

05-GS-15 VOTED: The Twenty-fifth General Synod adopts the resolution “Promoting Peace for all in the Sudan.”

3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55

PROMOTING PEACE FOR ALL IN THE SUDAN

WHEREAS the crisis in the Darfur region of the Sudan continues unabated, and

WHEREAS violence and threats against the lives, health, homes, and security of the people of the region persist, and

WHEREAS women in particular have been victims of brutal rape, have been captured and kept as sexual slaves, and have been denied their physical, emotional, economic, and human rights;

WHEREAS official policies of exploitation, racial discrimination, and marginalization have been used to incite social divisions and cultural animosities for political control and ideological ends, and

WHEREAS the Sudan Council of Churches and the New Sudan Council of Churches have condemned the role of the Sudanese government in perpetuating the atrocities, and

WHEREAS the international community including the United States has condemned the assault on the people of Darfur as genocide, but has not taken effective action to pressure the government of the Sudan to end the assault, and

WHEREAS the lack of security and restrictions on access in western Sudan have hindered the provision of humanitarian aid by international agencies, and

WHEREAS the conflict in Darfur should not be separated from the continuing conflict between the northern and southern regions of the Sudan,

LET IT THEREFORE BE RESOLVED that the Twenty-fifth General Synod of the United Church of Christ deplores the suffering of the Sudanese people over the course of decades of conflict, and particularly in the current crisis in the Darfur region; and

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED that the Twenty-fifth General Synod of the United Church of Christ calls upon the Sudanese government to cease hostile actions against civilians, to end support for militant groups committing violence, and to engage immediately in efforts to end the crisis in Darfur; to continue to work diligently to seek a just and peaceful resolution to the conflict against factions in the southern regions; and to institute national policies and encourage civil institutions that respect the language, culture, and religious rights and practices of all Sudanese, regardless of race, gender, or color; and

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED that the Twenty-fifth General Synod of the United Church of Christ supports efforts of the international community to intervene in bringing security to the region to ensure that the basic rights of the people are guaranteed, including the commitment of the African Union to provide peacekeepers to the region;

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED that, given the continued systematic violence and widespread murder of civilians, the boards call upon the U.S. government to intensify efforts with the United Nations and the international community to seek a comprehensive peace in the Sudan that would end the conflict throughout the nation and ensure access to security and natural resources for all Sudanese; and requests Justice and Witness Ministries and Wider Church Ministries through Common Global Ministries to advocate with the U.S. and the U.N. authorities to be so committed; and

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED that the Twenty-fifth General Synod of the United Church of Christ calls upon the congregations and members of the United Church of Christ to engage in prayer, study and public witness regarding the Sudan through resources available through Justice and Witness Ministries, the Common Global Ministries, and Church World Service; and encourages the coordination of worship, educational and public witness

1 efforts among our ecumenical partners and non-governmental organizations that emerged from the United Nations
2 World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia, and Related Intolerance (WCAR); and
3
4 LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED that the Twenty-fifth General Synod of the United Church of Christ
5 encourages congregations and members of the United Church of Christ to participate in the Dear Sudan campaign.
6
7 LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED that the Twenty-fifth General Synod of the United Church of Christ
8 encourages members to contribute generously to the One Great Hour of Sharing and Week of Compassion
9 (Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) special appeals to support efforts to deliver humanitarian relief and supplies
10 to the region and efforts to aid the refugees and internally displaced of the Sudan.
11
12 Funding for the implementation of this resolution will be made in accordance with the overall mandates of the
13 affected agencies and the funds available.