

## What we do

The Anglican UN Office Geneva (AUNO Geneva) facilitates a two-way channel of communication and partnership between the Anglican Communion and Geneva-based international organisations on issues of common concern.

By providing a link for Anglicans to exchange expertise and experiences with international policy makers in Geneva, AUNO Geneva aims to:

- **strengthen Anglican involvement in international initiatives**

## Geneva opportunities

Since its inception, the UN has had headquarters in both New York and in Geneva. In contrast to New York, the focus for UN security and political decision-making, the UN headquarters in Geneva mainly deals with humanitarian and human rights issues. Geneva has become a hub for international policy making on issues such as climate change, migration/refugees, conflict and disaster prevention and response, health including HIV and AIDS, human rights, ecumenism and inter-religious dialogue. AUNO Geneva therefore is well situated to facilitate exchange between Anglicans worldwide and the many Geneva-based UN agencies and associated bodies as well as numerous faith-based, non-governmental and other humanitarian actors that have Geneva offices.

## Resources

### **Working Together: The Anglican Response to HIV/AIDS in Africa (2007)**

*A report commissioned jointly by the AUNO, the World Health Organization and UNAIDS to give an account of the extent and nature of the Anglican response to HIV and AIDS.*

*Download the study from:  
[www.aco.org/un/resources/working\\_together.pdf](http://www.aco.org/un/resources/working_together.pdf)*

### **Anglican Health Assets (2008)**

*A desk-based study to pool available data on Anglican health care facilities. Contact Revd Paul Holley for further details: [paul.holley@mac.com](mailto:paul.holley@mac.com)*

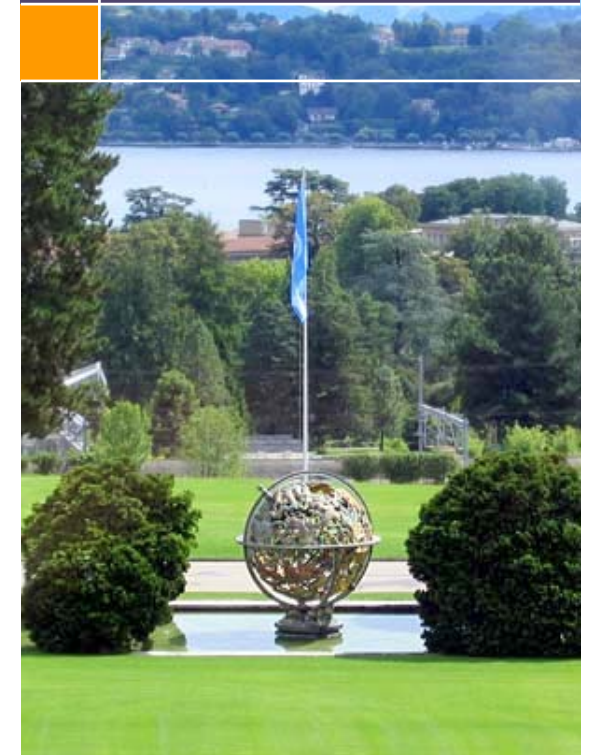
## *Spirituality at the UN*

Members of the AUNO Geneva committee are also involved in UN-wide debates on religion and spirituality. Trevor Davies chairs the NGO Committee on Spirituality, Values and Global Concerns and is part of efforts to promote a **UN Decade for Inter-religious Dialogue and Peace** (see also [www.faihtdecadeforpeace.net](http://www.faihtdecadeforpeace.net)). In addition, John Taylor has represented NGOs at UN General Assembly debates on Inter-religious and Inter-cultural Cooperation.

*If you are interested in contributing to Anglican involvement in these issues, contact Trevor Davies: [daviest40@gmail.com](mailto:daviest40@gmail.com)*

# Anglican UN Office Geneva

Linking Anglicans and  
Geneva based institutions



## Hosting Anglicans visiting Geneva

One of the ways that AUNO Geneva supports Anglicans worldwide, including those involved in Anglican networks, is by introducing them to people and organisations in Geneva with whom they share common interests. AUNO Geneva Committee members are also keen to meet Anglicans visiting Geneva in order to discuss mutual areas of cooperation.

*If you are visiting Geneva and would like to meet AUNO Geneva committee members and their contacts, do email us.*



AUNO Geneva's work is overseen by a committee involving Anglican clergy and lay people who have extensive experience in international issues.

*Email us on  
[aunogeneva@anglicancommunion.org](mailto:aunogeneva@anglicancommunion.org)*

## *Supporting Anglican networks*

The Anglican Communion networks draw together Anglicans interested in issues such as the environment, peace and justice, migration, women, youth, HIV and AIDS, inter-faith concerns, the family and education. As many of these issues are also of interest to Geneva-based organisations, AUNO Geneva is well placed to contribute to the work of these networks by facilitating communication and partnership between Anglican networks and international policy makers. Through AUNO Geneva contacts, Anglican networks can convey their concerns at the international level and, in turn, enrich their activities at the grassroots level through their engagement with international actors.

Members of the AUNO Geneva committee are leading efforts to form an **Anglican Health Network**, an idea which emerged as a result of close contacts fostered with leading public health policy makers and other significant individuals or organisations involved in health care. As AUNO Geneva studies have proven, the Anglican Communion has a wealth of expertise, both practical and theoretical, in health work. Thus, the network will provide a platform from which Anglicans build up partnerships with global, national and local health authorities and exchange their experiences and knowledge of health issues with these bodies and each other. In turn, such interaction will further strengthen and develop Anglican health care activities worldwide.

## *Supporting Anglican advocacy*

As most UN decisions regarding humanitarian and human rights issues are made in Geneva, AUNO Geneva can help the Anglican Communion both make its voice heard within the UN system in Geneva and use information provided through UN discussions to inform its own debates and policies:

AUNO Geneva has special **accreditation to the UN** as it is the Anglican Consultative Council's (ACC) official representative in Geneva. This enables it to facilitate Anglican access to certain UN meetings and events. It also means that the chair of AUNO Geneva can submit and sign written statements on particular issues on behalf of the ACC, as well as make oral statements in some cases.

One UN body that uses these mechanisms is the

**UN Human Rights Council**. In addition to formal representation, AUNO Geneva facilitates informal advocacy which can be exerted between official UN sessions and is often more effective. Such advocacy involves bilateral discussions with decision-makers and contributions to draft UN documents.

As AUNO Geneva committee members attend UN meeting and events, they are able to closely monitor UN debates and follow particular themes. This information is an invaluable source for Anglicans working on similar issues in their provinces and dioceses, and can help to bring the UN alive for the Anglican Communion.