

STANDING COMMISSION ON WORLD MISSION

Membership

Ms. Sandra McPhee, *Chair*, 2015
The Very Rev. P. Allister Rawlins, *Vice Chair*, 2018
Ms. Trish Morck, *Secretary*, 2018
The Rev. Daniel Appleyard, 2018
The Rt. Rev. Gregory O. Brewer, 2018
Canon Judith Conley, 2018
Mrs. Angela Daniel, 2015
The Rt. Rev. Robert Fitzpatrick, 2018
Sra. Tania Jaramillo, 2015
The Rt. Rev. John Smylie, 2018
Dr. Charles Stewart, 2018
The Rev. Irene Tanabe, 2015
Ms. Charlene Turner, 2015
The Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori, *Ex Officio*
The Rev. Gay Clark Jennings, *Ex Officio*
The Rev. R. David Cox, *Representative of the President of the House of Deputies*
The Rev. Nathaniel Pierce, *Executive Council Liaison*
The Rev. David Copley, *Staff*

Summary of Work

Mandate: CANON I.1.2(n)(11) A Standing Commission on World Mission, whose members shall include persons broadly representative of jurisdictions outside the United States of America, as well as persons having direct engagement with and experience in world mission. It shall be the duty of the Commission to review and evaluate policies, priorities, and strategies for global mission, and to make recommendations regarding global mission to General Convention.

Meetings:

- Nov. 12-15, 2012, St. Louis, Missouri
- Dec. 11, 2012, Teleconference
- Feb. 21, 2013, Teleconference (Adobe Connect)
- March 13, 2013, Teleconference (Adobe Connect)
- April 25, 2013, Teleconference (Adobe Connect)
- May 30, 2013, Teleconference (Adobe Connect)
- June 26, 2013, Teleconference (Adobe Connect)
- June 27, 2013, Teleconference (Adobe Connect)
- July 25, 2013, Teleconference (Adobe Connect)
- Dec. 11, 2013, Teleconference (Adobe Connect)
- May 7-10, 2014, Maritime Institute of Technology
- June 19, 2014, Teleconference (Adobe Connect)
- July 3, 2014, Teleconference (Adobe Connect)
- Nov. 16, 2014, Teleconference (Adobe Connect)

Purpose of the SCWM

Covenant Committees:

- Facilitate and initiate the work and relationships of Covenant Committees
- The SCWM representative convenes meetings and prepares and presents reports to the SCWM and the General Convention
- Global Mission Engagement
- Support and encourage work of the Global Partnership Office (GPO)
- Advocate, encourage, and support the sending of Young Adult Service Corps volunteers (YASC) and Episcopal Volunteers in Mission (EVIM)
- Provide recommendations, guidance, and strategies to the GPO to advance its work
- Recommend the necessary funding for the GPO and the SCWM to achieve their respective responsibilities
- Networking
- Encourage networking within and between entities of The Episcopal Church (parishes, deaneries, dioceses, provinces, institutions, agencies) engaged in global mission
- Promote mutual and interdependent relationships with global partners around the Anglican Communion and ecumenical and interreligious partners or organizations, such as the United Nations
- Overview/Vision/Global Perspective
- Feel the pulse of the state and direction of global mission engagement across TEC
- To engage proactively in conversation with our global partners regarding the current and future direction of God’s mission within TEC and around the Anglican Communion
- Review and recommend policies and strategies regarding mission
- Be aware of, and in conversation regarding, new and emerging theologies of mission
- Challenge, inspire, and prioritize the global mission engagement of the Church

Global Mission Engagement

The Standing Commission on World Mission has worked closely with the Global Partnership Office (formerly the Mission Personnel Office) and has supported and encouraged the GPO’s work. The Commission has continued to advocate for and support the sending of Young Adult Service Corps volunteers and Episcopal Volunteers for Mission with the purpose of strengthening and deepening relationships throughout the Anglican Communion, fulfilling our baptismal covenant to “seek and serve Christ in all persons.” It has also provided recommendations, guidance, and strategies to advance the GPO’s work and to nurture The Episcopal Church’s call and commitment to mission engagement, as well as to advocate for the necessary funding in order to accomplish their goals.

