

Glory to God and Peace on Earth



International Ecumenical Peace Convocation

WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES





Kingston, Jamaica, May 17 - 25, 2011

Mandate from Porto Alegre

-  in looking to the second half of the DOV, endorses that the regional foci be continued;
-  that more sharing of successful examples be developed to encourage churches and local congregations to respond to overcoming violence in their own contexts supported by international mutual visits; (Living Letters)

mandate continued...

-  that a process of wide consultation be undertaken towards developing an **ecumenical declaration on “just peace”**;
-  and finally, that the conclusion of the DOV be marked by an **International Ecumenical Peace Convocation. -> IEPC**



Mission Statement



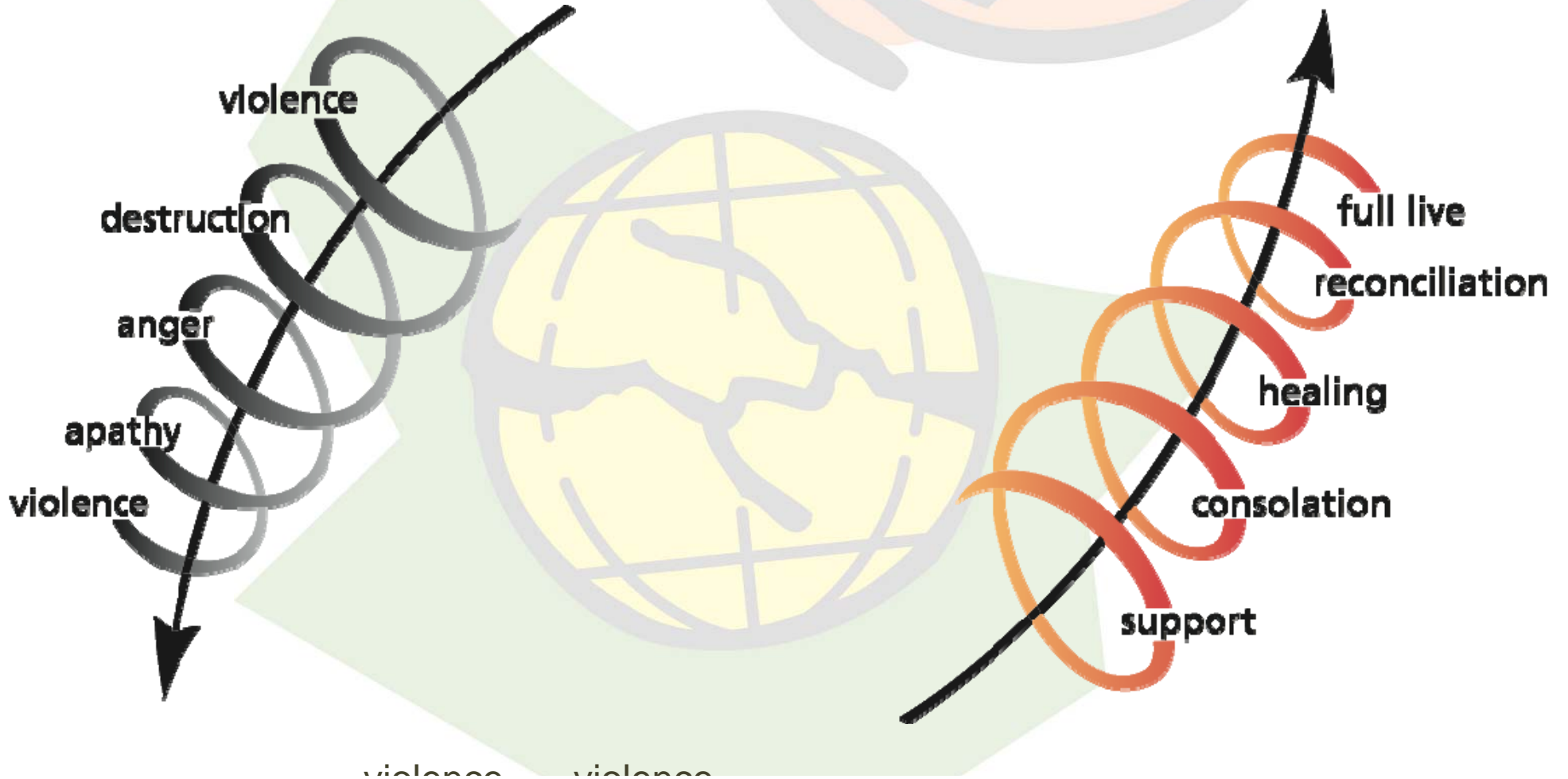
The IEPC will bring together a wide spectrum of people from the church and from justice and peace movements to celebrate peace as a gift from God, focusing on a recommitment to be peacemakers as the responsibility of the Church. It seeks to assess and strengthen the church's position on peace, provide opportunities for networking and deepen our common commitment to reconciliation and peace.











