

## MONDAY AFTERNOON

WHEREAS the United Church of Christ has had a cherished historical relationship with China through mission programs and activities and has nurtured a mutual supportive relationship with the Chinese Christian Council;

WHEREAS we have expressed solidarity with the Chinese people in a Resolution of the Seventeenth General Synod of the United Church of Christ; and

WHEREAS we are concerned that basic human rights are being denied our brothers and sisters in China;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Twentieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ:

Calls on all people of conscience in the United States and other countries to join in support and affirmation of human rights in China;

Requests the United Church Board for World Ministries (UCBWM) and the Office for Church in Society (OCIS) to further this action through developing an educational and advocacy strategy to promote and support an improvement of human rights issues in China;

Requests UCBWM and OCIS to explore whether a boycott of imports from China (PRC) with broad ecumenical support would be appropriate and effective; and

Requests that UCBWM and OCIS, working with the Interfaith Center for Corporate Responsibility, research possible shareholder actions including a boycott targeted on specific products of U.S. corporations which operate in and import from China.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Twentieth General Synod endorses the proposed voluntary code of conduct for U. S. companies doing business in China as proposed by Human Rights Watch:

\* Companies will try not to use **prison labor** or buy products made by prisoners, because conditions in Chinese forced-labor plants violate international human rights standards;

\* Companies will not permit compulsory **political indoctrination** in the work place, a practice common in state-owned enterprises;

\* Companies will embrace **nondiscriminatory employment** practices (keeping workers' political beliefs out of hiring and firing decisions);

\* Companies will encourage **freedom of association and expression** concerning work-related issues in their plants; and

\* Companies will have senior American executives discuss human **rights issues** with local Chinese officials, emphasizing that human rights abuses can damage business relationships.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Twentieth General Synod requests that a report be given to General Synod Twenty-One by United Church Board for World Ministries and the Office for Church in Society on the progress and the activities in regards to the action taken on this resolution.

Subject to the availability of funds.

### 12. MOTION TO RECONSIDER WORLDWIDE EMERGENCY DISASTER RESPONSE

Mr. George Thompson (ILL) moved that the Twentieth General Synod reconsider the Resolution "Supporting a Permanent United Nations Fund for Worldwide Emergency Disaster Response." The motion was seconded. Mr. Thompson spoke to the motion to reconsider. Assistant Moderator Taylor suggested this motion be referred to the Agenda Committee for a time to discuss this.

95-GS-48 VOTED: The Twentieth General Synod refers the motion to reconsider the Resolution "Supporting a Permanent United Nations Fund for Worldwide Emergency Disaster Response" to the Agenda Committee.

Assistant Moderator Taylor recognized Mr. Harold Wagner (ME) who asked for clarification. He stated it was his understanding that a motion to reconsider could be made only by someone who voted for an issue. It was pointed out that such a motion could be made by someone who voted for the prevailing side. The prevailing side voted against the resolution. The maker of the motion to reconsider stated he voted against the resolution. Consequently, the motion was in order.

### 13. RESOLUTION ON "UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST LATINO AND LATINA LEADERSHIP SUMMIT: TOWARDS A NEW MILLENNIUM"

The Moderator called upon the Rev. Kathy Timpany to lead the delegates through the work of Committee Twelve. Ms. Timpany referred the delegates to the resolution on pp. 181-186 of the Program/Worship and Business Book and to the changes indicated on page 8 of Packet D. Ms. Timpany spoke in support and moved the adoption of the Resolution "United Church of Christ Latino and Latina Leadership Summit: Towards A New Millennium." Moderator Taylor asked for discussion and concern was expressed that this not be in conflict with the plan for restructuring. There was no further discussion.

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95-GS-49 VOTED: The Twentieth General Synod adopts the Resolution "United Church of Christ Latino and Latina Leadership Summit: Towards A New Millennium."

