

MKR-SAK 09/03: SAMARBEIDSAVTALE MED DEN LUTHERSKE KIRKE I BRASIL**Saksbehandler:** Generalsekretæren

- Dokumenter:**
- Utkast til avtale, skrive av gen sekr MKR (*vedlagt*)
 - Respons frå IECBL (*ikke mottatt ennå. Sendes ut senere*)

Saksframlegg:

Det har vore gode kontaktar med den brasilianske lutherske kyrkja dei siste tiåra, gjennom ulike norske kyrkjelege organisasjonar. NMS har drive pastoralt og evangeliserande arbeid, KN har støtta diakonale tiltak der og Diakonforbundet, Presteforeininga og Kateketforeininga har hatt studieturar dit - med stort utbytte for både gjestar og vertskap. Det er dessutan tette band til utdanningsinstitusjonar i denne kyrkja, både i San Leopoldo (Diakonhjemmet, TF m.fl.) og i Curitiba (MF). Det vert foreslått støtte frå OVF-midlar til finansiering av ei lærarstilling i diakoni på seminaret i San Leopoldo, i samarbeid med Misjonsalliansen, Diakonhjemmet, KN og kanskje NMS. Gjennom LVF vert det ytt midlar til ulike tiltak.

Frå brasiliansk side har det vore uttrykt ynskje om ein avtale om samarbeid med Den norske kyrkja som kyrkje, ikkje berre gjennom dei ulike organisasjonane. Dette kom fram m.a. då den noverande kyrkje-presidenten, Walter Altmann, var på Kyrkjemøtet i 2000. Hausten 2002 hadde Erling Pettersen og Olav Fykse Tveit ei reise til Brasil for å drøfte m.a. desse spørsmåla, og fekk gått gjennom eit førebels utkast til avtale med dåverande kyrkje-president, Kircheim. Vi fekk også høve til å drøfte saka med påtroppande president (Altmann).

Det er frå begge sider uttrykt ynskje om å stadfeste dei relasjonar ein har, og ikkje avvikle dei som fylgje av denne avtalen. Det som er nytt med ein slik avtale som dette, er heller at relasjonane får ei ramme som representerer eit likeverdig forhold mellom kyrkjer. Det er ikkje tale om ei ny finansiell binding. Det er gjort heilt klart i møtene i Brasil, og begge partar vil at det ikkje skal vere slik. Men det er ynskje om å markere at den norske og den brasilianske lutherske kyrkja har mykje felles. Vi har felles interesser i utveksling av menneskelege ressursar, av informasjon, og av å dele visjonar og innsikter utvikla i møte med utfordringar vi har kvar for oss eller saman i ei globaliseringstid.

Det er noko krevjande å følgje opp ein avtale med ei kyrkje som er så langt borte. Like fullt er det faktisk slik at det i løpet av eit år er ganske mange frå Dnk som er i Brasil. Dessutan kan ein i dag kommunisere på e-mail. Det er mykje å hente gjennom ein slik kontakt, både av åndeleg, teologisk og politisk innsikt.

Det har vore litt vanskeleg å få progresjon i arbeidet med framstilling av ein tekst, men vi er no inne i ein fase der det burde kunne lukkast. Begge partar er innstilte på å markere denne avtalen under generalforsamlinga i Winnipeg i år, og at vi bruker våren til å arbeide med den i god korrespondanse med kvarandre. Det har heile tida vore planen at det reviderte utkastet vi ventar frå Brasil skulle drøftast med partnerane i Noreg før det vert gjeve respons frå vår side. Det må skje etter MKR-møtet i mars. Dersom det er nødvendig for å avklare viktige spørsmål, må det vere ei ekstra handsaming i MKR før Winnipeg. Dette kan delegerast til AU.

Framlegg til vedtak:

- 1. Mellomkyrkjeleg råd godkjenner arbeidet som er gjort med å etablere ein avtale med den brasilianske lutherske kyrkja, og ser med glede fram til at ein ferdig avtaletekst kan underskrivast i Winnipeg i juli 2003.*
- 2. Mellomkyrkjeleg gjev AU fullmakt til å vedta ein endeleg tekst, i tråd med dei føringane som er lagde gjennom handsaminga i møtet i MKR 04.03.03.*

Communion in Faith, Life and Witness

Agreement between the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Lutheran Confession in Brazil and The Church of Norway

1. Preamble

The Evangelical Church of the Lutheran Confession in Brazil (IECLB) and the Church of Norway (CoN) confess our common faith in the triune God, and believe that we through our common baptism belong to the one, holy, apostolic and catholic Church.

We confess together that the Gospel of Jesus Christ, as found in Holy Scripture and as interpreted and confessed in the ecumenical creeds and the Lutheran Confessions, is the power of God that creates, equips and sustains us for faithful participation in God's mission in the world.

As members of the Lutheran World Federation (LWF), we are in communion, sharing Word and sacraments and recognizing one another's ministries. As members of the LWF and the World Council of Churches (WCC) we affirm our common calling and commitment to unity in faith, life and witness with all churches.

In our communion we are bound together to explore, extend and deepen our communion. In mutual accountability we will practice mutual sharing, support, admonition and critique, as we seek together to understand and respond to God's call.

2. Background

We acknowledge the relationship and cooperation already established between our churches, realized e.g. through the Norwegian Missionary Society. Through partners such as the Norwegian Church Aid, The Norwegian unions for Pastors, Cathecists and Deacons, Diakonhjemmet and Misjonsalliansen constituencies and institutions of our churches are cooperating.

