

Every United Church investing group should, at the very least, review the operations of the corporations in which it holds stock in the light of the declared social priorities of the United Church of Christ, determining whether such operations promote or impede the achievement of Christian social goals. This would include providing for a responsible review committee to study corporate reports and annual shareholder meeting proxy notices, deciding what is the best way, in view of these goals, for a United Church shareholder to vote on each public interest proposal presented. In full ecumenical cooperation, the various shareholding bodies in the United Church of Christ should continue to work with the business corporations in which they are investors to develop and promote sound policies that will maximize the contribution of all such business enterprises to the process of mass economic development at home and overseas.

The Tenth General Synod encourages all church members to study the Working Group Report entitled "The Role of Transnational Business in Mass Economic Development."³

14. SOUTHERN AFRICA

Assistant Moderator Elicker recognized Dr. Washburn. On behalf of the business committee Dr. Washburn referred the delegates to the Proposal for Action on Southern Africa as submitted by delegates Dorothy McComb (MA) and Kenneth W. Taylor (CT) and moved its adoption. The motion was seconded. Mrs. White was recognized and moved to amend the motion to adopt an alternative to the Proposal for Action on Southern Africa. The motion was seconded.

Assistant Moderator Elicker recognized James Kidd (IL) who moved to amend the alternative proposal on Southern Africa by the addition of a new paragraph 5 to resolved section A: "The U.S. Government, in this bicentennial celebration of the U.S. struggle for liberation, encourage and finance struggles for liberation against repressive governments across the world and especially in Southern Africa even as France encouraged and financed American independence and freedom 200 years ago." The motion was seconded. Upon being put to a vote, the motion was lost.

Assistant Moderator Elicker recognized Dorothy McComb (MA) who moved to amend the alternative proposal on Southern Africa by the deletion of paragraph C3 and substituting the following paragraph: "recognizes with appreciation the efforts of the United Church of Christ staff personnel and others in following the actions mandated by the Eighth and Ninth General Synods and notes that as a consequence of such actions U.S. transnational businesses have provided such things as:

- "1) Increases in the number of blacks employed.
- "2) Raises in base-pay well above the minimum levels recommended by the South Africa Institute of Race Relations.
- "3) Improved benefit plans for Blacks.
- "4) Job training and promotion for Black employees.
- "5) Tuition grants for general educational and technical studies.
- "6) Housing loans for workers.
- "7) Grants to Blacks for community educational and recreational facilities.
- "8) Liaison with Black employees through advisory committees.

3. "The Role of Transnational Business in Mass Economic Development." United Church Board for Homeland Ministries, New York, 1975. (Available from the Office of the Secretary, United Church of Christ, 297 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. 10010)

"However, it recognizes that such responses by U.S. transnational businesses do not really challenge the apartheid system and some are even welcomed by the South African government." The motion was seconded and there was discussion.

Assistant Moderator Elicker recognized Howard Paine (PSE) who moved an amendment to the amendment to add the word "certain" in two places in the proposed amendment so the sentences would read "... that as a consequence of such actions certain U.S. transnational ..." and "... it recognizes that such responses by certain U.S. transnational businesses. ..." The amendment was accepted as a friendly amendment not requiring action. Upon being put to a vote the motion to amend the alternative proposal by the deletion of the paragraph C3 and the substitution of the new paragraph was adopted.

It was

75-GS-62 VOTED: The General Synod adopts as amended the Statement on Southern Africa.

STATEMENT ON SOUTHERN AFRICA

WHEREAS we proclaim, "Jesus Christ frees and unites" as the faith expressed in the 10th General Synod and these needs for freedom and humane unity are very real among all the people of Southern Africa;

WHEREAS we rejoice with our partner churches in the Southern African countries of Mozambique and Angola for newly-gained independence or for freedom about to be won;

WHEREAS we recognize that, while they are engaged in the process of self-determination within their respective boundaries the United Church of Christ in the USA can and should respond with supporting efforts; and

WHEREAS certain other of our partner churches, in Zimbabwe (Rhodesia) and South Africa, must continue for the time being to witness under the white minority regimes which are in opposition to the Holy Spirit's liberating work on the continent of Africa;

THEREFORE the Tenth General Synod reaffirms the concerns and actions of previous General Synods (71-GS-134; 73-GS-46) regarding Africa and declares that recent dramatic changes in Southern Africa call for new responses from all levels of the United Church of Christ and for even more urgent action against all forms of injustice and repression.

A. To these ends, the General Synod calls upon individual members, local congregations, Associations, Conferences, and Instrumentalities to recognize that, as political independence is gained by the peoples of Mozambique, Angola, Guinea-Bissau, Cape Verde Islands, and others, our obligations do not cease. Therefore, in tone of affirmation of and fellowship with our partner churches in Africa, we encourage:

1) the UCC and its member bodies to continue aid for the humanitarian programs of the liberation movements of Southern Africa through the World Council of Churches and other religious and secular bodies;

2) The UCC and its member bodies to become more sensitive to fellow Christians in these lands during the transition period to independence and to respond to the needs our partner churches perceive as priorities for our assistance and, to this end, request the UCBWM to facilitate such response and to report to the next General Synod actions taken on needs and priorities so identified;