



Communiqué

Inter-Anglican Standing Commission on Unity, Faith & Order
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 6-12 December 2024



IASCUFO's Mandate is:

- to promote the deepening of Communion between the Churches of the Anglican Communion, and between those Churches and the other Churches and traditions of the Christian oikumene
- to advise the Provinces and the Instruments of Communion on all questions of ecumenical engagement, proposals for national, regional or international ecumenical agreement or schemes of co-operation and unity, as well as on questions touching Anglican Faith and Order
- to review developments in the areas of faith, order or unity in the Anglican Communion and among ecumenical partners, and to give advice to the Churches of the Anglican Communion or to the Instruments of Communion upon them, with the intention to promote common understanding, consistency, and convergence both in Anglican Communion affairs, and in ecumenical engagement



- to assist any Province with the assessment of new proposals in the areas of Unity, Faith and Order as requested.

The 2024 meeting of IASCUFO took place in the new Wisma Anglican diocesan offices in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, from 6–12 December. We were grateful for the hospitality of Bishop Steven Abbarow and the Diocese of West Malaysia and inspired by their vision and energy. Members of the Commission visited churches within the diocese on Sunday 8 December and were welcomed warmly. We were delighted to be joined by the Secretary General of the Anglican Communion, Bishop Anthony Poggo, for the first three days of the meeting.

The Commission considered the legal, liturgical and structural requirements for setting up new member churches of the Communion; studied a document on the Eucharist from the International Anglican Liturgical Consultation; discussed the relationship between IASCUFO and the other commissions of the Anglican Communion; studied a paper from the Vatican's Dicastery for Promoting Christian Unity on the ministry of the Bishop of Rome; and reviewed the meetings of all bilateral and multilateral dialogues and relationships over the past year, spanning the Assyrian, Lutheran, Methodist, Old Catholic, Oriental Orthodox, Orthodox, Pentecostal and Roman Catholic churches, as well as the World Council of Churches and Global Christian Forum.

IASCUFO's paper, *The Nairobi-Cairo Proposals*, had been published just before the meeting of the Commission. Many of our discussions focussed on this paper, reflecting on its preparation over the last two years, and its potential to help us find a way through our divisions and disagreements within the Communion.

As we wrestled with our divisions, we sensed that the Communion may be moving from a season of raw and antagonistic division to one of reckoning with what will likely be a long process of resolution. We may now be able to face our theological differences and associated fractures more productively, as we seek responsible and creative ways to remain together, albeit to varying degrees. This will involve recognition of the hurt that has been caused, as well as concerted attempts to find healing for past and present wounds, and to rebuild trust.

We explored how to ensure provision and full recognition for those who wish to remain within the Anglican Communion and yet question, for various reasons, its current structures. We call upon all churches of the Communion to cultivate generosity in the spirit of *The Nairobi-Cairo Proposals*.

We discussed questions about boundaries and jurisdictions and considered situations in which several Anglican churches minister within the same geographical area, including but not limited to those not recognised as member churches of the Communion. Overlapping jurisdictions sometimes function co-operatively and constructively, as we see in numerous ecumenical examples, but in other cases they concentrate conflict in an unhelpful way. Distinguishing between more and less helpful arrangements remains



crucial, as does identifying ‘bearable anomalies’ that may serve as provisional steps toward a hoped-for recovery of full communion in God’s good time.

IASCUFO’s entire membership, which includes members of Churches of the Global South Fellowship of Anglican Churches (GSFA), welcomes the GSFA’s commitment to stay within the Anglican Communion. We value its voluntary intensification of fellowship within the Communion as a potential source of renewal and fresh missional energy, the fruits of which may inspire others (see *Nairobi-Cairo Proposals*, §§8, 56, 68-69). Despite our divisions, the Anglican Communion needs to find ways for the contribution of the GSFA to be more fully recognised and received within its wider life and mission.

We resolved that IASCUFO should reach out to the leadership of the GSFA to explore the relevance of *The Nairobi-Cairo Proposals* to our most immediate challenges.

We intend to produce resources to aid the reception of *The Nairobi-Cairo Proposals*. IASCUFO commends this paper as a next step along the journey of communion in Christ for the sake of the world, in response to the prayer of Jesus: ‘I ask... that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me’ (John 17.21).

IASCUFO MEMBERSHIP:

The Rt Revd Dr Graham Tomlin, Chair (England)

The Rt Revd Dr Steven Abbarow (Malaysia)

Dr Joanildo Burity (Brasil)

The Most Revd Dr Titus Chung (Singapore)

The Rt Revd Dr Joseph Galgalo (Kenya)

The Revd Dr Margaret Kalaiselvi (India)

The Rt Revd Dr Paul Korir (Kenya)

The Revd Dr Dane Neufeld (Canada)

The Revd Dr John Rogers (Barbados)

Mr Carlos Romero (Chile; member of ACC)

The Very Revd Dr Sarah Rowland Jones (Wales)

The Most Revd Dr Samy Shehata (Egypt)

The Revd Dr Katherine Sonderegger (United States of America)



The Rt Revd Eugene Sutton (United States of America; member of ACC)

The Rt Revd Dr Richard Treloar (Australia)

Consultants

The Rev Dr Andrew Atherstone, Consultant (England; member of ACC)

The Revd Dr Nak-Hyon Joseph Joo, IALC Consultant (South Korea)

Canon Andrew Khoo, Consultant (Malaysia; member of ACC and Standing Committee)

Mr Darren Oliver, Consultant (England; Legal Adviser to ACC)

The Very Revd Canon Sammy Wainaina, Observer (Lambeth Palace)

Anglican Communion Office Staff

The Rt Revd Anthony Poggo, Secretary General

The Revd Canon Dr Stephen Spencer, Adviser for Theological Education

Dr Paulo Ueti, Consultant

The Revd Neil Vigers, Programme Executive for Unity, Faith and Order

Canon Dr Christopher Wells, Director of Unity, Faith and Order

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

The Most Revd Dr Georges Titre Ande (Congo)

The Rt Rev Dr Dalcy Badeli Dlamini (Eswatini)

The Revd Jeanne Françoise Ndimubakunzi (Burundi)