

**GENERAL CONVENTION OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH 2009
ARCHIVES' RESEARCH REPORT**

RESOLUTION NO.: 2009-A031
TITLE: Commendatory Resolution
PROPOSER: Standing Commission on Anglican and International Peace with Justice Concerns
COMMITTEE: Privilege and Courtesy

Directly Related: (attached)

2006-A016 On the Topic of Improved Diplomatic Relations Between U.S. and Cuba (Rejected)
2006-B013 On the Topic of Northern Uganda (Rejected)
2003-A036 On the Topic of the Korean Peninsula (Rejected)
2003-D050 Request the Release of Funds for the Diocese of Cuba
2000-A130 Affirm Solidarity with and Support for Persecuted Christians in Sudan
2000-C045 Request Restoration of Diplomatic Relations Between the U.S. and Cuba
1988-D049 Endorse the NCCC's Policy Statement on the Reunification of Korea

Indirectly Related:

2003-B022 Support Anglican Provinces in Africa
2003-D020 Oppose Legal Systems Which Violate Human Rights
1994-A097 Urge the US Government to Adopt a Policy of Peace and Justice in the Philippines
1994-D012 Support Human Rights and Church Relations in Sudan
1991-D021 Urge Improved Diplomatic Relations Between U.S. and Cuba
1979-C040 Affirm Funding and Support of the Church in Uganda

In preparing this report, the Archives researched the resolutions of General Convention for the period 1976 through 2006, selecting "direct" resolutions that have a substantive bearing on the proposed legislation. Committee members who are interested in obtaining copies of "indirectly related" resolutions, legislative history before 1976, or who require other research assistance should contact the Archives at 800-525-9329 before Convention or at Convention in the General Convention Secretariat.



Resolution Number: 2006-A016
Title: On the Topic of Improved Diplomatic Relations Between U.S. and Cuba
Legislative Action Taken: Rejected
Text of Resolution:

Resolved, the House of Deputies concurring, That the 75th General Convention of The Episcopal Church call for an immediate end to all portions of the United States economic embargo against the Republic of Cuba, particularly revisions to the embargo implemented by the U.S. Department of State in 2004; and be it further

Resolved, That dioceses and *congregations* ~~parishes~~ in The Episcopal Church consider the establishment of companion relationships with the Episcopal Church of Cuba in order to help support the IEC spiritually and, where possible, financially; and be it further

Resolved, That, in order to promote the exchange of religious and political ideals, all members of The Episcopal Church are encouraged to travel to Cuba subject to the availability of licenses from the U.S. government; and receive delegations from the Episcopal Church of Cuba subject to approval by the U.S. government; and be it further

Resolved, That The Episcopal Church recommit itself at all levels to pray for the reconciliation of the United States and the Republic of Cuba, in the Name of the Prince of Peace whose most passionate desire for the Church is the ministry of reconciliation.



Resolution Number: 2006-B013
Title: On the Topic of Northern Uganda
Legislative Action Taken: Rejected
Text of Resolution:

Resolved, the House of Deputies concurring, That the Secretary of the 75th General Convention shall write on behalf of the 75th General Convention to the Secretary General of the United Nations, the President of the United States, and each member of the U.S. Congress to inform them that The Episcopal church, meeting in the 75th General Convention, calls for *a study or report in the next twelve months to the Executive Council, regarding human rights abuses toward the Acholi people and other persons of Northern Uganda and to advocate that the Security Council use the resources of the United Nations to stop human rights abuses against the Acholi people and other persons of Northern Uganda; and be it further*

Resolved, That the Secretary of the 75th General Convention shall write on behalf of the General Convention to the Archbishop of Canterbury and request that this Primate take the following action:

Urge the Church of the Province of Uganda to *continue to demand justice and peace for the people of Northern Uganda and to stand up in solidarity with the voiceless and vulnerable Acholi people and other persons of Northern Uganda, use this good office in the world to stop human rights abuses in Northern Uganda and rally resources to rehabilitate the Acholi people and other persons of Northern Uganda, physically and spiritually; and be it further*

Resolved, That the 75th General Convention sponsor and fund a delegation to travel to Northern Uganda for the purpose of expressing our concern and gather information to be used to educate the people of The Episcopal Church and to suggest specific action for consideration by the 76th General Convention.



Resolution Number: 2003-A036
Title: On the Topic of the Korean Peninsula
Legislative Action Taken: Rejected
Text of Resolution:

Resolved, the House of Bishops concurring, That the 74th General Convention of The Episcopal Church in the United States of America support the Anglican Church of Korea in its advocacy for the peaceful reunification of the Korean peninsula; and be it further

Resolved, That the Episcopal Church through its own offices and agencies and by appeal to the United States government *to urge nongovernment organizations to special attention and aid to the relief of humanitarian needs and development of the Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea (North Korea)* including poverty alleviation, food ~~aid~~, and energy development, transportation, education, and protection of human rights and the environment; and be it further

Resolved, ~~That the Church urge the end of political demonization and militaristic rhetoric toward the Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea and its leaders in an effort to establish a more peaceful climate in the community of nations.~~

Resolved, ~~That the Church ask the United States to call on the People's Republic of China and Russia to allow entry in reasonable numbers of North Korean refugees and that the United States similarly move to welcome North Korean refugees into the United States.~~



Resolution Number: 2003-D050
Title: Request the Release of Funds for the Diocese of Cuba
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 74th General Convention, through both its national and diocesan leadership, request our federal legislative delegations in Washington, D.C. to encourage immediate action on the filed applications to release pension payments, restricted endowment, and trust income held by ECUSA for the Diocese of Cuba, and other grants the disbursement of which was stopped by the Patriot Act passed after September 11th by Congress; and be it further

Resolved, That we continue to work with the Anglican Church of Canada which continues to provide oversight and assistance to the Cuban Church.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Minneapolis, 2003* (New York: General Convention, 2004), p. 683f.



