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ECUMENICAL DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

of the

World Council of Churches
National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA

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Archbishop Khajag Barsamian Diocese of the Armenian Church of America 630 Second Avenue New York, NY 10016-4885

Your Eminence :

It was especially important for the work of ecumenical funding development that there was time to consider EDI at the April 12 meeting convened by Joan Campbell. The universal readiness among those present to cooperate with the work of EDI means more than you may realize. I write now to enlist your cooperation as well.

The new director of the Presbyterian Foundation, Larry Carr, has agreed to convene and host a meeting this fall of his counterparts in other communion foundations, trusts and permanent fund repositories. This meeting will focus on EDI's work and explore the ways in which the various denominational permanent fund instruments can be drawn together to serve the need for major ecumenical fund development. I am, of course, extremely grateful for Larry's readiness to assume this supportive role. This can be a very significant meeting, both for the churches themselves and for an ecumenical development strategy.

Now, let me turn to my first request for your help. It has to do with developing an invitation list for the meeting described above. Simply, I do not know whom in your communion to invite. It would be good to have at least one representative from each of the member communions, even those which do not have formal foundations but may have one person identifiable as interested in permanent fund development. Perhaps there is more than one who should be invited. The patterns, I am sure, will vary from church to church, and you must be the judge. Feel free to suggest more than one.

The question in which I need your help is simply this: Who is the person (or persons) from your church who should be invited to the proposed meeting? Can you provide me the names, addresses, and identification of any from your church who should be invited? Your prompt response will be very helpful.

Further, would you have any objection to my using your name in connection with encouraging the one (or ones) you nominate to attend?

My hope is that this can establish a pattern for our working together. I will be in touch from time to time on other matters as well. Feel free to initiate contact with me whenever it appears important.

Thanks again for giving this your attention. I look forward to your response.

With warmest regards,

lbert M. Pennybacker

cc: Joan B. Campbell

Larry Carr Konrad Raiser