

## Resolution #40 - Millennium Development Goals

**Subject: Millennium Development Goals**

**From: World Missions Ministry Group**

**WHEREAS**, the United Nations has adopted and is working to achieve important "Millennium Development Goals" by 2015, (the goals are listed for *reference* in this resolution);

**WHEREAS**, many Provinces in our Moravian unity are located in regions where such development goals would bring great relief, assistance, and hope;

**WHEREAS**, funding at the agreed levels from the participating nations is needed to assure these goals are met in a timely manner;

**WHEREAS**, the United States Congress returns to session on April 21, 2006 to continue decision-making about development funding in the 2007 budget; and

**WHEREAS**, the *Ground of the Unity* states that "Together with the universal Christian Church, the *Unitas Fratrum* challenges humanity with the message of the love of God, striving to promote the peace of the world and seeking to attain what is best for all;" therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, That** the Synod of 2006 voices support for the United Nations Millennium Development Goals and for our nation fulfilling its promises toward those goals;

**RESOLVED, That** the President of the Provincial Elders' Conference, correspond with the appropriate elected leaders in Washington, DC, asking that they work to insure that the United States remain on track in support of the Millennium Development Goals, and encourage every member of the Southern Province to do the same with their local representatives; and

**RESOLVED, That** our congregations be encouraged to learn more about the importance of the Millennium Development Goals through resources such as *Eradicating Poverty: a Christian Study Guide on the Millennium Development Goals*, published by the National Council of Churches USA.

### **United Nations Millennium Development Goals (By 2015)**

1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
  - o Reduce by half the proportion of people who live on less than one dollar a day.
  - o Reduce by half the proportion of people who suffer from hunger.
2. Achieve universal primary education
  - o Ensure that all boys and girls complete a full course of primary schooling.

3. Promote gender equality and empower women
  - Eliminate the gender discrepancy in primary and secondary education by increasing opportunities for girls to attend school preferably by 2005, and at all levels by 2015.
4. Reduce child mortality
  - Reduce by two-thirds the percentage of children who die before age five.
5. Improve maternal health
  - Reduce by three-quarters the percentage of women who die in pregnancy and childbirth.
6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
  - Halt and begin to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS.
  - Halt and begin to reverse the incidence of malaria and other major diseases.
7. Ensure environmental sustainability
  - Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programs and reverse the loss of environmental resources. Sustainable development means reducing hunger and poverty in environmentally sound ways, by: meeting basic human needs, expanding economic opportunities, protecting and enhancing the environment, and promoting democratic participation.
  - Reduce by half the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water.
  - Achieve significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers, by 2020.
8. Develop a global partnership for development
  - Reform the trading system (i.e., the World Trade Organization) and the financial system (e.g., private capital flows and international financial institutions like the International Monetary Fund) so that poor countries can more easily sell their products to developed countries at fair prices and obtain the financial resources needed to create stable, growing economies that lift people out of poverty.
  - Focus special attention on how to help the poorest countries mobilize the resources needed to reduce hunger and poverty and become self-reliant.

- Focus special attention on how landlocked and small island developing countries can promote economic development and poverty reduction.
- Make an all-out effort to resolve the problem of unpayable debt for the world's poorest countries.
- Develop decent and productive work for youth.
- Provide access to affordable, essential drugs in developing countries.
- Make available the benefits of new technologies.