Protocols for the Episcopal Church Members of the Covenant Committees

As recommended by the Standing Commission on World Mission at its meeting May 2014 in Lithincum Heights, Maryland:

1. Refer to GC 2012 Resolution A111 regarding members of Covenant Committees.
2. Meetings — A minimum one meeting per triennium in TEC’s Covenant Partner country.
3. The role of Global Partnerships Office staff is to assist with the administration and logistics in collaboration with General Convention Office, as well as to accompany the trip to the Covenant Partner.
4. The Global Partnerships Office, in conjunction with the Director of Mission, will manage the budget of the meetings.
5. To ensure the proper maintenance of records and documents, the Covenant Committee members will use the extranet for correspondence and minutes.

6. Over the term of service, it is expected that each member will create and maintain a relationship with the Covenant Partner and be actively engaged in nurturing that relationship on a regular basis.
7. International travel is expected of each Covenant Committee member at least once per triennium.
8. Each member is expected to review and be familiar with all available documents regarding the history and current status of the Covenant relationships.
9. During the Covenant meeting it is expected that members:
 - Be prepared to provide a report on the state of The Episcopal Church highlighting successes and challenges.
 - Review the Covenant agreement and recommend amendments as appropriate.
 - Discuss any developments with regards to the partnership priorities, current financial challenges, and strategies for self-sustainability.
 - Write a full report of the meeting prior to the end of the visit to be sent to the chair of the Standing Commission on World Mission.

Global Perspectives

In addition to the above work of the Standing Committee, individual members of the SCWM attended a number of conferences that focused on World Mission in The Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion. These included: Sandra McPhee and Dan Appleyard attended the Global Episcopal Mission Network Conference in Bogota, Columbia May 5-10, 2013; Dan Appleyard attended the Church of England's Changing the Shape of World Mission, the 2013 Partnership for World Mission Conference November 5-7, 2013 at the Hayes Conference Center in Swanwick, England; and Sandra McPhee was able to attend the 2014 Partnership for World Mission Conference, again in Swanwick, England November 19-21, 2014. There were significant and creative discussions about the financial sustainability and economics of mission ministries, and about the changing paradigms and new horizons of collaborative World Mission.

Report of the meeting of the Joint Committee on Provincial Companionship: The Episcopal Church (TEC) and The Episcopal Church in the Philippines (ECP)

Dates: April 7-8, 2014

Where: Eugenio Lopez Center, Metro Manila

Present from TEC: David Bailey (Executive Council and Bishop of Navajoland), Robert Fitzpatrick (SCWM and Bishop of Hawai'i/Micronesia), Peter Ng (TEC Staff), Winfred Vergara (TEC Staff), Bruce Woodcock (CPG), Ashley Cameron (YASC), Margaret Clinch (YASC), and Andrew Joyce (YASC)

Present from ECP: Renato Abibico (Bishop of Northern Luzon), Louis Yacuan (Priest in North Central Philippines), Mary Bacwaden (Lay Representative from Northern Philippines), Laura Ocampo (ECP Staff – Episcopal Care Foundation), Floyd Lalwet (ECP Staff – Provincial Secretary), and Edward Malecdan (Prime Bishop)

The group reviewed the relationship between TEC and ECP, giving special attention to the fact that the ECP is completely financially self-sustaining. The ECP has taken Assets Based Community Development as a central element in mission and organization. It was noted that for most “ordinary” natural disasters, ECP is capable of responding to the needs of the people.

Cases of “Super Typhoons” (such as Haiyan/Yolanda) and other catastrophic disasters still require an international response, as is the case wherever they happen in the world. “From past experiences, disaster relief and rehabilitation work ... oftentimes results in helplessness,” wrote Floyd Lalwet, ECP Provincial Secretary, in the proposal describing the Church’s planned disaster response. “Hence, in the implementation

of this project, measures are deliberately and programmatically adopted to prevent such undesired effects and, instead, build up and/or enhance the sense of self-reliance of these communities.” The Church’s response to the devastation from Haiyan/Yolanda is largely in areas of the Philippines, where heretofore the ECP has had little or no presence.

Attendees discussed enhancing the partnership. The presence of young adults from the Youth Adult Service Corp (YASC) was very positive. The question was raised of whether young adults from the Philippines might serve in parts of The Episcopal Church. The desire for companion dioceses was again discussed, but the ECP leadership wanted to be clear that they want relationships of mutuality, and not ones of receiving money or dependency. The tri-diocese exchange of Navajoland, the Northern Philippines, and Yokohama (Japan) was highlighted. There was discussion of theological education and possible sharing. There was particular hope about the possibilities between St. Andrew’s Theological Seminary and the Church Divinity School of the Pacific.

