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WOMEN, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE

The Women's Ecumenical Liaison Group held its third meeting in Rome, October 26-30 at the headquarters of the Council on the Laity of the Roman Catholic Church. The group is composed of ten women, appointed in 1968 by the World Council of Churches and for the Roman Catholic Church by the Secretariat for Promoting Christian Unity in consultation with the Council on the Laity.

One of the important decisions was that the group tentatively adopted a three-year programme on women's contribution to peace through education and active participation in social and civil life. For the first stage of the programme a sub-committee has been set up by the W.E.L.G., composed of the following:

Mrs. Athanassiou, Dr. Madeleine Barot, Dr. Marga Bührig, Miss Margaret Mealey, Dr. Margaret Shannon, Miss M. de Lourdes Pintasilgo, Miss M. Vendrik, and as ex officio members Miss Brigalia Bam and Miss Rosemary Goldie, serving as staff.

Together with SODEPAX, this group will further define the aims of the project and explore the possibilities offered by existing organisations and their current programmes. The W.E.L.G. will be responsible for making contacts with women who may have a specific contribution to make in this field, both on the national and local level.

The second stage of the programme would be to co-sponsor with SODEPAX a Consultation on a world level in 1972. In carrying out this project, the W.E.L.G. would involve the collaboration of its own constituencies, and it is hoped that financial contributions would be made by some of the women's groups to their local projects.

The immediate plan is that the W.E.L.G. sub-committee will meet with SODEPAX in Geneva in February 1971. The proposed dates are 16-17th February, 1971. I hope it would be possible for the members of this sub-committee to meet with SODEPAX representatives.

It is premature at this stage to draw up a definite budget. When final plans for the work have been elaborated, the budget will be fixed. However, the following is a proposed tentative budget, which would include:

a) Preparatory conference	US\$20,000
b) Administration	" " 5,000
c) Travel for leaders	" " 15,000
d) Subsidies for travel, especially to participants from the Third World	" " 15,000
e) Miscellaneous	" " 5,000
TOTAL	<u>US\$60,000</u>

Number of participants - 120  
Venue - USA

It is hoped that part of this budget might be raised by the W.E.L.G. from other sources.

Brigalia Bam

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BB/jv

Fundação Cuidar o Futuro