

A BASIS OF COOPERATION

for participants of the *International Charismatic Consultation on World Evangelisation* (ICCOWE)

Context

The *Basis of Cooperation* was written by Dr. Kevin Ranaghan. He wrote it originally for the 1977 Kansas City Charismatic Conference, which was adopted as the policy of its planning committee. This conference gathered 50,000 Charismatics together from different traditions, denominations and ministries around the theme, "Jesus is Lord". "This conference, sponsored in remarkable unity by Catholic, Protestant, classical and nondenominational Pentecostal renewal groups was a significant response to Jesus' prayer that we might all be one". This conference had great impact on the Italian monk R. Cantalamessa ([read here](#)). The Gospel of John 17 resounded in hearts: ... *that they may all be one; even as You, Father, are in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may believe that You sent Me.*

Furthermore, this *Basis of Cooperation* was implemented and formed the foundational guidelines for relationships of cooperation of participants in various realities of grass-roots spiritual ecumenism within the committees and events of the North American Renewal Service Committee (NARSC), the European Charismatic Consultation (ECC) and International Charismatic Consultation on World Evangelization (ICCOWE, later shorten to ICC). It was also used for the Centro pro Unione Gatherings in the Holy Spirit. Below is the text, that became a part of the Vision and Goals statement of ICCOWE in 1992, published on www.stucom.nl with permission of Kevin Ranaghan and Charles Whitehead.

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A BASIS OF COOPERATION FOR PARTICIPANTS OF ICCOWE

International Charismatic Consultation on World Evangelisation

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ..... You were marked in Him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit." *Ephesians 1:3,13*

1. We, the participants of ICCOWE, the International Charismatic Consultation on World Evangelisation, acknowledge that our purpose in coming together and in working together is to serve our Lord Jesus Christ and to further His plan in the world. We come together in this relationship so that he may lead us in the power of His Spirit to contribute by prayer and work to the Church's world-wide task of renewal, evangelisation and the promotion of Christian unity. Because we have come together from so many different backgrounds and cultures we want to state publicly, as well as to one another, the terms of our relationship. Since the work of renewal, evangelism and the promotion of Christian unity is primarily the work of the Church, whatever we undertake we will do under the appropriate pastoral care of the leaders of our respective churches.
2. This *Basis of Cooperation* is not a "statement of faith". Rather it is a statement concerning our mutual relationship as we seek to cooperate with one another.
3. We are Christians. We acknowledge Jesus Christ, true God and true Man, to be our Lord and Saviour. We seek to

- live as His followers by His grace and by the power of His Holy Spirit. We seek to live in obedience to His word. We are committed to faithfulness to the Holy Scriptures as transmitted to the Church, as the guide for our behaviour and the inspiration to growth in holiness in our spiritual lives. We believe that the Lord Jesus has given His followers the gift of the Holy Spirit and that He sent His apostles, as He Himself was sent, to proclaim the good news of salvation to all people everywhere, to the end of the age.
4. We are members of many different Christian churches and communities. We acknowledge that our coming together is a work of the Spirit which is unusual, and which needs to be safeguarded. Disunity among Christians is a historic and present-day reality that challenges all Christians to work for reconciliation and authentic solutions. Aware of this, we want to relate to one another and conduct our work in a way that promotes Christian unity, with honesty and integrity.
 5. We acknowledge one another as Christians, baptised into Christ in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We accept one another as brothers and sisters in our one Lord, Jesus Christ. We honour the work of the Holy Spirit in one another's lives.
 6. In our efforts to serve God, we will act as brothers and sisters, supporting one another's efforts whenever possible. We will relate to one another in humility, seeking to develop mutual trust, fellowship and affection. We will uphold one another in prayer. We will not attack Christian churches under the guise of "evangelism".
 7. We belong to churches and communities which agree on many patterns of faith and practice. Sometimes this agreement is plainly evident. Sometimes it is obscured by differences in theological terminology, discipline or pastoral practice. We will labour to give expression to our agreement. We will respect and be sensitive to the different ways in which we express the same truths. Without compromise to our convictions, we will try to express our agreement in ways which are acceptable to all.
 8. We belong to churches and communities which disagree on other matters of faith and practice. Resolving such difficulties can only happen with the help of the Holy Spirit. As we face such disagreement, our hope is in the Lord. We look forward to the day when we will be of one mind and one heart. We acknowledge our real differences in a spirit of brotherly love and mutual understanding even if with sadness. We will respect one another's convictions in these matters. Without minimising the very real theological differences that exist among Christians, we will strive to treat such areas of disagreement respectfully and with sensitivity to one another's churches or communities, their respective traditions.
 9. Among our churches and communities there are times of tension, opposition and conflict. By the grace of God we wish to deal with these issues sensitively. In view of our efforts to be faithful to the Lord to enter into relationship for common work, we want to express our mutual personal respect and our respect for one another's work. We will speak well of one another and support one another wherever possible. Should we find it necessary to disagree, we will do so without a contentious spirit, but in a loving manner that seeks to edify and that is open to learning from one another.
 10. We, the participants of ICCOWE, commit ourselves to this expression of our relationship, and by God's grace we will live by it. Furthermore, we ask all those whom we invite to serve, speak, perform or otherwise collaborate in the consultative process

and such meetings as it may sponsor,
to enter into the same relationship with
us.

11. We entrust our relationship and the
work which flows from it to Jesus
Christ, our risen Lord and Saviour.
May He protect us from every wile,

deception and attack of Satan. May He
pour out His Holy Spirit on us, and on
all with whom we work, for the
fulfilment of His plan and the glory of
His name.

ICCOWE
7 July 1992

More on ecumenism and charismatic renewal

On www.stucom.nl:

[0469uk](#) *Our journey together* - A Personal Journal - Kim Catherine-Marie Kollins On Ecumenism and Charismatic Renewal in the first decade of the new millennium

[0468uk](#) The European Charismatic Consultation - Historical Overview, 1972-2002, Kim Catherine-Marie Kollins

[0459uk](#) *CHARIS and the call to Christian unity* - Prof. Etienne Vetö, Rome, June 7th, 2019

[0429uk](#) *Catholic Charismatic Renewal: An Ecumenical Current of Grace* - Fr. Peter Hocken in Theological Symposium, June 1st 2017, Pontificia Università Urbaniana, Rome

[0235uk](#) *Ecumenism and Charismatic Renewal* - Cardinal Suenens

[0226uk](#) *Toward Unity – Ecumenism after Augsburg 1999* - Kim Kollins - A contribution in Leaders Conference, May 11th, Stuttgart 2007. On desire for the unity of Christians during the last centuries.

More via overview: www.stucom.nl/index-uk.htm

On YouTube

A testimony on the early years of ecumenism between Pentecostals and Roman Catholics was given by Pentecostal minister Dr. Vinson Synan in 2017 ([see him on video](#)). He also mentions the significance of the Kansas City conference in 1977 ([this fragment](#)). His small contribution is part of a theological symposium at the *Pontificia Università Urbaniana*, June 1st 2017 during the Jubilee of 50 years Catholic charismatic renewal, 2017 in Rome. [Watch the whole symposium](#). On the next day in the *Pontificia Università Urbaniana* was the meeting completely on ecumenism: *Ecumenical meeting of charismatic Christians* ([watch here](#) the whole meeting), with in the second half the relational ecumenism that started in the 90s between Roman Catholics and messianic Jews ([which here](#)).

The whole Golden Jubilee of Catholic charismatic renewal in Rome on YouTube: www.vocepiu.it/GoldenJubilee, including the [ecumenical meeting with Pope Francis](#) in Circo Massimo June 2nd 2017.

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