

Mängel xx

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I A
M S EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MEETING IN ROME , 20 - 24 April 1986

Present: Joan Chatfield, John S. Pobee, Paul R. Clifford, Edith Bernard, Enrique Dussel, Calvin E. Shenk (till 23rd), Takatso Mofokeng (from 21st), Frans Verstraelen, Thomas Kramm, Joachim Wietzke, Paul Jenkins (part-time)

Absent: Sebastian Karotempel (apology due to college exams)

1.0 Transfer of IAMS Secretariat

Joan Chatfield, the president, expresses a warm welcome to all present. She gives a brief summary of the correspondence and discussion leading to the proposal of shifting the IAMS Secretariat to Germany. The Ex. Ctee endorses the idea of "dispersed authority" transferring the office of the General Secretary to the Protestant Association for World Mission (EMW) in Hamburg and the editorship of "Mission Studies" to the Institute of Missiology (MWI) in Aachen. Joachim Wietzke is invited to serve as IAMS General Secretary with the completion of this Ex. Ctee meeting, and Thomas Kramm is invited to edit the "Mission Studies" beginning with issue No. 6. They both accept the invitation expressing their gratitude for the responsibility entrusted to them and asking for the help and guidance by the officers and members of the Ex. Ctee. Paul Clifford is requested to continue as treasurer.

The president gives credit to all the services rendered to IAMS by the outgoing General Secretary, Frans Verstraelen, who not only shaped IAMS history during the last decade due to his numerous initiatives and tremendous efforts, but who also became a close friend to a great number of IAMS members and to those of the Ex. Ctee in particular. There is also a deep gratitude being expressed to his assistant Mrs. Elsa Hins-Hollinga for all the administrative work she has done to IAMS with competence and dedication.

1.1 The minutes of the last meeting of the Ex. Ctee in Ventnor (June 1985) are approved and accepted.

1.2 Finances

Paul Clifford, the treasurer, presents the receipts and payments account for the year ended 31st December, 1985, with a balance of £ 69.525,54 including the Harare Conference. The accounts have been examined and approved by David Woolls, Chartered Accountant, on 4th Febr. 1986. The Ex. Ctee accepts the accounts with thanks to the treasurer.

According to a request of the Ex. Ctee in Ventnor the treasurer has written to about 40 members to renew their subscription. Only 5 have responded. The treasurer is requested to send a reminder. Being aware of the economic situation some of the members live in, the Ex. Ctee passes the following guideline: Those who have not paid their membership fee are requested to renew their subscription. Apart from the reminder sent by the treasurer some will be approached individually by Ex. Ctee members (to be followed up by Paul!). The membership of those who do not renew their subscription will be considered as lapsed. Only on proof of inability to pay the fees the subscription will be suspended for the time being.

If this rule is strictly applied there is a growing need to enroll new members. In addition to the subscription fees we have to raise an equivalent of

US\$ 10.000 per year in order to keep our programme for the next 5 years. In autumn 1986 the treasurer will start approaching donor agencies for special funds to the Rome Congress.

1.3 New members

The following applications for individual membership are accepted by the Ex. Ctee:

1. Dr. Christoff M. Pauw, Stellenbosch, South Africa
2. Emmanuel J. Shamatutu, Ndola, Zambia
3. Dr. Klaus Koschorke, Bärswil, Switzerland
4. Dr. John A. Lapp, Akron, Pa, USA
5. Dr. Bongani A. Mazibuko, Johannesburg, Südafrika
6. Prof. John Parratt, Gabarone, Botswana

The application of Prof. Dr. Francis Dessart is deferred due to lack of sponsors. Frans Verstraelen is going to approach him again.

There are two applications for institutional membership:

All Nations Christian College, Easneyre Ware, Hertfordshire U.K.
The ANCC has been a member of IAMS without paying subscription for the last two years. The Ex. Ctee appreciates new connection to IAMS (to be followed up by secretary and treasurer).

Vereinigte Evangelische Mission-Verlag, Wuppertal, Fed.Rep. of Germany
The application is deferred to clarify details (to be followed up by secretary).

Frans Verstraelen suggests a revision of the application forms for individual membership. The following wording should be included: "It is the responsibility of the applicant to secure either a letter of support or the signatures of the sponsors."

The application form for institutional membership should include questions about the constituency, objectives and activities of the institution (if possible a copy of their annual report).

1.4 Mission Studies no. 5 (1986-1)

The next issue of Mission Studies will still be edited by Frans Verstraelen and mailed from Leiden. Contributions will be made by O. Myklebust, J. Chatfield, T. Mokofeng, M. Spindler and others.

