

EXHIBIT 13
Appendix 2

Message from the Conference of Women Bishops, Presidents and Leaders
LWF Council, Lund, March 21, 2007

The women Bishops, Presidents and Leaders gathering in conjunction with the Lutheran World Federation Council Meeting, Church Leadership Consultation and 60th Anniversary Celebrations are grateful to the LWF for making possible this consultation as a subsequent meeting to the historic first conference in Geneva in June 2005. We celebrate that this LWF meeting is taking place in the Diocese of Lund, Church of Sweden which continues to make LWF history by recently electing its second woman as Bishop. We shared stories about the ministries of women in the regions and looked ahead for ways to meet the challenges before the churches. This Conference looks forward to a Pre-Assembly Meeting of women in episcopal ministry, with translation support, to be held in Stuttgart as the LWF meets in Assembly in 2010.

At the first Conference of Women Bishops and Presidents and Leaders with the Ministry of Oversight, June 15-19, 2005, a Message was issued acknowledging significant benchmarks and challenges regarding the ministry of women in LWF member churches. Four recommendations were made to the Communion.

We reaffirm our Message in 2005, that:

- regular meetings of women Bishops, Presidents and Leaders be held
- women, including bishops, be represented in inter-confessional dialogues at the 40% LWF goal for inclusion
- all LWF member churches will ordain women, and that in Full Communion relationships, the women bishops be recognized, and
- our colleagues join us in publicly speaking out against violence towards women.

Regarding the Message of the first meeting, we ask the General Secretariat for the ways that this document has been communicated and utilized throughout the Communion since 2005.

We celebrate that the document “Churches Say No to Violence against Women” has become the most translated document ever in the LWF’s history, having been translated and distributed in 26 languages with 8 more translations to come in the next year. We encourage member churches to utilize this valuable resource.

We celebrate that new churches have begun to ordain women since our last meeting, but we note with concern that of the 140 LWF member churches, it is reported to us that 37 still do not ordain women. We continue to call for prayer and action to encourage all churches to recognize and support God’s call of women, and to enable their full ministry as deacons, pastors, bishops and lay leaders.

We strongly request that when appointments are made to inter-confessional and inter-Lutheran dialogues and every program, representation and delegation, that the LWF commitment of 40% participation by women, including bishops, be honored by LWF and its member churches.

We urge the General Secretariat and the Council to plan and budget so that gender concerns and goals are not undermined by financial constraints. Our Communion needs to retain a Desk for Women in Church and Society in the Secretariat.

We commend the LWF for its continued support for inclusivity and ask the Council to hold the General Secretariat accountable to sustain that commitment in its decisions regarding LWF Executive and program staff, program and budget.

In order to continue to meet the goals for LWF inclusiveness, the member churches and the General Secretariat are urged to encourage men and women in church leadership to take part in gender awareness training.

As the Lund Council considers the document, “Episcopal Ministry within the Apostolicity of the Church”, we recommend that changes be made in the text, especially in paragraphs 28, 40 and 41, to more fully recognize and support the essential full participation of women in church leadership according to the biblical witness.

We look forward to a progress report from the General Secretariat on the matters raised in this document at the Stuttgart Assembly.

Bishop Christina Odenberg, Diocese of Lund, Church of Sweden
Bishop-Elect Antje Jackelén, Diocese of Lund, Church of Sweden
Bishop Khunansori Basumatari, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Himalayan States, India
Bishop Andrea DeGroot-Nesdahl, South Dakota Synod, ELCA, USA
Bishop Cindy Halmarson, Saskatchewan Synod, ELCIC, Canada
Bishop Maria Jepsen, Nordelbische Evangelisch-Lutherische Kirche, Germany
Bishop Margot Käßmann, Evangelisch-Lutherische Landeskirche Hannovers, Germany
Bishop Caroline Krook, Diocese of Stockholm, Church of Sweden
Bishop Wilma Kucharek, Slovak Zion Synod, ELCA, USA
Bishop April Ulrig Larson, LaCrosse Area Synod, ELCA, USA
Bishop Elaine Sauer, Manitoba/Northwestern Ontario Synod, ELCIC, Canada
Bishop Victoria Cortez, Nicaragua Lutheran Church of Faith and Hope,
President Gloria Rojas Vargas, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chile
President Ilona Fritz, LWF National Committee in the Netherlands
President Angelene Swart, Moravian Church in South Africa
Ms Iniobong Akpan, Regional Coordinator, Lutheran Communion in Western Africa
Ms Helene Ralivao, Regional Coordinator, Lutheran Communion in Central Africa
Ms Colleen Cunningham, Regional Coordinator, Lutheran Communion in Southern Africa
Ms Lorena Alfaro Lillo, Regional Coordinator, South Cone, Latin America
Ms Matilde Ponce Hilario, Regional Coordinator, Andean Region, Latin America
Ms Linda Post Bushkofsky, Regional Coordinator, North American Region
Ms Jung-Ok Lee, Regional Coordinator, Northeast Asian Lutheran Communion

Rev. Ken Phin Pang, Regional Coordinator, South East Asian Lutheran Communion
Ms Vidhya Rani, Regional Coordinator, South Asia Lutheran Communion
Rev. Magdalena Sevcikova, Regional Coordinator, Central and Eastern Europe
Rev. Cornelia Verwaal-Hübner, Regional Coordinator, Western Europe
Rev. Sigrun Óskarsdóttir, Regional Coordinator, Nordic Region
Ms Inger Lise Olson, Gender Officer, Church of Sweden