



SECRETARIATUS
AD CHRISTIANORUM UNITATEM FOVENDAM

53
E. Civitate Vaticana, die 28th March, 1977

Prot. N. 860/77

IN PREPARATIONE DEI VERBIS TUAERUM

The Rt. Revd. John W.A. Howe, M.A. B.D.
Secretary General
Anglican Consultative Council
32 Eccleston Street
LONDON SW1W 9PY, England.

Dear John,

Pierre Duprey, who has had to go away for some days, asked me to answer your letter about the consultation on Women Priests.

The point he asked to be made was that budgeting reasons may compel a postponement until the spring of next year. This is reinforced by the fact that (as he agreed with me) it will be unrealistic to have the discussion without some substantial and carefully chosen representation from the U.S.A. (your point d, in other words), which means a larger bill.

The situation there at present is a tricky one, and I am anxious to avoid having this consultation still-born by having our participation either unrepresentative or lacking in credibility.

I am going to the United States during May (immediately after the Archbishop's visit,) and hope to do something about the problem while I am in Washington. It is a hard thing to work at by correspondence.

You can take it that all the other points in your letter are acceptable, though how (a) will work out can only be solved ambulando.

Yours ever,

W.A. Purdy.