With issue no. 6 the editorship goes to Thomas Kramm, Aachen. He is given liberty to make proposals for changes, however, the two basic objectives of the journal serving as a forum of exchange in missiology and being the means of communication within the Association should be kept. It is necessary to have a fair representation of the IAMS membership balancing the contributions from the various contexts. This should be kept in mind when reviewing the idea of appointing a new editorial board. Thomas Kramm is going to make a proposal at the next Ex. Ctee meeting.

Once more serious consideration is given to the question of publishing Mission Studies as a multilingual journal. There is no doubt about the desirability of this, yet we have to be pragmatic. John Pobee points to the long discussion on this issue within the WCC. The Ex. Ctee requests John Pobee and Edith Bernard to study the issue in consultation with others and come up with a concrete proposal, possibly to be presented at the Rome Congress.

1.5 Study Project on "The Church as a Healing Community"

Frans Verstraelen introduces the proposed new project on the basis of the outlines presented in the letter of H. J. Becken of 7th January 1986 and on the basis of a meeting with some representatives of the group mentioned. There is consensus that this is a relevant subject to deal with. However, a number of questions are raised: "Is this really a missiological project breaking new ground? Are all the studies already being done in the region taken care of? Do we need to start on a new structure?" (Pobee) "Does this project concentrate on situations in the South or in the North?" (Mokofeng) "What are the long term financial implications of this project?" (Clifford)

Frans Verstraelen underlines once more the importance of this project pointing to the universal relevance of questions of health and wholeness in a world of brokenness. Joan Chatfield concludes that the outline lacks preciseness and clear information on how to implement the objectives. In this sense the document is very vulnerable. The issue, however, is an important one and should be taken up by IAMS.

The Ex. Ctee approves to start this new project on the following conditions:

1. The study group is requested to work out more specifically the objectives and means of implementation of the project.
2. There should be a close cooperation with regional and ecumenical groups. CMC should not only be informed, but welcome this project.
3. The task force should be made more representative. The following persons are mentioned for further contacts: Bishop Peter Sarpong, Kofi Appiah-Kubi, Rev. Obed Kealotswe (University of Botswana).

1.6 DAB-Meeting on "Missiological indexing", 5 - 10 Jan. 1987, in Paris

Paul Jenkins presents a paper on "Cooperation in Missiological Indexing" being the result of the Ventnor follow up and the discussions with Edith Bernard and Thomas Kramm during the breaks of the meeting. In addition to those mentioned in the Ventnor meeting there should be three more Third World representatives on the organizing committee. It is suggested to include Enrique Dussel, Bernardene Silva and an African. (IAMS will provide full costs for three Third World people.) Paul Clifford will be the "watchdog" at the Paris meeting.

The present list of potential participants is weak on the Lausanne Movement. MARC should be invited to send a delegate. The idea of having a workshop type of meeting leaving a lot of time for interaction is reaffirmed. The objective, however, is to come out with proposals for concrete cooperation. The Ex.Ctee expresses its gratitude to Paul Jenkins for all the work put into this endeavour.

1.7 BISAM

Verstraelen reports that Marc Spindler has finished the study "Visa for Witness: a New Focus on the Theology of Mission and Ecumenism". The document is sent to 10 people along with a questionnaire. The document will be published in Mission Studies no. 5.

The Ex. Ctee appreciates the work done by Marc Spindler and approves.

- to publish the comments on Spindler's paper in Mission Studies
- to continue on studies on "Witness in Church Declarations since 1948"
- to encourage IIMO to publish a special issue on the subject.

A copy of "Mission in the New Testament" ed. by John Ferguson is circulated. This goes back to a request of the Bangalore Conference in 1982.

The typescript is a collection of contributions on individual Biblical books by different authors varying in style and standard. There is no common hermeneutical key, the bibliography is poor, and there is a general lack of awareness of the missiological discussion. Though it is a sensitive point towards the editor, the Ex. Ctee cannot recommend to publish the book in the present form. John Pobee, Enrique Dussel and Thomas Kramm are requested to have a thorough look at the typescript and to come up with proposals for publication. Who is going to inform John Ferguson??

Paul Clifford reports of a group of NT-scholars working on contextual issues like liberation, peace etc. in Biblical perspectives (Prof. Robin Barbour and others). Verstraelen is going to inform Spindler and put him in touch with this group. IAMS might establish similar relations with them as done with IIMO. We might consider starting a new series of "pamphlets" on missionary issues in cooperation with this group (Chatfield).

