



**ECUMENICAL DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE**  
of the  
World Council of Churches  
National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA

Albert M. Pennybacker, *President*

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

Your Eminence:

Just this morning, phone calls came from Archbishop Keshishian and Dr. Konrad Raiser, WCC General Secretary, notifying us that the Archbishop is having to postpone his visit to the United States. As Moderator of the WCC's Central Committee, the Archbishop has been invited to represent the WCC at the inauguration of President Nelson Mandela in South Africa.

With the longstanding commitment and effective work by the WCC in opposition to apartheid, you can certainly understand the importance of the Archbishop's presence there on that occasion.

I am notifying you immediately of this change in the hope that adjustments can be made with as little inconvenience as possible.

It happens that I will be in Geneva with both the Archbishop and Dr. Raiser next week. We will be negotiating a future time for his visit with us. As that develops, I will be in touch with you to see what you might wish to do at an alternative time.

Regards,

*Albert M. Pennybacker*  
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