

GENERAL SYNOD

FEBRUARY 2008 GROUP OF SESSIONS

BUSINESS DONE AT 4.33 P.M.

ON THURSDAY 14TH FEBRUARY 2008

FAREWELLS

- 16 The ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY paid tribute to the Bishop of Sheffield and the Bishop of Truro who were attending their last meeting of the Synod.

DETENTION WITHOUT CHARGE

Report from the Mission and Public Affairs Council (GS 1681)

Members of the Faith Communities Consultative Forum of the Interfaith Network, sitting in the public gallery, were welcomed by the Synod.

- 14 The motion

‘That this Synod, mindful both of the Christian teaching that enforcement of law should be just in process and outcome, and of the challenge that the advent of suicide attacks poses for the general public and for those who bear responsibility for protecting the public from terrorism:

- (a) emphasise the importance of society maintaining a careful balance between the liberty of the individual and the needs of national security;
- (b) express grave concern that an extension to the current 28-day maximum period for detention without charge of terrorist suspects would, in the absence of the most compelling arguments, disturb that balance unacceptably;
- (c) while welcoming the release of most UK prisoners from Guantanamo Bay, deplore the continued holding of prisoners there without charge or due process and encourage Her Majesty’s Government to continue to use all available means to press the United States administration to close the Guantanamo Bay facility and restore the full application of the rule of law; and
- (d) affirm the desirability of an early review by the Government of the restrictions and other obligations that may be imposed on individuals under the Prevention of Terrorism Act 2005 and the use of undisclosed material in control order proceedings.’

was moved.

37 The amendment (Item 37 Order Paper VII) was lost.

14 The motion

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- (a) emphasise the importance of society maintaining a careful balance between the liberty of the individual and the needs of national security;
- (b) express grave concern that an extension to the current 28-day maximum period for detention without charge of terrorist suspects would, in the absence of the most compelling arguments, disturb that balance unacceptably;
- (c) while welcoming the release of most UK prisoners from Guantanamo Bay, deplore the continued holding of prisoners there without charge or due process and encourage Her Majesty’s Government to continue to use all available means to press the United States administration to close the Guantanamo Bay facility and restore the full application of the rule of law; and
- (d) affirm the desirability of an early review by the Government of the restrictions and other obligations that may be imposed on individuals under the Prevention of Terrorism Act 2005 and the use of undisclosed material in control order proceedings.’

was carried after a division of the whole Synod. The voting was as follows:

IN FAVOUR	235
AGAINST	2
RECORDED ABSTENTIONS	7

PROROGATION

The ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY prorogued the Synod at 4.33 p.m.

D. J. Williams
Chk 6 to Synod

Thanky for my 14th, 2008
1731 hrs