|  |
| --- |
|  |
| Canons of COAABThe Canons, Policy, and Procedures of Congress of Apostles and Bishops |
|

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Archbishop Thomas F Henry Jr** |  |

 |

# THE OFFICIAL CANONS OF

# THE CONGRESS OF APOSTLES AND BISHOPS

# ATLANTA, GEORGIA

PREAMABLE:

In the operation of this Congress and its CONSTITUTION AND CANONS is the Word of God as taught in Old and New Testaments of the Holy Bible under the principle of Prima Scriptura, ***Scripture First***. All provision herein are declared to be subject to the Word of God which is to every possible extent incorporated herein by references as a whole and unless otherwise stated to be found in King James Version or other versions of the Holy Bible generally accepted among Bible-believing congregations, assemblies, churches, para-churches, parishes, missions throughout this nation or the reading together of these versions to produce an understanding of truth of the sayings of God to man as found in the Holy Bible.

CANON 1 - NAME

 Section 1: The name of the Congress is CONGRESS OF APOSTLES AND BISHOPS, herein after referred as the COAAB.

 Section 2: COAAB is a nonprofit Synod of Episcopates communing for the purpose of showing the oneness of the Church. We are a part of the ONE, HOLY, CATHOLIC, AND APOSTOLIC CHURCH with a unique Pentecostal ethos.

 Section 3: The territory of the Congress is Global. COAAB shall establish COAAB congresses in other parts of the world that shall be accountable to American Office located in Atlanta, GA, USA.

 Section 4: The main office of COAAB shall be located in the city of Atlanta, GA. It shall maintain an Ecumenical Office in the City of New York, NY.

Section 5: The President and the Advisory Board shall plan and the President hosts the annual gathering of the COAAB, known as THE CONGRESS or COAAB ANNUAL CONGRESS. It shall have general sessions on topics affecting the Church, the episcopacy and apostleship. It shall have classes that will help train leaders and provide for fellowship. During the Annual Session, the Synod shall meet. Attendance at the Annual Congress is by way of registration. Public worship sessions are open to the public.

1. The annual session shall begin and end with a public service of worship, word and Holy Communion.
2. The Congress will consecrate and affirmed any bishops and apostles during its annual session unless otherwise approve by the president.
3. The Congress shall during its annual session reach out to the community with works of charity, missions and evangelism.
4. Each Congress Day shall begin with Chapel services led by the president and assisted by the Congress Chaplain.
5. The Registrar shall certify all delegates to the Congress as well as certify who are members of the congress that will be participating as members of the Annual Synod that meets during the annual Congress session.
6. The President, Advisory Board or the Synod reserves the right to exclude from the Annual Congress session any person for whatever reason.

 CANON 2 - OBJECTIVES

 The main objectives of the Congress are:

 To organize gatherings of Episcopates in the USA and around the World so as to encourage & strengthen their knowledge as we learn from such diverse expressions of Episcopacy.

To promote ecumenical relationships with other Synods, Communions and Churches of Christianity that confesses the historic Catholic Creeds of Christianity (The Apostles’ and Nicene Creeds).

To maintain good communication among the members of COAAB, and with other Episcopates throughout the world.

To establish Chapters of COAAB in other regions of the world.

To train, develop and inspire Bishops, Apostles and Candidates to the Episcopacy to excellence in ministry by designing a comprehensive Episcopal and Clerical Formation program that will be the hallmark for the Pentecostal Christian around the world.

To sanction, confirm, ordain and affirm candidates for the episcopacy as well as set a standard for Holy Orders and provide for the accreditation of the same.

To assist Communions in training their clergy and church leaders.

The development of Outreach and Mission ministry programs that involves building new churches and missions, disaster relief, and support of missionary endeavors at home and aboard.

To become a congress that continually engages every member, communion and friends in ministry and every ministry in mission by recruiting and retaining a diverse group of servant leaders who will help lead a broad base of ministry opportunities across all areas of the church world.

COAAB shall develop or secure a site that will serve as the venue for its annual congress that is conducive to Christian Worship and the general and breakout sessions. This venue should also lend itself to a place to host a welcome reception for all members and registered delegates before the official opening service of the Congress. This site if owned by COAAB shall be rented out during the year to provide for another source of income for COAAB. Atlanta shall be known as the founding See City of COAAB.

To speak pastorally and prophetically to the Church, the Nation and the World addressing the issues of our day.

