The Global South of the Anglican Communion
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The Rt Hon the Lord Luce KG, GCVO
Chairman
Crown Nominations Commission

20 July 2012

Appointment of a new Archbishop of Canterbury

The Global South of the Anglican Communion, comprising more than fifty-five million
of the eighty million members of the Anglican Communion, deeply appreciate our
historical relation with the See of Canterbury. We therefore commend the following to the
Crown Nominations Commission for your serious consideration.

It is the reality of the Anglican Communion in the 21st Century that the majority of
Anglicans are found within the Global South, especially in Africa. Resulting from the
faithful witness of Western missionaries over the past two hundred years, Anglicans
today stand in worship and witness amidst diverse cultures, among ancient traditions and
often in inter-religious tensions.

As noted in the media release of the Church of England on the appointment of the
Archbishop of Canterbury, one of his responsibilities is to be “the Focus of Unity of the
Anglican Communion... primus inter pares among the bishops.” This role calls for the
new Archbishop of Canterbury to always act in a conciliar and collegial manner with
his fellow Primates because his decisions will affect the life and witness of Provinces
worldwide.

The new Archbishop of Canterbury should have the experience and cross-cultural
sensitivity to understand the concerns and conflicts in the worldwide Communion.
He has to be able to communicate effectively with, and gain the respect and
confidence of, his fellow Primates in the Global South. He has to be able, together with
his fellow Primates, to more effectively restructure the Anglican Communion Office
and the Anglican Consultative Council to better serve the Communion.

At a time when the Christian faith faces challenges from other religious as well as secular
worldviews, the new Archbishop of Canterbury must be committed to uphold the
orthodoxy of the Christian “faith that was once for all entrusted to the saints” (Jude
3). To fulfil his calling and vow as Guardian of Faith, he must have the capacity to
collectively put into effect the decisions taken at Lambeth Conferences and Primates
Meetings, especially on issues that have led to the present crisis in the Communion.

To secure the future and the unity of the Communion at a foundational level, the new
Archbishop of Canterbury has to work with his fellow Primates to address the ecclesial
deficit of the Anglican Communion highlighted in the report of the Windsor
Continuation Group.
The Archbishop of Canterbury is also responsible to work with ecumenical partners for the unity of the “one holy catholic and apostolic Church”. The new Archbishop of Canterbury must be able to **build upon the work of his predecessors while avoiding any further actions that may widen the gap between us and these partners.**

In conclusion, the Global South Primates expect to be consulted on this decision of great importance for the Communion, and look forward eagerly to the new Archbishop of Canterbury to uplift God’s people in the Anglican fold worldwide in obedience to God’s Word.

We wholeheartedly pray and hope that the unity of our beloved Anglican Communion will be restored and strengthened.

Faithfully in Christ,

Most Rev Dr Mouneer Anis  
Primate, The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem & Middle East  
Chairman, Global South Primates Steering Committee

Most Rev Nicholas Okoh  
Primate, The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)  
Vice-Chairman, Global South Primates Steering Committee

Most Rev Ian Ernest  
Primate, The Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean  
Honorary Secretary, Global South Primates Steering Committee

Most Rev Bolly Lapok  
Primate, The Church of the Province of South East Asia  
Honorary Treasurer, Global South Primates Steering Committee

Most Rev Stephen Than  
Primate, The Church of the Province of Myanmar (Burma)  
Member, Global South Primates Steering Committee

Most Rev Henri Isingoma  
Primate, Province de l’Eglise Anglique du Congo  
Member, Global South Primates Steering Committee
Most Rev Daniel Deng
Primate, The Episcopal Church of the Sudan
Member, Global South Primates Steering Committee

Most Rev Dr Eliud Wabukala
Primate, The Anglican Church of Kenya
Member, Global South Primates Steering Committee

Most Rev David Yunagi
Primate, The Church of the Province of Melanesia

Most Rev Joseph Kopapa
Primate, The Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea

Most Rev Onesphore Rwaje
Primate, Province de l’Eglise Angllicane au Rwanda

Most Rev Bernard Ntahoturi
Primate, The Anglican Church of Burundi

Most Rev Valentino Mokiwa
Primate, The Anglican Church of Tanzania

Right Rev Dr Chad Gandiya
Representing the Primate of The Church of the Province of Central Africa

Right Rev Dr Johannes Seoka
Representing the Primate of The Anglican Church of Southern Africa

Right Rev Matthias Medadues-Badohu
Representing the Primate of The Church of the Province of the West Africa

Right Rev Peter Bartlett
Representing the Primate of Iglesia Anglicana del Cono Sur de America

cc: Most Rev Dr Barry Morgan
Primate representing the Anglican Communion, Crown Nominations Commission