Standing Committee Report to the Anglican Consultative Council

Introduction

1. This paper reports to ACC17 on the structure, meetings and work of the Standing Committee since ACC16 in Lusaka in 2016.

Standing Committee membership

2. The Standing Committee is the executive body formed by election from ACC and the Primates who have the responsibility for conducting the business of ACC between meetings and supporting and directing the work of the Secretary General and, through him, ACO staff. The ACC is formally established and registered as a charitable company under English law and Standing Committee members are trustees of the charity.

3. The Standing Committee from 2016 comprised:

   - President: The Archbishop of Canterbury
   - Chair (elected by ACC): The Most Revd Dr Paul Kwong, Hong Kong
   - Vice Chair (elected by ACC): Canon Maggie Swinson, England
   - 7 members elected by ACC: The Rt Revd Jane Alexander, Canada; The Rt Revd Eraste Bigirimana, Burundi; Mr Alistair Dinnie, Scotland; Mr Jeroham Melendez, Central America; Ms Louisa Mojela, South Africa; The Revd Nigel Pope, North India; The Rt Revd Joel Waweru Mwangi, Kenya
   - 5 members elected by Primates (and forming the Primates’ Standing Committee): The Most Revd Dr Mouneer Annis, Jerusalem and the Middle East; The Most Revd Dr Richard Clarke, Ireland; The Most Revd Dr Philip Freier, Australia; The Most Revd & Rt Hon Dr John Holder, West Indies; The Most Revd Dr Thabo Makgoba, Southern Africa

4. The Revd Nigel Pope ceased to be a member of Standing Committee when he moved province to Australia and was no longer an ACC member for the Church of North India. Standing Committee discussed the resulting casual vacancy, but decided not to appoint a replacement member.

5. Archbishop Mouneer Annis concluded his term as primate in 2017 and Archbishop John Holder retired in 2018 at which point both ceased their membership of the Primates’ Standing Committee. Neither could be replaced by the alternate elected by the primates for their respective regions.
Subsequently, new elections were held in the context of regional Primates Meetings and the following were elected

The Most Revd Suheil Dawani  Jerusalem and the Middle East
The Most Revd Julio Murray Thompson  Central America

6. Two current Standing Committee members the Bishop Eraste Bigirimana and Ms Louisa Mojela complete their term at ACC17. Given the vacancy referred to in 4 above there will therefore be an election to fill three Standing Committee places at ACC17.

Standing Committee meetings

7. ACC Resolution 16.43 changed the ACC Constitution to enable meetings to be held electronically. This facility has been used extensively over the past three years and as a consequence Standing Committee has met far more regularly then previously, Meetings have been held as follows:

- April 2016 following the conclusion of ACC16 in person in Lusaka
- September 2017 in person in London
- January 2018 conference call
- May 2018 conference call
- September 2018 in person in London
- January 2019 conference call
- March 2019 conference call
- April 2019 in advance of ACC17 in person in Hong Kong

8. Face to face meetings held in September 2017 and September have each lasted for four days with the presence of the Archbishop of Canterbury for approximately two days. These meetings, held at the 2018, have included time spent in worship and prayer.

9. At each of its face to face meetings Standing Committee receives written and verbal reports form the Secretary General, from ACO Directors and from authorised Networks of the Communion. Other matters significant to the administration of the Communion and the management of the ACO have been considered. During this period Standing Committee has responded to requests for consideration for provincial status from Sudan and Chile. Conference call meetings have typically conducted urgent and timely business. Minutes of the meetings of Standing Committee are published on the ACC website.

10. The Inter Anglican Finance and Administration Committee has also benefited from the ability to hold meetings electronically. Meetings have been as follows:

- September 2017 in person in London
- January 2018 conference call
- May 2018 conference call
- September 2018 in person in London
- January 2019 conference call
- April 2019 in advance of ACC17 in person in Hong Kong

11. Following each of its meetings the Inter Anglican Finance and Administration Committee reports to Standing Committee.

Standing Committee
April 2019