 CANON 3 - MEMBERSHIP

Membership in COAAB is available to all duly consecrated Bishops, Apostles and Prelates. See the policy for definition of “Duly Consecrated Bishops and Apostles” and Prelates. They obtain membership by being recommended by the President or Senior Leadership Team and election by the Synod.

Each candidate for membership shall abide by these constitution and canons.

Full Membership in COAAB is characterize as being in communion with the Congress and its Senior Leadership. We agree to act as a Congress and not institute anything in our communions that will have an adverse effect on the other communions. We will recognize the validity of each other’s holy orders. We will fellowship with other members that are in our area. We will work to bring order and honor to the bishopric and apostleship. We will speak as one voice to the world concerning the issues of our day.

 CANON 4 – SYNOD OF EPISCOPATES

 Section 1: The SYNOD OF EPISCOPATES of the CONGRESS OF APOSTLES AND BISHOPS consists of the duly elected and registered members of COAAB referred to as THE SYNOD.

 Section 2: THE SYNOD has the legislative power and is the final authority in all matters regarding COAAB while in session. But if THE SYNOD fails to settle a dispute over any matter, it may be referred to ADVISORY BOARD, which shall have the authority to render the final decision in the matter. Any decision that are required to be made when THE SYNOD is not in session, the ADVISORY BOARD shall settle the matter and the verdict of the ADVISORY BOARD, on that matter shall be final. In this particular circumstance, the act of the ADVISORY BOARD shall be the voice of the COAAB.

 Section 3: THE SYNOD (hereafter, referred to as SYNOD).

A) Meetings(s) of the SYNOD can be held any time during the year at a place decided by SYNOD OR THE PRESIDENT.

However, the Annual SYNOD Meeting should be held during the Annual COAAB Congress in Atlanta, GA on the Friday during September Annual Meeting of the Congress for the approval of annual report, audited accounts, and for election.

B) Extra-ordinary meetings shall be called by President or they may be called by Synod at the written requests of at least one - third of the registered members.

C) The secretary shall inform about the SYNOD’s meeting at least twenty days prior to the meeting. Emergency meetings can be held with one (1) week notice.

D) The SYNOD’s shall transact the following business:

♦Confirm the minutes of previous SYNOD OF EPISCOPATES meeting.

♦Transact agenda prepared by the ADVISORY BOARD AND/OR PRESIDENT of COAAB.

♦Constitute committees for special purpose, if necessary.

♦Consider and adopt the annual report and audited financial statements presented by the ADVISORY BOARD.

♦Elect members of SYNOD’s if due for election.

♦Consider amendments in the constitution and by-laws that are proposed by the ADIVSORY BOARD.

♦shall recognize new communions, churches and dioceses as being autonomous and or autocephalous

♦Any other matter proposed by any member and approved by the presiding authority (President and Advisory Board).

E) Registered members who are 25 or above (considered valid age for membership) have the right to vote as members of the SYNOD of THE CONGRESS OF APOSTLES AND BISHOPS. The PRESIDENT has the right to wave the age requirement for members in the SYNOD.

F) The quorum for the SYNOD shall be 50% of duly elected and registered members in attendance at that Congress sitting. No quorum shall be necessary if a THE SYNOD meeting re-convenes after it is adjourned for lack of a quorum.

 CANON 5 – OFFICERS AND SENIOR OFFICIALS OF COAAB

 Section 1 - Composition: The officers of COAAB are the President (Primus, archbishop and first among equals), Vicar Apostolic (1st Vice President), Congress Coordinator (2nd Vice President), Dean (Father of the Congress), Judicial Vicar, Vicar of Ecumenical Relations, Chancellor, Assistant Chancellor, and Vicar of Finance and other officers, all but the President is appointed by the President with the advice of the SYNOD. If the SYNOD disapproves of an appointment and it shall state its reasons, if the reasons are resolve the appointment stand, if they are not resolve, then a new appointment shall be made. If the Synod is not in session, then the Advisory Board shall advise on appointments.

 Section 2 - Duties:

A) The President is the chief executive officer of COAAB. He shall direct Chancellor to call the meetings of the Congress and shall preside over such functions. The president has the right of casting a vote, in case of equality of voters at any meeting.

