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"THE COMMISSION FOR ANGLICAN - ORTHODOX JOINT DOCTRINAL DISCUSSIONS"

Sponsors: Anglican Consultative Council [www.anglicancommunion.org]
Inter-Orthodox Commission

PREPARATORY STAGE

(INTER - ORTHODOX THEOLOGICAL PREPARATORY COMMISSION)

1. September 1-15, 1966 - Belgrade, Yugoslavia
"Drew up list of possible subjects for discussion"
2. October 1-7, 1970 - Chambésy / Geneva, Switzerland
"How the Anglican Church conceives its union in faith with the Orthodox; is union between the Anglican and Orthodox church possible; will decisions taken in the dialogue be binding in the whole Anglican Communion; the authority of the 39 articles and the Book of Common Prayer for the Anglican Communion"
3. July 7-11, 1971 - Helsinki, Finland
"The Holy Spirit as Interpreter of the Gospel and Life-giver in the Church; the Nature of Christ's redeeming work on the cross and resurrection; modern problems in the Anglican Church"
4. September 7-11, 1972 - Chambésy, Switzerland
"Final plans for the joint meetings"

(ANGLICAN PREPARATORY COMMISSION)

1. September 15-19, 1969 - Jerusalem, Israel
"Comprehensiveness and the mission of the Church; the 39 Articles; Anglican understanding of the Eucharist; the Filioque; the minister of the Eucharist; consideration of pastoral, liturgical and spiritual nature; consideration of difficult questions involved in the presentation of the faith in the world today"
2. July 26-30, 1971 - Haywards Heath, England
"Continued the discussion of the previous meeting subjects; Anglicans prepared a response to the four questions raised in 1970 by the Orthodox"

ANGLICAN AND ORTHODOX SUB-COMMISSION

September 11-14, 1972 - Chambésy, Switzerland

"Final decision on the plan; confirmed the proposal that the conversations should not be limited to doctrine but include questions of church life and worship"

PHASE ONE 1973-1978

MEETINGS:

1. July 6-13, 1973 - Oxford, England

"Comprehensiveness and the Mission, the Church: the Holy Spirit as Interpreter of the Gospel and Giver of Life in the Church today; the Redemptive Work of Christ on the Cross and in the Resurrection"

SUB-COMMISSIONS:

July 1-6, 1974 - Crete, Greece

"Inspiration and revelation in the Holy Scripture"

July 8-10, 1974 - Long Island, New York USA

"The Church as an Eucharistic community"

July 9-14, 1974 - Rimnicu Vilcea, Rumania

"The authority of the ecumenical councils, the Filioque"

July 7-11, 1975 - Truro, England

"Inspiration and revelation in the Holy Scripture"

July, 1975 - London, England

"The Church as an Eucharistic community"

July 21-28, 1975 - St. Albans, England

"The authority of the ecumenical councils, the Filioque"

2. July 26-August 2, 1976 - Moscow, Russia

"The work of the sub-commissions was submitted, scrutinized and amended" – MOSCOW STATEMENT

3. July 25-August 1, 1977 - Cambridge, England

"The Church and the Churches; the Communion of Saints; ministry and priesthood; women's ordination; the Filioque clause"

SUB-COMMISSIONS

"The Church and the Churches"

"The Communion of Saints and the veneration of the Mother of God"

"Eucharist and ministry"

CO-CHAIRS: Rt. Rev. Robert Runcie, Bishop of St. Albans
Archbishop Stylianos, Archbishop of Australia

CO-SECRETARIES: Rev. Colin Davey, Church of England
Very Rev. Archimandrite Kallistos Ware

STEERING COMMITTEE OF THE ANGLICAN-ORTHODOX JOINT DOCTRINAL DISCUSSIONS

July 10, 1979 - St. Albans, England

"Exploration of the fundamental questions of doctrinal agreement and disagreement; decision that the full commission should continue its work"

