

# THE CHURCH OF THE PROVINCE OF UGANDA

**WILLIS ROAD, NAMIREMBE**

P.O. BOX 14123, KAMPALA, UGANDA

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WEB: [www.churchofuganda.or.ug](http://www.churchofuganda.or.ug)

23<sup>rd</sup> April 2009

Date:.....

Rev. Canon Kenneth Kearon  
Anglican Consultative Council  
St. Andrew's House  
**LONDON**

Dear Canon Kearon,

Easter greetings from Uganda in Jesus' name! This letter is to inform you that we have appointed Rev. Philip Asheby as our clergy delegate to the ACC meeting in Jamaica. Here is his contact information:

Rev. Philip Asheby  
Church of Uganda  
P.O. Box 14123  
Kampala  
UGANDA  
[philashey@aol.com](mailto:philashey@aol.com)

As you know, Bishop Paul Luzinda is not able to attend the meeting, so we have forwarded to Rev. Philip the preparation material you sent him.

We are covering the travel expenses for Rev. Philip, so there is no additional cost to the ACC.

Yours, in Christ,

+ *Henry Luke Orombi*

The Most Rev. Henry Luke Orombi  
**ARCHBISHOP OF CHURCH OF UGANDA.**

xc: Rev. Philip Asheby  
Jolly Babirukamu  
Provincial Secretary

**From:** Kenneth Kearon [mailto:kenneth.kearon@anglicancommunion.org]  
**Sent:** Friday, April 24, 2009 4:44 PM  
**To:** Archbishop COU  
**Subject:** RE: New ACC Delegate for Jamaica from Uganda

Dear Archbishop,

I'm grateful for the nomination of Rev. Philip Ashley as ACC delegate. I note he will make his own arrangements to get there, and I look forward to welcoming him to ACC.

In Christ,

Kenneth.

Kenneth Kearon,  
Secretary General of the Anglican Communion,  
St Andrew's House,  
16 Tavistock Crescent,  
London, W11 1AP

Tel: +44 (020) 7313 3903

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**From:** Archbishop COU [mailto:abpcou@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** 24 April 2009 13:00  
**To:** Kenneth Kearon  
**Cc:** Yoshimi Gregory; 'Aaron Mwesigye'  
**Subject:** New ACC Delegate for Jamaica from Uganda

Dear Canon Kearon,

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

Please receive the attached letter from me informing you of a clergy delegate we have appointed to attend the ACC meeting in Jamaica.

Yours, in Christ,

The Most Rev. Henry Luke Orombi  
ARCHBISHOP OF CHURCH OF UGANDA  
P.O. Box 14123  
Kampala  
UGANDA  
Ph: +256 414 270 218  
Fax: +256 414 251 925  
abpcou@gmail.com



# THE ANGLICAN COMMUNION

The Most Revd Henry Orombi  
Archbishop of the Church of the Province of Uganda

29th April 2009

Dear Archbishop Orombi,

I acknowledge your letter of 23 April 2009 nominating Revd Philip Ashey as a clerical representative to the ACC for the Church of the Province of Uganda, and I have referred it to the Joint Standing Committee.

That Committee has noted

- (i) that Mr Ashey has already been given Press Accreditation status to the ACC on behalf of the American Anglican Council;
- (ii) he has given his address as Henderson Mill Road, Atlanta, Georgia, USA.

The JS Committee is concerned that a person with Press Accreditation has been nominated as a representative, because the press is excluded from some of the business of the Council. It is further concerned that a person not resident in the Province of Uganda should be asked to represent your Province.

The JSC seeks urgent clarification on these issues in order to consider the matter further.

Yours sincerely.

Sincerely.

Kenneth Kearon  
Secretary General of the Anglican Communion

THE ANGLICAN COMMUNION OFFICE

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Secretary General: The Revd Canon Kenneth Kearon

*Serving The Archbishop of Canterbury • The Anglican Consultative Council • The Lambeth Conference • The Primates Meeting*

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Date:.....

