

## Global Relations Program Report: October 2009 – February 2010

The following report summarizes the work of Global Relations program staff and Working Group since the PMEJC meeting in October 2009. Activities noted are among the normal responsibilities of Global Relations staff and working group, and tasks recommended in October and subsequently.

### A. Relations with Global Partners

1. Coordinator Travel:
  - a. October-November: Diocese of Uruguay, Codrington College Barbados and Séminaire Théologies d'Église Épiscopale du Haïti to meet, experience each locale for the first time, and consult church partners about current and future relationship priorities. Highlights included affirmation of ongoing relationship and more people-centred activity to the mutual benefit of programs and constituency education, and the celebration of historic and emerging life in Christ together. Travel report is available online:
  - b. December: Asia Pacific Forum, Chicago to meet and consult with new General Secretary of China Christian Council/Three Self Movement toward renewed relationship between the CCC/TSPM and North American churches.
2. Correspondence:
  - a. Ongoing including: response to inquiries from partners and others for financial support for new mission priorities; inquiries to partners for analysis and advice in developing policy positions and resolutions for prayer, education and advocacy; response to the current situation of the Episcopal Diocese of Haiti; questions regarding opportunities for Canadian Anglican theological internships; greetings for use in partners' special events such as anniversaries and Primatial enthronements; follow up on year-end financial and narrative reporting on the use of grants; monitoring of and assistance with international scholarship students, Christmas cards.
3. Grants and Scholarships:
  - a. 2009 budgeted grants and scholarships dispersed, monitored and accounted for in full.
  - b. 2010 budget developed and approved with significant reduction in number of grants and some reduction in the amount of remaining grants. Reduction was made in response to General Synod Management requests. Decisions to suspend grants from certain partners and not others were made on the basis of a partner's comparative financial stability as per financial and/or audited statements, breadth of other supporting partners and relative value of Global Relations funding in partners' overall budgets. In cases where Global Relations grants represented less than 5% of a

partner's annual operating budget, the grant was suspended. Case by case consideration of a partners' comparative contextual situation e.g. in a country at war or not, also took place. Scholarships will continue with existing students as needed until graduation but new scholarships will not be awarded in anticipation of budget cuts in 2011 and 2012. Global Relations Working Group (GRWG) members requested information on criteria and recommendations for reductions, for background and support in discussion with Canadian church members. With apology, due to time constraints this information was not sent post-October prior to COGS. For more information on Global Relations 2010 budget see Partnerships budget document and Global Relations 2010 narrative budget.

- c. **Note:** In the face of cutbacks to the 2010 grants and scholarship budget, GRWG affirmed the principle that as a national church we understand ourselves globally in relationship with partner churches, whether or not this has financial implications. GRWG suggested alternatives for further consultation to existing ways of relationship with the global Anglican family here in Canada and around the world.

#### 4. Meetings with North American and European Church Partners

- a. Asia Pacific Forum, Chicago, with denominational Asia Pacific staff of 10 North American churches for the purpose of sharing information, coordinate planning of events and travel as possible, host regional partner for fellowship and learning: CCC/TSPM
- b. Church of North India and Church of South India Relations Committee, 2010 meeting planning
- c. The Episcopal Church Africa Partnership conversation, for information sharing and deeper intentional future collaboration
- d. Kairos Middle East Working Group to monitor, consider, discuss, with Kairos staff
  - i. the implications of Kairos' CIDA cut on the Middle East program in particular
  - ii. allegations of Kairos' anti-Semitism related to Palestinian partner organizations
  - iii. the role of the World Council of Church Palestine Israel Ecumenical Form document *Kairos Palestine* (December 2009) in subsequent Canadian ecumenical policy and advocacy re: Palestine and Israel

#### 5. Meetings with Church House Colleagues

- a. Middle East Working Group, comprised of representatives of Partnerships, Faith Worship and Ministry, Journal, Library, PWRDF, Primate's Office, General Secretary, to share information and collaborate effectively in developing of deeper, broader partnership

with the Diocese of Jerusalem, as per the Primate's and General Synod 2007's directive.

B. General Synod, PMEJC and Partnerships Department

- a. Partnerships and PWRDF Presence at General Synod: Meetings with staff to plan a coordinated program presence within display areas and other venues at General Synod, Halifax
- b. Developing Nominations criteria for PMEJC 2010-2013 for General Synod Nominations Committee
- c. Global Relations Working Group input to Vision 2010 draft document, for PMEJC response to Vision 2019 Committee
- d. Staff meetings to continue discernment of effective merger of Ecojustice and Partners in Mission programs, develop 2010 work plans, adjust to changing program staffing

C. Relations within Anglican Church of Canada

- a. Telling the Partnerships Story: speaking opportunities in the Dioceses of New Westminster and British Columbia as part of regular parish 'lunch and learn' series, and vigils for Haiti; submissions of stories, ideas and photos to PWOP, Journal and General Synod web stories,
- b. Responding/making referrals to various church member inquiries for information on Haiti, Palestine, Israel, Sri Lanka, China, Cuba, Zimbabwe, etc.
- c. Volunteer involvement in IAWN-Vancouver

D. 2010 Work Plan in Brief

- a. Consultation process with global partners towards clearer direction and purpose of relationships for mission and ecojustice, and subsequent development of triennial program plan and 2011 budget for PMEJC October 2010
- b. Staff support to General Synod Nominations Committee, June
- c. International Travel:
  - a. UN Council on the Status of Women and IAWN, New York, March
  - b. Provinces of Central Africa, Kenya and Tanzania, March
  - c. Christian Conference of Asia General Assembly, Kuala Lumpur, and Episcopal Church in the Philippines, Philippines Independent Church, Philippines, April.
  - d. China Christian Council, September (to be confirmed)
  - e. Provinces of Melanesia and Papua New Guinea, Pacific Conference of Churches, Fiji, November
  - f. Province of Myanmar Anglican Gathering, Myanmar, and Church of Ceylon, Sri Lanka, November - December