 2002)

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Rev. Cornelia **FÜLLKRUG-WEITZEL**, Evangelical Church in Berlin-Brandenburg (since 2000)

Rev. Dr Hans-Otto **HAHN**, Evangelical Church in Hessen and Nassau (until 2000)

Rev. Dr Guillermo **HANSEN**, United Evangelical Lutheran Church, Argentina

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Rev. Susan **JOHNSON**, The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

Dr Sarada Devi **KARNATAKAM**, Andhra Evangelical Lutheran Church, India

Bishop D. Dr Christoph **KLEIN**, Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in Romania

Rev. Dr Peter **LODBERG**, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Denmark (since 2002)

Rev. Heitor Joerci **MEURER**, Evangelical Church of the Lutheran Confession in Brazil

Rev. Kjell **NORDSTOKKE**, Church of Norway

Rev. Ágnes **PÁNGYÁNSZKY**, The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Hungary

Rev. Anita Varsbergs **PAZA**, Latvian Evangelical Lutheran Church Abroad

Mr Markku **PORVARI**, Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland

Rev. Dr Ivoni **RICHTER-REIMER**, Evangelical Church of the Lutheran Confession in Brazil

Mr Oberkirchenrat Peter **STOLL**, Evangelical Church in Württemberg, Germany

Rev. Dr Hermann **VORLÄNDER**, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bavaria, Germany

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Acronyms

AACC – All Africa Conference of Churches

AANA – All Africa News Agency

ACC – Anglican Consultative Council

ACT – Action by Churches Together (ACT International)

ALIC – Anglican-Lutheran International Commission

ALIWG – Anglican-Lutheran International Working Group

APRODEV – Association of WCC-Related Development Organizations in Europe

AVH – Augusta Victoria Hospital

AZEECON – Asian Zone Emergency and Environment Cooperation Network

CAT – Coordination and Assessment Team

CBO – Community-Based Organization

CCC – China Christian Council

CDP – Community Development Project

CEAS – Churches' Ecumenical Action in Sudan

CEC – Conference of European Churches

CEDES – Ecumenical Committee for Social Development

COIEPA – Interdenominational Committee for Peace in Angola

CSO – Country Strategy Outline

CS/CWCs – Conference of Secretaries of Christian World Communions

CWCs – Christian World Communions

DIPECHO – ECHO's Disaster Preparedness Fund

DMD – Department for Mission and Development

DTS – Department for Theology and Studies

DWS – Department for World Service

EAA – Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance

ECHO – European Commission Humanitarian Aid Office

EECMY – The Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus

ELCA – Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

ELCIR – Evangelical Lutheran Church of Ingria in Russia

ELCJ – Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan

ELCROS – Evangelical Lutheran Church in Russia and Other States

ELCSA – Evangelical Lutheran Church in Southern Africa

ELCSA-DS – ELCSA Development Service

ELCSL – Evangelical Lutheran Church in Sierra Leone

ELCT – Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania

ELDP – Evangelical Lutheran Development Program

ERMES – Environmental Reporting, Monitoring and Evaluation

ENI – Ecumenical News International

ENT – Ear, Nose and Throat

EU – European Union

FRY – Federal Republic of Yugoslavia

GS – General Secretariat

HMA – Humanitarian Mine Action

IASC – Inter-Agency Standing Committee

ICBL – International Campaign to Ban Landmines

ICENET – International Christian Education Network

ICLH – Christian Lutheran Church of Honduras

ICRC – International Committee of the Red Cross

ICVA – International Council of Voluntary Agencies

IDP – Internally Displaced Persons

IDSN – International Dalit Solidarity Network

IELC – Evangelical Lutheran Church of Colombia

IFRC – International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

INCHRITI – International NGO Committee on Human Rights in Trade and Investment

IRDP – Integrated Rural Development Project

ISPOS – Institute for Advanced Social and Political Studies

JDDJ – Joint Declaration on the Doctrine of Justification

JRP – Joint Relief Partnership

JSB – Jerusalem Society for the Blind

KAPDP – Karamoja Agro-Pastoral Development Program

KAVSt. – Kaiserin Auguste Victoria Stiftung

LCL – Lutheran Church in Liberia

LDS – Lutheran Development Service

LUCCEA – Lutheran Communion in Central and Eastern Africa

LUCSA – Lutheran Communion in Southern Africa

LUCWA – Lutheran Communion in Western Africa

LWF – The Lutheran World Federation

LWF/ZCRS – LWF/Zambia Christian Refugee Service

LWI – Lutheran World Information

MAG – Mines Advisory Group

MaRS – Monitoring and Reporting System

NCA – Norwegian Church Aid

NGO – Non-governmental Organization

NSCC – New Sudan Council of Churches

OAS – Organization of American States

OAU – Organization of African Unity

OCS – Office for Communication Services

OEA – Office for Ecumenical Affairs

OFA – Office for Finance and Administration

OGS – Office of the General Secretary

OIAHR – Office for International Affairs and Human Rights

OLF – Oromo Liberation Front

OP – Office for Personnel

PRA – Participatory Rural Appraisal

PCFA – Program Cooperation Frame Agreement

PCMD – Program Committee for Mission and Development

PCPCU – Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity

PCTS – Program Committee for Theology and Studies

PCWS – Program Committee for World Service

PSRD – Sustainable Rural Development Project

RCDM – Rural Community Development and Motivation

RCDP – Rural Community Development Program

RDRS – Rangpur Dinajpur Rural Service

RDRS/NBI – RDRS North Bengal Institute

ROA – Regional Office Africa

SACCO – Savings and Credits Cooperative

SALDARN – South African Lutheran Development and Relief Network

SCHR – Steering Committee for Humanitarian Response

SCWS – Standing Committee for World Service

SCIAHR – Standing Committee for International Affairs and Human Rights

SCEA – Standing Committee for Ecumenical Affairs

SIDP – Social Infrastructure Development Program

SRC – Staff Representative Council

SWCP – Soil and Water Conservation Project

SWP – Staff Welfare Plan

TCRS – Tanganyika Christian Refugee Service

UDHR – Universal Declaration of Human Rights

UELCI – United Evangelical Lutheran Church in India

UN – United Nations

UNDP – United Nations Development Programme

UNHCR – United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

UNICEF – United Nations Children’s Fund

VDC – Village Development Committee

VHC – Village Health Clinic

VTC – Vocational Training Center

WARC – World Alliance of Reformed Churches

WB – Workshop for the Blind

WCC – World Council of Churches

WFP – World Food Programme

WICAS – Women in Church and Society

WMC – World Methodist Council

WTO – World Trade Organization

YICAS – Youth in Church and Society