

No. 9529

(Operational Business Item)

**RESOLUTION ON AFFIRMATION OF THE
COMMON GLOBAL MINISTRIES BOARD
AND OF OVERSEAS PARTNER CHURCHES BY THE
CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)
IN THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA
AND THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, USA**

ADOPTED by the General Assembly

WHEREAS, Jesus prayed for unity as he sent his disciples into the world (John 17:18-20) and promised that they would receive power to be God's witnesses to the end of the earth (Acts 1:8);

WHEREAS, the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada, and the United Church of Christ, USA have been in ecumenical partnership (1985) and declared full communion (1989);

WHEREAS, the agreements of ecumenical partnership and full communion challenge the two churches to move toward common mission "whenever and wherever possible";

WHEREAS, the United Church Board for World Ministries and the Division of Overseas Ministries have witnessed to common global ministry since 1967 by establishing joint and common offices for every region of the world;

WHEREAS, the global partner churches, institutions and ecumenical bodies of both the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada and the United Church of Christ have celebrated and supported the common ministry of the UCBWM and DOM;

WHEREAS, the Corporate Board of the United Church Board for World Ministries and the General Board of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada have approved the proposed structure of a Common Global Ministries Board;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Twentieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ and the 1995 General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada do hereby affirm and support the establishment of a Common Global Ministries Board and recognize it as the programmatic decision making authority for the United Church Board for World Ministries and the Division of Overseas Ministries;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Twentieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ and the 1995 General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States

and Canada recognize and affirm the overseas partner churches, institutions and ecumenical bodies of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada, and the United Church of Christ, USA respectively;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United Church of Christ and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada communicate with the overseas partner churches, institutions and ecumenical bodies of both denominations, inviting their affirmation of the Common Global Ministries Board and seeking their full participation in common ministry; and that this action be appropriately communicated to the currently recognized overseas partner churches, institutions and ecumenical bodies of both churches.