



Provincial Synod of the Anglican Church of Southern Africa

Resolution 22 – AN ECO-PROVINCE AND ECO- CONGREGATIONS

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This Synod

- A. Aware of the intricacy and wonder of God's creation and giving thanks to God for the gift of life on this planet, our only home,
- B. Recognises that we humans are integrally part of this web of life and that our well-being is dependent on the health and well-being of this planet;
- C. Furthermore recognises that God has mandated us to care for and keep this web of life for future generations;

1. Notes that:

- 1.1. One of the five marks of mission of the Anglican Communion is "To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew life of the earth" and that ACSA Environmental Network (ACSAEN), SAFCEI (Southern African Faith Communities' Environmental Institute), Diakonkia, A Rocha, JAEI (Johannesburg Environmental Initiative) and other organisations are promoting the application of this through the Eco-congregation movement;
- 1.2. Protectors of each other: of the natural world, of the poor and vulnerable";

- 1.3. For a number of decades, Provincial Synod has passed resolutions on our responsibility towards the environment;
- 1.4. In ACSA's Vision and Mission Statement resolution of Provincial Synod (2010), the environment is one of the priorities;
- 1.5. Our Archbishop is currently Co-ordinator of the Anglican Communion Environmental Network; and
- 1.6. We live in an era of rapid and destructive climate change which affects us all; with the impact being on the poorest and most vulnerable.

2. Resolves:

- 2.1. To call on all ACSA parishes to include creation care as an essential component of Christian mission and encourages them to become part of the Eco-congregation movement in order to inspire, encourage and assist congregations to become centres that demonstrate sustainable living as they seek to fulfil the responsibility to God to care for life on this planet.
- 2.2. To work towards the Anglican Church of , including taking the following steps:
 - 2.2.1. In our ministry and mission,
 - I. Strive to use our land, buildings and all other resources in an ecologically sustainable way and
 - II. In our travel monitor and reduce our "carbon footprint";
 - 1.2.2. In the process of revising the Prayer Book, ensure that earth-affirming liturgies are included;
 - 1.2.3. Taking appropriate action to "green" our Provincial Synod, other synods, events and other meetings;
 - 1.2.4. Adding to the canonical responsibilities of Parish Counsellors that of environmental responsibility (Canon 28.4(a));

- 1.2.5. To call on the ACSA Environmental Network to provide appropriate resources to assist in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of this process;
- 1.2.6. To respectfully call on the Archbishop to submit reports to the provincial Synod and Provincial Standing Committee on the progress made towards becoming an “Eco-Province”.