



# Christian Conference of Asia

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## **Message of Greetings from the General Secretary of the Christian Conference of Asia to the 27<sup>th</sup> General Council of the World Communion of Reformed Churches (WCRC)**

Respected President, General Secretary, and the esteemed delegates and participants of the 27th General Council of the World Communion of Reformed Churches, it is with great joy that I extend warm greetings to you on behalf of the Christian Conference of Asia (CCA).

As the 27th General Council of the WCRC is meeting here in Chiang Mai, Thailand, the Christian Conference of Asia rejoices with all of you, and together with its member church in Thailand, the Church of Christ in Thailand, extends a warm welcome to you all to this historic city of Chiang Mai, where the CCA headquarters is also located.

CCA, the first Regional Ecumenical Organisation founded in 1957, has its member constituencies spread across Asia – from Iran in West Asia to Japan in the east, and from Nepal in the north to New Zealand in the south. On behalf of CCA's more than 100 member churches and 17 National Councils of Churches, as well as CCA's 60 million members spread across Asia, I greet all delegates and participants of the 27<sup>th</sup> General Council of the WCRC, especially as this General Council also marks the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the WCRC.

The theme of your General Council "Persevere in Your Witness" is most pertinent in today's global context. It is indeed an opportunity to reflect on the enormous challenges we face as we continue to witness Christ, our saviour, liberator and sustainer. The reflection on this theme from biblical, theological, missiological, and socio-political perspectives will greatly enrich our shared commitment to the common mission of working towards unity and transformation in service of the God of Life.

As we express our deepest respect and gratitude for your ongoing mission to strengthen the unity of Reformed churches across the world, and for your valuable role in embracing, ensuring and enriching the vitality of the global ecumenical fellowships, we hope and pray that the WCRC's commitment will continue to encourage and motivate its member churches to promote and strengthen the spirit of ecumenical ethos, rather than focusing solely on the preservation of denominational or confessional identities.

We join you in prayer for God's blessings upon the 27<sup>th</sup> General Council of the WCRC. May God's grace guide the deliberations of the General Council as well as the commemoration of WCRC's 150 years of mission and witness. May the Risen Lord who brings us together from different parts of world here in Chiang Mai help us to strengthen the integrity of our faith and the bonds of our fellowship. Wishing you all God's richest blessings.

Yours along the journey,

Dr Mathews George Chunakara  
General Secretary  
Christian Conference of Asia

14 October 2025