The President is the first among equals. He is the most senior member of the synod. He is president of the COAAB and chair of its Synod of Episcopates. He shall set the vision and tone of COAAB. Appoint officers and leaders. Set the agenda for the annual gathering of the COAAB Congress. He shall recommend bishops to be admitted to membership in this Congress. He shall recommend bishops to be consecrated as bishops and affirmed as apostles to the annual congress. He shall serve as chief consecrator or someone appointed by him of all bishop-elects at the annual congress. He shall have direct oversight of all Congress fiscal and financial matters, and reserves the right to either personally conduct or designate the conduction of audits of all matters pertaining to operations of The Congress. He shall be ex-officio as a member of all boards and auxiliaries, as well as chair (president) of all boards of any corporation own by COAAB.

The President when elected shall be instituted and duly installed as Archbishop-Primus of the Congress at the Congress that elected him or no later than 90 days thereafter. Once that persons leave office they return to being styled as “Bishop” unless 1) they have been honored with the Style “Archbishop-Emeritus” or 2) they were archbishop before entering about service as the congress archbishop.

As President this episcopate is also considered to be the primus apostolos or first apostle among us.

The presidency carries with it metropolitical authority to sanction all bishops elected by the synod and such other authority that belongs to a metropolitan including of the wearing of the pallium as a sign of office and being preceded in the procession by the primatial-archiepiscopal cross being carried by the archbishop’s chaplain.

B) The 1st Vice President: Vicar Apostolic – Shall serve as the assistant to the Primus of the Congress and shall serve as the second most senior officer of the congress. This person shall help the primus and the vicar of finance develop the budget of the congress. Shall function as a chief administrative officer and served as the vice-president of the Congress. This person shall help primus coordinate the staff of the congress. Being Vicar Apostolic does not guarantee one the right of the succession. He shall be accountable to the Primus

The 1stVice president shall perform the duties of the president in his absence.

C) The 2nd Vice President: The Congress Coordinator – The coordinator of the congress shall assist the president is designing, facilitating and coordinating the annual congress. He shall serve as a chief operational officer for the congress. He shall ensure that the congress operates smoothly and that all things needed for a successful congress are done and provided for. He shall coordinate the marketing and public relations activities. He shall assist the president and vicar apostolic in securing vendors and sponsors for the annual congress. He shall advise the president and vicar apostolic on things pertaining to the annual congress and its operation.

D) The Father/Mother of the Congress is the Dean of the Congress – (Accountable to the Primus) The initial dean is one of the founding members of the Congress. This person shall be looked to for direction, wisdom and guidance. This person when there is no Vicar-Apostolic is the 4th most senior member of the congress in rank. The Dean is the oldest member by age or tenure in the congress. They serve at the pleasure of the President and Congress and shall continue in office as long as their service is fruitful to the congress. This position is appointed by the President on the advice of the Synod.

E) Senior Judicial Vicar – (Accountable to the Synod and appointed by the Primus) He coordinates with the Primus and handles those cases referred to him by the Primus or the communions or the synods or bishops. He has a measure of independence from the Primus, yet the Primus can asked and or even recused the Judicial Vicar if he has a stake in a case and appointed another impartial judicial vicar. There shall be an ecumenical court with at least three Judicial Vicars (Senior and two associate Judicial Vicars) with one serving as the chief judge. This court shall be a court of appeal for members as well as their communions. It shall deal with heresy among members as well as depositions. All parties bringing issue before this court agree that the decisions of this court shall be final and binding. Its decisions can only be appealed before the full Synod of the Congress. The Chief Judge/Senior Judicial Vicar shall be fifth in rank of seniority in this congress. The Primus, if it warrants, may grant relief on a decision of the court, if he feels according to the canons and scriptures such should be granted. He shall submit the same in writing to the court. The Judges/ Judicial Vicars shall serve for three (3) year term in office and the terms may be renewable and extended by the president and or synod. The president emeritus, vicar apostolic and dean can be called among to serve as justices on the Ecumenical Court if the needs demands it.

F) Vicar of Ecumenical Relations – (Accountable to the Primus) This person shall serve as the chief ecumenical officer assisting the primus in ecumenical relations of the Congress as it relates to other Communions, Churches, Councils of Bishops and ecumenical church gathering. This person shall coordinate with the Vicar of Protocol to see if a response needs to be made directly by the Primus of the Congress or just by the Ecumenical Office.

G) The Chancellor is the recording and corresponding officer of COAAB. He/she shall convene the meetings at the request of the president and shall present minutes of all activities at the appropriate meetings of the congress. He/she maintains up-to-date registry of membership and keeps the properties of COAAB.

This office is directly accountable to the Primus. He shall be the chief record-keeper and historian of The Congress. They shall keep the official archives, and certify documents and clergy certificates as directed by the Primus. Generally manages the administrative office of the congress and He may be assisted by the Registrar. - Keeps official records as assigned by the Primus. - Types & Prints all Congress leadership meeting minutes. Keeps all meeting minutes on file, to include those submitted by standing & ad hoc committees.

