

## MEMORANDUM

TO:

The Most Reverend Katharine Jefferts Schori  
The Right Reverend Jonathan B. B. Hart  
Ms. Bonnie Anderson, President of the House of Deputies  
The Executive Council of the Episcopal Church  
The Diocesan Convention of the Episcopal Church of Liberia

FROM: The Liberia Covenant Committee TEC/ECL

SUBJECT: New Covenant

DATE: January 21, 2009

The history of the relationship between the Episcopal Church (TEC) and the Episcopal Church of Liberia (ECL) is a rich one beginning with the sending of missionaries from TEC to Liberia in 1836. The first Covenant between TEC and ECL was signed in 1979 to establish the special and ongoing relationship between these two sister churches as the Diocese of Liberia transferred from the Province of TEC to that of West Africa. It is now time for these sister churches to renew and recreate their covenant relationship in a manner that is consistent with mutual ministry and responsibility to each other.

The Liberia Covenant Committee of TEC met in Monrovia with the Covenant Committee from ECL from January 14 through the 21<sup>st</sup>. We met to discuss the importance of this relationship for both of our churches and to identify ways to move forward together. Members of the TEC Covenant Committee traveled out from Monrovia to visit churches in rural areas and to celebrate the work and ministry of ECL throughout the country. All of the visitors from TEC were strengthened and inspired by the witness of ECL in this beautiful country.

In consonance with the ECL's move toward self-sustainability and self-sufficiency, this new Covenant represents our dreams for a continuing mutual relationship between TEC and ECL. It identifies a reduction in economic support from TEC to ECL and memorializes the continuing relationship of ECL to the Church Pension Group and to organizations such as the United Thank Offering and Episcopal Relief and Development. Most importantly, however, the covenant document endorses and supports the special relationship between our churches and reaffirms our need for each other as members of the body of Christ.

We present this new Covenant for your endorsement.

For The Episcopal Church

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Deborah Harmon- Hines  
Chairman, TEC Covenant Committee

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Sandra Ferguson McPhee  
Representative of the Executive Council

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The Rev. Heather Leigh Payton  
Standing Commission on World Mission

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Rita Tams Redfield  
Member

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The Rt. Rev. Gordon Scruton  
Representative of the House of Bishops

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For The Episcopal Church of Liberia<sup>i</sup>

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The Rt. Rev. Jonathan B.B. Hart  
Bishop

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The Ven. Momo B. Kpartor  
Archdeacon, Northern Archdeaconry

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Amelia Ward  
Chairman Planning & Development Board

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Dr. Henrique Tokpa  
President of Cuttington University

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Juanita Neal  
Chairman, Board of Trustees

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Clemenceau Urey  
Chairman, Diocesan Pension Board