

Resolution 15.11: Truth and Reconciliation Commissions and related activities

Be it resolved that the Anglican Consultative Council

- calling to mind 2 Corinthians 5.17-20: ‘So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God’, and
- remembering that, as ambassadors for Christ, Christians are called to be reconciled and have been given the ministry of reconciliation, and
- in light of the number of Truth and Reconciliation Commissions currently in process and the increasing movement towards forming Truth and Reconciliation Commissions in post-conflict or post-human rights abuse situations:
 1. requests the Anglican Peace and Justice Network to conduct a survey of how Provinces, dioceses and individuals of the Anglican Communion have related, or are relating, with their national Truth and Reconciliation Commissions and similar activities;
 2. requests the Anglican Peace and Justice Network to consider, in the light of the results of the survey, whether to seek funding for, and facilitate, an international conference for representatives of those Provinces or dioceses, or individuals in the Anglican Communion who have been directly involved, or are planning involvement, in Truth and Reconciliation Commissions and similar activities, so that:
 - (a) worldwide experience of the Anglican Communion in this issue may be shared, and
 - (b) helpful directions for the future be discerned, and
 3. requests a report to ACC-16 on these matters.¹

¹ A background paper ‘Truth and Reconciliation Commissions: An emerging issue for the Anglican Communion’ by Bishop Terry M Brown of the Anglican Church of Melanesia is on-line at http://apjn.anglicancommunion.org/resources/docs/truth_and_reconciliation_commissions_terry_brown.pdf.