

**ITEM B.101**  
**FOR ACTION**

<i>FOR PRESBYTERIAN MISSION AGENCY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S OFFICE USE ONLY</i>			
	A. Finance	E. Corporate Property, Legal, Finance	J. Board Nominating & Governance Subcommittee
X	B. Justice	F. PC(USA), A Corporation	P. Plenary
	C. Leadership	G. Audit	
	D. Worshiping Communities	H. Executive Committee	

**Subject:** Minutes of the Feb 6, 2014 meeting of the Justice Committee

**Recommendation:**

**That the Justice Committee review and approve the Feb 6, 2014 Justice Committee minutes and forward to the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board as an information item.**

**Background:**

**Minutes**  
**Justice Committee of the**  
**Presbyterian Mission Agency Board**  
**Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)**  
**The Brown Hotel, Louisville, KY**  
**Feb 6, 2014**

**Feb 6, 2014**  
**Call to Order**

The meeting of the Justice Committee of the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board was called to order by the Chair, Noelle Royer at 8:40 A.M. on Thursday, February 6, 2014, at The Brown Hotel in Louisville, KY. Noelle led in the opening worship and prayer.

**Election of Chair and Vice-Chair of the Justice Committee**

The Justice Committee **VOTED** to elect James Ephraim, Jr., as Chair and Susan Osoinach as Vice-Chair of the Justice Committee for the year 2014 to 2015.

**Attendance**

Those present for all or a portion of the meeting were:

Melissa DeRosia	Mary Jorgenson
James R. Ephraim, Jr.	Kears Pollock
David E. Ezekiel	Susan Osoinach
James E. Fouthier, Jr.	Noelle Royer
Roger Gench	

**Excused**

Janet Martin

**Corresponding Members**

Linda Valentine – Mission Agency Staff, Executive Director's Office  
 Raafat Zaki – Advisory Committee on Social Witness Policy

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***Others***

Maria Arroyo – Mission Agency Staff, World Mission Ministry  
Bill Somplatsky-Jarman – Mission Agency Staff, Compassion, Peace and Justice Ministry  
Champak Srinivasan – Mission Agency Staff, World Mission Ministry  
Tonia Trice – Mission Agency Staff, Compassion, Peace and Justice Ministry  
Hunter Farrell – Mission Agency Staff, World Mission Ministry  
Sara Lisherness – Mission Agency Staff, Compassion, Peace and Justice Ministry  
Greg Allen-Pickett – Mission Agency Staff, World Mission Ministry  
Ginna Bairby – Mission Agency Staff, Compassion, Peace and Justice Ministry  
Terri Bate – Mission Agency Staff, Funds Development Ministry  
Amgad Beblawi – Mission Agency Staff, World Mission Ministry  
Shannon Beck – Mission Agency Staff, World Mission Ministry  
Bob Brashear – Presbyterian Health, Education and Welfare Association  
Toni Carver-Smith – Mission Agency Staff, Compassion, Peace and Justice Ministry  
Ellen Pearre Cason – Audit Committee, Tax Justice Task Force  
Kay Clements – Parliamentarian  
Bethany Daily – Presbyterian News Service  
Roger Dermody, – Mission Agency Staff, Office of the Deputy Executive Director for Mission  
Frank Dimmock – Mission Agency Staff, World Mission Ministry  
Elizabeth Terry Dunning – Mission Responsibility Through Investment  
Ruth Farrell – Mission Agency Staff, Compassion, Peace and Justice Ministry  
Rob Fohr – Mission Agency Staff, Mission Ministries  
Kathy Francis – Mission Agency Staff, Mission Communications  
Brian Fricks – Mission Agency Staff, Evangelism and Church Growth  
Ruth Gardner – Mission Agency Staff, Human Resources  
Chris Iosso – Mission Agency Staff, Compassion, Peace and Justice Ministry  
Joseph Johnson – Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People  
Laurie Kraus – Mission Agency Staff, Compassion, Peace and Justice Ministry  
Carmen Fowler LaBerge – Presbyterian Lay Committee, The Layman  
Sam Locke – Mission Agency Staff, Funds Development  
Donald Mead – Israel Palestine Mission Network  
Rosemary C. Mitchell – Mission Engagement Advisor, Office of Public Witness/ United Nations  
Kristena Morse – Mission Agency Staff, Compassion, Peace and Justice Ministry  
J. Herbert Nelson, II – Mission Agency Staff, Compassion, Peace and Justice Ministry  
Susan Ochs – Mission Agency Staff, Human Resources  
Sara Otoum – Mission Agency Staff, Compassion, Peace and Justice Ministry  
Lisa Robbins – Mission Agency Staff, Human Resources  
Leslie Scanlon – Presbyterian Outlook  
Matt Schramm – Presbyterian Mission Agency Board  
Gail Strange – Mission Agency Staff, Compassion, Peace and Justice Ministry  
Rick Ufford-Chase – Presbyterian Peace Fellowship/ Stony Point Conference Center  
Kitty Ufford-Chase – Stony Point Conference Center