No resolutions came out of the gathering. The TEC representatives are keen that TEC and other Covenant partners learn about the ECP. There has developed a relationship of equals in the TEC-ECP partnership. It was suggested that if there is a parent and child relationship, it is that of a fully self-sufficient adult child of a proud parent. This relationship must be nurtured and shared.

Report of Meeting of the IARCA Covenant Committee to SCWM, March 12-13, 2014, Iglesia Episcopal Diócesis de Panamá

Attendees:

- Representantes de IARCA
- Reverendísimo Armando Guerra, Iglesia Episcopal de Guatemala, Primado de IARCA
- Reverendísimo Julio Murray, Iglesia Episcopal de Panamá
- Reverendísimo Héctor Monterroso, Iglesia Episcopal de Costa Rica. Secretario General de IARCA
- Reverendísimo Martin Barahona, Iglesia Episcopal Anglicana de El Salvador
- Reverendo Harold Gustavo Dixon Reynales, Diócesis de Nicaragua
- Licenciado Marco Austin, Diócesis de Panamá, Presidente Comité de Convenio
- Representatives of TEC
- The Rt. Rev. Susan Goff, Episcopal Diocese of Virginia — House of Bishops, TEC
- The Rev. Michael Dresbach, House of Deputies, TEC
- Charles Stewart, SCWM — TEC
- Coromoto Jiménez de Salazar, Executive Council — TEC
- The Rev. Glenda McQueen, Officer, Latin American and the Caribbean, Staff TEC
- The Rev. Bruce Woodcock, Church Pension Group

The following is a short summary taken from notes and the official minutes. Note that the covenant agreement has been in force for 15 years and will continue for two more.

TEC made a joint presentation using talking points from a PowerPoint slide deck prepared by Chuck Stewart. Main points of TEC’s presentation were:

- Overview of TEC budget, including how the budget is developed. Budgets are developed entirely differently in IARCA. (My impression is that the bishop generally develops and publishes it.) One of the points we wanted to emphasize is that the covenant committee had very limited ability to affect the budget numbers.
- Recent litigation in TEC
- Update on the Task Force for Reimagining the Episcopal Church
- Update on election of the Presiding Bishop
- Increase in ministry in Latin@, Asian and African communities

- YASCers in Central America
- Perceived increase in short-term missions

The presentation engendered a lot of discussion, including about how the two provinces could work together more effectively. The bishop of Costa Rica expressed thanks and said this was the first time he felt as if TEC cared about IARCA.

Bishop Murray introduced the two YASCers who are working in Panama; they gave an excellent presentation on their work. Noting that there are no YASC people assigned to Guatemala or Nicaragua, the group discussed how the assignments are developed and how people are assigned.

The bishops of the five dioceses (The Rev. Dixon speaking for Nicaragua) gave extensive reports on the activities in their dioceses and the state of the Church there. Details can be provided to interested persons.

The joint committee agreed to spend the rest of the meeting evaluating in detail each paragraph of the covenant agreement. Marco, who was president of the joint committee and is a lawyer, opined that there was no mechanism by which to force compliance if either party were out of compliance. Details of the discussion can be provided to interested persons.

There are apparently two — perhaps more — drafts of the covenant extant, with some non-trivial differences. No one is sure which is the official and final version. There are also differences between the meaning of the English and Spanish versions. Bruce Woodcock apologized for this and some other problems that occurred, he said, due to changes in the administration at TEC.

Concerns:

- Differences in texts of drafts of covenant agreement
- Funding cuts
- Uncertainty on whether TEC committed to additional funding for certain programs
- Change in committee members
- Acceptance and seat in House of Bishops of TEC

Agreements:

- TEC covenant committee members will lobby in TEC to hold the 2016-2018 number to be the same as the 2013-2015
- Both sides have failed to keep to their commitments
- CPG has done a good job in and for IARCA

The Rt. Rev. Susan Goff was elected president for the next triennium. We will meet again in Guatemala in April 2016. Sadly, funding does not allow us to meet sooner — which we should.

Report of the Liberia Covenant Committee, March 4, 2014

The Liberia Covenant Committee met in Liberia February 25-March 4, 2014. There are four members of the Covenant Committee from The Episcopal Church: Sandi McPhee, Chair of the **Standing Commission on World Mission**; Liza Anderson, a member of The Episcopal Church's **Executive Council**; The Right Rev. Mark Beckwith, Bishop of Newark, representing the **House of Bishops**; and The Rev. Theodora Brooks, Deputy to General Convention, representing the **House of Deputies**.

