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## A Message from the Anglican Church of Congo on the Gafcon call

Since its beginning in 1896, the Anglican Church of Congo has strongly believed that its doctrine, as recently stated by GSFA's covenantal structure for the whole Church, is grounded in the Holy Scriptures, and in such teachings of the Church Fathers and Councils of the Church as are agreeable to the said Scriptures. It recognises that such doctrine is to be found in the Thirty-Nine Articles of Religion, The Book of Common Prayer (1662), and the Ordinal. The EAC has always remained faithful to this standard.

But slowly, as other orthodox leaders have stated, we all began to realise that there was an acceptance and promotion within the provinces of the Anglican Communion of a different 'gospel' which is contrary to the apostolic gospel (Galatians 1,6-8). This false gospel undermines the authority of God's written word and the uniqueness of Jesus Christ as the author of salvation from sin, death and judgement.

Some of its proponents even claimed that all religions offer equal access to God and that Jesus is only a way, not the way, the truth and the life. They have then promoted a diversity of sexual preferences and some depraved behaviour as a universal human right. They have claimed God's blessing for same-sex unions over against the biblical teaching on holy matrimony.

So, when moral compromise, doctrinal error and the collapse of biblical witness in parts of the Anglican Communion had reached such a level, the leaders of the majority of the world's Anglicans felt it was necessary to take a united stand for truth.

This is how and why the Anglican Church of Congo joined millions of other Anglicans who together stand for biblical gospel mission, as members of Gafcon and Global South Fellowship of Anglican Churches (GSFA).

The Anglican Church of Congo, as other orthodox Christians in these two groups, recognises the Godgiven diversity among us which enriches our global fellowship, and acknowledges freedom in secondary matters. It has always pledged to work together to seek the mind of Christ on issues that divide us.

So, we are committed to the unity of all those who know and love Christ. And the Anglican Church of Congo has no intention to leave the Anglican Communion, rather to keep working with brothers and sisters of the GSFA to accomplish our common goal: to reform, heal and revitalise the Anglican Communion without leaving it. We remain committed to our fellowship in Christ with all orthodox/evangelical brothers and sisters in the Anglican Communion. They are our partners in mission.

Any disengagement of the Anglican Church of Congo from the Anglican Communion needs, not only to be made collegially through respectful debate, but crucially can only be decided by our Provincial Synod.

Sola Scriptura, sola gratia, sola fide.

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