

WCC Assembly- very short input from Denmark

By Kirsten Auken – WCC Assembly delegate of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Denmark and Senior Advocacy Advisor at DanChurchAid.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Denmark has appointed a delegation of 3 members who will be accompanied by a number of other participants. The church as such does not plan a lot of activities around the WCC Assembly but delegates will take place in different preparatory meetings in Europe, Nordic Baltic preparatory meeting etc. Preparations in Denmark will be done ecumenically by all Danish participants.

DanChurchAid (DCA) as a specialised ministry is actively involved in the Assembly Planning Committee and will also send its own delegation to Busan. From DCA perspective it is very important to ensure a strong link between the work carried out in Act Alliance and the World Council of Churches and DCA is keen to ensure a strong Act Alliance presence and high level of activity during the Assembly. Focus will be, among other things, on the so-called new development paradigm and the role of churches in development cooperation.

In terms of expectations, we are hoping that there will be a free and open dialogue and exchange of opinions which is not locked by theological disagreements. It is very fine (and inevitable) that we cannot agree about everything – also theologically. But we should remember that the poorest and most marginalised of the world should not pay the price for this disagreement.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Denmark has appointed a delegation consisting of the following persons:

Bishop of Copenhagen, Peter Fischer Møller, male, ordained
Youth delegate, theologian Karen Frenndø, female, lay.
Senior Advocacy Advisor, Kirsten Auken, female lay.

Bishop of Greenland, Sofie Petersen – Church of Greenland

The Lutheran delegates will be accompanied by a number of other Danish participants:

General Secretary, Council on International Relations, Jørgen Skov Sørensen

Dean Anders Gadegaard – outgoing member of WCC Central Committee.

From DanChurchAid: General Secretary Henrik Stubkjær, International Director Birgitte Qvist-Sørensen, Regional Coordinator Jørgen Thomsen.

Christian Alsted from the Methodist Church

Holger Lam from the Baptist Church

Mads Christoffersen, National Council of Churches in Denmark