

Revd Dr. Philip Potter

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German Report of the 10th Assembly in Busan

Köln, 6. Januar 2015

Dear Philip,

We missed you in Busan: it was the first Assembly you were no more able to attend. I still see you getting up each time in Porto Alegre in 2006, when the moderator asked, who attended Amsterdam, Evanston etc. Finally it was only you who stood up as the only one who had been present at all 9 Assemblies so far.

Therefore during the process of editing the German report together with Konrad, Dagmar and Barbara Rudolph, whom you may not know, I got the idea to dedicate the official report of Busan to you, while Konrad chose the quotation from your address to the United Nations in 1982. With this first of all we editors want to express our personal gratitude to you for all visions you have inspired us in Geneva and beyond during decades. I will never forget your friendliness, receiving me at my first visit to Geneva in 1979, thus overcoming my anxieties with my poor English. At the end you broke out in laughter, when I tried to thank you for your „hostility“ instead of saying „hospitality“.

But with this dedication we also want to honor you publicly for all you have contributed to and guided in the Ecumenical movement over many years. We hope others will also recognize the inspirations and visions you have given to so many people all over the world.

We do not expect you to read every page of the report. It is enough for us to let you know that you are still in our good memories as inspirator, leader and friend of the WCC-Assemblies.

Cordial greetings and all blessings to you, Philip and Bärbel, in the new year 2015.