

Resolution:

Resolved, that the Convention of the Diocese of Ohio commit 0.7% of its operating budget to projects that implement the seventeen Sustainable Development Goals established by the United Nations in September 2015 and endorsed by the 78th General Convention, and be it further

Resolved, that the parishes of the Diocese are urged to commit 0.7% of their budgets to the Sustainable Development Goals.

Rationale:

In 2000, 181 countries began the new century by signing the Millennium Declaration pledging a massive global mobilization against poverty. Out of this historic covenant came eight measurable, interwoven goals to be completed by 2015. This happened after the 73rd General Convention in 2000, and so the 74th General Convention in 2003 addressed it by adopting Resolution D 006 which called on all dioceses and parishes to contribute at least 0.7% of their budgets to support programs that foster economic development in the world's poorest countries. The Diocese of Ohio made that commitment at the 188th Convention in 2004 via Resolution R2. The Commission for Global and Domestic Mission has borne the responsibility of receiving and evaluating grant requests that address the MDG's since 2009.

The Sustainable Development Goals “seek to build on the Millennium Development Goals and compete what these did not achieve. They seek to realize the human rights of all and to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls. They balance the three dimensions of sustainable development: the economic, social and environmental.”
(SustainableDevelopment.UN.org)

This resolution continues current practice, as the MDG's are superseded by the SDG's. The 78th General Convention in 2015 passed resolution A021, recognizing that the UN was in the process of finalizing the next set of Development Goals:

Resolved, the House of Deputies concurring, That the Episcopal Church rejoices in the progress made on the Millennium Development Goals during the past three triennia, but recognizing that much remains to be done, continues our commitment of 0.7% of the Church-wide budget to investment in similar programs throughout the 2016-2018 triennium and be it further

Resolved, That the Convention, recognizing that funding for nutrition, education, health care, gender equality and sustainable development programs is essential to achieve not only the Millennium Development Goals, but also to ensure respect for the dignity of all human beings, urges all dioceses and congregations to continue to contribute 0.7% of their annual budgets to fund appropriate international development programs; and be it further

Resolved, That funds in the General Convention budget for the 2016-2018 triennium specified for MDGs be allotted for a grants program that supports congregational and diocesan efforts in international development programs.

Submitted by the Commission on Global and Domestic Mission