4. July 13-18, 1978 - Athens, Greece

"Difficulties caused by the ordination of women to the presbyterate by some provinces of the Anglican Communion; preparation of a statement – THE ATHENS STATEMENT"

CO-CHAIRS: Rt. Rev. Robert Runcie, Bishop of St. Albans
Archbishop Athenagoras, Archbishop of Thyateira and Great Britain

CO-SECRETARIES: Rev. Colin Davey, Church of England
Very Rev. Archimandrite Kallistos Ware

PHASE TWO 1980-1984

MEETINGS:

1. July 14-21, 1980 - Llandaff, Wales
"Three sub-commissions met on the themes: the Church and the churches (unity and diversity; inter-communion); the communion of saints and the departed; the Filioque clause" LLANDAFF STATEMENT

COORDINATING COMMITTEE

March 27, 1981 - London, England

2. July 20-27, 1981 - Chambésy, Switzerland
"Themes of three sub-commissions: the mystery of the Church; participation in the grace of the Holy Trinity; Tradition (unity in faith and comprehensiveness)"
3. July 12-19, 1982 - Canterbury, England
"The mystery of the Church; participation in the grace of the Holy Trinity and Christian holiness; Tradition, Christian worship, and the maintenance of the Christian faith"
4. September 12-19, 1983 - Odessa, URSS
"Witness, evangelism, and service; primacy (seniority); Filioque clause; prayer, icons, and family devotion"
5. August 13-20, 1984 - Dublin, Ireland
"Finalizing the statement" DUBLIN AGREED STATEMENT

CO-CHAIRS: Bishop Henry Hill, Anglican Church of Canada
Archbishop Methodios (Fouyas) of Thyateira and Great Britain

CO-SECRETARIES: Rev. Colin Davey, Church of England
Very Rev. Dr. George Dragas

Name change for the Commission:

International Commission for Anglican-Orthodox Theological Dialogue (ICAOTD)

PHASE THREE 1989-2006

The Doctrine of the Church in the Light of the Doctrine of the Trinity

MEETINGS:

1. June 20-26, 1989 - Uusi Valamo, Finland
"Ecclesiology is the main theme taken up with the following topics: Image, Symbol and Language in relation to the Trinity; The Holy Trinity as Communion; The Filioque in relation to the Immanent Trinity; Christ and the Spirit; Christ, Creation and Humanity; Christ and the Church" - COMMUNIQUÉ
2. September 10-17, 1990 - Toronto, Canada
"Symbols and language in relation to the Trinity; the Trinity as communion, and the Filioque clause in relation to the immanent Trinity; the doctrine of God as Trinity in its relation to our understanding of the Church"

DRAFTING COMMITTEE MEETING

May 31-1 June, 1994 - Oxford, England

"Elaboration of a common declaration on the Trinitarian basis of ecclesiology"

3. October 16-22, 1994 - Chambésy, Switzerland
"Agreed a final version of 'The Trinitarian Basis of Ecclesiology'; the Commission studied the doctrine of the Person of Jesus Christ as it relates to our doctrine of the Church" - COMMUNIQUÉ

DRAFTING COMMITTEE MEETING

Istanbul

DRAFTING COMMITTEE MEETING

London

"Preparation of an interim agreed statement 'Christ and the Spirit'"

4. June, 1996 - Llandaff, Wales
"Approval of the final drafts on 'Trinitarian ecclesiology' and 'Christ and the Spirit'; discussion of the statement 'Christ and culture'"

DRAFTING COMMITTEE MEETING

"Preparation of an interim agreed statement on Christ, humanity and the Church"