30<sup>th</sup> April 2009

Rev. Canon Kenneth Kearon  
St. Andrew's House  
16 Tavistock Crescent  
London, England W11 1AP

Dear Canon Kearon,

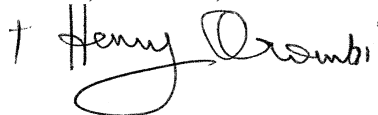
Thank you so much for your letter of 29<sup>th</sup> April 2009 seeking clarification about our appointment of Rev. Philip Ashy as our clergy delegate to the ACC from the Church of Uganda.

We have asked Rev. Ashy to relinquish his press credentials in order to eliminate any conflict of interest that may have been implied, and it is my understanding that he did relinquish those press credentials prior to your letter to me.

The appointment of delegates from each Province is, according to the Constitution of the ACC, a purely internal matter of each Province and not subject to review by any body within the ACC, including the Joint Standing Committee. Rev. Philip Ashy is a priest in good standing of Ruwenzori Diocese and has been appointed by me as the clergy delegate from the Church of Uganda. I trust that, with his relinquishment of his press credentials, you will accord to him every courtesy expected of any appointed delegate from any Province of the Anglican Communion. And, I further trust that this resolves the concern you may have.

Thank you for your good work, and we look forward to hearing about the fruitful deliberations of the ACC-14.

Yours, in Christ,



The Most Rev. Henry Luke Orombi  
**ARCHBISHOP OF CHURCH OF UGANDA.**

xc: The Most Rev. Rowan Williams, Archbishop of Canterbury  
Rev. Philip Ashy, Church of Uganda Clergy Delegate to the ACC  
Mrs. Jolly Babirukamu, Church of Uganda Lay Delegate to the ACC  
Rev. Canon Aaron Mwesigye, Provincial Secretary



# THE ANGLICAN COMMUNION

30 April 2009

The Most Revd Henry Luke Orombi  
Archbishop of Church of Uganda  
PO Box 14123  
Kampala  
Uganda

Via email address: [abpcou@gmail.com](mailto:abpcou@gmail.com)

Dear Archbishop Henry,

Thank you for your prompt response to my letter of 29 April.

The Joint Standing Committee has discussed this at length. We understand that the Revd Philip Ashley's relationship with the Church of the Province of Uganda is as a result of a cross provincial intervention, and note that such interventions are contrary to the Windsor Report and other reports accepted by successive meetings of the Instruments of Communion, including Primates' Meetings which you have attended.

Therefore we regret to inform you that Mr Ashley's current status means that we cannot regard him as a 'qualified' member according to Section 4(e) of the current Constitution. We are content for him to resume his Press Accreditation, if he so wishes.

Yours sincerely,

The Revd Canon Kenneth Kearon  
Secretary of the Anglican Communion

Cc: The President of ACC  
The Chair of ACC  
The Revd Philip Ashley – via email

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churchcommissioners@gmail.com

**WEB:** www.churchofuganda.or.ug

Date:.....

2<sup>nd</sup> May 2009

The Most Reverend Rowan Williams  
Archbishop of Canterbury and  
Chair of the Primates Standing Committee  
Lambeth Palace  
London, England

*Via e-mail*

Your Grace,

I have received a letter from Reverend Canon Kenneth Kearon, dated 30<sup>th</sup> April, refusing to seat the Church of Uganda's clergy delegate to the ACC, Rev. Philip Ashley. I assume you have seen a copy of his letter, and that you may have been part of the discussion of this matter in the meetings of the Joint Standing Committee.

Canon Kearon's letter states that the Joint Standing Committee has determined that Rev. Philip Ashley is not 'qualified' under Section 4(e) of the ACC's Constitution because we received him into the Church of Uganda in 2005 as part of our pastoral care to Anglican clergy and congregations in America who were being persecuted for upholding Lambeth 1.10 in the context of a Province that willfully violated and continues to violate it.

