

# APPENDIX N

## Anglican Consultative Council

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### The Constitution

**Note:** The Constitution, under the authorization provided, was revised in 1980-81. There is no substantial alteration from the original constitution as stated in Resolution 69 of the Lambeth Conference of 1968.

**1. Name**

The name of the Council is the Anglican Consultative Council.

**2. Object**

The object of the Council shall be to advance the Christian religion and in furtherance of that object, but not further or otherwise, the Council shall have the following powers:

- a) To facilitate the co-operative work of the member Churches of the Anglican Communion.
- b) To share information about developments in one or more provinces of the Anglican Communion with the other parts of the communion and to serve as needed as an instrument of common action.
- c) To advise on inter-Anglican, provincial, and diocesan relationships, including the division of provinces, the formation of new provinces and of regional councils, and the problems of extra-provincial dioceses.
- d) To develop as far as possible agreed Anglican policies in the world mission of the Church and to encourage national and regional Churches to engage together in developing and implementing such policies by sharing their resources of manpower, money, and experience to the best advantage of all.
- e) To keep before national and regional Churches the importance of the fullest possible Anglican collaboration with other Christian Churches.
- f) To encourage and guide Anglican participation in the Ecumenical Movement and the ecumenical organizations, to co-operate with the World Council of Churches and the world confessional bodies on behalf of the Anglican Communion; and to make arrangements for the conduct of pan-Anglican conversations with the Roman Catholic Church, the Orthodox Churches and other Churches.
- g) To advise on matters arising out of national or regional church union negotiations or conversations and on subsequent relations with united Churches.

- h) To advise on problems of inter-Anglican communication and to help in the dissemination of Anglican and ecumenical information.
- i) To keep in review the needs that may arise for further study, and where necessary, to promote inquiry and research.
- j) To obtain, collect, receive and hold money, funds and property, old and new, by way of contributions, donations, subscriptions, legacies, grants and any other lawful method and accept and receive gifts of property of any description (whether subject to any special trust or not).
- k) To assist any charitable body or bodies financially or otherwise.
- l) To establish an emergency fund or funds for the support of clergy in special need and for other charitable purposes in any part of the world.
- m) To assist the Inter-Anglican Finance Committee (as hereinafter defined), the Primates' Meeting and the Lambeth Conference as and when required to do so.
- n) To procure to be written and print, publish, issue and circulate gratuitously or otherwise any reports or periodicals, books, pamphlets, leaflets or other documents.
- o) To receive and hold in custody, or cause to be held in custody, any records or legal or historical documents of any member Church.
- p) To arrange and provide for or join in arranging and providing for the holding of exhibitions, meetings, lectures and classes.
- q) To make by-laws, always subject to this Constitution, for the better conduct of its business and to repeal or amend the same from time to time.
- r) To do all such other things as shall further the object of the Council.

### 3. **Membership**

- a) The Council shall be constituted with a membership according to the Schedule hereto. With the assent of two-thirds of the Primates of the Anglican Communion, the Council may alter or add to the Schedule. "Primates" in this context means the principal Archbishop, Bishop or Primate of each autonomous Province of the Anglican Communion.
- b) Members shall be appointed as provincial, national or regional machinery provides. Alternate members shall be appointed in a similar manner, and shall be invited to attend a meeting if the ordinary member is unable to be present for a whole session of the Council. Any appointment of a member or alternate member may be revoked by the body which made the appointment.

#### 4. **Appointment and Retirement of Members**

- a) The term of office for ordinary members shall be either:
  - i) six years calculated from a member's first attendance at a meeting of the Council or
  - ii) three successive meetings of the Council whichever period shall terminate the later.
- b) On termination of his or her period of office, no member shall be eligible for re-appointment nor shall he or she be appointed an Alternate member until a period of six years from the date when such original membership ceased has elapsed.
- c) Bishops and other clerical members shall cease to be members on retirement from ecclesiastical office.
- d) Any appointing body as set out in the Schedule of Membership shall have power at any time and from time to time to appoint any qualified person to be a member to fill a casual vacancy to hold office for the unexpired term specified in clause 4 a).
- e) **Alternate Members:** An alternate member may be reappointed as an alternate member, or appointed an ordinary member, unless he or she has already replaced a member at two meetings of the Council.

#### 5. **Advisers**

The Council may invite advisers, Anglicans or others, to be present at its meetings, but not to vote.

#### 6. **Officers**

- a) The Archbishop of Canterbury shall always be a member of the Council and its President, and not subject to retirement under the provision of clause 4 a). When present he shall inaugurate each meeting of the Council. He shall be ex-officio a member of all its committees.
- b) The Council shall elect a Chairman and Vice-Chairman from its own number who shall hold office for two meetings of the Council.
- c) The Council shall delegate to its Standing Committee the appointment for a specified term of a Secretary who shall be known as the Secretary General of the Council and whose duties it shall determine. The Secretary General shall not be a member of the Council. Remuneration and terms and conditions of service shall be determined by the Standing Committee. [See notes a) and b) at end of chapter.]

