



150 ROUTE DE FERNEY 1211 GENEVA 20
TELEPHONE (022) 33 34 00 TELEX 23 423
CABLE: OIKOUMENE GENEVA OIK CH

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

April 1970

Dear

We are writing to you in the name of the Women's Ecumenical Liaison Group to ask your cooperation. You may have never heard of the Women's Ecumenical Liaison Group. It was formed jointly by the Secretariat for Promoting Christian Unity of the Vatican in consultation with the Laity Council on one hand, and by the Central Committee of the World Council of Churches in consultation with the General Secretariat on the other. It consists of 10 members, officially appointed by the Vatican and the WCC and 4 ex-officio members.

The origins of this Group date from 1965 when during the Second Vatican Council initiative was taken by the Secretariat for Christian Unity to bring together Catholic women with women who represented the member churches of the WCC. They met at Vicarello outside of Rome and as a result requested that a small more permanent group be named in order to strengthen the ecumenical contacts of women. While waiting for this request to be answered a second conference was held in 1966 at Crêt Bérard in Switzerland and then a third larger conference at Taizé, France, bringing together representatives of international and national women's organisations. It was only in October 1968 that the Women's Ecumenical Liaison Group finally was officially appointed by the appropriate authorities.

It sees its task as one of liaison, education and study, particularly in regards to the ecumenical activities of women, and in the understanding of women's role and responsibilities in their churches today. This newly formed small official Group first met in Rome in December 1968. At its second meeting held at Cartigny (Geneva) 8 - 11 December 1969, the Women's Ecumenical Liaison Group decided to undertake a number of concrete projects and activities for the coming year. One of these is a project involving Case-studies for Ecumenical Encounter. These Case-studies will be solicited from appropriate sources in different parts of the world, and will be put together as a document to stimulate discussion in other groups and as resource material for the next meeting of the Liaison Group.

We have heard that you are involved in an ecumenical experiment which would be of special interest for such a study. Therefore, we would like to ask for your collaboration in giving us some more information about what you are doing. In order to make your task of describing it easier we are sending you a sheet of "Guide-lines" to help you in telling your story. Our purpose in these is not so much to bind you to these questions, as it is to help you to be very concrete. It is very likely that you will want to describe some points which we have not mentioned in these guide-lines and you are free to do so. Make it as long as is necessary to tell your story. However, we reserve the right to edit it if we think it advisable. It would be most interesting if the description you write for us could be the result of a discussion of the main points which you have had with the different people involved in the project. It might be a very good way to evaluate what you are doing by discussing these questions with them.

We hope very much you will be willing to undertake writing up your experience for us. Your Case-study needs to be in our hands by June 30th, 1970, if it is to be included in our final document. Your effort will be widely circulated and could be a significant contribution to the ecumenical movement. Thank you in advance for your cooperation. If you are not able to undertake this assignment please let us know as soon as possible so we can ask someone else.

Please mail your study to:-

Miss Brigalia Bam
Secretary of WELG
World Council of Churches
150 Route de Ferney
1211 Geneva 20
Switzerland

Sincerely,

Brigalia Bam.

Brigalia Bam