Reversing the Spiral

Spiral of Violence - Spiral of Destruction

Spiral of Reconciliation - Spiral of Life



Themes

-  Peace & Violence - violent theology and theology of non-violence
-  Peace at Heart - the reality of human self-destruction
-  Peace at Home - gender-related violence
-  Peace to the Streets - gang violence
-  Peace in the Virtual World - violence entertainment
-  Peace on Earth is Peace with the Earth – overcoming the violence against nature
-  Peace in the Market Place - confronting the structural violence of economic injustices
-  Make Peace not War – struggling against the “inevitability” of wars



Violent Theology and Theology for Nonviolence



Dealing with the legacies of violence in
Christianity's history



Peace at Heart

-  Overcoming our self-destructive passions
-  Addressing the destructive potential of despair



Peace Begins at Home

-  Working to prevent domestic violence
-  Learning to embrace conflict and reject violence



Peace in the Virtual World



Making space for and promoting alternatives to the violence entertainment industries





Peace to the Streets

-  Strengthening communities against urban violence
-  Giving hope to our young people
-  Encouraging churches to work as/with civil society actors



Peace on Earth is Peace with the Earth

-  Making the earth a sustainable home for all of God's creatures
-  Promoting self-sufficiency

Peace in the Market Places



Struggling for dignified life between the extremes of abject misery and shameless wealth

Make Peace Not War

-  Joining the resistance movements against old and new wars
-  Promote protection of vulnerable peoples (R2P)
-  Work towards shift in global budget priorities



Approaches

-  understanding of self
-  inter-personal
-  economical
-  religions, faith traditions
-  ecology





Issues

power
gender
security
identity
culture(s)

plurality
fundamentalism
poverty
migration
marginalization





creation
atonement
reconciliation
forgiveness
healing
justice
peace

Who participates?

-  churches - official and grassroots
-  NGOs
-  practitioners, activists
-  peace institutes
-  educational institutions
-  artists
-  interfaith groups







Ecumenical Peace Declaration *Goals*





-  affirm what we can say together
-  identify topics requiring further discussion
-  recommend fruitful examples and promising initiatives
-  initiate practical services for committed groups










Outcomes

-  liturgy
-  ministries of accompaniment
-  shape ecumenical spirituality
-  concern for just peace at heart of churches

The WCC Facilitates...

-  expert consultations
-  drafts by theological faculties and seminaries
-  team visits “Living Letters”
-  participation & networking via internet

Ways to Participate

-  visit the DOV web site and sign up for e-news
-  explore the themes in your community
-  include the issues in spiritual life and prayer
-  organize encounters on related topics
-  collect stories and examples
-  arrange workshops, artistic & cultural events
-  share the findings and outcomes on the DOV web site



Timeline

*Seminaries, Congregations, Agencies write their peace
 Bulletin, Books, Internet
 Team Visits*

Relational Team Visits

2011

IEPC Kingston, Jamaica
*final text
documentation*

2nd draft in process

2010

Determine participation

Communications, Programme, Worship

2009

1st draft to member churches

2008

*Exploration of topics
Expert Consultations*

- Set up drafting group
- Website (Forum, Blogs)
- Mission Statement

Set Theme, Date

2007

Develop Concept

2006

Related WCC Initiatives

-  International Day of Prayer for Peace, Sept 21
-  “Just and Inclusive Communities”
-  “Health and Healing”
-  Global Platform for Theol. Reflection and Analysis
-  “Poverty, Wealth and Ecology”
-  “Global Water Network”
-  Inter-religious Dialogue & Cooperation

2001.2010
DECADE TO
OVERCOME VIOLENCE






University of the West Indies



Churches seeking Reconciliation and Peace



-  How is the church contributing to just peace in your context?
-  What are the main obstacles?
-  If you were to write a declaration on just peace, what would you put into it?



www.overcomingviolence.org