of Christian Ch (NZFCC)

(Open Letter by the NZFCC's first President, Mr. A. van Echten, 1991)



January and February 1988 in New Zealand saw the dissolution of the National Council of Churches (NCC) and the commencement of a new body called the CONFERENCE OF CHURCHES IN AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND (CCANZ).

This new body, unlike the former NCC, has the Roman Catholic Church as a member, thus joining ranks with 33 other countries around the world who also have the Roman church as a full member of their respective national church councils.

The MAORI church Council, Te Runanga Whakawhanaunga I Nga Hahi o Aotearoa (formed in 1982 as an autonomous body from the Maori section of the NCC) also has on board the Roman Catholic church as a full member.

Together, Te Runanga and the CCANZ "present the face ecumenical life in Aotearoa" (Executive secretary CCANZ), and both these have been formally received as JOINT ASSOCIATE MEMBERS of the World Council of Churches (WCC) at the World Congress in Canberra in 1991.

Also in New Zealand, in 1982, another body was formed under the name of The Scripture Preservation

