



International Anglican Women's Network Report to ACC-18

Report to ACC18

a. To define briefly the mission of the Network and describe how it relates to the Five Marks of Mission.

The International Anglican Women's Network (IAWN) serves as a global voice of Anglican women, links women from around the world and is an official network of the worldwide Anglican Communion. Our Vision is to be a bold and prophetic voice for Anglican women throughout the Anglican Communion and in the wider world. Our Purpose is to enable and empower all women of the Anglican Communion to work cooperatively at national, provincial and communion-wide levels to strengthen the ministries of women in God's world and to ensure women are influential and equal participants throughout the entire Anglican Communion. We work to uphold the God-given dignity of women and girls, to eradicate gender-based inequality and violence, and to promote just relationships among all people'. Here is a link to the IAWN Brochure (which will be updated following the ACC-18) <https://iawn.anglicancommunion.org/media/348920/IAWN-trifold-2019.pdf>

Our objectives and activities are aligned with ACC Resolutions 16.02 on Women and Men in Church and Society, and 16.03 on Gender Equality and Justice. Every Anglican woman throughout the Communion is welcome to be involved in the activities of the Network. Each Primate is encouraged to nominate a IAWN Provincial Link, who becomes the official link between the IAWN's steering group and women in each Province.

The mission of the International Anglican Women's Network reflects all the Five Marks of Mission. Anglican women share the gospel as they work in communities through their leadership and witness in a multitude of ways; Anglican women are often the primary educators in families and communities; Anglican women tend through care and pastoral visits; Anglican women transform societies every day through engaging with people within all walks of life, advocating and challenging injustices; Anglican women treasure the earth as they understand the importance of peaceful coexistence with the planet, and are disproportionately impacted by the climate emergency despite having the least carbon footprint.

b. To give a brief overview of activities undertaken since the last ACC to express the mission of Network (bearing in mind the last period has been essentially all under a global pandemic context.)

All global networks have been challenged throughout the past three years due to the covid pandemic. The internet, however, has provided a mechanism to stay in touch. Communication and interaction has been via the internet throughout the pandemic, which means that globally the IAWN has become increasingly accessible. The Steering Group of the International Anglican Women's Network has met monthly online and quarterly online with Provincial Links.

In response to ACC Resolution 16.02 God's Justice: Theology and Gender-Based Violence is the Anglican Communion's new resource written by scholars, clergy, and laity from different parts of the Anglican Communion to show how the Bible and Christian teachings can support just, loving, and mutually respectful relationships. It also offers ways churches can and should respond to gender-based injustice, abuse, and violence. https://www.anglicancommunion.org/media/483307/Gender-Justice_Gods-Justice-Theology-and-Gender_Resource_A4_WEB_2207.pdf

We have shared the work and stories of women in the Anglican Communion through our:

1. Email listserv – emails sent to members.
2. Newsletters - published in English, French, Spanish and Portuguese. In the latest edition of the IAWN Newsletter, the theme of Women in Leadership was explored with stories of how a new generation of empowered female leaders from across the Anglican Communion is the driving force behind positive action within their communities.
3. Facebook group - closed group.
4. Resources: Additional information and resources can be found on the IAWN webpages at <https://iawn.anglicancommunion.org> including on ending Gender-based violence, preventing Human Trafficking, 16 Days of Activism and other issues.
5. Relationships/keeping connected.

c. To share goals and plans over the coming three years until ACC19 in 2026.

IAWN priorities are those raised by our members. The Steering Group has decided to meet bi-monthly in 2023 and in the alternate months to meet in smaller working groups covering the following areas of work:

1. Review the IAWN strategy
2. Research and plan funding applications and fundraising in general
3. Develop and prepare newsletters
4. Plan the next in person meeting
5. Strengthen communications and social media

Fundraising remains a challenge as the Network relies on donations from individual members and church organisations. Currently we are very grateful for the financial support received from the Provinces of Australia and Aotearoa, New Zealand & Polynesia. We are actively looking for funding for our planned in person meeting later in 2023 due to be in Eswatini.

d. Describe briefly one highlight you would like to celebrate from the last three years.

Collaboration on resources, campaigns and newsletters with other Networks including the International Anglican Family Network, the Anglican Communion Youth Network and the Anglican Communion Environmental Network. The 16 Days of Activism Campaign in 2022 against gender-based violence provided opportunities for stories to be shared about where women are missing. The IAWN had a different social media post every day from a different part of the Communion shared by members from all over the world.

Keeping in touch with Anglican Women around the Communion has been a vital part of supporting one another through the pandemic. It has been heartening to develop and strengthen relationships and to offer one another solidarity especially where challenges have been intense.

The **Lambeth Conference** provided a platform for women to share their stories through a number of seminars. The Resource Centre at the Lambeth Conference enabled further engagement including with Ghana TV by representatives of the IAWN. It was inspiring to witness the 97 women bishops present including two members of the IAWN: Rt Revd Dr Dalcy Dlamini (Eswatini) and Rt Revd Mary Stallard (Wales).

The IAWN has been greatly encouraged by the appointment of Mandy Marshall as Director for Gender Justice at the ACC. Mandy's engagement through her leadership, activism and encouragement has been a source of inspiration and motivation.

e. What one question would you like the ACC to discuss?

How important is the ACC resolution on gender equality, how is it addressed in your context and what are the outcomes?