John Pobee reminds the Ex. Ctee of the Harare recommendation to draw attention to the Syriac tradition being relevant for missiological insights. He is requested to consider possibilities of implementing this recommendation and to continue giving leadership to the BISAM project together with Marc Spindler.

2.0 Planning the Rome Congress 1988

2.1 Meeting with local committee

Present: Willie Jenkinson, Willi Henkel, Helene O'Sullivan, Paul Jenkins

The president welcomes the guests and appreciates the work done by the local ctee in preparation of the Rome Congress. She gives a brief recollection of the November 1985 meeting.

Willie Jenkinson introduces his letter of 8th April 1986 inviting missiology orientated representatives from academic, Church and religious-missionary institutions and organizations for a meeting with the IAMS Ex. Ctee to be held on 22nd April 1986. It is agreed upon that this meeting should serve the following purpose

- to introduce the role and function of IAMS
- to give reasons for IAMS coming to Rome
- to show the ecumenical potential of the Conference
- to discuss the theme of the Rome Conference
- to introduce the tentative program of the Conference
- to collect recommendations for exposure projects
- to establish a local preparatory committee including representatives from the minority Churches in Rome.

Willi Henkel informs the Ex. Ctee that the following arrangements are made to accomodate the Conference participants:

1. Suore Pallotina:		
16 single rooms -	16 persons	
31 double rooms	62	"
2. Nostra Signora di Fatima:		
4 single rooms	4	"
10 double rooms	20	"
12 triple rooms	36	"
3. Centro di Animazione Missionaria:		
45 single rooms	45	"
in total	<u>183 persons</u>	

Expecting about 200 participants and considering the fact that not all triple rooms might be used for three persons occupying one room there will be need of additional booking in near by pensions. This requires an early registration!

2.2 Meeting with the "Rome-Representatives"

Present: Marcello Zago, J. Lopez-Gay, Edward A. Bishop, Sr. Kay MacDonald, Siga. Maria Sbaffi Girardet, André Seumois, Juan Esquerda-Bifet, Dieter B. Scholz, Dr. Saverio Guarna, John Shirieda, Armand Garon, Domenico Colombo, Kenrick M. Baker, Claudio M. Betti, John Vodopivec, Remi Hoeckman, Lawr. Nemer, Angelo S. Lazzarotto, P. Carlos Pape, Mgr. Basil Meeking, Mgr. Spada, Don Targhetti, Tissa Balasuriya, Willie Jenkinson, Sr. Helene O'Sullivan, Willi Henkel, Paul Jenkins

After a warm welcome by the president an introduction is given to the history of IAMS (Clifford), to the DAB and BISAM projects (Bernard), to the theme and formate of the Rome Congress (Verstraelen). In conclusion to this John Pobeel elaborates on our hopes and expectation towards the conference and invites for recommendation and participation in the preparation process.

The following comments are made:

The conference should give a new impetus for the urgent task of ecumenical education (Hoekman). This includes a challenge to present Church structures (Ted Bishop). The Conference should have a message to the world and not only to the Church and to Rome. We are threatened by a new paganism (Guarna). The question is how to evangelize the mysticism of this world. We have to be in search of a new authenticity of the spiritual. The solidarity in fate demands a solidarity in faith (Bifet). This solidarity has to comprehend people of other faiths. We should be aware of the dangers of wrong confrontation and of escapism (Balasuriya). In Europe there is a growing number of Muslims and new religious movements. This challenges us to a new style of community life (Jenkins). The basic question is what it means to be an evangelist within the Church. There should be no exaggerated expectation towards the South evangelizing the North (Claudio Betti). We have to face the problems of today. There seems to be a dangerous fascination of the year 2000 (Ted Bishop). Those engaged in mission have to study seriously what is going on in Eastern Europe and in socialist countries like China and North Korea. The facts to be seen go beyond all experience in mission history. We have to rethink our missionary strategies reflecting anew the mystery of the cross. We need a Congress reaffirming these aspects of God's mission rather than announcing new strategies (Lazzarotto).

Explicit reference should be made to ecumenical documents like

"Common Witness" - Study document of the Joint working Group of the Roman Catholic Church and the WCC (CWME Series no. 1)

and "The Evangelical-Roman Catholic Dialogue on Mission 1977 - 1984" (ed. Basil Meeking, John Stott).

In preparation to the Rome Congress contacts should be established to the "Ecumenical Commission of Rome" (Meeking).

