

DEN NORSKE KIRKE
Kirkerådet, Mellomkirkelig råd, Samisk kirkeråd



Communion in Faith, Life and Witness

Agreement between Igreja Evangélica de Confissão Luterana no Brasil/The Evangelical Church of the Lutheran Confession in Brazil and Den norske kirke/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 the 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 LWF and the World Council of Churches (WCC) we affirm our common calling and commitment to unity in faith, life and witness. In our communion we are bound together to explore, extend and deepen our communion in mutual accountability.

We acknowledge the relationship and cooperation already established between our churches, as well as partnership agreements and cooperation with partners as the Norwegian Mission Society, Norwegian Church Aid, the Mission Alliance, Diakonhjemmet University College on the Norwegian side, and Movimento Encontro (ME), Escola Superior de Teologia (EST), Casa Matriz de Diaconisas, Comunhão de Obreiros Diaconais (COD), Congregação de Catequistas, on the Brazilian side, as well as exchange and cooperation between institutions and congregations of our churches.

2. Terms of Agreement

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

- Exchange and share general information, experiences and concerns of our churches
- Exchange and share our experiences, spiritual gifts, intercessions and concerns
- Facilitate consultation between church leaders and official delegations through visits and meetings in conjunction with synods and ecumenical assemblies
- Facilitate exchange between representatives of our churches in different positions in order to share information, work and experiences in specific areas of common interest through exchange of information, visits and exchange programmes
- Explore further possibilities for concrete cooperation and action
- Establish a concrete Common Plan of Action for a limited period of time, for possible renewal
- Pray for each other

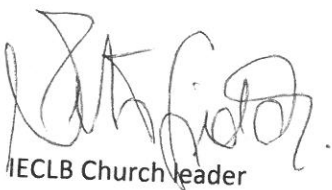
3. Evaluation and reporting

This agreement shall be in effect for a period of eight years, from the date of its signing and celebration. Each church will implement the agreement according to the regulations of the respective church. The agreement shall be evaluated at the end of the period and revised according to a common understanding between the two parties.

Place and date of signing:

Busan, South Korea, November 6th, 2013

Signature

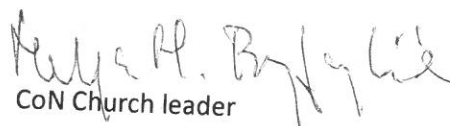


IELCB Church leader

Dr Nestor Paolo Friedrich

President of IELCB

Signature



CoN Church leader

Bishop Helga Haugland Byfuglien

Presiding Bishop of Church of Norway