Registrar - This person is accountable directly to the Chancellor. They shall keep a running roll of Congress membership and standing. This includes Apostles, Bishops and/or organizational membership. They shall certify all delegates and registered members of the annual congress and its synod. The Registrar may also perform other duties as directed by the Primus or Chancellor.

H) The Assistant or Vice Chancellor shall assist the Chancellor in the performance of he/she duties and shall perform the duties of the Chancellor in his/her absence.

I) The Vicar of Finance maintains day-to-day accounts of COAAB. He/she is responsible for collecting the membership fee and other collections decided by THE SYNOD or COAAB. He/She shall disburse funds on behalf of COAAB when authorized by the president and/or the Chancellor. Cash more than an amount specified by THE SYNOD, should be deposited in a bank selected by the treasurer and approved by THE SYNOD. The bank account should be jointly operated by the Vicar of Finance, and the president or the Chancellor. The Vicar of Finance shall present appropriate financial records to auditors, executive committee, and THE SYNOD.

THE SYNOD shall determine the maximum amount the president, Chancellor, Vicar of Finance and any other officer can spend without the approval of THE SYNOD or THE ADVIOSRY BOARD.

The Vicar of Finance – Is accountable directly to the Primus. This person shall oversee and supervise The Congress finance committee. \* Executes spreadsheets for all The Congress' financial statements and keeps them on file. \* Presents treasury reports at The Congress leadership meetings \* Manages the Congress fiscal policies and budget

1st Assistant Vicar of Finance – Is accountable to the Vicar of Finances. This person shall accounts for all funds that The Congress receives. They shall also deposit all Congress funds into the Congress' bank account.

2nd Assistant Vicar of Finance - Is accountable directly to the Vicar of Finances. This person is responsible for the payment of all The Congress' liabilities and expenses \* responsible for the acquisition of all The Congress' materials and supplies \* Must keep on file all receipts and payment confirmation numbers for a minimum of 2 years

J) All officers, except the Chancellors, Registrar and Vicars of Finance, must be a duly consecrated Bishop/Apostle who is a member of this Synod.

The ADVISORY BOARD shall be the Board of Directors of the Congress of Apostles and Bishops and shall be considered the Executive Committee of the Synod of Episcopates.

Section 3 - Term of office:

A) The officers shall serve at the pleasure of the President and hold office for at least three (3) years and may be reappointed to another term.

B) The President term of office shall be elected for seven (7) years. Once elected, he can serve only a Second term of 7 years. No one can serve more than two consecutive terms in office as president. Once they have sat out a term they can run for office again.

[The founding president shall serve for life so long as his life is a life of Holiness and he remains in communion with the church. Once he retires, he shall serve in the role of Emeritus.]

C) A proper handling and taking over of the records, accounts, and properties of COAAB shall be done between the outgoing and the incoming committees within two weeks after the expiration of their term.

Section 4 - Removals: Officers can be removed from his/her position by THE SYNOD with a simple majority vote or by the president for the following reasons.

1. Unable to function in the position.

2. Acts against the constitution and canons of COAAB or against our standards of ministerial ethics

3. Is convicted of crime that is considered a felony.

4. If they promote heresy and deny the orthodox Christian faith as express by COAAB in its creedal formulas and the concordat.

CANON 6 – COMMITTEES

 Section 1 – ADVISORY BOARD:

A) THE ADVISORY BOARD shall consist of the all officers and 3 at-large members of the CONGRESS OF APOSTLES AND BISHOPS.

B) THE ADVISORY BOARD is the BOARD OF DIRECTORS of COAAB. It shall make decisions and act on behalf of the Congress when the Congress is not in Session. However, any of its actions and that of its officers can be reviewed and amended by the full SYNOD.

 C) THE ADVISORY BOARD shall meet at least once during the quarter, either in person or by conference call. A minimum of seven-day notice must be given for the meeting.

The quorum for THE ADVISORY BOARD shall be 50% of its members.

D) In the event that the office of the president becomes vacant, the vice president in order of rank shall become the locum tenens (lit., place holder), until the synod can fill the vacancy in office. All other positions shall be filled by president on the advice of THE SYNOD or the ADVISORY BOARD.

E) THE ADVISORY BOARD shall have the authority to take disciplinary action on any member whose actions are detrimental to the interests of the Congress. Such actions shall be reported in the next SYNOD meeting.