(To be further filled out by IECLB, in respect of the Brazilian partners etc)

3. Terms of Agreement

As churches that have received abundant gifts and resources for our communion in faith, life and witness from Jesus Christ, the Head of the Church, we commit ourselves to deepen and develop our mutual relationship through common efforts, in order to:

- explore possibilities for joint ventures in the fields of, i.a., theological studies, Christian education, liturgy, local and international diaconia, social responsibilities, local, national and world wide ecumenism, and initiatives for justice, peace and integrity of creation,
- exchange and share our experiences, spiritual gifts, intercessions and concerns,
- share information with both the membership of our respective churches and the wider Lutheran communion,
- hold common church leader meetings on themes of common concern at a regular basis, e.g. every four year.
- to invite representatives from one another's churches in different positions and with a variety of responsibilities to visit and participate in the life of the other church,
- exercise our public responsibility as local and national churches in a globalized society, by holding one another informed about development of study documents that address social, economic, political, cultural and ethical issues affecting church and society,
- establish or acknowledge agreements on specific programmes, in cooperation with partners in both churches.

4. Evaluation and reporting

This agreement shall be in effect from the date of its signing and celebration. Each church will implement it according to the regulations of the churches in work. After a period of 8 years it shall be evaluated and, eventually, revised according to a common understanding between the two parties. The agreements or covenants attached to this agreement are to be revised or rescinded according to the terms of references agreed in each one of them.

Of/181202

IGREJA EVANGÉLICA DE CONFISSÃO LUTERANA NO BRASIL

Secretaria Geral
IECLB Nº 65276/03



Porto Alegre, February 28, 2003
WA/mb

To
Olav Fykse Tveit
Church of Norway
E-mail: olav.fykse.tveit@kirken.no

Subject: Agreement between CoN and IECLB

Dear Olav:

I'm sorry that it took us so long to send you our reaction to your proposal of agreement between our two churches. (Vacations, meetings, travel etc.) But I do hope this mail still reaches you in time for the text to be considered at your forthcoming meeting on March 05.

You will see that we have made only small amendments. These can easily be identified by both italic and black letters, while deleted words are striked. I kept the text in this form for your convenience.

From our side, we will present the text to the Council at its meeting on March 21. Should you have the proposal of further amendments, please let us know, if possible before that date. The Church Council will then meet only July 12th, but still before the Winnipeg Assembly.

Shalom,

P. Dr. Walter Altmann
Pastor Presidente

Cc.: erling.pettersen@kirken.no
vbjorn.horsfjord@kirken.no
Friedrich@ieclb.org.br
carlos@ieclb.org.br
Hasenack@ieclb.org.br

Attached: Church Norway – IECLB Agreement-Draft

Communion in Faith, Life and Witness

Agreement between the Evangelical ~~Lutheran~~ Church of the Lutheran Confession in Brazil and The Church of Norway

1. Preamble

The Evangelical Church of the Lutheran Confession in Brazil (IECLB) and the Church of Norway (CoN) confess our common faith in the triune God, and believe that we through our common baptism belong to the one, holy, apostolic and catholic Church.

We confess together that the Gospel of Jesus Christ, as found in Holy Scripture and as interpreted and confessed in the ecumenical creeds and the Lutheran Confessions, is the power of God that creates, equips and sustains us for faithful participation in God's mission in the world.

As members of the Lutheran World Federation (LWF), we are in communion, sharing Word and sacraments and recognizing one another's ministries. As members of the LWF and the World Council of Churches (WCC) we affirm our common calling and commitment to unity in faith, life and witness with all churches.

In our communion we are bound together to explore, extend and deepen our communion. In mutual accountability we will practice mutual sharing, support, admonition and critique, as we seek together to understand and respond to God's call.

2. Background

We acknowledge the relationship and cooperation already established between our churches, realized e.g. through *the Partnership Agreement between the Norwegian Missionary Society and the IECLB*. Through partners such as the Norwegian Church Aid, The Norwegian unions for Pastors, Catechists and Deacons, Diakonhjemmet and Misjonsalliansen, *on the Norwegian side, and Movimento Encontro (ME), Escola Superior de Teologia (EST), Casa Matriz de Diaconizas, Comunhão de Obreiras Diaconais (COD), Congregação de Catequistas, on Brazilian side*, constituencies and institutions of our churches are cooperating.

~~(To be further filled out by IECLB, in respect of the Brazilian partners etc)~~

3. Terms of Agreement

As churches that have received abundant gifts and resources for our communion in faith, life and witness from Jesus Christ, the Head of the Church, we commit ourselves to deepen and develop our mutual relationship through common efforts, in order to:

- explore possibilities for joint ventures in the fields of, i.a., theological studies, *mission*, Christian education, liturgy, local and international diaconia, social responsibilities, *communication*, local, national and world wide ecumenism, and initiatives for justice, peace and integrity of creation,
- exchange and share our experiences, spiritual gifts, intercessions and concerns,
- share information with both the membership of our respective churches and the wider Lutheran communion,
- hold common church leader meetings on themes of common concern at a regular basis, e.g. every four years,
- to invite representatives from one another's churches in different positions and with a variety of responsibilities to visit and participate in the life of the other church,
- exercise our public responsibility as local and national churches in a globalized society, by holding one another informed about development of study documents *and by co-developing possible joint declarations* that address social, economic, political, cultural and ethical issues affecting church and society,
- establish or acknowledge agreements on specific programmes, in cooperation with partners in both churches.

4. Evaluation and reporting

This agreement shall be in effect *for a period of eight years*, from the date of its signing and celebration. Each church will implement it according to the regulations of the churches in work. *During the eighth year* it shall be evaluated and, eventually, revised according to a common understanding between the two parties. The agreements or covenants attached to this agreement are to be revised or rescinded according to the terms of references agreed in each one of them.

Signed this day of July, 2003, at Winnipeg, Canada, on the occasion of the Tenth General Assembly of the Lutheran World Federation.

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