



**3rd Meeting of the
Anglican Communion Lusophone Network
Common Statement**

**“Rejoice with them that do rejoice
and weep with them that weep.
Be of the same mind toward one another.”
(Romans 12:15-16a)**

The 3rd Meeting of the Anglican Communion Lusophone Network, assembled in the City of Porto, Portugal, from the 22nd to the 27th November, 2017, under the orientation of the Holy Spirit, gathered 35 participants, between Delegates and Guests, including Bishops, male and female clergy, and lay people from the Libombos and Niassa Dioceses (Mozambique), from Angola, from the Anglican Church of Austral Africa, from the Anglican Episcopal Church of Brazil (IEAB) and from the Igreja Lusitana Católica Apostólica Evangélica (Lusitanian Church), Portugal. Together these Churches and Dioceses already account for around 500,000 people.

This Meeting took place under the sponsorship and support of the *Anglican Alliance*, the *USPG (United Society Partners in the Gospel)*, *MANNA (Mozambique and Angola Anglican Association)*, *ALMA (Angola, London, Mozambique Association)*; *Green Anglicans (South African Anglican Environment Network)* and the *Archbishop of Canterbury Found.* The representatives of these Anglican organizations were present and have participated actively in the sessions of the Meeting.

We welcomed with great joy a letter of blessing and encouragement send to the Anglican Communion Lusophone Network by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, and the greetings of the General-Secretary of the Anglican Communion, Archbishop Dr. Josiah Idowu Fearon. In this Meeting we had among us the Bishop Antohny Poggo, Adviser to the Archbishop of Canterbury for the Anglican Communion Affairs, who shared with us some of more significant future initiatives for the Anglican Communion.

Once again, the Meeting was a very important place for celebration, sharing and meditation, consisting of Devotional Moments, Plenary Sessions, small groups sharing, Bible Studies, visits to the Social Work developed by the Lusitanian Church, and Sunday Celebrations with Parishes and Local Communities. During this Meeting we had and exhibition called: «Anglicanismo em Português – Abraço de três Continentes» (*Anglicanism in Portuguese – an embrace of three Continents*). This exhibition intended to recall the memory of the historical path covered by the Lusophonos Churches.

From the Working Agenda, it has special relevance the following items:

- a) Young people and women in Church Mission
- b) Christian education and theological studies
- c) Diaconal and creation caring
- d) Communication

Recognizing the Portuguese language as a vehicle of culture and special a language of relationship, we shared the feelings of our common strengths and weaknesses, threats and opportunities. Those moments of sharing made us recognized that from our cries and joys, many are the opportunities for mission that we, together, can develop as a Network with one single voice and a more prophetic voice.

Assuming this need of having a more audial common voice inside the Communion, the Lusophone Network assumed the dimension of Communication as a new area for the joint mission. From the taken decisions we stretch the following:

1. Diaconal and Creation care

We renovate our churches compromise about the care for Creation, and every participant Church nominated a representative to be a part of a Lusophone working group in the Green Anglicans.

Each Church will appoint a responsible for the diaconal work area and social development for sharing existing projects and future exchanges of collaboration. It was welcomed the possible participation of young people from the Churches in the development of ongoing social projects in Africa.

2. Christian education and Theological studies

We agree on the partnership of JUNET (Nation Board for Theological Education – IEAB) to develop an theological education plan for a future Seminary for the Libombos and Niassa Dioceses (Mozambique), and sharing with the other Churches the course "Introduction to Anglicanism" in e-learning mode.

Online placement of theological training and Christian education resources already available in Portuguese, namely Sunday school materials, preparation of young people and adult catechumenate.

3. Youth and Women

Exchange of experiences and volunteering in the evangelization and intentional discipleship areas between women and young people.

4. Communication

Designing a Portuguese page in the official Site of the Anglican Communion.

<http://rlca.anglicancommunion.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/Rede-Lus%C3%B3fona-da-Comunh%C3%A3o-Anglicana-314748699015456/>

The institution of “The Anglican Communion Lusophone Network Sunday”, to be at the Feast of Christ the King, (*last Sunday of the Liturgical Calendar*).

5. The Lusophone Network Coordination

For the Group of Coordination we decided on the following members:

Bishop José Jorge Pina Cabral – Portugal

Reverend Garcia Kazailawoko – Angola

Reverend Antonio Nhaca – Libombos Diocese, Mozambique

Bishop Vicente Msosa – Niassa Diocese, Mozambique

Reverend Magda Guedes Pereira – Brazil

At the end of the Meeting the participants made and appeal to the Lusophone Churches and their caregivers, to assume from now on in their plans for Mission, Diocesan and Provincial Budgets the financial, human, material and spiritual resources that can support the Lusophone Network assumed working areas.

The next IV Meeting of the Lusophone Network was held for the years 2021 or 2022 and to be held in Africa.

Lord God;

We give you thanks for calling us
to be a part of the Anglican Communion Lusophone Network
and of those that search to obey your will;
May your Spirit guide and strengths us
in the mission and in the service to the three Continents where we live,
not as unknown people or indifferent to each other
but as companions and friends
that helps one another in a common pilgrimage
a pilgrimage towards your Kingdom.
Amen.