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A worldwide fellowship of churches seeking unity, a common witness and Christian service

WCC general secretary to meet with His All Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew I

08 December 2016

Following the historic meeting of the Holy and Great Council of the Orthodox Church in Crete in June 2016, World Council of Churches general secretary Rev. Dr Olav Fykse Tveit will meet with His All Holiness the Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I, Archbishop of Constantinople, on 9 December.

The meeting takes place in anticipation of Bartholomew marking 25 years as Archbishop of Constantinople and Ecumenical Patriarch, and a key focus will be to follow up on what the Holy and Great Council, which was convened by the Ecumenical Patriarch, will mean for the common ecumenical journey forward.

"This is an opportunity to reaffirm and thank His All Holiness the Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew for his contribution to church unity, justice and peace in the world," says Tveit.

Another key point of focus will climate justice, as the implementation of the Paris Agreement has been at the top of the recent United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP22) agenda in Marrakech, Morocco. The Ecumenical Patriarch has long been a keen advocate in the ecumenical call for climate justice.

Bartholomew I has been Archbishop of Constantinople and Ecumenical Patriarch since 1991.

Media contacts: Please contact WCC director of communication Marianne Ejdersten, also present at the meeting in Istanbul: mej@wcc-coe.org, +41 79 507 63 63

WCC leaders pledge common search for unity in greeting to Holy and Great Council (WCC press release of 26 June 2016)

Ecumenical Patriarch moves ahead with Holy and Great Council (WCC press release of 16 June 2016)



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His All Holiness the Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I. © Mark Beach/WCC

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