

Report B.001
Justice Committee
Presbyterian Mission Agency Board
April 24, 2014

The Justice Committee met April 23-25, 2014 at the Brown Hotel in Louisville, KY and forwards the following to the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board:

I. Consent Agenda: No items

II. For Action:

- A. That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board approve the comment on Overture 037, “ On Support for the Institute Médical Chrétien du Kasai (IMCK) Endowment and the Endowment Concept – From the Presbytery of New Castle” to the 221st General Assembly (2014). (Attachment 1 [B.102](#))
- B. That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board approve the comment on Overture 040 “On Turning Attention to the Plight of the Church That is Suffering Due to Sectarian Violence and Persecution in Egypt and Other Parts of the World – From The Presbytery of Pittsburgh” to the 221st General Assembly (2014). (Attachment 2 [B.103](#))
- C. That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board, in reference to Mission Responsibility Through Investment proxy voting recommendations (Attachment 3 [B.104](#)):
 - 1. Affirm the proxy voting recommendations of the Committee on Mission Responsibility Through Investment (MRTI) contained the 2014 Shareholder Resolution Directory (Appendix 1).
 - 2. Request the Presbytery Church (USA) Foundation/New Covenant Trust Company and the Board of Pensions to vote proxies on the shareholder resolutions submitted to companies in which they own stock in accordance with the recommendations listed in the 2014 Shareholder Resolution Directory (Appendix 1).
 - 3. Urge the middle governing bodies, related institutions, congregations and individual members of the Presbyterian Church (USA) to give serious consideration to the proxy voting recommendations when they vote on shareholder resolutions.
- D. That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board approve the comment on Overture 055 “On Authorizing a Consultative Process to Provide Guidance for the church’s Response to the Dramatic Changes Taking Place in Cuba – From the Presbytery of Santa Fe” to the 221st General Assembly (2014). (Attachment 4 [B.105](#))
- E. That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board approve the comment on Overture 066 “Providing Trauma Crisis Counseling Consultations to Train in Best Practices in Caring For Survivors of Homicide Victims” to the 221st General Assembly (2014). (Attachment 5 [B.106](#))

- F. That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board approve the comment on Overture 065 “ On Endorsing the Women of Faith for the 1,000 Days Movement – From the Presbytery of National Capitol” to the 221st General Assembly (2014). (Attachment 6 [B.107](#))
- G. That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board approve as amended the comment on Overture 015 “On Entering a Two Year Season of Reflection on the Plight of Unwanted Children, and Appointing a Special Committee on Abortion Review – From the Presbytery of South Alabama” to the 221st General Assembly (2014) (Attachment 7 [B.108](#)).
- H. That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board approve as amended the comment on Overture 013 “On Reviewing General Assembly Policy Regarding The Two-State Solution in Israel Palestine – From the Presbytery of San Francisco” to the 221st General Assembly (2014) (Attachment 8 [B.109](#)).
- I. That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board approve the comment on Overture 007 “On Taking Meaningful Action to Reduce Gun Violence – From the Presbytery of National Capitol” and Overture 038 “On Gun Violence Prevention – From the Presbytery of the Hudson” to the 221st General Assembly (2014) (Attachment 9 [B.110](#)).
- J. That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board approve the comment on Overture 016 “On Encouraging Use of the Code of Conduct for the Protection of Children from Sexual Exploitation – From the Presbytery of New York City” to the 221st General Assembly (2014) (Attachment 10 [B.111](#)).
- K. That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board approve as amended the comment on Overture 044 “On The Uses of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (Drones) – From the Presbytery of Genesee Valley” to the 221st General Assembly (2014) (Attachment 11 [B.112](#)).
- L. That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board approve the comment on Overture 049 “On Food Sovereignty for All – From the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta” to the 221st of General Assembly (2014) (Attachment 12 [B.113](#)).
- M. That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board approve the comment on Overture 064 “On Divestment from Fossil Fuel Companies – From the Presbytery of the Palisades” to the 221st General Assembly (2014) (Attachment 13 [B.114](#)).
- N. That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board approve the comment on Overture 041 “On Removing Cuba from the List of State Sponsors of Terrorism – From the Presbytery of Long Island” and Overture 048 “On Lifting All Travel Restrictions for U.S. Citizens Traveling To Cuba – From the Presbytery of St. Augustine” to the 221st General Assembly (2014) (Attachment 14 [B.115](#)).
- O. That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board approve the comment on Overture 050 “On Affirming the importance of Sustainable Development and the Precautionary Principle – From the Presbytery of Southern New England” to the 221st General Assembly (2014) (Attachment 15 [B.116](#)).
- P. That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board approve the comment on Overture 022 “Supporting Middle East Peacemaking – From the Presbytery of New Covenant” to the 221st General Assembly (2014) (Attachment 16 [B.117](#)).

