

EDUCATION NEWSLETTER

The EDUCATION NEWSLETTER was first published by the WCC Office of Education in January 1972, following the merger of the World Council of Christian Education (WCCE) with the WCC. It was begun to replace the WCCE publication "World Christian Education", in order to keep the educational constituency, the WCC member churches and the National Christian Councils informed on educational plans, programmes, innovations, etc., which are happening in all parts of the world, as well as to keep them informed about what is going on in the Sub-unit on Education and the Programme for Theological Education (formerly Theological Education Fund).

The Newsletter is sent, free of charge, to the WCC member churches, Central Committee members, members of the Working Group on Education, National Christian Councils, theological associations and students, educators around the world, lay people working in the field of education, and many individuals who have an interest in the field of education.

At first, the articles appearing in the Newsletter tended to be shorter news items on Christian education, which we received from different parts of the world. After an evaluation, whereby comments were requested from readers, there was a swing away from these shorter news items, towards longer, more substantial articles. With the preparation for the WCC Vth Assembly (Nairobi 1975), the articles appearing in the Newsletter began to relate much more closely to the emphases of the WCC Office of Education. For example, in 1975, most issues dealt with preparatory information on Section IV: Education for Liberation and Community, and readers were invited to send their comments, thus making an input to the Education Section of the Assembly. Since then, the complete report of Section IV has been published, and thereafter each issue of the Newsletter has been dedicated to a certain aspect of the WCC's concern in education (Adult education, Churches' Ministry with Children, and one issue giving details of the total Programme Unit III emphases). It is important to note, however, that the issues dealing with WCC concerns have not been totally written by WCC staff members, but have included supporting articles from different parts of the world.

Until the end of 1976, the Newsletter was published quarterly and comprised 8 pages. Occasionally a double issue was published of 16 pages (e.g. the issue on Section IV, and the issue on the emphases of the total Unit). However, since postal charges are the most expensive item in the budget for the Newsletter, the Unit III staff decided that in 1977, only 3 issues of 12 pages each would be published. This decision is subject to ratification by the Working Group on Education.

There is no Editorial Committee for the Newsletter. Formerly the Christian Education Secretary (Gérson Meyer) was responsible for selecting materials to be included, and was helped by one supporting staff who sub-edited the texts for English language, typed the materials, and was responsible for pasting ready for printing. Now, the Director of the Sub-unit on Education is the person responsible for selecting materials, helped by the same supporting staff member. Occasionally another person is invited to be guest editor for a specific issue (e.g. Rev. Krister Ottosson, former Education Secretary of the British Council of Churches was editor of the issue on Adult education).

The Newsletter appears in four languages : English (published by the Office of Education), French (published in Africa), Spanish (published in Latin America) and Korean (published in Korea). The total circulation in all four languages is estimated to be around 4.600 per issue.

Budget

In 1976 there were 3 issues of the Newsletter (2 double issues of 16 pages and 1 single issue of 8 pages). The total cost for printing, postage and subsidies to the other language editors, was SFrs. 13.288,--.

For 1977 three issues are planned. Estimated costs are as follows:

Printing and Postage - English edition	SFrs. 13.580
Subsidies for publication in other languages : US\$ 600 each	SFrs. 4.518
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TOTAL COST	SFrs. 18.098
Less: To be received from the PTE	3.000
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COST TO BUDGET OF EDUCATION OFFICE	<u><u>SFrs. 15.098</u></u>