They were assisted by the Reverend Ranjit Mathews, **Officer for Global Relations and Networking** for The Episcopal Church (TEC); and by The Rev. Canon Bruce Woodcock, Manager for International Relations and Pastoral Care for the **Church Pension Group** (CPG) and Honorary Canon of Trinity Cathedral in Monrovia (2008). This was Sandi McPhee's third visit to Liberia, Bruce Woodcock's 15th (since 1977), Mark Beckwith's

second (the first was in 1972 for a week as a college student), and Ranjit Mathews' and Liza Anderson's first visit. Theodora Brooks is a native Liberian.

The returning members of the Covenant Committee repeatedly made mention of visible restoration since their visit three and five years ago in the country in general and in The Episcopal Church in particular. Once-unfinished projects have been completed, run-down church and school buildings have been renovated, and there is a spirit of new life in the diocese. That said, the leaders of diocesan organizations and committees (listed on the agenda) were clear, frank, and realistic in their reports to us. There are significant financial challenges ahead in virtually every area of ministry.

There is disappointment on the part of the bishop and leadership of the Episcopal Church of Liberia about The Episcopal Church's not having lived up to its financial commitment as outlined in the 2009 Covenant. The signed agreement indicated that The Episcopal Church would reduce its allotment to the Episcopal Church of Liberia by 5 percent a year, beginning in 2010, with a starting figure of \$215k.

Following that trajectory, the Episcopal Church of Liberia should have received approximately \$185k in 2013. Instead, only \$122k was given. The Covenant Committee shares this disappointment and apologizes for The Episcopal Church's role in not meeting its commitment. The members of the Covenant Committee commit to work within the official structures of The Episcopal Church to restore this funding.

The Covenant Committee was deeply impressed with the openness and honesty that our Liberian partners demonstrated with respect to financial circumstances in the Episcopal Church of Liberia. We were impressed with the commitment, faith, and hope that were evident in every place we visited — qualities that had persisted in the face of the crushing disappointments experienced during the civil war. The Episcopal Church of Liberia has much to teach The Episcopal Church, and indeed the rest of the world, about what belief in the Resurrection can produce.

Our goal in moving forward is to build on the 2009 covenant and to create a working document together that we will revisit regularly. We wish in particular to highlight our renewed commitment to section E of the covenant, which states that we agree to "encourage and nourish companion diocese relationships and other means for grassroots sharing of human, spiritual, and material resources." We agreed that we would focus our work together in three primary areas:

- Education
- Partnerships
- Finance

Education

Currently there are 29 Episcopal Schools in Liberia, and one Episcopal University (Cuttington University, founded in 1889). Since the end of the war in 2003, Episcopal schools are experiencing significant challenges collecting student subsidies from the government. Also since the war, salaries for public school teachers have remained steady (and some have gone up), while salaries for teachers at Episcopal Schools have gone down. The result is that Episcopal schools are having difficulty retaining teachers.

The Episcopal Church has a reputation for providing the best education in Liberia. Cuttington University has long been ranked the top university in Liberia. The Episcopal Church of Liberia is strategizing about how to build more relationships with the Liberian government, and Cuttington has been developing relationships and exploring new ventures with educational institutions abroad.

Many parishes in the Episcopal Church of Liberia sponsor schools. The commitment to provide both vocational and academic training is deep and longstanding. The Episcopal Church of Liberia is actively

seeking partnerships both within Liberia and among congregations and organizations in The Episcopal Church.

Partnerships

The Committee sees its ongoing role as encouraging partnerships. Such partnerships may include, but are not limited to, the following examples:

- Parish-to-parish relationships between The Episcopal Church and the Episcopal Church of Liberia
- Partnerships with bishops in The Episcopal Church. Bishop Hart is coming to the House of Bishops meeting in March 2014. Bishop Beckwith has agreed to facilitate conversations with bishops in The Episcopal Church whose diocese includes congregations that have been involved with the Episcopal Church of Liberia.
- With the Liberian Episcopal Community in the USA (LECUSA)
- With major donors, although we understand that this is a slow process.
- With Episcopal Relief and Development
- With the Presiding Bishop of The Episcopal Church and with appropriate church-wide staff
- Between Cuttington University and academic leaders
- Between the Episcopal Church Women in Liberia and their sisters in The Episcopal Church
- Between youth and young adult organizations in the Episcopal Church of Liberia and The Episcopal Church.

