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# WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

DEPARTMENT ON COOPERATION OF MEN AND WOMEN  
IN CHURCH, FAMILY AND SOCIETY

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:  
REV. LESLIE C. CLEMENTS  
ASSOCIATE SECRETARY:  
MISS BRIGALIA BAM

Geneva, 14th October, 1969  
(dictated 10th October, 1969)

Miss  
Maria de Lourdes Pintasilgo  
Secretariado Nacional do Graal  
Av. Afonso Henriques

COIMBRA / PORTUGAL

Dear Maria,

Thank you for your letter of the 1st October in which you enclosed very helpful suggestions for the December meeting.

I much regret that the meeting in Rome has been cancelled. Pilar and Maria could not come, and of course you would not have been there either. I got an impression in June that the members present were enthusiastic and keen on another meeting before December. I am going to Rome on Sunday to attend the meeting of African Preparatory Committee organised by the Laity Council.

All the points in your suggestions have been well taken, but I would like to react to some of these and also get clarification from you on certain items.

1. First and foremost, there was a misunderstanding over the draft which you, Madeleine Barot and Marga worked on, so there has been a delay in despatching the letter. I was away in July, August and September and I could not do much about it anyway. The problem of course is that we are not giving enough time to our national groups to respond.

## 2. Calendar

I am glad you find Margaret's calendar helpful. No other member of the group sent a calendar of activities, so we have to discuss this again, and I hope you will spell out your idea on this.

## 3. World Day of Prayer

There is certainly progress on the Protestant side about the World Day of Prayer. I have no information from the Roman

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Catholics on this. The International Chairman of the World Day of Prayer visited Africa this summer. A number of Protestant groups have invited the Roman Catholic ladies to participate. Marga and Margaret will enlighten us on this; Margaret Shannon is the Secretary of the International Committee, and this Committee would be only too glad to co-operate with the Roman Catholics on all levels. But I am not sure whether the Roman Catholics are ready for that kind of co-operation.

4. Co-opting of persons

I have taken it upon myself to co-opt some persons who will be helpful in our discussions. These people are not co-opted on a permanent basis. The problem with the WCC is that we do not have international structures for getting the information to our national groups. You certainly have good structures for dissemination of information.

5. Study

Please go ahead with your idea on Bibliographies. It is excellent!!! I am sending out the copy of the paper on "Conscientious Living in a World of Change". This paper was written by our Director Mr. Lange. Do you think we should ask the members to react to the paper? Would you lead the discussion on this?

6. Present Situation of the Ecumenical Movement

In our meeting we had agreed that Dr. Lukas Vischer would inform the group on "The present Situation of the Ecumenical Movement" and I thought we would react to that presentation. I will discuss this matter with Rosemary and see how we can think of a working-document on the same subject.

On the whole I agree with all your points. Thank you for those practical suggestions.

Sincerely yours,

*Brigalia* (E.B.)

for Brigalia Bam  
(in her absence)

Enclosure