

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

RESOLUTION NO.: 2009-D097
TITLE: Episcopal Relief and Development Resolution of Commendation
PROPOSER: Ms. Rita T. Redfield
COMMITTEE: Privilege and Courtesy

Directly Related: (attached)

2006-A010 Affirm "Call to Partnership" and Pursue Achievement of the Millennium Development Goals
2006-D022 Establish the Millennium Development Goals as a Mission Priority
2003-D006 Endorse UN Millennium Development Goals
2000-B010 Express Gratitude to PBFWR and Endorse Adoption of a New Name

Indirectly Related:

None

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-A010
Title: Affirm "Call to Partnership" and Pursue Achievement of the Millennium Development Goals
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 75th General Convention of The Episcopal Church receive and affirm "Call to Partnership," the communiqué presented to the United Nations Summit on Sept. 13, 2005, by Anglican, Evangelical, Greek Orthodox, Lutheran, Reform, Roman Catholic, Seventh Day Adventist and United Methodist participants in the Consultation of Religious Leaders on Global Poverty; and be it further

Resolved, That The Episcopal Church acknowledge the leadership of persons in poverty and local leaders in poor communities as equal partners and not simply recipients in the global effort to alleviate the crushing burden of extreme poverty; and be it further

Resolved, That the 75th General Convention urge our ecumenical and interfaith partners to affirm "Call to Partnership" and join The Episcopal Church in working across confessional lines and in partnership with governments and international organizations to pursue the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) with all available human and financial resources; and be it further

Resolved, That in receiving and affirming the communiqué, The Episcopal Church call upon governments to pursue the achievement of the MDGs through:

1. **significantly increased official development assistance to poor countries;**
2. **debt cancellation premised upon a country's need for resources to meet the MDGs;**
3. **fair and open trade policies that allow developing countries to compete in international markets with rich countries;**
4. **policies designed to alleviate structural barriers and social injustices that exacerbate the effects of poverty in the developing world; and**
5. **policies that promote full accountability and transparency among developing countries for the use of resources derived through foreign aid while still allowing strategies for accountability and transparency to be dictated by developing countries themselves; and be it further**

Resolved, That in receiving and affirming the communiqué, the General Convention affirm the work of the Church's officers, dioceses, congregations, baptized members, and Episcopal Relief and Development in undertaking and supporting partnerships for global development in impoverished countries and calls for the expansion of this work through:

1. **increased support through time and financial resources for companion relationships with dioceses and congregations in the developing world;**
2. **a renewed commitment to the work of Episcopal Relief and Development and other faith-based organizations that are operating successful partnerships on behalf of those living in poverty around the world;**
3. **a commitment to regular prayer from all dioceses, congregations and baptized members for an end to global poverty in all its forms.**

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Columbus, 2006* (New York: General Convention, 2007), pp. 524-525.



Resolution Number: 2006-D022
Title: Establish the Millennium Development Goals as a Mission Priority
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 75th General Convention of The Episcopal Church commend the leaders and members of The Episcopal Church, including Episcopal Relief and Development and program ministries of The Episcopal Church, for their leadership on behalf of the Millennium Development Goals, both through public advocacy and implementation of MDG programs in the developing world; and commend parishes, missions, congregations, and dioceses, and others, like Episcopalians for Global Reconciliation and the Micah Challenge, for their support of the implementation of the MDGs in fulfillment of our Baptismal Covenant and as an expression of the hunger of this Church for far deeper communion with all of God's beloved; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention establish the work toward the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals as a mission priority for the coming triennium, and that each diocese, congregation, and parishioner be urged to commit to 0.7% giving toward these goals by July 7, 2007 (07/07/07); and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention request the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance to consider a budget line item of no less than an additional 0.7% (circa \$900,000) of the non-government revenue of The Episcopal Church for work that supports the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals:

1. **Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger**
2. **Achieve universal primary education**
3. **Promote gender equality and empower women**
4. **Reduce child mortality**
5. **Improve maternal health**
6. **Combat HIV and AIDS, malaria and other diseases**
7. **Ensure environmental sustainability, and**
8. **Create a global partnership for development with a focus on debt, aid, and trade.**

And be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention encourage parishes, missions, congregations, and dioceses to designate the Last Sunday after Pentecost, or such days as may be designated ecumenically for commendation of the MDGs, as special days of prayer, fasting, and giving in The Episcopal Church toward global reconciliation and the Millennium Development Goals; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention request that all dioceses establish a global reconciliation commission or similar body dedicated to mobilizing Episcopalians toward the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals; and be it further

Resolved, That the Standing Commission on Anglican and International Peace with Justice Concerns report to the 76th General Convention on the progress that has been achieved in implementing this resolution; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention endorse "The ONE Campaign," the U.S. movement for the MDGs, through The Episcopal Church's "ONE Episcopalian" campaign; call on all parishes, missions, congregations, dioceses, and individuals to join the ONE Episcopalian campaign; and publicly endorse

The ONE Campaign's call for the United States government to annually spend an additional one percent of its budget to combat global poverty, and to be active advocates for the achievement of this work.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Columbus, 2006* (New York: General Convention, 2007), pp. 522-524.