1. Members of this congress can be discipline for violating the Ministerial Code of Ethics of this Congress, its doctrinal standards and being convicted of sexual crimes.
2. Disciplinary actions can range from sanction or censures to being deposed from the bishopric and excommunicated.
3. The Congress shall establish rules and policy on how it shall discipline its members that are not inconsistent with Holy Scriptures and these Canons. Grace shall always be the guiding principle when it comes to such disciplinary actions.
4. Only the President, The Judicial Vicars, the Advisory Board or the Synod can discipline members of the Congress.

F) The officers can invite to Board meeting any other member for expert advice. Such guests won’t have the voting right in the Board meeting.

G) THE ADVISORY BOARD should approve the annual reports and audited accounts before they are presented at the Annual meeting of the SYNOD.

Section 2 - Special Committees:

A) The SYNOD and the ADVISORY BOARD may appoint sub-committees for special purposes such as DOCTRINES, BISHOPS, ORDINATION AND ETC.

B) The Term of office of such committees shall normally stop by the end of the calendar year.

However, the SYNOD OR THE ADVISORY BOARD may extend the term of office of such committees, if necessary.

C) These committees shall work according to the direction of THE SYNOD/BOARD and shall report to THE SYNOD/BOARD.

Section 3 - By virtue of their office, the VICAR(s), PRESIDENT, CHANCELLOR and of COAAB shall be members of THE SYNOD whether they are bishops or apostles. Those without episcopal character shall have voice but not vote unless they are a prelate.

CANON 7 - THE CREEDS, SACRAMENTS AND LITURGY

Section 1 – As a Synod we hold to the following:

* The Old and New Testaments as the Word of God that contains all things necessary unto Salvation and Holiness.
* The Two Catholic Creeds: The Apostles’ and Nicene. (Use of the filoque – “and the son” is optional among us)
* Celebration of the Eucharist and Baptism as Sacraments with unfailing use of the words of Christ and elements ordained by him. A view that the sacraments communicate Grace to the believers.
* The Episcopacy, in historic or reformed succession, locally adapted to the needs of God’s people as an inherent part of the apostolic faith and practice, and therefore as integral to the fullness and unity of the Body of Christ.
* Among us we consider the apostles to be a part of that episcopacy.
* A High view of the Church and Holy Scriptures
* Salvation is by Grace, through Faith in Christ.
* The Present-day ministry of the Holy Spirit
* Marriage being between ONE man and ONE woman.
* Concerning the seven Councils of the undivided Church, we affirm the teaching of the first four Councils and the Christological clarifications of the fifth, sixth and seventh Councils, in so far as they are agreeable to the Holy Scriptures.
* The sanctity of life at all stages
* Convergence: Our model is the three streams of faith which are:

 SACRAMENTS – Creeds, the written Word form and beauty in worship, structure and communion.

EVANGELICAL – Preached Word, evangelism, missions, education, fellowship, ministry and discipleship.

CHARISMATIC – Gifts of the Spirit, ministry gifts and power of intercession.

* Ecumenism: The Unity of the Body of Christ

Section 2 – Ecumenical Canons of the Ecumenical Councils as well as the Ancient Apostolic Canons that affect the life of the Congress but are not in conflict with these canons nor are in conflict with Holy Scriptures are to be look upon as a guide to our faith and practice using the Economy of the Church.

Section 3 – We desire like Christ that all may be one, but this being one is not assimilation into one of the Ancient Churches but a mutual recognition of Holy Orders, Liturgy, Doctrinal Statements and Practice as being each valid in its own right and a part of the Catholic Faith we confess and practice.

Section 4 - The Congress shall develop its own Sacramentary that shall be called **Koinonia: The Book of Worship for Pentecostals** which shall be faithful to the Ancient Structure of the Liturgy and draw from Traditions of the East and the West that is Faithful to the Two Catholic Creeds, Holy Scriptures and Worship of Christ as this Congress has received them.

Section 5 - It is understood that there is a diversity of liturgical expression in the Congress. In order to use these rich liturgies most advantageously, it is the responsibility of the bishop with jurisdiction to ensure that the forms used in Public Worship and the Administration of the Sacraments be in accordance with our Pentecostal Reformed Catholic Faith and Order and that nothing be established that is contrary to the Word of God as revealed in the Holy Scriptures.

Section 6 – The Congress as stated elsewhere in these canons shall began and end with a public celebration of the Eucharist – Opening Wednesday and Friday during the Consecration. Saturday Worship shall be a Liturgy of the Word.