As I wrote in my first letter to Canon Kearon, appointment of delegates to the ACC from a Province is purely an internal matter and is not subject to review by any body within the ACC, including the Joint Standing Committee. That the Joint Standing Committee would assume such authority is a gross violation of our constitutional relationships, not to mention a further tearing of our bonds of affection. Our reasons for appointing one of our American priests to represent us as our clergy delegate are our reasons, and are not for the Joint Standing Committee to question.

The appointment of Rev. Philip Ashley to fill a vacancy at the last minute provides the Church of Uganda with a strong voice of a priest in good standing in the Diocese of Ruwenzori. It is also a voice for the almost 100,000 orthodox Anglicans in North America who have been persecuted by TEC and the Anglican Church of Canada, who will not be represented by their delegations to ACC-14, and who will not otherwise have voice or seat at the table of the ACC. It is important for the Communion to be reminded that there is a serious tear in the fabric of our communion; all is not well and there continues to be an urgent need to address the ongoing crisis before us.

Section 4(e) does not give the Joint Standing Committee or the ACC the right to interfere in the appointing body's determination of the "qualification" of a delegate. For the Joint Standing Committee to assume this power is nothing short of an imperialistic and colonial decision that violates the integrity of the Church of Uganda.

I reiterate – Rev. Philip Ashley is a priest in good standing of Ruwenzori Diocese and has been appointed by me as clergy delegate from the Church of Uganda. This is sufficient and the Joint Standing Committee does not have a right to challenge it.

It is, furthermore, very dangerous for Canon Kearon's letter to quote the Windsor Report and Communiqués of the Primates as the basis for refusing to seat Rev. Philip Ashley as our clergy delegate. None of these documents has authority to override the Constitution of the ACC. Furthermore, none of these documents ever suggested a moral equivalence between the pastoral care offered to persecuted clergy and congregations in North America and the violation of Biblical and historic Anglican teaching by TEC and the Anglican Church of Canada on the blessing of same-sex unions and the ordination as bishop of persons living in same-sex relationships.

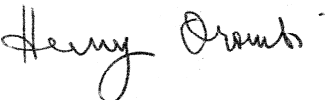
At our Primates meeting in Dromantine, Northern Ireland, we asked TEC and the Anglican Church of Canada to voluntarily withdraw from the Councils of the Church until the next Lambeth Conference. In Dar es Salaam, the Primates unanimously agreed that TEC should not be invited to Lambeth until they satisfactorily answered our questions, which most people know they did not do, your judgment notwithstanding. Yet, they have continued to be involved in all the Councils of the Church, and even with undue influence because of their wealth and command of English as their first language. There is a double standard at work here, and it favors the Western world and marginalizes Africa and others in the Global South.

We, therefore, appeal to you, in your capacity as Chair of the Primates Standing Committee and President of the ACC, to help the Joint Standing Committee understand the limits of their authority and to recognize the appointment of the Rev. Philip Ashley as clergy delegate to ACC-14 from the

Church of Uganda, and to accord to him every courtesy expected of any delegate from any Province of the Anglican Communion. This is a matter of urgency, and I look forward to hearing from you at your earliest opportunity.

If the Church of Uganda's appointment of Rev. Philip Ashe is considered by you to be unacceptable, then we will be forced to take the steps necessary to bring this unbiblical, unjust and unconstitutional precedent to the attention of the rest of the Communion.

Yours in Christ,

+ 

The Most Rev. Henry Luke Orombi

**ARCHBISHOP OF THE CHURCH OF UGANDA.**

xc: Rev. Canon Kenneth Kearon, Secretary General, ACC  
Rev. Philip Ashe, Clergy Delegate to ACC-14  
Mrs. Jolly Babirukamu, Lay Delegate to ACC-14  
Rev. Canon Aaron Mwesigye, Provincial Secretary