- Q. The Presbyterian Mission Agency Board approve the comment on Overture 014 “Divestment from Caterpillar, Hewlett Packard, and Motorola Solutions – From the Presbytery of San Francisco” and Overture 061 “Adopting the Mission Responsibility Through Investment (MRTI) Recommendation on Divestment – From the Synod of the Covenant” to the 221st General Assembly (2014) (Attachment 17 [B.118](#)).
- R. That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board approve the comment on Overture 026 “Regarding a National Moratorium on the Imposition of the Death Penalty – From the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta” to the 221st General Assembly (2014) (Attachment 18 [B.119](#))
- S. That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board approve the comment on Overture 030 “Calling for a Boycott of all Hewlett-Packard Products – From the Presbytery of New Brunswick” to the 221st General Assembly (2014) (Attachment 19 [B.120](#)).
- T. That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board approve the comment on Overture 068 “On Helping To Remedy the Tragic Conditions in the Democratic Republic of the Congo – From the Presbytery of Boston” to the 221st General Assembly (2014) (Attachment 20 [B. 121](#)).

III. For Information

- A. Reviewed the agenda of the meeting and VOTED to adopt. ([B.100](#))
- B. Approved the Justice Committee Minutes of February 6, 2014 ([B.101](#))
- C. Received for information:
 - 1. Jinishian Memorial Program Strategic Plan 2014-2019 ([B.200](#))
 - 2. Jinishian Memorial Program United States Advisory Committee & Governance Commission Minutes, February 5, 2014 ([B.201](#))
 - 3. Presbyterian Hunger Program Committee Meeting – October 9-11, 2013 ([B.202](#))
 - 4. MRTI Update ([B.203](#))
 - 5. MRTI Meeting Records ([B.204](#))
 - 6. PHEWA Update ([B.205](#))
 - 7. Jarvie Commonwealth Service Committee Minutes – April 24-25, 2013 ([B.206](#))
 - 8. 2013 WM Fundraising Report ([B.207](#))
 - 9. 2013 Special Offerings Annual Report ([B.208](#))
 - 10. Written reports from Presbyterian Hunger Program, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Presbyterian Health, Education and Welfare Association and the One Great Hour of Sharing Collaboration Team.

**ITEM B.102
 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
B. Justice		F. PC(USA), A Corporation	P. Plenary
C. Leadership		G. Audit	
D. Worshiping Communities		H. Executive Committee	

Subject: Comment to the 221st GA (2014) - Overture 037 “On Support for the Institut Médical Chrétien du Kasai (IMCK) Endowment and the Endowment Concept—From the Presbytery of New Castle”

Recommendation:

That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board approve the following comment on Overture 037, “On Support for the Institut Médical Chrétien du Kasai (IMCK) Endowment and the Endowment Concept—From the Presbytery of New Castle” to the 221st GA (2014).

Comment:

The Institute Médical Chrétien du Kasai (IMCK) is an important partner of Presbyterian World Mission. Its ministry of compassionate Christian care and training of medical professionals is greatly needed in the DR Congo where WHO health indicators are among the worst in the world with alarming rates of infant mortality, malnutrition, and maternal mortality <http://www.who.int/gho/countries/cod.pdf> In the past Presbyterian World Mission was able to provide substantial support of IMCK through the contributions of PCUSA congregations and individuals, but this support has decreased in recent years. We believe that an endowment is a faithful and effective way of addressing the pressing need for financial sustainability for IMCK. This is especially true in a country as impoverished as DR Congo which ranks at the bottom of the Human Development Index <https://data.undp.org/dataset/Table-1-Human-Development-Index-and-its-components/wxub-qc5k> where national health insurance is nonexistent and individuals cannot pay a fee for service to cover the operating expenses of the institution.

In addition to financial support PCUSA World Mission believes strongly in the “ministry of presence” to accompany our partners as they serve in Christ’s name. Financial support in itself is not enough; we have committed ourselves to providing mission personnel to serve side by side with Congolese medical professionals as they serve in one of the most difficult contexts in Africa. PCUSA Mission Co-worker Dr. John Fletcher serves at IMCK and Dr. Martha Sommers is planning to begin service later this year and other mission personnel serve on the board. In addition to support of this endowment we also encourage PCUSA to support the sending of our mission personnel.

**ITEM B.103
 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: **Comment to the 221st GA (2014) - Overture 040 “On Turning Attention to the Plight of the Church That Is Suffering Due to Sectarian Violence and Persecution in Egypt and Other Parts of the World—From the Presbytery of Pittsburgh”**

Recommendation:

That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board approve the following comment on Overture 040 “On Turning Attention to the Plight of the Church That Is Suffering Due to Sectarian Violence and Persecution in Egypt and Other Parts of the World—From the Presbytery of Pittsburgh.”

Comment:

The suffering of the church in Egypt and other parts of the world is not only “due to sectarian violence and persecution.” There are many factors involved, including geopolitical and economic factors. The General Assembly should consider all the factors that result in and contribute to sectarian violence. For example, our mission partners in the Middle East have clearly pointed out that U.S. government policies (and Western attempts to dominate in general) affect them adversely by fueling sectarian tension. Therefore, the role of the US government (often seeking national or special interests rather than principles the US purports to support) should be addressed by the overture.

