

GROWTH IN RECONCILIATIONIntroduction

From our sharing of backgrounds we were impressed by:

- different stages in growth towards unity
- pre-occupation with different issues e.g. ecumenism /survival and therefore the need to listen to and claim each other's agendas
- problem of language and availability of texts, translations, difficulty in communication.
- Are the issues of ARCIC-I and Justification a western agenda to be solved by western theologians and then agreed by others?

Arising from this the group suggests:

ARCIC-II formulates possible approaches to establish ARC relations in various parts of the world

I. Work of ARCIC-II on Growth in Reconciliation

Substantive reflection on:

(a) Steps towards communion

What is the theology lying behind the idea of partial communion and what are the appropriate signs to mark the different degrees of agreement in faith?

- (i) what more can be done in the present situation to honour the unity that exists? e.g. mixed marriages (English ARC, Irish Group?), implementation of suggestions in the Malta Report;
- (ii) if the two Churches provide positive answers to the eucharist and ministry texts of the Final Report what will this suggest for eucharistic sharing? Consideration of the theology lying behind 'interim-eucharistic sharing agreement' between the Episcopal and Lutheran agreement in the States (ARC-USA) and Roman Catholic agreement with Copts.
- (iii) What would need to be done on the way to the recognition and eventual reconciliation of ministries? e.g. the new context in which to view Apostolicae Curae (ARC-USA); possibility of being in full communion while holding different views on the ordination of women to the priesthood (ARC New Zealand)
- (iv) Towards a theology of partial communion (cf. ARCIC-II 11/83) (Canadian ARC).

(b) The goal we seek

- (i) How has the goal been described in the various dialogues including the multilateral statements of the WCC? (members of ARCIC-II)
- (ii) what are the implications of the Final Report for an understanding of organic unity/full communion? What does it imply for 'the restoration of complete communion in faith and sacramental life'? (G. Gassmann)
- (iii) What are the ecclesiological implications of the varying response and reception processes of the Final Report? (former members of ARC-USA)

II. Papers and collections

- Papers:
- (i) Goal of unity in Anglican dialogues (Anglican members ARCIC - II)  
Goal of unity in Roman - Catholic dialogues (RC member ARCIC-II)
  - (ii) Theology of interim-eucharistic sharing ARC-USA
  - (iii) Role of the 39 Articles in Anglican provinces
  - (iv) Towards a theology of partial communion (members of ARCIC-II)
  - (v) Guidelines/directives on intercommunion
  - (vi) EDEO / NADEO studies (5)
  - (vii) bilateral/multilateral agreements

Collections:

- (i) Need for improved flow of material
- (ii) Document on Syrian-Roman Catholic Profession of Faith
- (iii) Lutheran-Episcopal agreement on interim-eucharistic sharing
- (iv) Models of unity LWF
- (v) List of existing ARCs.

III. Theological methodology of ARCIC II (paper by new member)