

# The Anglican Church of Australia General Synod



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## *Media Release* *From* *The Primate*

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### **MEDIA RELEASE**

## **PRIMATE WELCOMES REPORT ON ANGLICAN UNITY**

**MONDAY 18 OCTOBER 2004**

**EMBARGOED TO 9 PM WST**

The Head of the Anglican Church in Australia, Archbishop Peter Carnley of Perth, has welcomed the report of the Eames Commission [known as the “Windsor Report”] as an important contribution to furthering Anglican unity in the face of unilateral actions by certain dioceses.

“While the Eames Commission may have been prompted by actions in New Hampshire and New Westminster, it goes to the heart of the matter of our unity as a world-wide communion,” he said.

“To the world at large this may seem to be an argument about human sexuality, but it is also about how we conduct ourselves as churches and dioceses bound together by our shared history, beliefs and traditions.”

Dr Carnley said that threats to the unity of the Anglican Communion were broader than the issue of the consecration of openly homosexual clergy as bishops, and the Windsor Report recognised that.

“I welcome the Report as an important discussion document. I intend to consult all twenty three diocesan bishops of Australia over the next few months so that I am able faithfully to represent their views to the meeting of Anglican Primates scheduled for late February 2005.”

“The Covenant has the potential to stand as a fifth pillar of our unity- alongside the office of Archbishop of Canterbury, the ten-yearly meeting of Bishops at Lambeth, the Anglican Consultative Council, and the annual gathering of the thirty-eight Primates of the Anglican Communion.”