5. June 17-23, 1998 - Bucharest, Rumania
"Interim Agreed Statements on 'The Trinity and the Church', 'Christ, the Spirit and the Church', and 'Christ, Humanity and the Church': Parts I and II"
6. October 12-16, 1999 - Salisbury, England
"Continued discussion the doctrine of the Church; the nature and authority of the episcopal ministry and the question of conciliarity and primacy" - COMMUNIQUÉ
7. February 12-15, 2001 - Volos, Greece
"The meaning of sacramental priesthood in the Church, and its relation to the unique high priesthood of Christ and the royal priesthood of the whole Christian community; an agreed statement on 'Episcopate, Episcopos and Primacy' was approved" - COMMUNIQUÉ
8. June 26-28, 2002 - Abergavenny, Wales
"Ordained and other ministries in the Church; the ordination of women to the priesthood and the episcopate; an agreed statement on Priesthood, Christ and the Church was approved" - COMMUNIQUÉ
9. February 4-7, 2003 - Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
"Lay ministries in the Church, and the ordination of women to the priesthood; non-ordained ministry was discussed together with an Anglican paper on the Ministries of Lay Men and Women and Deacons in the Anglican Tradition; the nature and understanding of diaconal ministry in the churches" - COMMUNIQUÉ
10. June 21-25, 2004 - Canterbury, England
"First draft of an Agreed Statement on lay ministries in the Church, and on the question of the ministries of women and men, including the question of ordination to the diaconate, presbyterate and episcopate; topic on heresy and schism; the theology and practice of Reception" - COMMUNIQUÉ

June 2-8, 2005 - Kykkos, Cyprus

"Finalization of agreed statements" - COMMUNIQUÉ

2006

"Finalization of agreed text" - CYPRUS AGREED STATEMENT

CO-CHAIRS: Bishop Mark Dyer, The Episcopal Church USA (Co-Chairman from 1990)
Bishop Henry Hill, Anglican Church of Canada (Co-Chairman 1989-1990)

Metropolitan John of Pergamon

CO-SECRETARIES: Dr Donald Anderson, Anglican Communion Office (1989-1996)
Canon Gregory Cameron, Anglican Communion Office (from 2003)
Bishop David Hamid, Anglican Communion Office (1998-2002)

The Revd Alexander Fostiropoulos (1989-1990)

The Revd Dr Christos B. Christakis (from 1994)

PHASE FOUR 2009-2015

MEETINGS:

1. September 15-20, 2009 - Chania, Crete
"Theological anthropology; the Christian understanding of the human person as being in the image and likeness of God, and the implications of this for church life and contemporary ethical issues" - COMMUNIQUÉ
2. August 31-September 7, 2010 - Oxford, England
"Aspects of Christian anthropology: 'what is a human being?'; 'the freedom and growth of the human being with particular reference to the understanding of image and likeness'; and 'human responsibility for the creation; a critical overview of recent statements by our churches'" - COMMUNIQUÉ
3. September 16-23, 2011 - Shen Vlash, Durrës, Albania
"Study of the theological riches, in Scripture and our traditions, of the understanding of the nature of the human person, created in the image and likeness of God; human rights, ecology, the environment and agricultural practices, and the questions that arise around the ethics concerning the beginning and the end of human life, the nature and relationship of man and woman, technology, and the constant warfare that plagues many parts of the globe"- COMMUNIQUÉ
4. September 3-10, 2012 - Chester, England
"Christian anthropology, particularly in regard to what it means to be a human person created in the image and likeness of God. The Commission discussed the draft of its joint theological work on this subject, developed through the collaborative studies of previous meetings and enriched by presentations at this meeting on nature and grace, marriage, celibacy and friendship, and creation"- COMMUNIQUÉ
5. September 4-11, 2013 - Novi Sad, Serbia
"Continued the focus on Christian anthropology, specifically what it means to be a human person created in the image and likeness of God" - COMMUNIQUÉ
6. September 17-24, 2014 - Jerusalem, Israel
"Reviewed the draft of an agreed statement on the theological presuppositions of the Christian understanding of the human person, created in the image and likeness of God" - COMMUNIQUÉ
7. September 19-25, 2015 - Buffalo, NY, USA
"Practical implications and the ethical questions, of pressing concern in today's world, that follow from these presupposition; completion of agreed statement 'In the Image and Likeness of God: A Hope-Filled Anthropology'" - COMMUNIQUÉ and AGREED STATEMENT
8. September 23-29, 2016 - Armagh, Northern Ireland

