



PEACE AND DISARMAMENT

FOURTH ASSEMBLY, UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA Resolution 85.76

- 85.76.1 To refer the Statement on Peace and Disarmament to Presbyteries and Parishes for discussion and comment before 31 December 1986.
- 85.76.2 To instruct the Committee on Social Responsibility and Justice to revise the Statement in the light of comments received.
- 85.76.3 That the revised Statement on Peace and Disarmament be presented to the 1988 Assembly.
- 85.76.4 To call upon all members of the UCA to study this Statement and to plead for continuing and intensive conversation throughout the Church so that, in relation to the Statement, members render one to another an account of their faith.
- 85.76.5 To request the Commission on Social Responsibility to conduct a three-year program of study and action based on the Statement on Peace and Disarmament and the following definition of 'common security' and the implications of both for Australia;
- a) respect for the legitimate rights of all nations and peoples;
 - b) promoting mutual understanding and appreciation among cultures, religions and ideologies, through open communication, rejecting propaganda of mistrust and fear, and promoting confidence building measures;
 - c) broad international cooperation in science and technology, economy and culture;
 - d) conversion of all economies from military to civilian production;
 - e) using and strengthening the United Nations Organisation and other international institutions with similar objectives;
 - f) promoting adequate international legislation and providing means for adjudication of international disputes and for implementation of decisions;
 - g) making the machinery for peaceful settlement of international conflicts more effective.
- 85.76.6 To recognise the dilemma that this issue causes for Uniting Church members whose livelihood depends directly or indirectly on the armed services and so to reaffirm its pastoral commitment to them and to encourage them to involve themselves, as appropriate, in discussion of this Statement generally and with the Commission on Social Responsibility.
- 85.76.7 To request the Commission on Social Responsibility to engage in programs of research, consultation, education and related action relating to Australia's involvement in, and contribution to, alliances within

her own territories, in the Pacific and Indian Ocean regions, and globally, in order to provide specific directions for Australia's withdrawal from support of the arms race, and to enable specific contributions by Australia to a reduction of the nuclear threat.

- 85.76.8 In the light of recent difficulties relating to the ANZUS Alliance as it affects Australia and other Pacific nations, to encourage the Commission on Social Responsibility to engage in programs which critically research and examine ANZUS and to communicate the findings to the members of the Church.
- 85.76.9 To request the Commission on Social Responsibility to advise Church members of how they can best participate fully in the International Year of Peace (1986), especially with regard to ecumenical cooperation.
- 85.76.10 To request the Commission on Social Responsibility to investigate the establishment of a Conflict Resolution Program and report to the Standing Committee for decision.