



FROM THE ANGLICAN ARCHBISHOP OF CAPE TOWN  
The Most Reverend Thabo Cecil Makgoba

BISHOPSCOURT CLAREMONT CAPE 7708  
SOUTH AFRICA

TELEPHONE: 086 1001171  
INTERNATIONAL: +27 21 763-1300  
FAX: +27 21 761-4193  
EMAIL: archpa@anglicanchurchsa.org.za

TCM/tcb

19 November 2008

Mr Themba Godi, Chairperson  
Standing Committee on Public Accounts (SCOPA)  
Parliament  
Cape Town

Dear Mr Godi

**SCOPA Arms Deal Inquiry**

The Anglican Church was invited to participate in the 1996-1998 Defence Review conducted in Parliament. Together with other institutions of faith, we took the position that poverty was, and remains, the major security threat facing South Africa, and that there was no justification for massive expenditures on the arms deal. Terry Crawford-Browne of Economists Allied For Arms Reduction—South Africa was tasked by Archbishop Njongonkulu Ndungane to represent the Church, and it was in that capacity that he became involved the arms deal controversies.

After serious allegations of corruption were brought to their attention, my predecessors Archbishops Desmond Tutu and Njongonkulu Ndungane repeatedly called for a thorough and independent judicial commission of inquiry into the arms deal.

I write to commend the submission to Scopa by Economists Allied For Arms Reduction—South Africa and Terry Crawford-Browne, and again reiterate the need for such an inquiry to be appointed by President Kgalema Motlanthe. In particular, I commend investigation into:

1. the use of offsets, and referral to the Constitutional Court for a decision whether offsets are unconstitutional in terms of section 217 of the Constitution, and
2. the representation, covenant and default clauses in the Barclays Bank/Export Credit Guarantee Department loan agreement pertaining to the BAE Hawk and BAE/Saab Gripen fighter aircraft contracts.

God bless

Yours in the service of Christ

*Thabo Cape Town*