FULL-TEXT Interconfessional Dialogue

CENTRO PRO UNIONE
"Ut Omnes Unum Sint"

A-OO Anglican-Oriental Orthodox

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JOINT COMMUNIQUÉ

George Carey, Archbishop of Canterbury, and Karekin I, Supreme Catholicos of All Armenians

Lambeth Palace, London, England, 10 November 1997

During this historic visit we have had the opportunity to pray and talk together, we have been mindful not only of the long-standing relationship between the Armenian Apostolic Church and the Anglican Communion, but also of the new situation that now exists in the independent Republic of Armenia – a cause of great joy.

Our thoughts and discussions have turned towards our hopes for the deepening relations between our two churches around the world and our common commitment to the mission of Christ's church in conformity to his command to baptize and make disciples of all nations (Matt. 28:19).

We give thanks for our theological discussions, especially those of the Anglican-Oriental Orthodox international forum. We hope that, building on the work of this forum and that of other ecumenical dialogues, we will soon be able to reach a consensus indicating substantive convergence on the formerly divisive christological issue.

We give thanks for the close relationships between provinces of the Anglican Communion and the Armenian Apostolic Church throughout the world and encourage the deepening of these relationships in life and witness at the local level.

We recognize that all churches are faced with common challenges in an increasingly secular culture, and we commit ourselves to bilateral discussions and work together where possible on these issues. Further, we commit ourselves to developing partnerships and sharing resources and insights particularly in Christian education, sector ministries and chaplaincies and other similar areas.

We rejoice that we have had the opportunity to meet and pray together. Especially we were privileged to join together on Remembrance Sunday in common prayer for the victims, not only the dead of all wars but in particular for those victims of the Armenian genocide. In faithfulness to the saints and martyrs who have gone before us and mindful of the dawning of the third Christian millennium and the 1700th anniversary of the foundation of Christianity in Armenia in 200I, we recommit ourselves and our churches to the search for unity in Christ, our resurrection and our life.