

Copy of a letter from the Ven. E.S. Light, General Secretary, Anglican Church of Canada, to the Revd. Christopher Hill dated 17th October 1977

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At the August 1977 Meeting of the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada Canon Eugene Fairweather reported on the work of the Anglican/Roman Catholic International Commission and in particular, the Statement on "Authority in the Church". Synod approved the following Resolution:

"That General Synod receive the Report of the Anglican/Roman Catholic International Commission on Authority in the Church and commend it for study and comment by all levels of the Church before the next General Synod."

The work of the Commission enjoys wide support in our Church and in approving the following Resolution, Synod indicated something of the measure of this support:

"That the General Synod send greetings to the members of the International Commission expressing its gratitude for the Statements on Eucharist, Ministry and Authority, which the Commission has prepared. We recognize the sense of love, concern and prayer in which the Statements were developed and encourage the Commission to continue its deliberations."

At our General Synod we had with us as "Partners-In-Mission" representatives from the Canadian Council of Churches; the Anglican Council of North America and the Caribbean; the Church in Ecuador; the Philippine Independent Church; the World Council of Churches; the Episcopal Church U.S.A.; St. Paul's United Theological College, Limuru, Kenya; and the Canadian Conference of Roman Catholic Bishops. In their first report to Synod the "Partners" commented as follows:

"The ARCIC Statement on authority has intriguing possibilities for ecumenical movement. We are concerned, however, that thus far these conversations have drawn their leadership exclusively from European and North American sources. Believing that partnership in mission implies partnership in ecclesiological reflection we hope the Anglican Church of Canada might feel constrained to press the appropriate authorities to liberate ARCIC discussions from their present North Atlantic captivity."

You may wish to bring this "Comment" to the attention of the Commission at its next meeting.