In order to facilitate these partnerships and to continue to strengthen our relationships with one another, the members of the Covenant Committee intend to be in regular communication with each other between now and our next anticipated meeting at General Convention 2015.

Finance

The Covenant Committee received extensive reporting on the financial state of the Episcopal Church of Liberia as of March 1, 2014; and noted that additional information would be forthcoming upon the return of the Diocesan Treasurer Mrs. D. Sheba Brown (who was out of the country on business in Mali for the National Bank of Liberia) and Mrs. Juanita Neal, Chair of the Board of Trustees, Episcopal Diocese of Liberia, who was traveling in India. The Committee noted progress made since the 2009 covenant report in improving the financial planning and oversight of diocesan programs and in property management. It also initiated a conversation about the status of investment funds held for Liberia by the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society (DFMS). Areas of significant development, which were witnessed and applauded by the Committee, include:

- Sustainability
- Property Management
- Investment Funds, the status of which the Committee also extensively discussed.

Sustainability

Committee members learned of steps taken by the Episcopal Church of Liberia to establish clear and measurable economic objectives. Every parish is now asked to pay to the diocese an annual assessment, or quota, which represents 5 percent of the net operating budget of the parish. The members of the Committee also learned that the diocese tracks the successes that have been achieved in meeting the objectives of the ECL budget. This helps to enhance the financial support for the diocese, the local churches, and communities.

Entrepreneurial leadership training was held for all clergy in 2011 at Cuttington University. It was hoped that the Planning and Development Board, with the support of Episcopal Relief and Development, could continue to train parish leadership to create, manage, and maintain parish-based agricultural, fishing, and other programs for income generation in order to support parish and congregational development.

The discussion of strategic planning includes the exploration and expansion of "parish-to-parish" administration guidelines to assure coordination in the United States for the collection and shipping of donated materials, for the clearing and distribution to designated recipients, and for reporting follow-up (perhaps with LECUSA and other companion support groups in the United States). We agree that this is necessary work, but the appropriate person to coordinate it has not yet been identified.

Property Management

The members of the Covenant Committee witnessed that the Diocesan Center has been moved from downtown to Sinkor in order to enable the extension and expansion of the lease of the office building at Ashmund and Randall. This enabled the installation of a new elevator by the ECL; an increase in rent for additional floors now being used by the National Oil Company of Liberia (on a year-to-year lease); and improvements to the leased property at the Jean Travis building, which was fully renovated under a long term lease agreement. The diocese has not written off the long-term loss of rental income from the Liberian government (1979-2009) estimated at more than US \$4 million, and now plans to go to court to sue for payment.

Options are being explored to lease the new office building at the Diocesan Center in Sinkor. The renovation of the unfinished apartment complex there has been negotiated and signed in a long-term lease agreement with a Roman Catholic education agency based in Lebanon, which will build and operate a school using the old bishop's residence and the unfinished apartments next to the beach.

Finally, the use of a downtown property owned by the Episcopal Church of Liberia near the cathedral is likewise under study, perhaps to be used for a car park in the short term and for the construction of a high-rise building in the long term.

Areas of concern that were discussed and noted for ongoing conversation and follow-up include the following:

- Diocesan Administrative Assistance: Oversight and Management. (Possibility of a missionary appointment in this area?)
- Pension Plan: Long-term financial viability (technical assistance with a study for a valuation of a defined-contribution plan versus a defined-benefit plan)
- Covenant Funding Status (Reviewing the 2009 Budget and Actual DFMS Funding for 2010-2014). Executive Council should make note of the unintentional error in the General Convention triennial budget process, and is asked to restore the funding that was agreed to in the covenant. (It should be noted that this is also an issue for The Episcopal Church's other covenant committees.)