#### 7. **Standing Committee**

- a) The Council shall appoint a Standing Committee of nine members which shall include the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman of the Council. The Secretary General shall be Secretary of the Standing Committee. [See note c) at end of chapter.]

Ordinary meetings of the Standing Committee shall take place annually.

- b) At least six months' notice shall be given to every member of the date and place of the Annual meeting of the Standing Committee and such notice shall specify the general nature of the business to be transacted thereat.

**8. Powers of the Standing Committee**

The Standing Committee shall act for the Council between meetings of the Council and shall execute such matters as are referred to it by the Council. The Standing Committee may exercise all powers of the Council as are not by this Constitution required to be done specifically by the Council, and in particular may borrow money and mortgage or charge the Council assets.

**9. Meetings of the Council**

- a) The Council shall meet at intervals of approximately two or three years as appropriate.
- b) As far as possible, the Council shall meet in various parts of the world.

**10. Amendments to Constitution**

Amendments to this Constitution shall be submitted by the Council to the Constitutional bodies listed under clauses b), c) and d) of the Schedule of Membership and must be ratified by two-thirds of such bodies provided that no amendment shall be made which shall cause the Council to cease to be a charity at law.

**11. Dissolution**

If upon the winding-up or dissolution of the Council, there remains after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid or distributed among the members of the Council, but shall be given or transferred to some other charitable institution or institutions having charitable objects similar to the objects of the Council and which shall prohibit the distribution of its or their income and property among its or their members.

**Notes**

- a) ACC-1, page 59, Resolution 42, defined the terms of appointment as follows:
  - “(a) to be responsible for all secretarial and other duties for the Council and for the meetings of the Council and of its Standing Committee; and*
  - (b) to serve the Anglican Communion and its member Churches with particular regard to the stated functions of the Anglican Consultative Council and to the recommendations and reports of the Council.”*

- b) ACC-8, Resolution 30:

*“Meetings of the Primates and the Lambeth Conference*

*The Secretary General shall be available to serve, as the Archbishop of Canterbury shall require, as Staff for meetings of the Primates and Lambeth Conference. The ACC shall not be responsible for the expenses of the Primates’ Meetings or the Lambeth Conference. The Primates’ Meetings and the Lambeth Conference shall be responsible for expenses incurred on their behalf by the Secretary General and his staff.”*

- c) ACC-4, Resolution 28(2):

*“Duration of Membership*

*The Council resolves that Standing Committee members take their place on the Standing Committee as from the end of the Council Meeting at which they are elected and hold their position until such time as their successors take their place or they retire for any other reason.”*

## **Schedule of Membership**

The membership of the Council shall be as follows [see note d) at end of chapter]:

- a) The Archbishop of Canterbury.
- b) Three from each of the following, consisting of one bishop, plus one priest, plus one lay person:
- The Anglican Church of Australia
  - The Anglican Church of Canada
  - The Church of England
  - The Church of the Province of Nigeria
  - The Church of the Province of Southern Africa
  - The Church of South India
  - The Church of the Province of Uganda
  - The Episcopal Church of the United States of America
  - The Province of the Episcopal Church of Rwanda.
- c) Two from each of the following, consisting of one bishop or one priest plus one lay person:
- The Anglican Church Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia
  - The Church of the Province of Central Africa
  - The Council of the Church of East Asia
  - The Church of Ireland
  - The Church of the Province of Kenya
  - The Church of North India
  - The Church of Pakistan
  - The Episcopal Church of the Sudan
  - The Church of the Province of Tanzania
  - The Church in Wales

The Church in the Province of the West Indies  
The Province of the Anglican Church of Zaire

d) One person (preferably lay) from each of the following:

The Church of Bangladesh  
The Episcopal Anglican Church of Brasil  
The Church of the Province of Burundi  
The Church of Ceylon  
The Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean  
The Holy Catholic Church in Japan  
The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East  
The Anglican Church of Korea  
The Church of the Province of Melanesia  
The Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea  
The Philippine Episcopal Church  
The Anglican Church of the Southern Cone of America  
The Scottish Episcopal Church  
The Church of the Province of West Africa.

e) Co-opted Members

The Council may co-opt up to six additional members of whom two shall be women and two persons not over twenty-eight years of age at the time of appointment.

f) Additional Members

When the Chairman's appointment as chairman extends beyond the date on which his or her membership of the Council ordinarily expires, from the time of the expiry of the ordinary membership:

- i) the body which made the appointment shall be entitled to appoint a new member of the Council;
- ii) the Chairman shall become an additional member of the Council until completion of the term as Chairman;
- iii) the same rules shall apply to the Vice-Chairman.

## Note

d) ACC-4, Resolution 28:

1.
  - a) *those elected or appointed to the Anglican Consultative Council begin their membership as from the beginning of the first Council meeting following their election;*
  - b) *membership continues until immediately prior to the meeting at which his or her successor takes his or her place.*