Resolution Number: 2000-A130
Title: Affirm Solidarity with and Support for Persecuted Christians in Sudan
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Substituted
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 2000 General Convention of the Episcopal Church of the United States of America continue to affirm its solidarity through prayer and witness with the Episcopal Church of Sudan in support of Christians suffering from the effects of the longest civil war in recent history; and be it further

Resolved, That the Convention urge local and national advocacy efforts to raise awareness of people in this Church to the persecution being inflicted upon the people of Sudan; and be it further

Resolved, That the Church through its Office of Government Relations urge that the U.S. government assign the highest priority to advancing a just peace in Sudan by applying pressure on the government of Sudan, and working with our allies, especially Egypt, to end the war; and be it further

Resolved, That all Episcopalians are urged to work against the genocide occurring in Sudan, caused by the National Islamic Front, the current ruling regime, and other contributing warring factions' use of food as a weapon, abduction and enslavement of human beings, aerial bombardment of and raids on civilian targets, denial of religious freedom, and other acts of terror and harassment; and be it further

Resolved, That Episcopalians are encouraged to give generously to enable the people of Sudan to rebuild their lives, by providing the means to train people in areas of expertise that will help them to live full, productive lives, allowing women and men equally to have access to small business endeavors; encouraging the gift of medical drugs, medical equipment and human resources; and finally, by supporting the restoration of the educational system; and be it further

Resolved, That the Convention continue to reaffirm the Episcopal Church's solidarity with all Christians in all places who suffer persecution and all persons, of whatever religion, who suffer persecution by reason of their faith.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Denver, 2000* (New York: General Convention, 2001), p. 577f.



Resolution Number: 2000-C045
Title: Request Restoration of Diplomatic Relations Between the U.S. and Cuba
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Substituted and Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 73rd General Convention of the Episcopal Church in the United States of America ask the Congress of the United States and the President of the United States to restore full diplomatic relations between the United States and Cuba; and be it further

Resolved, To ask that in the process of establishing diplomatic relations with Cuba, issues of human rights, freedom of speech and movement be taken in consideration along with freedom of political prisoners; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of General Convention send a copy of this resolution to the President of the United States, the Secretary of State, the Chairs of the House Foreign Affairs and of the Senate Foreign Relations Committees, and to all Senators and Members of the House of Representatives who are Episcopalians.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Denver, 2000* (New York: General Convention, 2001), p. 644.



Resolution Number: 1988-D049
Title: Endorse the NCCC's Policy Statement on the Reunification of Korea
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred As Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, the House of Bishops concurring, **That the 69th General Convention endorse the NCCC USA Peace and the Reunification of Korea Policy Statement and instruct appropriate Episcopal Church agencies, such as the National and World Missions and the Episcopal Asiamerica Ministry to use their resources to participate with NCCC USA in the implementation of this policy.**

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Detroit, 1988* (New York: General Convention, 1989), p. 221.

21 - Privilege and Courtesy

A031

TOPIC/TITLE: Courtesy: Commendatory Resolution

PROPOSER: Standing Commission on Anglican and International Peace with
Justice Concerns

C&C PAGE:

BB PAGE: 92

1 *Resolved*, the House of _____ concurring, That the 76th General Convention
2 commends the world-wide peacemaking efforts of the Presiding Bishop during her first
3 triennium, especially on a visit to North and South Korea in November 2007, in support
4 of Korean reunification in her work to support the Communion-wide efforts for further
5 steps to reunification under the inspiring leadership of the Anglican Church of Korea; and
6 be it further

7
8 *Resolved*, That the General Convention also commends the visit of the Presiding Bishop
9 to the Philippines in June 2008 and her role in exposing the deplorable human rights
10 abuses by elements of the Philippine government in the policy of politically motivated
11 killings and disappearances of civic and socially conscious leaders; and be it further

12
13 *Resolved*, That the General Convention commends the Presiding Bishop and other
14 Episcopalians who have worked to support the search for peace and reconciliation in the
15 interrelated conflicts in the Sudan, Northern Uganda and the Democratic Republic of the
16 Congo, particularly in support of the peacemaking efforts of The Episcopal Church of the
17 Sudan, the Church of Uganda and the Anglican Church in the Congo; and be it further

18
19 *Resolved*, That the General Convention commends the Presiding Bishop and her
20 predecessor, the Right Reverend Frank T. Griswold, for their work toward reconciliation
21 between the United States and Cuba, an end to the U.S. embargo against Cuba and a
22 strengthening of the rights and wellbeing of Cuban citizens; and in support of
23 partnerships between dioceses in the United States and The Episcopal Church of Cuba;
24 and also commends the efforts of the Church Pension Group in the past triennium to
25 increase the limit imposed by the U.S. Government on the level of pension benefits that
26 may be paid legally by the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Protestant
27 Episcopal Church in the United States of America to its ordained clergy in the Cuban
28 Church.

EXPLANATION:

The Commission has a long-standing guideline to not develop policy on geographically-

oriented issues without having first visited our partner churches in those places. However, the Commission wishes to note that our Presiding Bishop has been actively engaged in peacemaking in Korea, the Philippines, East Africa and Cuba during this triennium. We therefore commend her efforts and recommend the following Resolution.