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Mienda Uriarte – Mission Agency Staff, World Mission Ministry  
Cynthia White – Mission Agency Staff, Compassion, Peace, and Justice Ministry  
Bryce Wiebe – Mission Agency Staff, Compassion, Peace and Justice Ministry  
Richard Williams – Mission Agency Staff, World Mission Ministry

**Committee Actions:  
Approval of Agenda  
Item (B.100)**

Noelle Royer reviewed the agenda for the meeting and the Justice Committee **VOTED** to adopt with amendments.

**September 2013  
Minutes of the Justice  
Committee Item  
(B.101)**

The Justice Committee **VOTED** to approve the September 2013 Justice Committee minutes and forward to the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board for information.

**Compassion, Peace  
and Justice Response  
to Referrals (B.102)**

The Justice Committee **VOTED** to approve the following recommendation:

That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board approve the Compassion, Peace and Justice Ministry portion of the Presbyterian Mission Agency report to the 221st General Assembly (2014).

**Ecumenical Poverty  
Initiative – Addition  
to the Approved  
Affiliates List (B.103)**

The Justice Committee **VOTED** to approve the following recommendation:

That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board approve membership in and affiliation with the Ecumenical Poverty Initiative, the successor organization to the former National Council of Churches (NCC) Poverty Initiative.

**Western Sahara:  
Occupied, Non-Self-  
Governing Territory,  
and Test Case for  
International Law  
(B.109)**

The Justice Committee **VOTED** to approve the following recommendation:

The Presbyterian Mission Agency recommends to the 221<sup>st</sup> General Assembly (2014) in response to a referral by the 220th General Assembly (2012) of legal and other factors affecting the status and future of the territory of Western Sahara:

1. Urge the U. S. Department of State and the U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations to continue to call upon the community of nations to support self-determination for the people of the region known as Western Sahara in accord with prior UN resolutions and determinations of international courts, including provision for a supervised referendum in which the human rights of all Sahrawi and others residents are protected and a fair, internationally recognized settlement is achieved, and the proposal of the United States for human rights observers in this effectively occupied, non-self-governing territory.

2. Direct the Presbyterian Ministry at the United Nations, the Presbyterian Office of Public Witness in Washington, DC, and other appropriate offices of the Presbyterian Mission Agency to work with ecumenical and interfaith partners and other non-governmental organizations (NGO's) in support of these efforts on behalf of Western Sahara, and to give

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attention as feasible to justice issues in other non-self-governing trust territories, territorial possessions, and occupied territories.

3. Direct the Committee on Mission Responsibility Through Investment (MRTI) to monitor the activities of international corporations in Western Sahara in which the Foundation or Board of Pensions of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) may be an investor, including the Potash Corporation (currently in church portfolios), initiating correspondence on the impacts of that firm's mineral extraction, and recommending appropriate further corporate social responsibility measures consistent with the concerns noted above.

4. Direct the World Mission Africa and Middle East/Europe/Central Asia liaison offices, appropriate mission networks, and the Advisory Committee on Social Witness Policy, to monitor matters of human rights and religious liberty in Western Sahara and other countries across the Northern Africa region where ethnic and religious tensions and undemocratic governance may threaten international peace and security, and make recommendations on public policy and economic witness as appropriate.

**World Mission  
Ministry Response to  
Referrals (B.111)**

The Justice Committee **VOTED** to approve the following recommendation:

That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board approve the World Mission Ministry portion of the Board report to the 221st GA (2014).