Investment Funds

Trust Funds established for the Diocese of Liberia between 1857 and 2014, held and invested on behalf of the Diocese of Liberia by the DFMS, were reviewed; and the following categories were identified for recommendations to be made to the Executive Council of The Episcopal Church and to the 2016 diocesan convention of the Episcopal Church of Liberia:

- Endowment
- Restricted Funds: Income Education & Scholarship
- Diocesan, Education, Hospital, and Special Programs Support (pending reallocation approval)

Market values on all funds are from 09/30/2013:

Endowment Fund A [Income requested for local re-investment/use] = \$1,421,930

Class One: #853 990,475 [Income from this fund has been approved by Executive Council in February 2014]

Proposed purpose of the following Class Nine funds: Endowment

Class Nine: # 1 123,720
 #555 32,075
 #589 33,441 [Income available to Bishop pending allocation]
 #868 242,219
Total: \$1,421,930

Endowment Fund B [Income restricted pending allocation discussion w/CUC] = \$1,305,894 Income from these funds has been distributed to Cuttington University since 1985.

Class Twenty-Six:

#844 819,787 [Income allocation for CUC (and Church of the Province of West Africa/ECL)]
 #892 478,757 [Released for use by ECL after 2009 with CUC approval]
 #735 7,350 [Income available for CUC/Church Program]
Total: \$1,305,894

Restricted Income: Education/Scholarship Support = \$335,373

Class Nine: #67 9,153 [Reallocated for Education]
 #104 5,756 [School Support]
 #515 14,667 [School Support – Maintenance St. John’s Cape Mount]
 #280/622 185,117 [Girls Education/School Support –Bethany/Bromley]
 #74 17,545 [Scholarship – St. John’s Cape Mount]
 #113, 257, 259, 599 29,841 [Girls Scholarships]
 #141, 152, 153, 300, 341, 419 73,278 [Scholarships]
Total: \$335,373

Other Restricted Income Allocations = \$126,269

Class Nine: # 351 38,423 [Income Restricted: Support of Bishop/Office]
 Class Twenty-Six:
 #556 25,371 [Income Allocation: Hospital Fund]
 #893 62,475 [Income Restricted: Support of CUC President/Office]
Total: \$126,269

Diocesan Program Investment – Suggested for Reallocation = \$178,665 [w/Class 26 = 216,105]

Class Nine: #37 3,454 [Income to ECL/Boat Fund]
 #91 66,886 [Available for Reallocation: Education/Religious Work]
 #112 14,647 [Available for Education]
 #373 4,783 [Available for Children]
 #423 5,061 [1/2 of 10,000 fund split with Alaska]
 #433 7,666 [1/2 to be divided with the Episcopal Church in the Philippines]
 #458 22,887 [Available For Education]
 #483 38,779 [Available for Reallocation – Gender program]
 #577 10,768 [Available for School/Church Construction]
 #735 3,734 [Available for Technical School/Cape Mount]
Total: \$178,665

Class Twenty-Six:

#588 19,599 [Income available for Bishop pending appropriation]
 #688 17,841 [Hospital/Children's Program with approval of Presiding Bishop and DFMS Treasurer]
Total: \$37,440

The Episcopal Church has an enormous amount to learn from the Episcopal Church of Liberia. The Episcopal Church of Liberia has good understanding of steps needed to promote sustainability — specifically, entrepreneurial leadership development, strategic planning, and financial management. The Episcopal Church of Liberia is ahead of The Episcopal Church in this regard. Members of the Covenant Committee are committed to doing whatever they can to foster a mutual, life-giving relationship.

We hope that the relationship between The Episcopal Church and the Episcopal Church of Liberia continues. We are proud of the historical relationship between our two churches, which dates back to 1837. However, the ultimate foundation of our work is our mutual relationship with Jesus Christ. We hope that our relationships with one another in Christ will continue to develop as we work together to further God's mission in the world.

In peace, gratitude, and friendship,
 Mark Beckwith
 Sandi McPhee
 Theodora Brooks
 Liza Anderson
 Bruce Woodcock, *Ex Officio*
 Ranjit Mathews, *Ex Officio*

PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS

A112: ENCOURAGE SUPPORT FOR YASC AND EVIM

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That the 78th General Convention of The Episcopal Church encourage dioceses, seminaries, and parishes to recruit and support both Young Adult Service Core members (YASCers) and Episcopal Volunteers in Mission members (EVIMs), continuing General Convention’s commitment to increasing numbers of YASCers (30 for 2016, 40 for 2017, and 50 for 2018) and EVIMs (10 percent increase per year).

EXPLANATION

YASCers are valuable in developing relationships with global partners and for what they bring back to the communities from which they came. Likewise, EVIMs are important servants of the Church, as they bring their experience and expertise to the places where they are received, and bring the global Church back to their communities.