Resolution Number: 2003-D006
Title: Endorse UN Millennium Development Goals
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 74th General Convention endorse and embrace the achievement of the United Nations' Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) that pledge to:

1. **eradicate extreme poverty and hunger;**
2. **achieve universal primary education;**
3. **promote gender equality and empower women;**
4. **reduce child mortality;**
5. **improve maternal health;**
6. **combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases;**
7. **ensure environmental stability; and**
8. **develop a global partnership for development; and be it further**

Resolved, That the Convention, recognizing that funding for nutritional, education, health care, and development programs is essential to achieve not only the MDGs, but also for recognizing the dignity of all human beings, reaffirm the 73rd General Convention's Resolutions A001 and D033 challenging all dioceses and congregations to contribute 0.7% of their annual budgets to fund international development programs; and be it further

Resolved, That the appropriate offices and staff of the Episcopal Church Center, in cooperation with Episcopal Relief and Development, promote among dioceses and congregations education about and participation in the 0.7% contribution for international development; and be it further

Resolved, That the Executive Council be directed to fulfill the 73rd General Convention's Resolution D033 requiring the Council to develop a process for an annual accounting of each diocese's progress toward living into the 0.7% contribution goal; and be it further

Resolved, That the Executive Council in cooperation with the Communications Office at the Episcopal Church Center publish annually the annual accounting of all dioceses' level of participation in the 0.7% contribution goal; and be it further

Resolved, That the Standing Commission on Anglican and International Peace with Justice present a full report to the 75th General Convention of the level of participation of all dioceses in the call to contribute 0.7% of their annual budgets to fund international development programs; and be it further

Resolved, That the United States government, as one of the 191 national signatories to the United Nations' Millennium Development Goals, be encouraged to provide appropriate leadership and resources toward international efforts to implement these and other internationally agreed development goals and that the Episcopal Office of Government Relations actively advocate that the United States government fulfill its commitment to funding international development aid at 0.7% of the U.S. Gross National Product (GNP); and be it further

Resolved, That all Episcopalians contact their elected representatives, urging them to support the United States government's fulfillment of its commitment to funding international development aid at 0.7% of the U.S. GNP.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Minneapolis, 2003* (New York: General Convention, 2004), p. 265f.



Resolution Number: 2000-B010
Title: Express Gratitude to PBFWR and Endorse Adoption of a New Name
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Submitted
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 73rd General Convention of the Episcopal Church express its profound and abundant thanks to the Presiding Bishop's Fund for World Relief, which for sixty years has responded faithfully and well to people in need throughout the United States and the world. Since its founding in 1940 through the vision of people of the Diocese of Southern Ohio, the Fund has served as the foremost tangible expression of relief and development through this Church; and be it further
Resolved, That this General Convention, on the occasion of the 60th anniversary, rejoice in the adoption of the new name of "Episcopal Relief and Development" under which this great work will continue and grow in response to human need in the service of Jesus Christ; and be it further
Resolved, That this General Convention call on the people of the Episcopal Church to respond generously to Episcopal Relief and Development as an expression of our Christian compassion and in response to the Baptismal Covenant to love and respect the dignity of every human being.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Denver, 2000* (New York: General Convention, 2001), p. 277.

TOPIC/TITLE: ERD: Episcopal Relief and Development Resolution of Commendation

PROPOSER: Ms. Rita T. Redfield

C&C PAGE:

BB PAGE:

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- 1 *Resolved*, the House of _____ concurring, That the 76th General Convention of the
2 Episcopal Church commend the work of Episcopal Relief and Development as a
3 powerful example of how we as Christians can live out our baptismal covenant and work
4 towards healing a hurting world; and be it further
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6 Resolved, That acting as the international development agency of the Episcopal Church,
7 Episcopal Relief and Development's success in the 2006-2009 triennium at reaching
8 many millions of people in more than 40 countries around the world is a testament to our
9 Church's commitment to answering Jesus' call in Matthew 25:40 to do unto the least of
10 these what we would do for Him; and be it further
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12 Resolved, That the Episcopal Church celebrate Episcopal Relief and Development's
13 efforts at surpassing the Millennium Development Goals Inspiration Fund's financial and
14 programmatic objectives; and be it further
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16 Resolved, That Episcopal Relief and Development's focus on alleviating hunger,
17 promoting health, creating economic opportunities and providing disaster relief
18 worldwide empowers vulnerable people to live the lives of dignity that they deserve; and
19 be it further
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21 Resolved, That the Episcopal Church should support Episcopal Relief and Development
22 as the agency continues to engage Episcopalians in the global effort to reach the
23 Millennium Development Goals and serve our neighbors in need through its programs.
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EXPLANATION:

This resolution is being simultaneously submitted as D091.