**Southern Presbyterian  
Mission in Japan  
Board Matter  
Appointment (B.113)**

The Justice Committee **VOTED** to approve the following recommendation:

That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board ("PMAB") approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Director, World Mission be named designated representative and respond to the needs of the Southern Presbyterian Mission in Japan ("Japan Mission"), working with the Representative Director of the Japan Mission board to approve and remove individuals to the Japan Mission board, in accordance with the constitution of the Japan Mission; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the General Manager, World Mission be named as the alternate designated representative empowered to act in the stead of Director, World Mission in the event that the Director, World Mission is unable to act when needed.

**For-Profit Prisons,  
Jails, and/or Detention  
Centers be Added to  
the List of Companies  
for Divestment and/or  
Proscription of  
Investment  
Ownership (B.104)**

The Justice Committee **VOTED** to approve the following recommendation:

The Presbyterian Mission Agency Board recommends to the 221<sup>st</sup> General Assembly (2014) that the category of publicly traded corporations that directly manage or operate for-profit prisons, jails and/or detention centers be added to the list of companies from which the General Assembly urges divestment and/or proscription of investment ownership.

**A recommendation for**

The Justice Committee **VOTED** to approve the following recommendation:

**the Presbyterian  
Mission Agency to  
become an official  
member of the We  
Will Speak Out  
campaign (B.112)**

That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board approve membership in We Will Speak Out, a faith-based coalition working together to spark a movement to end sexual violence in the U.S. and the world.

**Mission Responsibility  
Through Investment  
Report and  
Recommendations to  
the 221<sup>st</sup> General  
Assembly (2014):  
Engagement with  
Corporations on  
Israel-Palestine Issues  
from 2004 – 2013  
(B.105)**

The Justice Committee **VOTED** to approve the following recommendation:

The Presbyterian Mission Agency Board, upon recommendation from the Committee on Mission Responsibility Through Investment, recommends that the 221st General Assembly (2014) do the following:

1. Receive the report of the Committee on Mission Responsibility Through Investment (MRTI) of its engagement with corporations involved in Israel, Gaza, East Jerusalem, and the West Bank.
2. Direct the Committee on Mission Responsibility Through Investment, to continue the corporate engagement process with corporations operating in Israel, Gaza, East Jerusalem and the West Bank, together with ecumenical partners, as part of MRTI's regular work plan, in accordance with the previously identified positions and priorities of the General Assembly, and report back on MRTI's engagements, along with any recommendations, to the 222<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly (2016).
3. Affirm the selection criteria developed by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Foundation, Inc. in collaboration with the Presbyterian Mission Agency (PMA), for investment in West Bank owned/sponsored initiatives or companies: economic development, sustainable job creation, peaceful pursuits, Palestinian investments must minimize or eliminate dependence on Israel or others, transparency of use and impact, and the possibility of direct engagement with the people and organizations involved in the investments.
4. Commend the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Foundation, Inc., in collaboration with the Presbyterian Mission Agency, for its successful efforts to identify three investments in the Occupied Palestinian Territories that help in the development of a viable infrastructure for a future Palestinian state, and encourage greater engagement with Christians in the West Bank around issues of job creation and economic development.
5. Approve the following resolution: The Committee on Mission Responsibility Through Investment has been seeking to engage companies profiting from non-peaceful pursuits in Israel-Palestine since the directive of the 216<sup>th</sup> General Assembly (2004) and the reaffirmations and actions of subsequent Assemblies. This process of engagement has, in the case of three companies, produced no substantive change and, in the judgment of this Assembly, is likely not to do so in the future. Under the church's regular process of corporate engagement (approved by the 116<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the PCUS (1976) and reaffirmed as policy after reunion), the final step is to recommend divestment from companies where engagement is not resulting in

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any change. Therefore, in accordance with the actions of prior Assemblies, we direct that Caterpillar, Hewlett-Packard, and Motorola Solutions be placed on the General Assembly Divestment List until such time as they have ceased profiting from non-peaceful pursuits in Israel-Palestine, as defined by prior General Assembly actions.

