

The Anglican Church of Mexico and the Millennium Development Goals

September 2010: Report by Canon Habacuc Ramos-Huerta, Secretary General, Iglesia Anglicana de México

GOAL 7 ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Out of the eight Millennium Development Goals, the Anglican Church of Mexico has worked hardest at the Seventh Goal. We act with the conviction that this goal can be implemented in a practical way to create awareness among children, youth and adults. It is an educational process that is consistently developing in the regular preaching in churches, at meetings in all parishes and missions and, specifically in various programs throughout the year. We do not have financial resources but human resources to reach communities and support this initiative through community organizations.

The other objectives have been addressed through the preaching in church. We recognize that the government or agencies with their financial resources are those with the ability to impact in a more comprehensive way what can be done in terms of poverty, education, and health.

Among the concrete actions that have been taken at different levels in the church in relation to environmental sustainability are the following:

The Executive Council of the Anglican Church of Mexico in the meetings of 2007, 2008 and 2009 agreed through various actions that the diocese will implement strategies to promote the care of nature.

The General Synod of the Anglican Church of Mexico held on June 11-12, 2010 resolved that each diocese formed a committee whose task will be to design and implement programs and ongoing activities related to environmental care based primarily on the idea that these all contribute to the preservation of God's creation.

Following the recommendations of the Anglican Consultative Council meeting in Jamaica in 2009, it adopted Resolution 14.15 --This work will be carried out by the National Environment Commission, which was itself created in the National Synod, and it will also work in coordination with the diocesan committees.

Summer Bible Schools of 2010 in the various parishes and missions of the Diocese of Mexico were engaged in the study of the Millennium Development Goals and with a particular focus on the Seventh Goal. Among the main topics addressed are: water care, water recycling systems for domestic use, waste separation, organic and inorganic; domestic energy saving.

The Anglican Diocese of Southeastern Mexico, with the support of Episcopal Relief and Development Fund of the Episcopal Church of the United States has installed eight plants of water purification between 2007-2010 in Acayucan, Arroyo Zacate and El

Camalotal, rural indigenous populations, where drinking water is carried to other communities in the southern state of Veracruz.

GOAL 3 PROMOTE GENDER EQUALITY

It has been articulated in a natural way in the Church. We promote support of gender equality outside the church as well as inside. In the life of the Church there is no barrier in this regard. The canon law of the Province, for example, has opened up opportunity for women to be ordained to the diaconate and priesthood and eventually if a woman wants to seek the episcopate she will not find any obstacle by the fact of being female.

GOAL 8 DEVELOP GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS

No doubt that we are contributing to the development of the consciousness of people so that we promote a global respect as such. We believe that the differences that make governments are merely instruments in relation to social order but we believe more than ever that the borders and government systems and use of different currencies and exchange rates will eventually have to change.

We believe not only in a Church without Borders, but in a world without borders, we believe in a government that has the potential of bringing development for all people in all regions of the world and to contribute together, to this effect, to eradicate problems such as hunger, education, unemployment and the problems that this entails where there is lack of opportunities for the community in general, this is why we believe that the world is a society that must have a better future as a global village.

So, these are concrete actions that have been taken directly by the Anglican Church of Mexico.