The following possibilities for exposure projects are mentioned:

- Comunità di S. Egidio, Rome (Claudio M. Betti)
- Pont. Istituto di Studi Arabi e d'Islamistica (Armand Garon)
- Jewish-Christian Relation Centre (Sr. Kay MacDonald)
- "Re-Culturation-Project" in South Italian earthquake area (Maria Sbaffi Girardet)
- Community work in Naples (Claudio M. Betti).

Willi Henkel offers to organize guided excursions to the catacombes. This could be an exposure project or part of the Conference programme. There is also the possibility of having an exposure to "missiological Training" in Rome by attending ongoing classes and courses (Bifet, Henkel).

2.3 Planning the Rome Congress

The meeting with the Rome officials was considered helpful in terms of making known IAMS, in creating sensitivity towards the coming congress, and in establishing personal contacts. A few recommendations were made in regard to vital issues to be taken up. Probably the most fruitful result is a good number of projects for exposure.

The following conclusions were drawn:

- If we get the right people at the right moment of the Conference, we are going to have an impact on the Rome establishment. The greatest challenge has to be the ecumenical dimension of the Conference. Non-Roman churches are often overlooked. This is our particular mission to Rome. The Basic Ecclesial Communities are a challenge to the establishment, which has to be spelled out. But we should not concentrate on the "Claudios" (Pobee).
- Rome is the centre of the Church network, geographically and theologically. Hope coming from the periphery is the most explosive theme if articulated in the centre (Clifford).
- The theme of the Conference gives the wrong impression of an even flow toward the third millenium. The fact that the centre of gravity has shifted to the South will have a tremendous impact on the future theory and practice of mission (Mofokeng).
- After 500 years the classical age of Western mission has come to an end. There is no more a pagan world to be defined in geographical terms. Mission is no more an outbreak to the poor to be evangelized. The poor have become the evangelizers themselves, and today we are at the turning point of ebb and flow. (Dussel)
- Those who have economic and ecclesial power are the ones to be evangelized. The question is: do we let the poor evangelize us? This brings us back to the issue of conversion of the affluent and reconversion of nominal Christians. (Chatfield)

The Ex. Ctee decided to stick to the tentative Conference theme "Mission toward the third millenium: the gospel of hope" and to elaborate on the topics of the workshops.

A first list included the following themes:

1. Evangelical-Roman Catholic Dialogue in Mission
2. Church as Healing Community in Mission
3. Place and Role of Basic Christian Communities in Mission
4. Economics, Culture and Gospel
5. The Church of the Poor - The Power Structure of the Church
6. The Poor - People as Subjects of Mission
7. Mission and the Scientific World View
8. Spiritual Renewal of the Church in the Context of so-called Secularism
9. Idolatry of the Secular
10. Mission - North/South Relations: Ebb and Flow
11. Mission, Pluralism and the Ecumenical Task
12. Mission and Folk Religion
13. Mission and Socialism

14. Mission and Religious Pluralism
15. Inter-Religious Search for a New Order
16. Partnership of Men and Women in Mission
17. Mission to the Affluent

Whereas some of the Ex. Ctee members went to the city to get acquainted with the Conference and lodging facilities the rest of the group went on scrutinizing the above list of themes. On the basis of their proposals (presented by John Pobee) the Ex. Ctee agreed on the following tentative programme:

I Plenary Lectures

1. Presidential Address (including the issue of women in mission)
2. Biblical Lecture on Gospel of Hope
Title: "Hoping against Hope in an Apocalyptic Age"
3. Historical-Missiological Evaluation of this outgoing Millenium
(Ebb and Flow Theme)

II Workshops

1. Evangelical-Roman Catholic Dialogue
2. Church as Healing Community in Mission
3. Place and Role of Basic Christian Communities in Mission
4. Five hundred Years of Mission - A New Beginning
5. Power Structures and Gospel of Hope
(Structures Economic, Political, Sexist, Ecclesiastical)
6. The Poor - People as Subject of Mission
7. Religious Pluralism and Search for a New Order
8. Mission and Idolatry of the Secular/Mammon
9. Reevangelization of the North

Note: The question was raised whether to restrict the workshops to 8 only, possibly dropping the Evangelical-Roman Catholic Dialogue as a separate workshop theme.

However, there were strong arguments to have additional workshops on "Folk Religion as a Genuine Expression of Faith" and on "Mission and Socialism". A decision has to be made by the Ex. Ctee after going through the position papers to be presented by the Moderators of the workshops.