### RESOLUTION ON "UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST LATINO AND LATINA LEADERSHIP SUMMIT:TOWARDS A NEW MILLENNIUM"

WHEREAS the Latina/o-Hispanic population is one of the fastest growing communities in the United States that between 1980 and 1990 grew 34%, which is five times greater than the growth rate of non-Latinas/os, according to 1990 Census figures, and demographic experts estimate this rate will continue;

WHEREAS the Latina/o-Hispanic people live in almost every part of the United States and although well over 80% live in seven states (Arizona, California, Florida, Illinois, New Jersey, New York and Texas), the migratory movement and highest growth percentages were not in these seven states but was in Rhode Island (132%), Nevada (130%), Massachusetts (103.9%), New Hampshire (102.8%) and Virginia (100.7%);

WHEREAS a disproportionate number of Latinas/os-Hispanics live in poverty (about 28.1 percent) compared to 12.1 of non-Latinas/os, which means that of the 22,354,059 Latinas/os in the continental United States over six million (6,236,782) live at or below the poverty level, this figure including close to three million youth and children living at risk, a situation created by the high level of unemployment and underemployment of both Latinos/as-Hispanics;

WHEREAS the Latina/o-Hispanic Population is heavily concentrated in the urban context and live in cities across the United States in need of rebuilding and revitalization, confronting daily the demoralizing problems of cities;

WHEREAS Latino/a-Hispanic policy advisors and scholars suggest economic development, educational attainment, overcoming employment discrimination and providing affordable housing will begin to change the poverty patterns within the Latino/a-Hispanic communities, requiring a comprehensive and coordinated effort among churches, government and community;

WHEREAS the United Church of Christ Latino and Latina Leadership Summit held in Chicago, Illinois, in April 1994, identified leadership development as a mission priority in Latino/a-Hispanic communities, and proposed a leadership formation model that affirms the priesthood of all believers (clergy and lay, male and female), confronts the abuses of power and equips leadership that participates in the advancement of God's will for a just society;

WHEREAS the United Church of Christ Latino/a-Hispanic Leadership Formation Model also calls for:

- Contextual training;
- Education for empowerment;
- Partnership with Conferences, Instrumentalities, Seminaries, and CHM and its regions;
- Diverse settings for education and training, including but not limited to, local Bible Institutes, Seminaries and regional clusters.
- Empowerment of women and youth; and
- Holistic Evangelism; and

WHEREAS the Nineteenth General Synod adopted the Pronouncement and Proposal for Action Calling the United Church of Christ to be a Multiracial and Multicultural Church, and the United Church of Christ is engaged in developing strategies to address the challenges of congregations in the urban setting;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Twentieth General Synod:

1. Approves the 1995-2001 Plan of Action presented by the United Church of Christ Hispanic Ministries Implementation Team with its new emphasis on leadership development based on the recommendations of the 1994 United Church of Christ Latino and Latina Leadership Summit;
2. Requests the Office for Church Life and Leadership to coordinate with representatives of the Council for Hispanic Ministries, the United Church Board for Homeland Ministries, the Commission for Racial Justice, the United Church Board for World Ministries, the Coordinating Center for Women in Church and Society, the Council for Racial/Ethnic Ministries, Seminaries of the United Church of Christ, United Church Coalition for Gay and Lesbian Concerns and the conferences from areas with an identifiable Latino/a-Hispanic population the specifics of a Six Year Latino/Latina-Hispanic Leadership Development Strategic Plan as called for in Goal Five of the 1995-2001 Plan of Action of the United Church of Christ Hispanic Ministries Implementation Team;
3. Requests the United Church of Christ Executive Council to monitor regularly the development and implementation of the Six Year Latino/Latina-Hispanic Leadership Development Strategic Plan; and
4. Extends United Church of Christ Hispanic Implementation Team for the 1995-97 Biennium and requests a report to General Synod Twenty-One on its progress.

Subject to the availability of funds.

*[The Hispanic Ministries Implementation Team — Plan of Action (1995-2001) is located in Appendix E.]*