

STANDING COMMITTEE

R25/17

Equal Representation of Women

The Rev'd Tracy Lauersen moving, Ms Audrey Mills seconding

The General Synod -

1. Notes with disappointment that the resolution of the 2007 fourteenth Session of General Synod in regard to the equal representation of Women on General Synod Bodies (GS85/07) has not been effectively implemented, with equal representation of women on only three of the General Synod's current 27 Bodies.
2. Requests the next General Synod Standing Committee to
 - a) Re-commit to the principle of equal representation of women in membership of its bodies and to ensure that this goal is met the Standing Committee agree to a target that all General Synod bodies (General Synod commissions, task forces and working groups) have 50% equal representation of women in their membership by 1st December 2019 wherever legislatively and practically possible.
 - b) Apply the principle of equal representation of women in membership of organisations where Standing Committee make appointments to other bodies wherever this is legislatively and practically possible.
 - c) Review annually the progress of this target.
3. Encourages each diocese to adopt the target of 50% equal representation of women in elections and appointments wherever legislatively and practically possible and to report back to the next General Synod.
4. Requests Standing Committee to report progress on this matter to the 18th Session of General Synod.

4 September 2017

R36/17

Church Law Commission Membership

The Hon Richard Refshauge moving, Bishop John Parkes seconding

That having regard to:

- (a) The history of clergy membership on the Church Law Commission;
- (b) The fact that Church Law matters can affect the clergy in a way different to the way it affects the laity;
- (c) The desirability of theological considerations being taken into account and informing Church Law,

the Primate, when appointing members to the Church Law Commission on the advice of the Standing Committee under section 14 of the Strategic Issues, Commissions, Task Forces and Networks Canon 1998, give active consideration to the appointment of at least one member of the Clergy to the Church Law Commission.

5 September 2017

R39/17	<p>Report Content Policy</p> <p>The Rev'd Gavin Poole moving, The Rev'd Paul Hunt seconding</p> <p>Synod requests Standing Committee to consider writing a policy that requires minimum mandatory information to be included in reports to Synod from commissions, task forces and working groups. Such information should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Expenses incurred compared to budget and reasons for variation; (b) Frequency and attendance at meetings; (c) Membership changes; and (d) Synod resolutions addressed by the group. <p style="text-align: right;">5 September 2017</p>
R47/17	<p>Viability and Structures Steering Group Report to General Synod</p> <p>Bishop Andrew Curnow AM moving, Bishop John Stead seconding</p> <p>The General Synod</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Recognises that all growth will come through faithful, action trusting in God's enlivening work; 2) Notes that the precise structural changes needed to fit the Anglican Church in Australia for the future are not yet known; 3) Notes the importance of children in the ministry of the Lord Jesus and requests each Diocese to construct a holistic ministry and mission plan for children and young people in conjunction with other Dioceses in their Province. 4) Requests Standing Committee to report to General Synod possible concrete structural changes that will aid the provision of ministry and the extension of mission across Australia noting particularly the role and requirements of Pioneer Ministry and theological formation for lay and ordained ministry; 5) Receives the report of the Viability and Structures Steering Group and endorses the recommendations contained in the report as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to help ensure we develop the visionary church leaders required by the future, Bishops (and, ideally, next generation Bishops) should be intentionally equipped and enabled through the establishment of a holistic continuing leadership development program. • to improve the quality and consistency of knowledge and best practices across the Church, the apparatus should be established to facilitate collaboration, including the sharing and communication of ideas, resources and information. • to enhance the missional effectiveness of the Church, each Diocese is requested to develop a Mission Action Plan, including timelines and resource requirements for implementation, and report back to the Standing Committee. • because it is essential that necessary future change is constructively considered on a timely basis, the Bishops are asked to implement a process – to be endorsed at the first national Bishops' meeting following General Synod – through which, on a regular basis, they would collectively assess any need for significant change and seek to agree how to effect the necessary change.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• to help ensure the implementation of the recommendations above, the Standing Committee should seek, receive, review and approve sensible resource and funding applications for each of these recommendations. <p>6) Asks the Standing Committee and the House of Bishops to review and facilitate the progress of implementation of these recommendations and present proposals, with actionable plans, to a meeting of Standing Committee in 2018.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">6 September 2017</p>
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