The sub-group added the following explanation to the workshops:
"The workshops focus on the dilemmas, contradictions and frustrations of our human existence. Those points, so to speak, represent the crosses of our life. To those points our faith offers hope, which is not cheap. At the beginning of the millenium Christianity was a peripheral culture (Islam was dominant). In the middle of the millenium Christian missionary expansion began. At the end of the millenium there is a deep crisis, a cross, measured in terms of and represented by poverty, polarization and divisions of the human community, threatening clouds of nuclear holocaust, idolatry of diverse kinds. Nevertheless, in this midst of the crisis there are points of hope represented by the poor becoming the subjects of Mission because they are the faithful remnant. Thus beyond our hope grounded on the cross and resurrection of Christ, there are yet concrete signs of hope in the hope."

III Colloquia

1. D A B
2. B I S A M

It was felt necessary to give a special place in the Conference programme to the ongoing IAMS projects (possibly also on Healing) not competing with other items on the agenda.

IV Worship and/or Bible Studies

From the experience of previous Conferences the conclusion is drawn that there is need of a special group preparing the liturgical part of the Conference.

Key Lecturers, Moderators, Resource Persons etc.

I Plenary Lectures

1. Presidential Address - Joan Chatfield
2. Biblical Lecture - Rev. Michael Taylor (Director of Christian Aid)
or Dr. Colin Gunton (Kings College, London)
or Prof. Dr. Theo Sundermeier (missiologist,
Universität Heidelberg)
3. Historical Missiological Lecture - Enrique Dussel

II Workshops

It was agreed upon that the final choice of resource persons (RP) is left to the moderator (M).

1. Evangelical - Roman Catholic Dialogue - kept open
2. Healing - Hans-Jürgen Becken, Stuttgart (M). Kofi Appiah-Kubi (RP)
3. Basic Communities - Carlos Mester, Belo Horizonte (M)
Jan Frazer, Gargunock (RP)
David Clark, Selly Oak (RP)
Danièle Hervieu-Leger (RP)
4. Five Hundred Years ... - Enrique Dussel
5. Power Structures - Franz Hinkelammert, San José (M)
6. Poor, People as Subjects - Simon Maimela, Pretoria (M)
7. Religious Pluralism - Tissa Balasuriya, Colombo (M)
8. Idolatry of the Secular - Arend Th. van Leeuwen (M)
9. Reevangelization - Neal Blough, St. Maurice (M)

III Colloquia

1. DAB - Paul Jenkins
2. BISAM - John Pobee or Marc Spindler

IV Exposure Projects

1. Comunità di S. Egidio - Claudio Betti, Rome
2. Pont. Istituto di Studi Arabi e d'Islamistica - Armand Garon, Rome
3. Centre for Christians and Jews - Sr. Kay MacDonald, Rome
4. "Re-Culturation-Project" in South Italy (earth quake area) - Maria Scaffi
Girardet, Rome
5. Community Work in Naples - Claudio Betti, Rome
6. Excursions to Catacombes - Willi Henkel, Rome
7. Theological Training in Rome (proposed by Tissa - Professors of Gregoriana?)
8. Basisbeweging van kritische groepen en gemeenten in Nederland
- Gea Boessenkool
9. Project in Spain - Bishop S. E. Capmany, Madrid
10. Project in Eastern Europe - Christfried Berger, Berlin, GDR
11. Project in Basel (Paul Jenkins) or Stuttgart (Ruth Seils)
12. Project in UK, eg. Mufru (Selly Oak) - Mary Hall, Jan Fraser

3.0 Varia

3.1 Follow up to the Transfer of IAMS Secretariat

- An official letter signed by the president should go to all IAMS members announcing the transfer to Hamburg and Aachen.
- Thomas Kramm is officially coopted to the DAB core group.
- Practical arrangements for the transfer are to be made by Frans, Thomas and Joachim.

3.2 Proposed Transfer of Treasury

An official invitation should go to Selly Oak to assume responsibility for the IAMS treasury after the Rome Congress. The question is kept open, whether Martin Conway or David Kerr are requested to do this job.

3.3 Follow up to the Meeting with Rome officials

A special letter should be sent to those having participated in the meeting with the Ex. Ctee in Rome and other "cardinal Types" of Church representatives to invite their support and to welcome their presence at the Rome Congress.

3.4 Dates

Ex. Ctee meeting:	5th (6 p.m.) - 9th (12 a.m.) March 1987 in Basel
	24th (6 p.m.) - 27th (12 a.m.) Nov. 1987 in Hamburg
Rome Congress:	
Exposures:	24th - 28th June 1988
Conference:	29th June - 5th July 1988
DAB Meeting:	6th - 8th July 1988

The president closes the meeting with thanks to the Ex. Ctee members, especially to Frans Verstraelen.

Joachim Wietzke

July 15, 1986

Encl.: List with addresses of Ex. Ctee members