

**GENERAL CONVENTION OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH 2018
ARCHIVES' RESEARCH REPORT**

RESOLUTION NO.: 2018-B027
TITLE: Gender Inclusivity in Climate Change Action
PROPOSER: The Rt. Rev. Marc Andrus
TOPIC: Environment

Directly Related: (Attached)

2015-A049 Prioritize Gender Equality Concerns in Foreign and Church Aid
2012-A011 Reaffirm Commitment to Millennium Development Goals
2012-B023 Seek Environmental Justice

Indirectly Related: (Available in the [Acts of Convention](#) database, searchable by resolution number)

2006-B002 Acknowledge and Reduce Global Warming

In preparing this report, the Archives researched the resolutions in the Acts of Convention database for the period 1976 through 2015, selecting “direct” resolutions that have a substantive bearing on the proposed legislation. The “direct” resolutions are attached and “indirect” resolutions are available in the Acts of Convention database. Committee members who require other research assistance should contact the Archives at 800-525-9329 before Convention or at Convention in the General Convention Secretariat.

B027 Gender Inclusivity in Climate Change Action

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| Proposer | The Rt. Rev. Marc Andrus |
| Endorsed by | Beckwith, The Rt. Rev. Mark; Gray-Reeves, The Rt. Rev. Mary |
| Sponsored by | |
| Page numbers | Blue Book: p. N/A; Constitution & Canons: p. N/A |
| HiA / Leg. Cttee | / |
| Current Status | Pre-Filed Resolution |
| Version | Original (as filed) |
| Review Status | Not yet reviewed |

RESOLUTION TEXT

- Resolved*, the House of _____ concurring, That the 79th General Convention of The Episcopal Church call on our Office of Government Relations to support international and domestic efforts to encourage and advocate for gender inclusive approaches within climate change disaster response and management, recognizing that climate change profoundly and differently impacts people according to their gender; and be it further
- Resolved*, That this convention urge congregations and dioceses of The Episcopal Church to act in their own contexts in recognition that women are at the front line of climate impact and need to be involved in decisions affecting their lives, and those of their families and communities in response to disasters and humanitarian emergencies; and be it further
- Resolved*, That institutions and providers in The Episcopal Church whose ministries are associated with disasters, climate refugees, maternal health, poverty alleviation, and addressing inequalities be urged to lift up and advocate for women’s leadership on climate justice, support gender inclusive approaches to climate resilience and make themselves available as resources to congregations and dioceses for this work; and be it further
- Resolved*, That the Episcopal Church 1) commit to the development and circulation of educational materials to be used in both diocesan and congregational formation and 2) develop policies that substantively move diocesan and congregational policies to conform our corporate life to the Sustainable Development Goals.

EXPLANATION

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development provides a comprehensive roadmap for the sustainability of people and the planet. Empowering women and girls and advancing gender equality is central to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. With climate change as one of the most urgent and compelling issues of our time, and with women at the front line of impact, ensuring that approaches to address climate change are gender inclusive and that support women’s leadership is crucial. Everyone has a role to play in making gender equality a lived reality by 2030 and thus save lives, strengthen communities, reduce poverty and ensure a sustainable planet.

This resolution addresses the mission priority of Alleviating Poverty and Injustice established at the

76th General Convention, and the Sustainable Development Goals, which include a stand-alone gender goal together with gender integration across all the SDGs.

The Sustainable Development Goals

On 1 January 2016, the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development — adopted by world leaders in September 2015 at an historic UN Summit — officially came into force. Over the next fifteen years, with these new Goals that universally apply to all, countries will mobilize efforts to end all forms of poverty, fight inequalities and tackle climate change, while ensuring that no one is left behind.

The SDGs, also known as Global Goals, build on the success of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and aim to go further to end all forms of poverty. The new Goals are unique in that they call for action by all countries, poor, rich and middle-income to promote prosperity while protecting the planet. They recognize that ending poverty must go hand-in-hand with strategies that build economic growth and addresses a range of social needs including education, health, social protection, and job opportunities, while tackling climate change and environmental protection.

While the SDGs are not legally binding, governments are expected to take ownership and establish national frameworks for the achievement of the 17 Goals. Countries have the primary responsibility for follow-up and review of the progress made in implementing the Goals, which will require quality, accessible and timely data collection. Regional follow-up and review will be based on national-level analyses and contribute to follow-up and review at the global level.

