

CONCERNING CONVENTION RESOLUTIONS

We currently have a list of thirty-three Assembly Resolutions passed by the delegates of Convention over the years giving moral direction to our churches on social issues. Council discussed at length the current list of Convention Resolutions to decide if all of the Resolutions should be included in the Appendix of the Incorporation Document. Council realizes the importance of maintaining the complete list of Resolutions on the Convention Website for historical purposes but wondered if there was a way to identify which of these resolutions should be maintained as reasonable expectations for our churches now.

The following criteria were used to measure the Resolutions in determining which ones should be included as expectations for our Churches in the Twenty-first century: (1) The purpose of the Resolution is to provide guidance to the churches. (2) That it deals with a social issue. (3) That it is still an expectation. With this in mind Council went about its work of evaluating the list of thirty-three Convention Resolutions. In the end Council decided to remove seven Resolutions from the list which reduces the number of Resolutions included in the Incorporation Document to twenty-six. The seven Resolutions removed were directing the Executive Minister to write or speak to the Government; they were not given as specific guidance to the churches. Each of these seven Resolutions was occasioned by a specific incident or issue that had arisen and was in that sense time sensitive. In each of these situations the Executive Minister was directed to share the concern and will of the delegates of Convention Assembly with either the Provincial or the Federal Government.

While it may be possible to question the current relevance of several other resolutions the Council believed it was not its place to decide which Resolutions are no longer culturally relevant. For this reason only the seven resolutions which are directed specifically to the Government have been removed.