

COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES

February 18-20, 2005

DRAFT MINUTES

XII. PUBLIC INTEREST – Action on the Task Force on the World Conference Against Racism

- H.(29A) Council voted to receive the report and adopt the recommendations of the Task Force on the World Conference Against Racism Report, as follows:
- That Council requests the APA President to appoint a working group to develop a resolution condemning anti-Semitic and anti-Jewish and other religious, religion-related, and/or religion-derived prejudice and discrimination, for adoption by Council as soon as feasible.
- In that same spirit, that Council requests the APA President to appoint a working group to develop a resolution condemning prejudice and discrimination in all its forms, for adoption by Council as soon as feasible.
- That Council acknowledges the outstanding work of the APA Delegation that raised awareness of mental health consequences of racism and focused on gaining the inclusion of specific wording about the psychological consequences of racism in the UN Declaration document._
- That Council receives the Report of the APA Delegation to the United Nations World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance.
- That Council receives in principle the UN Declaration in the Appendix of the APA Delegation report. Accordingly, the Council directs the Task Force to create an annotated version of the UN Declaration that will include four components. First will be an introduction that outlines the process of review of the document by APA Council, discusses reservations and objections voiced by a segment of members of APA, and articulates the strengths and contributions of the document to the understanding of racism and intolerance in the world. Second will be a header on each page identifying the source and a disclaimer stating that the document is not APA policy. Third will be a structure that identifies the items in the UN Declaration that reflect the contributions of the work of the Delegation. Fourth will be a structure that identifies items in the UN Declaration that were found to be objectionable to a segment of members of APA, and provides with each such item, on the same page as the item, a narrative that further explains the nature of the objection. The goal of this format is to promote appropriate education about and understanding of the historical and contemporary context of the issues related to the items in question. The annotated version of the UN Declaration will be presented for final and formal receipt at the August 2005 meeting of Council.
- That Council calls upon the Committee on Ethnic Minority Affairs and Committee on International Relations in Psychology and other APA governance groups interested in issues of antiracism, multiculturalism, diversity, religious pluralism, and discrimination, including but not limited to Divisions 12, 16, 17, 18, 35, 36, 43, 44, 45, 49, and 52, as well as all divisions and state, provincial, and territorial psychological associations that have international committees, to consider this Task Force report and the report of APA's Delegation and participate in developing and implementing

actions relevant to their work. Organizations that receive these materials do so with the understanding that an annotated version of the UN Declaration in the Appendix will be forthcoming.

- The Council requests the Committee on International Relations in Psychology (CIRP) to develop a mechanism to capture the learning and experience of each UN Team for future teams, as continuity is a critical issue. Further, Council requests CIRP to develop a plan for formal preparation of APA delegations for future UN conference and events.
- That Council requests the Committee on International Relations in Psychology to submit annual reports on the activities of APA's UN NGO Team to the Board of Directors and Council of Representatives.
- That Council requests the Committee on International Relations in Psychology to explore development of or involvement of APA in an international program that could prepare and enable North American psychologists to provide mental health care to victims of armed conflict, epidemics, and disasters in other parts of the world.
- That Council directs APA Central Office to continue to pursue dissemination of information regarding antiracism, multiculturalism, diversity, religious pluralism, and discrimination, including the impact of discrimination on both perpetrators and victims. Specifically, the Task Force recommends development of *Monitor* articles (1) updating the Association on APA's activities related to the World Conference and (2) detailing the work, processes, and outcomes of the Task Force on the World Conference Against Racism Report.