



ABORIGINAL LAND RIGHTS

THIRD ASSEMBLY, UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA
Resolution 82.50

82.50 It was resolved that the Assembly:

- 1) affirm again its commitment to support the Aboriginal and Islander people of Queensland in their just demand for legislation which guarantees them corporate ownership of Queensland reserve lands;
- 2) affirm that the vesting of title to land must be accompanied by appropriate legal entities which ensure Aborigines and Islanders exercise administrative and economic control over all activities on their communities;
- 3) express its support for and offer assistance to Aboriginal organisations in their continuing effort to explain the position of Aboriginal and Islander people, to raise awareness concerning the intentions and actions of the Federal and Queensland Governments and to organise their people for their struggle for corporate ownership of Queensland reserve lands;
- 4) regrets that the Commonwealth Government, by supporting the Queensland Government's recently enacted legislation on land tenure for Aboriginal and Islander communities, has failed to honour its commitment to the Aboriginal and Islander people of Queensland to support them in their quest for secure land tenure;
- 5) urge the Commonwealth Government to exercise its powers it possesses in Aboriginal affairs to ensure that the Aboriginal and Islander people of Queensland are guaranteed permanent corporate ownership of their land and control of their communities;
- 6) rejoice with the Pitjantjatjara Council and people on gaining title to their land and express appreciation to the South Australian Government for the Act of Parliament by which this has been achieved, and ask for the South Australian Government to give serious consideration to the land and social needs of other Aboriginal groups and communities in South Australia.