PREPARATORY COMMITTEE MEETING

June 28, 2017 - London, England

9. October 14-21, 2017 - Sliema, Malta
"Work on the theological understanding of the human person, according to principles in its agreed statement 'In the Image and Likeness of God: A Hope-Filled Anthropology' (Buffalo 2015) with the focus on the practical implications of the Buffalo Agreed Statement, especially in regard to the complex and pressing issues surrounding environment and ecology as well as the ending of human life" - COMMUNIQUÉ
10. October 13-20, 2018 - Larnaca, Cyprus
"Work on the theological understanding of the human person, according to principles in its agreed statement 'In the Image and Likeness of God: A Hope-Filled Anthropology' (Buffalo 2015); focus on the practical implications of the Buffalo Agreed Statement, for the complex and pressing issues surrounding the environment and ecology as well as the end of human life" - COMMUNIQUÉ

DRAFTING COMMITTEE MEETING

June 20-21, 2018 - Halki, Turkey

"Revised draft on the environment, 'Stewards of Creation: A Hope-filled Ecology', was discussed in plenary sessions

where further critical reflections ensued in a constructive manner” - COMMUNIQUÉ

11. October 10-17, 2019 - Canterbury, England

“Completion of its work on issues surrounding the environment and ecology according to principles established in its agreed statement, ‘In the Image and Likeness of God: A Hope-Filled Anthropology’ (Buffalo 2015). The text of a statement, entitled ‘Stewards of Creation A Hope-Filled Ecology,’ was finalized and will be prepared for publication as part of a projected series, ‘states the communique.’ Further consideration was then given to the proposed statement on the end of human life, now provisionally entitled ‘Good Dying: the Christian Approach to Life and Death’”- COMMUNIQUÉ

12. October 19, 2020 - Video conference

“The annual plenary meeting due to take place in Greece in October 2020 was cancelled instead the commission met via video conference to share news of the Churches; an update was received on the drafting of a statement on ethical issues surrounding the end of life”- COMMUNIQUÉ and STEWARDS OF CREATION: A HOPE-FILLED ECOLOGY⁵

13. October 18-25, 2021 -Ierapetra, Crete

“The committee drafted the next text on euthanasia and the end of life and prepared this text for the next plenary session. The committee also began studying the following issues; organ donation and transplantation and marriage”- COMMUNIQUÉ⁶

14. October 7-14, 2022 - Athens, Greece

“The Commission discussed at length and finalised an agreed statement on ‘Dying Well, Living Well: Our Sure and Certain Hope (The Penteli Statement)’. The Commission began discussions on organ donation and intends to continue consideration of this topic at its next meeting” - COMMUNIQUÉ⁷ and DYING WELL, LIVING WELL: OUR SURE AND CERTAIN HOPE⁸

CO-CHAIRMEN: Archbishop Roger Herft, Anglican Church of Australia (2009-2015)
Most Rev Richard Clarke of Armagh, The Church of Ireland (2016-2019)

Metropolitan Kallistos of Diokleia, Ecumenical Patriarchate (2009-2012, 2014-2015)
Metropolitan Serafim of Zimbabwe, Greek Patriarchate of Alexandria (2013, 2016)
Metropolitan Athenagoras of Belgium (2017-2019)

SECRETARIES: Revd Dr Timothy Bradshaw (2009)
Revd Canon Dr Alyson Barnett-Cowan (2010-2014)
The Revd Canon Dr John Gibaut (2015-2019)

Revd Dr Christos B Christakis

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⁵ File 25 A-O canterbury 2020.

⁶ File 27 A-O communique 2021.

⁷ File 28 A-O communique 2022.

⁸ File 29 A-O Pendeli 2023.

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 Revd Canon Dr Alyson Barnett-Cowan (2010-2014)
 The Revd Canon Dr John Gibaut (2015-2019)

 Revd Dr Christos B Christakis