The Dialogue Between the Holy Synods of the Church of the True Orthodox Christians of Greece and the Orthodox Ecclesiastical Community in Resistance

Ninth Joint Communiqué

n Thursday, October 18/31, 2013, the ninth Joint Deliberation of the Committees for Dialogue Between the Church of the True Orthodox Christians of Greece and the Orthodox Ecclesiastical Community in Resistance took place at the Holy Monastery of Sts. Cyprian and Justina, Phyle, Athens.

All of the appointed members of the committees were present.

The deliberation commenced with a review of the course of the Dialogue to date. Next, the discussion revolved around the procedure for rapprochement between the two sides, on the basis, on the one hand, of the proposals submitted by the committee of the Orthodox Ecclesiastical Community in Resistance at the preceding deliberation, and, on the other hand, of the detailed counter-proposals submitted by the committee of the Church of the True Orthodox Christians of Greece during the interval between the two deliberations.

In the wake of their lengthy and extremely edifying discussion, the two sides jointly formulated a "Schedule of Steps in the Union Process," which encompasses, in general terms, the following points:

- a. the completion of talks, on the basis of the established agendum, for the purpose of reaching agreement on ecclesiological issues;
- **b.** the need to deal candidly with the canonical nature of the impediments between the two sides; and
- c. the convening of a General Synod from among the local anti-innovationist Orthodox Churches, to the end that such a Synod might, by virtue of its augmented authority, issue declarations concerning the calendar innovation and the heresy of ecumenism.

The question of a critique of ecumenism from a theological standpoint was tabled until the next general deliberation, which it was agreed should be held on Thursday, November 22/December 5, 2013, in Galatsion, Athens, in the hall of the Church of St. Spyridon.

From the Joint Secretariat of the Committees for Dialogue Galatsion and Phyle October 18/3 1, 2013