

GENERAL SYNOD
DRAFT ECUMENICAL RELATIONS MEASURE
DRAFT AMENDING CANON NO. 38

REPORT OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE OF MEMBERS IN CHARGE

Chair: The Ven. Dr Jane Steen, Archdeacon of Southwark (Southwark)

Members: Dr Chris Angus (Carlisle)
The Rt Worshipful Timothy Briden (*ex officio*)
The Revd Alyson Buxton (Lincoln)
Professor Joyce Hill (Leeds) (Chair of the Revision Committee)
Canon Dr Addy Lazz-Onyenobi (Manchester)

1. The draft Ecumenical Relations Measure and draft Amending Canon No. 38 received First Consideration from the General Synod at the February 2017 group of sessions. At that time the Ecumenical Relations Measure formed part of the draft Church Representation, Ecumenical Relations and Ministers Measure (GS 2046) and Amending Canon No. 38 formed part of a more extensive amending Canon (GS 2047). They were committed to a Revision Committee.
2. The draft original draft Measure and Amending Canon were divided by the Revision Committee so that the provisions concerned with ecumenical relations formed a separate Measure and Amending Canon. At the February 2018 group of sessions the Synod took note of the first report of the Revision Committee (GS 2046Y) which related to what had become the draft Ecumenical Relations Measure and an attenuated Amending Canon No. 38. The Synod then completed the Revision Stage for that Measure and Canon which then stood committed to the Steering Committee in respect of their final drafting.
3. The Steering Committee has conducted its business by correspondence under Standing Order 61(2) and (3). It now returns the draft Measure (GS 2046B) and the draft Amending Canon (GS 2047B) for Final Drafting and Final Approval.
4. Under Standing Order 61, on the Final Drafting Stage the Steering Committee may propose ‘drafting amendments’ or ‘special amendments’ or both. These two categories of amendments are defined in SO 61(6) as follows –

“drafting amendment” means an amendment to clarify any remaining uncertainties of meaning or to improve the drafting, and

“special amendment” means an amendment, other than a drafting amendment, considered necessary or desirable by the Steering Committee and which does not reopen an issue which has been decided by the Synod or any Revision Committee in relation to the Measure or Canon.
5. The Steering Committee has agreed the drafting amendments shown in bold type in GS 2046B and GS 2047B, which have been identified on final scrutiny of the draft Measure and Canon. The amendments are explained in the Annex to this report.
6. The Steering Committee does not propose any special amendments.

ANNEX

ECUMENICAL RELATIONS MEASURE

FINAL DRAFTING AMENDMENTS

Clause 2 (power of bishop to give temporary designation)

1. The amended subsection (2) makes a consequential amendment to section 6 of the Church of England (Ecumenical Relations) Measure 1988 so as to provide that, where a diocesan bishop makes a temporary designation of a Church under the new section 5A of that Measure, that bishop also has the function of designating the “appropriate authority”, in relation to that Church, for the purposes of section 2 of that Measure.

Clause 3 (code of practice)

2. On the new section 5B to be inserted by this clause into the Church of England (Ecumenical Relations) Measure 1988, a new subsection (4) has been added to give express power for Canons made under the new provisions in that Measure to make provision by reference by the Code. Given that draft Amending Canon 38 makes significant provision by reference to the Code, it is prudent to clarify the relationship between the Canons and the Code by making express what would otherwise be implied.

**AMENDING CANON 38
FINAL DRAFTING AMENDMENT**

1. In paragraph 13 of the new Canon B 43 provided for by this Amending Canon, a new subparagraph (3) has been added to include a definition of “appropriate authority” by reference to the definition of that expression in the Church of England (Ecumenical Relations) Measure 1988.