

Follow-up to Resolution 14.20: Anglican Communion Legal Advisers' Network (ACLAN)

Resolved, 05.05.09

The Anglican Consultative Council

- a. thanks the Anglican Communion Legal Advisers' Network for the work undertaken so far;
- b. commends the Principles of Canon Law Common to the Churches of the Anglican Communion for study in every Province;
- c. invites Provinces and others to submit comments on the Principles of Canon Law Common to the Churches of the Anglican Communion to the Convener by 30 June 2010;
- d. requests the Editorial Committee of the network to submit a report on the responses received to the following meeting of the Standing Committee; and
- e. encourages the Provinces to use the network as a resource in dealing with legal issues in their Provinces.

The Legal Advisers' Network received only two substantive responses to this resolution in 2009, both supportive of the project but neither wishing to add or alter any of the content. Reports have subsequently been made by the Convener at meetings of the Standing Committee.

The 'Principles' that had been produced over the years 2002-2007 and were put into wide circulation at the Lambeth Conference in 2008 have been widely used in training bishops, clergy and ecclesiastical lawyers at all levels around the Communion. They have also been noted and commented on favourably in ecumenical discussions, not least in the most recent ARCIC report, with the Orthodox, and even in multi-faith dialogue.

The original drafting team have been working on a revision of the 'Principles' for a year or more, and are meeting for a residential discussion in the autumn, with a view to publishing a revised version in time for the Lambeth Conference in 2020.

They appreciate the continuing support of the ACC, and would be glad to answer questions or deal with any comments made by any member before, at or after the meeting in Hong Kong.

Revd Canon John Rees
Legal Adviser to the ACC and
Convener of the Anglican Communion Legal Advisers' Network