

Report for DRAE

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

I very much regret that I can not participate due to internal important dates in the conference in Scotland.

I'm with my good wishes and thoughts in your discussion here and I wish a good course. Best wishes also from the Executive Director Heidi Albrecht.

The following points I can tell you from the VEDD:

The board of VEDD met for its first session in the New Year on 21.01.2014 in the Van Delden House in Berlin-Zehlendorf. Focus of the discussion was the review of the consultation on the office of Deacon in Rummelsberg of 18. and 19.12.2013.

In the current machining processes in the German Diaconal, and especially in the EKD (Adhoc Commission) give hope that there actually compromise solutions can be found in the next few years. The Board wishes to thank the Rummelsberger Brothers and Sisters for the initiative and implementation of the consultation. A documentation of the meeting will be published soon and can be pre-ordered from interest under langguth.karin@rummelsberger.net.

Also the strategy process begun with the previous Annual General Meeting was discussed in depth to develop the VEDD. Next step is the introduction of the previous ideas in the oldest conference in Martinshof, Rothenburg Neisse the end of February 2014. The strategy process should be very participation oriented out as the member communities of the association and be completed in early 2015.

These plans and the intention in 2016 is one of a nationwide meeting of VEDD deacons perform.

Heike Albrecht presented with also the following report:

The annual meeting of associations of diaconal communities with the Diakonia Germany - Federal Association of Protestant and the Evangelical Church in Germany EKD met the end of January 2014 in Berlin.

The diaconate of the Protestant Church needs a frame order. Thus, the complexity of more than 60 current arrangements for Deacons to be reduced. This according to the participants of the Information and Coordination Meeting of the charitable institutions and organizations last week in Berlin. Such a framework would have to order enough flexibility for different rules, skills and types of communities offer. A stronger anchoring of the diaconate in the Church's ministers also met the risk that the diaconal work is increasingly separated from the church.

„The widest sense ecclesiastical office can not exclusively by the ministry, but only be achieved by including the interaction of all assignments," said Diakonia President Johannes Stockmeier. The various church services complemented each other, but if they were in competition with each other - for recognition to the orientation of the service, to resources.

"For the Church of the future, it will be crucial whether the diaconate is a theological formula only or an official or service understanding implies, in the diaconal mission of the Church has its proper place in the interaction of the services. "In the embodiment of the characteristics of the diaconate as a" witness service in word and deed, "the associations have the diaconate" special responsibility ", Stockmeier emphasized in his introductory speech.

A map of the open questions diaconal communities was ultimately the subject of an intense exchange. Diaconal Communities have long developed within their closed space.

Together they represent a counter-model to individualization and lack of solidarity dar. Same time, the communities are thus facing the challenge to open from its exclusivity to be like a network connection and capable.

In order to investigate these challenges focuses, is the upcoming annual meeting of the associations diaconal communities with the Diakonia Germany to a unit of work on the topic "What is the meaning and purpose in

the future of communities," adds. The next annual meeting is scheduled for January 2015 in Berlin.

With kind regards from Rummelsberg and good blessings

Martin Neukamm