

4th September 1987

Recommendations of Group Chairmen

1. We should produce one ecclesiological document that will describe the Church as Communion and provide a theological framework for the treatment of special questions, such as the nature and exercise of authority, moral issues, the reconciliation of ministries, the ordination of women, mixed marriages, and marian dogmas.
2. In the course of this meeting, using the same working groups, all should begin work on the ecclesiological paper.
3. In the ongoing work of the Commission, concurrently with the group working on the ecclesiological document, work should begin on some or all of the special topics in other special working groups (details to be worked out).
4. We propose the following outline for the ecclesiological document:

Introduction: "the doctrine of salvation is intimately associated with the doctrine of the Church, which 'is the community of those reconciled with God and with each other because it is the community of those who believe in Jesus Christ and are justified through God's grace' (ARCIC-I Final Report Introduction 8)." (Salvation and the Church No. 25).

1. The nature, sources, and manifestations of communion, in the perspectives of God's saving purpose for all humanity.
2. The reality and scandal of division (NB from Paper 66 "Being in communion with other Christians is a vital dimension of orthodoxy"; concerning remaining divisive issues cf pp 13 and 15 Paper 67).
3. The richness and tolerable limits of diversity.
4. The existing communion between our two Churches and its necessary implications
5. It is recommended that the Working Groups take careful note of all points made in the groups reports.
6. It is suggested that each Group choose its own Chairman.