

**PRESS RELEASE: For immediate release**  
**28 June 2010**

**Appointment Notice**

The Irish Council of Churches and the Irish Inter-Church Meeting is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Mervyn McCullagh to the position of Executive Officer to both Councils. This is a new position that builds on the valuable work of Mr. Michael Earle who served for 6 years as General Secretary to the ICC/Executive Secretary to the IICM.

Mervyn recently returned home to Ireland after 11 years living in Indonesia where he worked as Consultant for Church Management and Development for the local church from 2004 while serving as a Missionary for the Presbyterian Church in Ireland since 1998. A graduate of Trinity College and brought up in Dublin, he brings extensive experience of developing inter-church relations internationally along with a wide range of cross-cultural communication skills and project management experience. He will begin his appointment on the 1 August 2010.

Bishop Richard Clarke, President of the Irish Council of Churches says "I believe Mervyn will provide us with new strategic direction as we seek to bring inter-church relations to the mainstream agenda of the major churches in Ireland. His expertise will assist us in realising our key priorities for the Council which are: to provide the churches with a prominent and cohesive voice on issues of shared concern; to discover new ways to communicate Christianity in contemporary Ireland; and to extend the reach of the Council to incorporate the many new churches on this Island."

The **Irish Council of Churches** comprises fourteen member churches united in efforts to promote the spiritual, physical, moral and social welfare of the people and the extension of the rule of Christ among all nations and over every region of life. The **Irish Inter-Church Meeting** is a forum for ecumenical debate and action comprising the Roman Catholic Church and the member churches of the Irish Council of Churches.

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