A113: CONTINUE DEVELOPMENT OF GLOBAL MISSION MAPPING PROJECT

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That the 78th General Convention of the Episcopal Church encourage the Office of the Presiding Bishop and the Executive committee to continue the development of the Global Mission Mapping Project.

EXPLANATION

The democratization of the Church’s mission has led to parishes, dioceses, and organizations to engage directly in mission. Thus there is a need for networking and collaboration in TEC for global mission activities; for easily accessible, interactive information indicating existing relationships between various global partners; and better communication and networking throughout the Church on mission-engagement activities.

A114: HONOR COVENANT AND BILATERAL AGREEMENTS

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That the 78th General Convention of The Episcopal Church, in continuing to honor its financial and other commitments undertaken as part of its covenant and bilateral agreements with other provinces and dioceses of the Anglican Communion, will not reduce those financial

commitments in any general, percentage-based reduction of the budget of the General Convention; and be it further

Resolved, That if these covenant and bilateral agreements permit, and if financial exigencies require a reduction in funding by the General Convention or Executive Council, consultation and notice of any reductions will be made immediately to our covenant or bilateral partners as well as to the members of the covenant or bilateral committees; and be it further

Resolved, That the policy of The Episcopal Church is to honor fully our financial commitments under our covenant or bilateral agreements.

EXPLANATION

Until the past two trienniums, The Episcopal Church has always fully honored its financial commitments as stated in its covenant and bilateral agreements with other provinces and dioceses of the Anglican Communion (Liberia, IARCA, Brazil, Philippines, and Mexico.)

In several instances, our mission partners were not informed of reductions and were surprised by unilateral actions of The Episcopal Church. Such actions, without consultation and in apparent violation of some of the agreements, may damage our relationships with our mission partners. This resolution rearms our commitments, and makes clear that our policy is to meet our financial commitments fully — and in those extraordinary circumstances when a reduction may be required — that we will consult and inform our partners about such actions. There is still rationale for continuing these commitments:

- a) IARCA – \$1,436,856 for the 2016-2018 triennium
- b) Liberia – \$366,369 for the 2016-2018 triennium
- c) Mexico – \$620,964 for the 2016-2018 triennium
- d) TEC needs to understand the ramifications and the result of its actions in 2009 concerning allocations for the Covenant Partners

Goals and Objectives for 2016-2018 Triennium

While the future of the Standing Commission on World Mission is unclear, pending results of the TREC report to General Convention, members of the Commission hope and pray that the foundations of the multiple global relationships that have been strengthened by many years of compassionate work will remain solid.

A full and thoughtful reading of this report will indicate that the work of sustaining current relationships and building new ones requires far more than the sincere and dedicated efforts of a subcommittee; it requires some continuity in terms of leadership and strategy — the kind of continuity offered by a Commission consisting of both lay and clergy members who are intentionally committed to world mission.

The level of trust that has been established through the years by the work of SCWM should be strengthened, especially in this time of world turmoil, rather than weakened by severe change that may not be clearly understood by our global partners. That being noted, the SCWM is moving forward with goals to enhance work that has already begun, to restore trust that has been eroded by promises that have not been kept, and to capitalize on the vital interest in mission work that youth and young adults are displaying.

The SCWM plans to move forward with:

- Preparation of a publication of best practices for short-term mission groups, including valuable and practical information from those who have led or participated in such activities;

- The design and implementation of a significant program/conference/training to walk alongside Covenant Partners as they move towards self-sustainability;
- The continuation of attendance at global partner mission conferences as funds allow; and
- The networking and coordination of global mission activities across TEC.

Budget

For the 2013-2015 triennium, the Standing Commission on World Mission was allotted \$16,000.

1. Lack of funds has seriously impeded this Commission's work, such as:
 - a) Covenant Partners meeting — A110 (GC 2012) has precedent from 2007 or 2008, when Covenant partners attended part of the Executive Council meeting and then met with the SCWM.
 - b) Inability to meet in Cuba or other non-US site, limiting the Commission's ability to meet personally with global partners.
 - c) Lack of face-to-face meetings; does not help the productivity of the group; has limited usefulness.
 - d) Attendance at global mission conferences came out of attendees' personal funds, thus limiting representation.

To meet its programmatic and policy-making responsibilities, the Standing Commission on World Mission respectfully requests for the 2016-2018 triennium the same amount requested in 2012: \$95,000.