

ECUMENICAL ASSOCIATION of Academies and Laity Centres in Europe
OKUMENISCHE VEREINIGUNG der Akademien und Tagungszentren in Europa
ASSOCIATION OECUMÉNIQUE des Centres de Recherche et de Rencontre en Europe

Oecumenische Vereniging van Vormingscentra in Europa
Ekumeniska förbundet av konferensinstitut i Europa

VORSTAND

Generalsekretariat

D-7325 Bad Boll
Telefon (07164) 79-1 (Zentrale)
79231
79241 (direkt)

To all participants of the Peace Forum of the Ecumenical Association from September 3-6, 1987, in Driebergen (Netherlands)

June 2, 1987

Dear Colleagues, Sisters and Brothers,

All of us who are directly involved in the preparations of the Peace Forum of the Ecumenical Association, including the members of the Preparatory Groups, the Moderators of the Working Groups, the Colleagues at Driebergen, the Executive Committee of the Association, and our office, are really looking forward to meeting you in Driebergen. We expect about 200 participants from 20 European countries coming from North, South, East and West. We have received great interest and encouragement from letters and talks, and we hope that this climate of openness and mutual understanding, and a readiness to take part in the preparatory process, will help us in our work at Driebergen too.

Many of you have already sent us your registration forms. We urge those who have not yet done it to send it to us immediately so that we can base our preparatory work on realistic information.

At its last meeting in May in Tutzing, the Executive Committee of the Association discussed in particular the question of how the results of the Forum in Driebergen can be widely made public. This letter should give you the necessary information and invite you to take part in the process of mutual understanding which starts before our Forum will take place and which will continue after the Forum.

The results of the Forum will be kept and communicated in 4 ways:

1. The Executive Committee has developed a concept for press information which includes press conferences before and after the Forum, and opportunities for interviews during the Forum. Dr. Jürgen Micksch (Evangelical Academy in Tutzing) will be responsible and will work in liason with the press official at Kerk en Wereld in Driebergen.
2. We have also designated a reporter for each working group who will record the results of the group during the Forum and make a final report. The Executive Committee feels that the results of the working groups will be essential to the success of the Forum and hopes that there will be stimulating content coming out of them. We will send you short preparatory papers within the next weeks which will lay out the questions and themes that will be dealt with in the working groups.



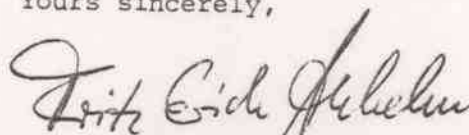
3. The events of the Forum will be published in a tri-lingual (English, French, German) documentation. It will include the reports from the working groups, speeches, prayers, and meditations.
4. The Executive Committee decided to send you the draft of a letter which is trying to mark the present level of understanding among us and explain it to people outside the Association. We are sending this letter to you and asking you to make comments on it before the final version is produced. The final version will be worked out in Driebergen by an Editorial Committee working in conjunction with the Reporters of the working groups. So we look forward to receiving your critical comments and proposals. The text, which has been sent to you, has already been discussed in different bodies of the Ecumenical Association and with the Moderators and Experts of the working groups so it is already in its fourth version. It is now open to your contribution.

The Executive Committee of the Association hopes these different ways to describe our initial process of discussion and understanding and of communication of the results from Driebergen will not only represent all the positions within the Association and the participants, but also produce a contribution to the preparations for the Nordic Convocation to Peace with Justice planned for 1989. Whether this will be successful will depend on the activities of the members of the Association and in which way they will be able to identify their own work within this conciliar process.

I bring you cordial greetings from the Executive Committee.

Fundação Cuidar o Futuro

Yours sincerely,



Dr. Fritz Erich Anhelm

Encl.

