

7. RESOLUTION "A CALL FOR SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT"

Mr. Carrion then moved the adoption of the Resolution "A Call for Socially Responsible Investment." There was no discussion and

89-GS-77 VOTED: The 17th General Synod adopts the Resolution "A Call for Socially Responsible Investment."

A CALL FOR SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT

WHEREAS, the 16th General Synod of the United Church of Christ meeting in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1987 adopted a priority of the Homeless Poor;

WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ in various ways has declared itself a Just Peace Church;

WHEREAS, a significant part of the economic resources of the United Church of Christ could be loaned to bring forth the good fruit to rural and farm areas of our land and assist in the continuation of family farms;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the 17th General Synod calls for the creation of an investment policy to reflect our national commitment to our stated priority of the Homeless Poor and our claimed identity as a just peace church;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the 17th General Synod encourages the United Church of Christ national bodies, conferences, associations and local churches to invest no less than 1 percent of their investment assets by 1990, with a goal of adding 1 percent per year until reaching no less than 10 percent with groups involved in homelessness and housing and other social and economic development projects;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the 17th General Synod calls upon the national bodies of the United Church of Christ to report to each subsequent General Synod and their Boards of Directors in Annual Reports their implementation of this resolution.

Financial Implications: Subject to the availability of funds.

8. RESOLUTION "TO ENDORSE THE BOYCOTT OF AMERICAN HOME PRODUCTS AND TO MONITOR NESTLE, S.A."

Mr. Carrion moved the recommendation of Committee 15 that the 17th General Synod adopt the Resolution "To Endorse the Boycott of American Home Products and to Monitor Nestle, S.A." There was no discussion.

89-GS-78 VOTED: The 17th General Synod adopts the Resolution "To Endorse the Boycott of American Home Products and to Monitor Nestle, S.A."

TO ENDORSE THE BOYCOTT OF AMERICAN HOME PRODUCTS AND TO MONITOR NESTLE, S.A.

WHEREAS, in 1984, after a seven year boycott, Nestle, S.A. agreed to comply with the provisions of the World Health Organization (WHO) Code for the Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes;

WHEREAS, American Home Products has also agreed to abide by the WHO code;

WHEREAS, in 1984 when the agreement was signed between Nestle and the International Nestle Boycott Committee, it was mutually recognized that there was not agreement on the meaning of "have to be fed" in the sentence, "Such supplies should only be used for infants who have to be fed on breast-milk substitutes," of Article 6.6 of the WHO Code but a commitment was made that when WHO developed a definition of the questioned phrase, both parties would accept it;

WHEREAS, WHO has defined the phrase in question in the April 10, 1986 document, "Guidelines concerning the main health and socioeconomic circumstances in which infants have to be fed on breast-milk substitutes," and the 1986 World Health Assembly Resolution 39.28;

WHEREAS, a boycott against Nestle and American Home Products was initiated in October 1988 and endorsed by the United Church Board for World Ministries in November 1988 because said companies refused to submit a plan for bringing their practices concerning free and low-cost supplies into agreement with the WHO Code as informed by these WHO definitions;

WHEREAS, the prompt action and pressure by boycotting United Church of Christ members and other boycotters has significantly contributed to Nestle's changing its policy;

WHEREAS, Nestle has submitted a plan for terminating its practice of giving free or low-cost supplies to developing country health facilities, and

WHEREAS, American Home Products has not submitted such a plan, has not committed itself to terminating free and low-cost supplies policies, has not committed itself to following the WHO definitions of, "have to be fed."

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the 17th General Synod, United Church of Christ, requests that the United Church of Christ Hunger Action Office closely monitor Nestle's implementation of Nestle's plan to terminate its practice of providing free or low-cost supplies to health facilities in developing countries except in the ways permitted by the World Health Organization (WHO) Code for the Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes (Article 6.6) as defined by the WHO document of April 10, 1986 entitled, "Guidelines for Determining Who has to be Fed by Breast-milk Substitutes," provided that these do not discourage breast feeding;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the 17th General Synod requests the United Church of Christ Hunger Action Office to present the results of its monitoring to the 18th General Synod, with the understanding that in the interim, should it be determined that Nestle is failing to expeditiously implement its plan for terminating free and low-cost supplies or in other ways is willfully violating the provision of the WHO Code, the Hunger Action Office should request the United Church of Christ Executive Council, acting ad interim for Synod, to renew the boycott of Nestle;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the 17th General Synod of the United Church of Christ endorses the boycott of American Home Products until such time as it commits itself to the termination of its practice of providing free and low-cost supplies and submits a plan for the implementation of that commitment;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the 17th General Synod requests the United Church of Christ Hunger Action Office to