

INTERPRETATION CANON 1995

Canon 10, 1995

A canon concerning the Interpretation of Canons.

The General Synod prescribes as follows:

Short title

1 This canon may be cited as the "Interpretation Canon 1995".

Definition of canon

2 In this canon, except section 3, "**canon**" means canon, rule or resolution made by General Synod under Chapter V of the Constitution and includes the Standing Orders of General Synod.

Application to canons

- 3 Except so far as the contrary intention appears, this canon applies to -
- (a) this canon; and
 - (b) all canons made by General Synod on or after 1 January 1996; and
 - (c) all rules and resolutions made by General Synod under Chapter V of the Constitution made on or after that date; and
 - (d) the Standing Orders of General Synod made on or after that date.

Definitions in section 74(1) and (2) of the Constitution

4 Except so far as the contrary intention appears, a word or expression that is defined in section 74(1) and (2) of the Constitution, has, when used in a canon, the same meaning in the canon as it has in the Constitution.

Effect of repeal of canon

- 5 (1) The repeal of a canon, or part of a canon, by which a previous canon or part of a canon was repealed does not have the effect of reviving the previous canon or part.
- (2) If a canon repeals in whole or in part a former canon, the repeal does not -
- (a) revive anything not in force or existing at the time at which the repeal takes effect; or

- (b) affect the previous operation of a canon so repealed, or anything done or suffered under a canon so repealed; or
- (c) affect a right, privilege, obligation or liability acquired or incurred under a canon so repealed; or
- (d) affect any investigation, proceeding or remedy in respect of such a right, privilege, obligation or liability -

and any such investigation, proceeding or remedy may be instituted, continued or enforced as if the repealing canon had not been made.

References to amended or re-enacted canons

- 6 If a canon contains a reference to a short title that is or was provided by another canon for the citation of that other canon as originally made, or as amended, then, except so far as the contrary intention appears -
- (a) the reference shall be construed as a reference to that other canon as originally made and as amended from time to time; and
 - (b) if that other canon has been repealed and re-made, with or without modifications, the reference shall be construed as including a reference to the re-made canon as originally made and as amended from time to time and, where, in connection with that reference, particular provisions of the repealed canon are referred to, being provisions to which provisions of the re-made canon correspond, the reference to those particular provisions shall be construed as including a reference to those corresponding provisions.

Parts of speech and grammatical forms

- 7 In a canon, unless the contrary intention appears, where a word or phrase is given a particular meaning, other parts of speech and grammatical forms of that word or phrase have corresponding meanings.

Gender and number

- 8 In a canon, unless the contrary intention appears -
- (a) words importing a gender include every other gender; and
 - (b) words in the singular number include the plural and words in the plural number include the singular.

References to month or time

- 9 (1) In a canon, unless the contrary intention appears -

"month" means a period commencing at the beginning of a day of one of the 12 months of the year and ending immediately before the beginning of the

corresponding day of the next month or, if there is no such corresponding day, ending at the expiration of the next month.

- (2) Where, in a canon, any period of time, dating from a given day, act or event, is prescribed or allowed for any purpose, the time shall, unless the contrary intention appears, be reckoned exclusive of such day or of the day of such act or event.
- (3) Where the last day of any period prescribed or allowed by a canon for the doing of anything falls on a Saturday, on a Sunday or on a day which is a public holiday or a bank holiday in the place in which the thing is to be or may be done, the thing may be done on the first day following which is not a Saturday, a Sunday or a public holiday or bank holiday in that place.

References to writing, documents and records

10 In a canon, unless the contrary intention appears -

"**document**" includes -

- (a) any paper or other material on which there is writing; and
- (b) any paper or other material on which there are marks, figures, symbols or perforations having a meaning for persons qualified to interpret them; and
- (c) any article or material from which sounds, images or writings are capable of being reproduced with or without the aid of any other article or service;

"**record**" includes information stored or recorded by means of a computer;

"**writing**" includes any mode of representing or reproducing words, figures, drawings, or symbols in a visible form.

Construction of rules made under canons

11 If a canon confers power to make a rule or regulation, expressions used in a rule or regulation made in the exercise of that power, shall, unless the contrary intention appears, have the same respective meanings as they have in the canon conferring the power as amended and in force for the time being (or if not used in the canon, would have if so used).

Repeal of Rule XIX

- 12 (1) Rule XIX (Rule re Interpretation) is repealed.
- (2) The repeal of Rule XIX does not affect its application to canons made before 1 January 1996.
