## Expanded Criteria for Divestment and Advocacy related to South Africa A Resolution Approved by General Synod XVI (1987)

## The Sixteenth General Synod

- 1. Reaffirms the commitment to full divestment and other economic pressure strategies contained in the Proposal for Action accompanying the Pronouncement "United Church of Christ Full Divestment of All Financial Resources from All Corporations Doing Business with South Africa" to bring about the termination of all corporate and governmental economic ties to South Africa;
- 2. Redefines as corporations to be divested those which:
  - a. have direct investments in South Africa or Namibia, have employees in either of these countries, or have entered into franchise, licensing, distribution, technology, or trademark agreements with or for any entity in those countries;
  - b. are financial institutions that have engaged in or not prohibited new investments, loans, credits or related services, or the renewal of existing financial agreements, including those for the purposes of trade with any entity in those countries. (A company with operations in South Africa or Namibia for the sole purpose of reporting the news shall not be considered doing business in those countries.)
- 3. Calls upon all instrumentalities, agencies, national bodies, conferences, associations, congregations, and members of the United Church of Christ to continue moving toward the goal of full divestment established by General Synod Fifteen, utilizing policies and criteria developed by that Synod, the Executive Council, and these expanded criteria, with the goal of complete divestment by General Synod Seventeen. A full report of progress is to be made to General Synod Seventeen.
- 4. Calls upon agencies, instrumentalities, national bodies, conferences, associations, congregations, and members of the United Church of Christ to engage in economic pressure strategies to maximize our effectiveness as instruments of change by mobilizing the church to:
  - a. engage in acts of public witness directed at corporations supportive of the apartheid system, such as prayer vigils, demonstrations, and letter writing, and postcard campaigns;
  - b. whenever possible abstain from the purchase of products or the use of services of corporations designated as key supporters of the apartheid system by the Implementation Committee.
- 5. Calls upon agencies, instrumentalities, national bodies, conferences, associations, congregations, and members of the United Church of Christ to work for the passage of comprehensive economic sanctions by the United Sates government which will terminate economic relations between the United States and South Africa and require the withdrawal of all United States investment from South Africa.

- 6. Calls on the United Church of Christ to respond to the issues of sanctuary and asylum in the United States, including an active advocacy campaign to urge the United Sates to grant asylum to South African refugees.
- 7. Calls on members of the United Church of Christ churches, conferences, and agencies to pray for people and churches in the United Congregational Church of Southern Africa, which include South Africa's neighboring nations, and to establish sister church relations, utilize visitors from Southern Africa, and in other ways to educate themselves to the problems of nations neighboring South Africa, plagued with economic sabotage and guerrilla warfare instigated and funded by South Africa.
- 8. Calls upon all instrumentalities, agencies, national bodies, conferences, associations, congregations, and members of the United Church of Christ to urge the United States Government to support with economic assistance Southern African Governments which are suffering from South African military and/or economic sabotage.
- 9. Calls upon the United Church Board for World Ministries working with the Implementation Committee to encourage churches and ecumenical groups in Great Britain, Germany, The Netherlands, and Switzerland vigorously to pursue economic pressure strategies, full divestment and the adoption of comprehensive economic sanctions by their respective governments.
- 10. Calls upon the President of the United Church of Christ on behalf of General Synod Sixteen to express its solidarity with the South African Council of Churches, to extend its appreciation to Rev. Beyers Naude for his leadership as its past General Secretary, to congratulate Rev. Frank Chikane, the newly elected General Secretary, and to affirm its ongoing support of him in his new office.
- 11. Mandates the United Church Board for World Ministries and the Commission for Racial Justice and its Committee on the Implementation of the Pronouncement on United Church of Christ Full Divestment of All Financial Resources from All Corporations Doing Business with South Africa (Implementation Committee) to continue to provide leadership and coordination within the life of the whole church toward the fulfillment of the goals of the Pronouncement and the advocacy contained in this action and to make a comprehensive report on the progress of the United Church of Christ to the Seventeenth General Synod and to all future General Synods until the apartheid system is abolished.