14. RESOLUTION ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

VOTED 83 6 EC 22a: The Executive Council, acting ad interim for the Fourteenth General Synod, receives and adopts the resolution "Human Rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran" as follows:

WHEREAS, the Islamic Republic of Iran has systematically violated the human rights of many of its citizens through summary executions, torture, lack of fair trials, as well as through government policies restricting freedom of thought, freedom of religion and conscience, and freedom of expression; and

WHEREAS, there reside in the United States many Iranians

whose status under current immigration laws and policies makes it impossible to become gainfully employed or eligible for public assistance, but whose return to Iran could well lead to imprisonment or execution;

- THEREFORE, the Executive Council, acting ad interim for the Fourteenth General Synod:
 - 1. Requests the President of the church to communicate to Ayatollah Khomeini and Prime Minister Moussavi the UCC's concern about human rights violations in Iran; and
 - 2. Urges local churches to respond with compassion to Iranians in their communities who have suffered the consequences of the tragic events in Iran.