

Headings or issues which might need to be considered in discussions for writing a Joint Statement by church leaders — to coincide with 1990 commemorations.

The inclusion of any heading in this list does not mean that it would automatically appear in any final Joint Statement by church leaders.

These headings are the result of a "brain storm" on the subject by Church Office staff in Auckland and are offered merely as a "generator" for future discussion.

- * The place of the Treaty of Waitangi - both in its historical perspective and present day realities for both Maori and Pakeha
- * Partnership - what it means and what the Bible has to say about it.
- * The effects of white settlement and colonisation.
- * Relationship between the Treaty partners and people from other cultures.
- * Present land claims - both the Tribunal's findings and the steps to put their recommendations into effect.
- * Repentance and reconciliation
 - dealing with guilt
 - hope in the context of partnership
 - what commitment means
- * Biblical understandings of partnership, redeeming history, commitment, use of land and economics.
- * 1990 : appropriateness of celebration or commemoration
Biblical view of celebration
- * 1990 is the commemoration of 150 years of Pakeha culture and spirituality in this land; how is it appropriate to mark centuries of Maori culture and spirituality?

Methodist Conference Resolutions
Nelson 1987.

- needs of the growing numbers of the poor and the dispossessed, and over the human needs of society.
10. Conference, in the light of the incidence of violence in families, including church families, commends the study kit, "Violence in the Family" and urges church members to use it with sensitivity.
 11. Conference welcomes the decision of the Court of Appeal concerning the transfer of disputed Crown land to State Owned Enterprises as an important legal affirmation of the priority of the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi.
 12. Conference commends the former Minister of Education, the Hon. Russell Marshall, for initiating the "Curriculum Review" (1986/87) and particularly urges the Government to heed the expressed wishes of the Maori people for a system and a philosophy of education that meets Maori aspirations.
 13. That Conference write to the Government urging it to redress Maori grievances over land, where those grievances are based on unjust confiscation and dishonouring of agreements.
 - 14(i) Concerning the 150th Anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi, Conference notes:
 - (a) That the Methodist Missionary Society was a key group in pressing the British Government to sign a Treaty with the indigenous people of Aotearoa.
 - (b) That the Wesleyan missionaries strongly urged the Maori people to sign the Treaty, believing it would protect Maori interests.
 - (c) That the Wesleyans took the Treaty around the country, seeking signatures, and pledging on their honour that the Crown would honour the Treaty.
 - (d) That, within ten years, the Wesleyan missionaries had written to complain about many infringements of the Treaty by the Crown.
 - (e) That, in 1940, the Methodist Conference urged the New Zealand Government to write the Treaty into law.
 - (f) That the Methodist Conference has expressed many reservations about the recent celebrations of the signing of the Treaty.
 - (ii) Therefore, Conference write to the Government expressing its conviction that the only way in which the 150th Anniversary can be commemorated with integrity is through initiating systemic changes so that power and resources are more equally shared.
 - 15 (a) In view of the damage done to families and the community by gambling and the increasing pressure of gambling promotion, Conference write to the Government requesting it to legislate to restrict the advertising on television of gambling, including the Lotto draw.
 - (b) Conference urges Methodist people to write to their Members of Parliament and to the Minister of Internal Affairs requesting that such legislation be enacted.
 - 16(a) Conference views with concern the apparent attitude of some Members of Parliament and particularly of the Prime Minister, to the use of poker machines which, although (it understands) were imported legally, are apparently being used illegally for monetary gain.
 - (b) That Conference accordingly write to the Government expressing the above and notifying its view that the proper course is not to legalise

and liable to observe perform and keep the Laws and Regulations of the Church as from time to time in force."

Conference approves both alterations to the Law and refers them to the Law Revision Committee for drafting of appropriate Law.

6. The Membership of the Committee for 1988 be as printed in the Year Book on page 10.

QUESTION 39--What are the resolutions of the Conference respecting the laws of the Church including the rulings of the President during the year?

None.

QUESTION 40--What are the decisions Conference on matters relating to Public Questions?

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Report pp 97-105

Appendices pp.

106-108, 253-257

RESOLUTIONS

1. The Report is received.
2. Conference declares its belief that Aids is an illness and not a punishment from God for behaviour regarded as immoral.
3. Conference calls upon Church members to pray for persons suffering from Aids, and for strength for caregivers, families and friends.
4. Conference commends the work of the Department of Health, the Aids Foundation and all others who seek the education of the general public, who provide support for sufferers and their families, and seek to prevent the spread of the Aids virus.
5. Conference write to the Government requesting the continued provision of adequate resources for the support and care of Aids sufferers and the widespread publication of information about the disease its transmission and its implications.
6. Conference calls upon Church members to oppose the use of the potential threat of Aids as an excuse for victimisation and discrimination against minority groups.
7. Conference encourages Parishes to utilize doctors and related health professionals in the community to provide education of the subject of Aids to church youth groups, congregations and parents.
8. Conference affirms the importance of healthy personal relationships derived from sound education coupled with the Christian values of love and respect of others.
9. That Conference
 - (a) write to the Government calling upon it to state clearly its social goals in relation to economic policy.
 - (b) expresses its concern that those sections of Government responsible for economic policy appear to be giving emphasis to the values of efficiency, managerial expertise and profitability over the