The Global Goals are:

No poverty

Zero hunger

Good health and well-being

Quality education

Gender equality

Clean water and sanitation

Affordable and clean energy

Decent work and economic growth

Industry innovation and infrastructure

Reduced inequalities

Sustainable cities and communities

Responsible consumption and production

Climate action

Life below water

Life on land

Peace and justice strong institutions

Partnerships for the goals



Resolution Number: 2015-A049
Title: Prioritize Gender Equality Concerns in Foreign and Church Aid
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention commend giving priority to the achievement of gender equality and empowerment of all women, including transgender individuals, by using the following principles as appropriate standards for distribution of foreign aid by the United States; and be it further

Resolved, That 78th General Convention recommends that any proposed economic aid will increase economic capacity, using methods such as global trade and financial and investment agreements, and will include the direct involvement of and capacity building for women; and be it further

Resolved, That 78th General Convention recommends that any proposed aid for health care will require a goal of universal coverage, ensuring access without discrimination for women, girls and transgender individuals to all types of services offered, without imposing financial hardship on the patient; and be it further

Resolved, That 78th General Convention recommends that any proposed aid for agriculture or aquaculture will facilitate the participation of women in these programs; and be it further

Resolved, That 78th General Convention recommends that any proposed aid responding to financial or economic crises or natural disasters and their aftermaths will include steps to minimize negative impacts on gender equality and empowerment of women, providing opportunities for women's employment, and access to essential services and social protection systems for women's and girls' and other vulnerable and disadvantaged persons' human rights; and be it further

Resolved, That 78th General Convention recommends that any proposed aid for environmental and climate-change issues will promote full and equal participation of women at all levels of decision making regarding the use of such aid; and be it further

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention commend the same principles of achievement of gender equality and empowerment of all women, including transgender individuals, to dioceses and congregations throughout the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society as a criterion for engagement in domestic and international projects, whether through direct aid or involvement of personnel.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Salt Lake City, 2015* (New York: General Convention, 2015), pp. 301-302.



Resolution Number: 2012-A011
Title: Reaffirm Commitment to Millennium Development Goals
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 77th General Convention affirms its commitment to the Millennium Development Goals as a primary mission priority through 2015 and pledges to redouble its efforts in pursuit of achievement of these goals by 2015; and be it further

Resolved, That the 77th General Convention requests that the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget & Finance include in the 2013–2015 General Convention Budget a line item of no less than 0.7% of the non-government revenue of the Episcopal Church to support the Millennium Development Goals; and that this 0.7% commitment will be a visible and prophetic act of leadership in fighting global poverty; and be it further

Resolved, That the funds from the 0.7% line item be contributed to a campaign for the 2013–2015 triennium to be led and administered by Episcopal Relief & Development in support of its programs that are working to achieve the Millennium Development Goals.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Indianapolis, 2012* (New York: General Convention, 2012), pp. 132-133.



Resolution Number: 2012-B023
Title: Seek Environmental Justice
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 77th General Convention of The Episcopal Church stands in solidarity with those communities who bear the greatest burdens of global climate change: indigenous peoples, subsistence communities, communities of color, and persons living in deprivation around the world; and be it further

Resolved, That the 77th General Convention calls on congregations, institutions, dioceses, and the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of The Episcopal Church to support policies that provide tangible benefits to overburdened “frontline” communities (those already experiencing the impacts of climate change) and “fence-line” communities (those suffering in body and spirit for their proximity to the extraction and processing of fossil fuels); and be it further

Resolved, That the 77th General Convention calls on congregations, institutions, dioceses, and the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of The Episcopal Church, to work for the just transformation of the world’s energy beyond and away from fossil fuels (including all forms of oil, coal, and natural gas) and toward safe, sustainable, renewable, community controlled energy, and that fossil fuel workers and their families be supported during the transition to a “post-carbon” society; and be it further

Resolved, That the 77th General Convention calls on congregations, institutions, dioceses, and the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of The Episcopal Church to resist the development and expansion of ever more unconventional, dangerous, and environmentally destructive sources of fossil fuel and move toward conversion to more sustainable sources; and be it further

Resolved, That the 77th General Convention calls on congregations, institutions, dioceses and the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of The Episcopal Church to support the self-determined aspirations of communities around the world, who, like the Iñupiaq Community of Kivalina, Alaska, having emitted minimal amounts of carbon and having received negligible material benefit from fossil fuel consumption, nevertheless bear the brunt of climate-change impacts; and be it further

Resolved, That the 77th General Convention calls on congregations, institutions, dioceses and the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of The Episcopal Church, including Episcopal Relief and Development, to support the implementation of grassroots, community-based solutions to climate change, including, but not limited to, adaptations to improve local resilience, to build local food sovereignty, to support ecological restoration and economic re-localization.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Indianapolis, 2012* (New York: General Convention, 2012), p. 324.