

The Canadian Council of Churches Le Conseil canadien des Églises

May 11, 1983.

The Hon. Allan J. MacEachen Secretary of State for External Affairs House of Commons Ottawa. Ontario.

Dear Mr. MacEachen:

At its meeting on 19-21 April, 1983 the General Board of the Canadian Council of Churches adopted the following resolution:

Resolved that this General Board of the Canadian Council of Churches meeting at Niagara Falls, Ontario, on Thursday, 21 April, 1983, in recognition of the 68th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide to be commemorated on 24 April, 1983, record the following:

- 1. It shares with the Armenian Community in Canada the pain of this most tragic experience to which Armenian people were subjected;
- 2. It joins all people of goodwill in condemning such atrocities and in alerting the people and Government of Canada to the fact that ethnic and religious groups are still being threatened today in Turkey as in the past;
- 3. It urges the Government of Canada to take all possible diplomatic initiatives and measures to call upon those responsible to end their efforts to falsify history with regard to these events and recognize the historical reality of the Armenian people.

The atrocity committed against the Armenians in the past and the current attempt, in the face of all the evidence, to efface that episode from the historical record has been deplored by various levels of Government in Canada including the House of Commons. The help you may be able to give in moving toward an honourable, just and

The Hon. Allan J. MacEachen

humane solution of the Armenian/Turkish impasse will be much appreciated.

With my best wishes.

Sincerely yours,

DWA/meb

cc: Ambassador of Turkey

Ottawa.

Blind copy: Mr. Caro Martin.

Donald W. Anderson, General Secretary.