

## The Anglican Old Catholic International Co-ordinating Council

### Communiqué

Beuggen, 18 April 2008

The Anglican - Old Catholic International Co-ordinating Council (AOCICC) met in Schloss Beuggen, Germany, from 14 to 18 April 2008. The Council welcomed the new Old Catholic Co-chair, the Rt Revd Joachim Vobbe (who also served as the Co-chair from 1998 to 2003), and the new Old Catholic member, the Revd Henriette Crüwell, both appointed by the Old Catholic International Bishops' Conference (IBC). The Council awaits the appointment of a representative of the Convocation of American Churches in Europe.

The members received reports from developments in each Communion and reviewed the present ecumenical dialogues, with which our Communions are engaged.

A draft text for a common statement of ecclesiological understanding, including missionary dimensions of the Church's life, which was commissioned at last year's meeting of the Council, was discussed at length. Practical implications will be considered in due course. Intense discussion also took place concerning a canonists' report on a proposal for a shared bishop of Deventer (NL). Thus we reflected on the common mission of our churches and on the fact that we both exist in diaspora situations in continental Europe. Concrete examples of "fresh expressions" of church were also discussed.

Attention was given to the agreed statement "Growing Together in Unity and Mission", of the International Anglican - Roman Catholic Commission for Unity and Mission (IARCCUM).

Morning Prayer was celebrated daily with the community of Schloss Beuggen. The Eucharists during the meeting, and a Bible study each morning, were led by members of the Council. The late Rt Revd Dr Jan Lambert Wirix-Speetjens, Bishop of Haarlem, who served as the Co-chair from 2004 to 2005 was remembered in prayer. On Wednesday 16 April, Solemn Vespers were celebrated at the Old Catholic St Martinskirche in Rheinfelden (CH) with the Bishop of Switzerland, the Rt Revd Fritz-René Müller officiating. Bishop Müller served as the Old Catholic Co-chair of the Council from 2005 to 2007. Afterwards the Council attended a dinner generously hosted by the Old Catholic Church of Switzerland. The next meeting of the Council will take place 26 - 30 October 2009.

For further information, please contact the Revd Professor Dr Angela Berlis, tel +31 (0)23 532 68 78, email [aocicc@alt-katholisch.de](mailto:aocicc@alt-katholisch.de), or the Revd Canon Gregory K Cameron at the Anglican Communion Office, tel +44 (0)20 7313 3900, email [gregory.cameron@anglicancommunion.org](mailto:gregory.cameron@anglicancommunion.org).

**The members of the Anglican Old Catholic International Co-ordinating Council are:**

**Anglicans**

The Rt Revd Jonathan Gledhill – Co-chair

The Revd Canon Gregory K Cameron – Co-secretary (absent)

The Rt Revd David Hamid, Suffragan Bishop of the Diocese in Europe (absent)

Mrs Maryon Jägers

The Revd Dr Jeremy Morris

Administrative Support: The Revd Terrie Robinson

**Old Catholic**

The Rt Revd Joachim Vobbe – Co-chair

The Revd Professor Dr Angela Berlis – Co-secretary

The Revd Henriette Crüwell

The Revd Professor David R Holeyton

The Revd Dr Harald Rein (absent)

The Revd Dr Dick Schoon

Administrative Support and Interpreter: The Revd Lars Simpson