CANON 8 -The Tier of Leadership in the COAAB.

Though we recognize that this congress has one voice, we have taken the crucial steps to establish the following Tier of Leadership. Each member of the congress shall have one vote for the collaboration of this Ecumenical initiative. The president shall be the voice of reasoning for the congress. He shall have vice-presidents and vicars assisting him. Furthermore, the territory shall be broken into regions and each region shall have a Chapter/Regional Director.

CANON 9 – CONGRESS HOLY ORDERS

Section 1 – The Congress guards its Holy Orders that it extend to its membership by way of Laying on of Hands. No person shall be ordained by this congress that shall not have the approval of the President of the Congress, The Synod or the Committee on Ordination.

Section 2 – This Congress corporately confesses the three historic orders of bishop, presbyter and deacon. Among us apostles are to be counted among the order of bishops. Such persons shall be recommended for ordination by the Committee on Ordination to the President who shall review each candidate and if he approves, submit the same to the Congress at its Synod session. The synod shall elect such person to be bishops and members of this synod. Membership in this synod is required for ordination through us. Usually the primate of a communion that is affiliated with this congress shall recommend such a person for ordination as bishop. Such a recommendation can be done by communion requesting consecration of their prelate as bishop among them.

Section 3 – The Congress will not validate any orders of those who withdraw from membership in this congress and will declare the same null and void, if said person do not leave the congress with the permission of the Synod and its president.

Section 4 – Before any one is consecrated by this congress, the person shall make their act of conformity to accede to the doctrine, discipline, worship and practice of this congress and its synod.

Section 5 – All persons to be consecrated bishop shall be at least of the age of 30 (the president may wave that age requirement) and a member of the order of presbyters in order to be consecrated bishop by this Congress.

Section 6 – All persons consecrated bishop shall refrain from consecrating other bishops as chief consecrator or co-consecrator until after 12 months from the date of their consecration by the congress has pass.

Section 7 – Being consecrated by this Congress automatically makes your Holy Orders accountable to us. We expect each person we consecrate to uphold the standards of this Congress and not do anything that will bring shame on this congress and Christianity as a whole. Paul’s words to Timothy in Scripture says that the bishop is to be blameless (have nothing that will bring or cause shame to come on the church) and have a good report in and out of the Church. We expect our members to hold to a high standard of sexuality and a high standard of Holiness.

Section 8 – The ordination of Presbyters and Deacons is considered to be an honor done at the request of the various primates by the Congress president and its senior leadership.

Section 9 – Any member/bishop who is deposed or defrock by a communion that is in affiliation with this Congress, may appeal such actions to the Congress Ecumenical Court to have their case adjudicated. All avenues available in that communion must be utilized before one brings a case before the Court. Once a case is under review by the court, all parties involve agree to recognize the decision of the Ecumenical Court as binding upon all parties involved. Such an action, once reported to the Synod becomes an action of the Synod of this Congress.

CANON 10 - AMENDMENTS

Section 1: Any amendment to the constitution and CANONS of COAAB can be proposed by ADVISORY BOARD or by any registered member with the signatures of at least one third of the registered members of the Congress Synod. Such proposed amendment shall be submitted to the Advisory Board for review and submitting to the full Synod. THE SYNOD should study and recommend the proposed amendment to the Congress of Apostles and Bishops for adoption. The Advisory Board shall certify all amendments adopted by the Synod.

Section 2: Only THE SYNOD can make amendments to the constitution and bylaws of COAAB. The proposed amendments shall be circulated at least thirty days before the SYNOD. At least a 50% majority plus 1 of registered members present should be required to ratify an amendment.

Section 3: No amendment affecting the basic COAAB principle shall be made.

Section 4: We don’t expect these canons to be amended often. It should be the practice of this Congress to develop policy and procedures that are not inconsistent with these canons that shall be compiled into a Policy and Operations manual. The Policies and Procedures should state by whom they were develop, proved and sanction. The Congress reserves the right to amend, revise or void any policy established by any officer or office of this Congress.

These provisional canons shall have the force of law until they are either revise or adopted as is by the Synod of the Congress of Apostles and Bishops. Done under my hand and seal as the Founding President of the Congress of Apostles and Bishops in the 9th year of my consecration as bishop in the Lord’s Church on this 24th day of November 2014.

++ Thomas F Henry Jr

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
Thomas F Henry Jr, Founding President-COAAB
Archbishop-Elect

