

SECRETARY GENERAL: Bishop John Howe

32 ECCLESTON STREET LONDON SW1W 9PY

TELEPHONE - 01-730 5271/2 CABLES: COMPASROSE LONDON SWI

3rd August, 1976.

The Revd. Christopher J. Hill, The Archbishop of Canterbury's Counsellors on Foreign Relations, Palace Court, 222 Lambeth Road, LONDON, SEI 7LB.

My dear Christopher,

Many thanks for your letter of 30th July about Monsignor Moeller's letter. I am sure that the suggestions you make about the Secretariat's confusion and how it arose are correct. I agree too about the kind of response you proposed to the latter.

If it is to concern the ACC, then I am sure it has to be on the point the Archbishop quoted in his original letter from the Note which emanated from the informal talks last November, namely a discussion of relationships between Churches that have women Priests and Churches that don't.

The other question, on the matter of the Ordination of women itself, is something on which the ACC at Limuru and Dublin stated its position, and I would not be able to assume otherwise. So that would be a Church of England matter if it is taken up at all.

Yes, it would take several months to name a representative Anglican team for such talks, and therefore it might take anything up to a year between a decision that we go shead and the actual first Meeting.

On the matter of costs, I have little doubt that the Meeting arranged by the Vatican would be in Rome. I am less sure that the Anglican Meeting would be in England. It might conceivably be in Singapore or Los Angeles. For discussion of the kind I have mentioned, I think the ACC could find much of the money from its Ecumenical Fund, and I think I would be within my competence to agree in due course that it should do so without my referring the matter to an ACC Committee. The purpose of the ACC Ecumenical Fund is sufficiently clear.

Changing the subject, do you have a copy of what the Archbishop of Canterbury said in General Synod about his correspondence with the Pope? If a copy exists, I should be glad to have one for the record here.

With many thanks and all good wishes,

Yours ever,

10hm