

Fund of the Archdiocese of Berlin for the Promotion of World Church Commitment

- Rules of Procedure -

Preamble

(...) Amen, I say to you: Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of you have done to me. (Mt 25,40)

The Church in Germany knows that it is part of a worldwide community of faith, prayer and solidarity. In the Archdiocese of Berlin, this is expressed in various ways, for example through partnership relations in other countries and continents, through the promotion of world church projects or through the support of parishes, associations and institutions in their commitment to the world church.

This includes both mutual learning from each other and the task of bringing the world church perspective into the archdiocese in order to promote an awareness of solidarity and shared responsibility.

At the same time, the Archdiocese of Berlin is committed to the responsibility of the world church for the "common house", as Pope Francis reminds us in his encyclicals "Laudato si" from 2015 and "Fratelli tutti" from 2020.

§ 1 Establishment and name

- 1) At the suggestion of the then "One World and the Integrity of Creation" committee of the Diocesan Council of Catholics in the Archdiocese of Berlin and in consultation with the then World Church Working Group of the Archdiocesan Ordinariate, the Archdiocese of Berlin established this fund at the beginning of 2006.
- 2) It bears the name "Fund of the Archdiocese of Berlin for the Promotion of World Church Commitment" (hereinafter referred to as the Fund).

§ 2 Legal status

- 1) The Fund is subordinate to the Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Berlin. 2.
- 2) the management of the fund and its tasks and concerns is taken over by the diocesan commissioner for world church tasks, alternatively by a member of the fund committee appointed for this task by the vicar general.

§ 3 Purpose and aims

- 1) the fund aims to support the commitment of the archdiocese of Berlin to the world church, to expand its financial basis and to contribute to the corresponding costs.
- 2) This also includes showing developments in the mission of the world church and in its branches, generating financial resources in the long term and making their distribution transparent.
- 3) The aim is the idealistic, informal and material support and promotion of the church's mission, development and peace work, the promotion of world church projects as well as the support of parishes, associations and institutions in their world church commitment.

§ 4 Fund Committee

- 1) a fund committee is established to advise on the allocation of funds.
- 2) The Fund Committee shall include the Vicar General and the Diocesan Commissioner for World Church Tasks as Managing Director, as well as one nominated person from each of the following areas of work:
 - a) Categorical pastoral care in the Archdiocese of Berlin (S.I)
 - b) Youth Pastoral Care in the Archdiocese of Berlin (S.I)
 - c) Expert Committee of the Diocesan Council in the Archdiocese of Berlin

In addition to the delegated person, a deputy from each of the working areas shall be nominated. 3.

- 3) the participation of other persons with an advisory function from various fields of work and institutions in the Archdiocese of Berlin is possible in principle, for example representatives of Catholic relief organisations or of religious orders and spiritual communities with a world-church orientation.
- 4) The Fund Committee meets at least once a quarter. Further meetings may be convened by the Executive Director.
- 5) The Fund Committee has a quorum when at least half of the voting members are present. Resolutions shall be passed by a simple majority of the members present. 6.
- 6) The Fund Committee meetings shall be minuted.
- 7) the financial administration of the Fund shall be the responsibility of the Finance Department of the Archdiocesan Ordinariate.
The diocesan representative for world church tasks is responsible for the budget.

§ 5 Funding areas

- 1) In order to fulfil the tasks and objectives of the Fund, various funding areas have been defined.
- 2) areas of support in the sense of the fund are:
 - a) Support for world church projects, especially outside Germany.
 - b) Grants for persons from the Archdiocese of Berlin who participate in voluntary international services or comparable programmes
 - c) Support for world-church missionary concerns which are brought to the personal attention of the Archbishop of Berlin.
 - d) subsidies for international world-church encounter measures
 - e) Support for measures of world-church education and public relations work in the Archdiocese of Berlin.
 - f) Ensuring the Christmas gift of the Archbishop of Berlin to persons from the Archdiocese of Berlin who are employed in missionary assignments or church development work.
- 3) in addition to these areas of support, it is the responsibility of the Fund to support individual causes which it deems worthy of support and which cannot be assigned to the above-mentioned areas of support, according to its possibilities.

§ 6 Award criteria

- 1) a written application is required to enable the promotion and support of projects and measures according to § 5 (2) a, b, e and f. The application must be submitted in writing.
- 2) The application must show that the projects and measures to be supported fulfil several of the following criteria:
 - a) partnership, solidarity and fraternity
 - b) Help for self-help
 - c) Own initiatives of partners take into account the "preferential option for the poor
 - d) missionary awareness
 - e) pastoral tasks of local churches in Africa, Asia, Latin America, Eastern Europe and Oceania
 - f) aspects of climate protection and sustainability
 - g) principles of Catholic social teaching, especially the principle of subsidiarity
 - h) measures against the causes of flight and displacement in the respective countries of origin.
- 3) All applicants must guarantee that the physical and psychological well-being of the beneficiaries of protection will be comprehensively protected.
- 4) there is no legal entitlement to funding.
- 5) retrospective funding is not possible.
- 6) one-off earmarked grants do not entitle the recipient to subsequent claims.

7) the fund committee works together with the Catholic relief organisations (e.g. Missio, Misereor, Adveniat, Reno-vabis, Caritas International etc.) in order to obtain information and exchange information. The aid organisations are provided with the applications for funding received prior to the meetings of the Awards Committee, with a request for an assessment.

Part of these Rules of Procedure and the Award Criteria are the Implementation Regulations for the individual funding areas (see Annex).

§ 7 Resources of the Fund

1) the initial capital of EUR 100,000.00 provided by the Archdiocese of Berlin when the Fund was established shall be used as the basis for the application of funds. The income from a part of the long-term capital shall be used for the tasks and purposes of the Fund.

2) 80% of the annual collection for world church tasks in the Archdiocese of Berlin will be made available as resources for the fund. The Archbishop of Berlin has 20% of the said collection at his disposal. Any money not used in the financial year shall be returned to the fund.

3) Other income and donations are at the free disposal of the Fund, provided they are not earmarked for a specific purpose, for the implementation of its goals and tasks.

4) In an annual report, the Allocation Committee shall document both the income from the world church collection and the projects supported and the amount of the funding commitments. This report is publicly available on the homepage of the archdiocese at www.erzbistumberlin.de/weltkirche.

§ 8 Final provisions

1) These rules of procedure shall be agreed with the Diocesan Council in the Archdiocese of Berlin or with the relevant committee. They shall be reviewed with regard to their expediency and effectiveness three years after they come into force and adapted if necessary.

2. if these rules of procedure do not clearly regulate a procedural question, the Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Berlin shall make appropriate decisions.

§ 9 Entry into force

These Rules of Procedure shall enter into force on 01.11.2021 upon publication in the Official Gazette. They replace the Rules of Procedure of the Fund of 10.10.2006, published in the Official Gazette No. 12/2006 (No. 281).