**Information items**

The Justice Committee received the following items for information:

- PHP Advisory Committee Minutes – October 9-11, 2013 (B.200)
- PDA Advisory Committee Minutes – October 21-23, 2013 (B.201)
- SDOP National Committee Minutes – September 19-21, 2013 (B.202)
- SDOP National Committee Minutes – May 16-18, 2013 (B.203)
- MRTI Committee Minutes – February 7-8, 2013 (B.204)
- Jinishian Memorial Program United States Advisory Committee Draft Minutes – October 17, 2013 (B.205)
- Jinishian Memorial Program Governance Commission Meeting Draft Minutes – October 17, 2013 (B.206)
- On Prayer & Action for Syria (B.207)
- ACSWP Referrals Report (B.208)

The following ministry areas shared reports with the committee members: Office of Public Witness, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Presbyterian Health Education and Welfare Association (PHEWA), Presbyterian Hunger Program and Self-Development of People.

Bob Brashear shared a January 2014 press release by PHEWA seeking nominations to recognize ministries of social justice during the 221<sup>st</sup> General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) in Detroit, June 2014.

**Report from the  
Compassion, Peace  
and Justice Ministry  
Area**

Sara Lisherness presented a report on the Compassion, Peace and Justice (CPJ) ministry and thanked the Justice committee members for their hard work. She shared examples of ways that the ministry has been engaging in God's mission in the world, making God's community livable for all.

Sara stressed the importance of building relationships in order to be really engaged and requested committee members to invite CPJ staff to walk alongside congregations, at Presbytery meetings, and in communities whenever an opportunity presents itself.

**Report from the  
World Mission  
Ministry Area**

Greg Allen-Pickett presented a report on the World Mission ministry and its programs serving global partners, mission personnel and communities of mission practice within the U.S. and around the world. World Mission (WM) is actively engaged in shaping campaigns to address the three critical global initiatives, to train pastors for community transformation, to provide quality education for a million children and one to end violence against women and children.

Greg requested Justice committee members to reach out to WM staff for more information and invited them to use Mission Personnel Prayer Cards in their

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communities to invite Presbyterians to work together in mission around the world.

**Report on the Young Adult Volunteer program**

Richard Williams presented a report on the Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) program where volunteers are called to live abundantly but with less. Tasked by the 220<sup>th</sup> General Assembly (2012) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), the program is on road to expansion in the number of YAV sites, and volunteers, both national and international.

Richard invited Justice committee members to share information in their communities about the YAV program so that they join in financial and prayerful support as a community for the sustainability of the program through the giving catalog and the YAV a Year program support by congregations.

**Report on the Office of Public Witness**

J. Herbert Nelson, II shared information on the Compassion, Peace and Justice Training Day and Advocacy Days in March 2014. The training day, a special pre-conference for Presbyterians, is geared to address the causes of the many types of violence that afflict the world. The national gathering of Ecumenical Advocacy Days will culminate with Congressional Lobby Day on Capitol Hill to call for change in public policy and together lift up a holistic vision of a more just and peaceful world.

**Update on Syria**

Amgad Beblawi and Laurie Kraus shared a report on their recent visit with members of the National Evangelical Synod of Syria and Lebanon (NESSL), a PC (U.S.A.) partner, to discuss the humanitarian response to the crisis in Syria that has affected nearly 10 million people.

The NESSL invited Beblawi and Kraus, along with other U.S. Presbyterians and European Christians, to Syria and Lebanon to discuss the humanitarian response to the crisis in Syria and to learn about the holistic role the church plays in the situation.

The Presbyterians listened to our partners to learn about their efforts in addressing humanitarian need, how they understand the conflict, the role of the local church in solving the conflict and being a witness during this time in order to come back to the U.S. and help the PC (U.S.A.) partner with them in that effort. The consultation also addressed future peacebuilding efforts in the region.

The PC (U.S.A.) is looking at ways to assist the refugee situation and to develop projects for education of children adversely affected by the crisis.

**Adjournment**

Kears Pollock closed in prayer. Noelle Royer adjourned the meeting at Noon.

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Respectfully submitted,

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Noelle Royer, Chair

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Maria Arroyo, Resource Staff

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Bill Somplatsky-Jarman, Resource Staff

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Champaka Srinivasan, Recorder