The overture names only the church in Egypt, and fails to mention the suffering of other Christian populations in the region. For example, following the 2003 American-led invasion of Iraq, more than half of the country’s Christian population became refugees. Likewise, the plight of Syrian Christians, Palestinian Christians, and others in the Middle East should not be neglected. Additionally, while the overture mentions “Other Parts of the World,” it does not consider countries outside of the Middle East, such as North Korea, Pakistan, Nigeria, and Sudan, where Christians suffer from maltreatment no less than in the Middle East.

Use of the word “persecution” mischaracterizes the nature of the maltreatment of Christians in Egypt and elsewhere in the Middle East, and in many cases would be an unhelpful exaggeration. At the same time, the Presbyterian Mission Agency and the Office of the General Assembly maintain ecumenical and interfaith relationships and humanitarian programs that can enable efforts such as those requested by the presbyteries submitting this overture.

ITEM B.104
FOR ACTION

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

Subject: Proxy Voting Recommendations

Recommendation:

That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board:

- 1) **Affirm the proxy voting recommendations of the Committee on Mission Responsibility Through Investment (MRTI) contained in the 2014 Shareholder Resolution Directory (Appendix 1).**
- 2) **Request the Presbyterian Church (USA) Foundation/ New Covenant Trust Company and the Board of Pensions to vote proxies on the shareholder resolutions submitted to companies in which they own stock in accordance with the recommendations listed in the 2014 Shareholder Resolution Directory (Appendix1).**
- 3) **Urge the middle governing bodies, related institutions, congregations and individual members of the Presbyterian Church (USA) to give serious consideration to the proxy voting recommendations when they vote on shareholder resolutions.**

Background:

Each year MRTI compiles a list of shareholder resolutions being filed with specific corporations on certain designated issues. For 2014, the issues addressed include environment, energy, equal employment opportunity, tobacco, corporate governance, international human rights, employee relations, employment and environmental standards, global finance and others.

MRTI during its meeting on February 14, 2014 examined each of these resolutions on the basis of General Assembly Investment Policy Guidelines for social concerns, and made a recommendation as to whether or not the resolution should be supported by the Presbyterian Church (USA), or whether a formal abstention should be recorded. These recommendations are transmitted to the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board for its affirmation. A summary of recommended proxy votes by company is contained in Appendix 1.

**MISSION RESPONSIBILITY
THROUGH INVESTMENT**

**2014 SHAREHOLDER
RESOLUTIONS DIRECTORY
WITH
PROXY VOTING
RECOMMENDATIONS**

March 5, 2014

The Committee on Mission Responsibility Through Investment (MRTI) met on February 14, 2014, and reviewed shareholder resolutions being submitted to corporations for their 2014 Annual Meetings. These resolutions concern social and ethical issues related to the corporations' business operations and policies. MRTI adopted recommendations on voting of proxies in support or opposition to these resolutions, or whether a formal vote of abstention should be recorded.

The recommendations will be submitted for affirmation by the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board at its meeting on April 23-25, 2014. The recommendations will be communicated to middle governing bodies, related institutions, and congregations and individuals who have expressed interest in proxy voting as a part of socially responsible investing. This is a provisional document to guide shareholder votes which occur before April; any necessary updates will be provided after the board meeting.

**PROXY
VOTING
PROCESS**

MRTI reviewed resolutions that were submitted to 193 corporations. Many of these resolutions will not appear on the proxy statement when it is mailed to shareholders. Often negotiations between the corporation and the shareholder filing the resolution result in an agreement about the subject matter, and the resolution is withdrawn. Some resolutions may not appear because the corporation challenged them before the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) contesting that the resolutions failed to meet one or more of the SEC's rules and regulations. These objections refer to the substance of the resolution; or pertain to technical matters such as length of ownership of the stock. If the SEC finds merit in the corporation's arguments, the SEC will inform the corporation that it will take no action if the resolution is omitted from the proxy.

MRTI noted that some groups did not provide a copy of their resolutions. Thus, no formal recommendation was made. However, as some organizations previously have submitted resolutions with goals contrary to General Assembly Policy. MRTI urges shareholders to read the resolutions and vote their consciences. Any questions about GA policy can be directed to the MRTI office.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)

SHAREHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

For your information, eight resolutions that were filed or co-filed by MRTI using stock held in the Board of Pensions General Assistance Fund. These include **ConocoPhillips** and **Phillips 66** on setting a greenhouse gas emissions reduction goal, **Caterpillar, Motorola, Coca-Cola** and **Hewlett-Packard** on strengthening their human rights policies, **Wells Fargo** on direct deposit payday loans, **United Continental Holdings** on combating human trafficking, and **CF Industries** on reporting on sustainability efforts.

The resolution with **United Continental Holdings** was withdrawn when the company developed a human rights policy including a commitment to address forced labor, human trafficking and child sex trafficking. Following dialogue, **Wells Fargo** announced the elimination of direct deposit payday loans, and the resolution was withdrawn. Finally, **CF Industries** developed its first sustainability report, and after dialogue to review the report, and making suggestions for the future reports, MRTI decided to withdraw the shareholder resolution.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY DIVESTMENT POLICY

It should also be noted that the General Assembly has a policy of not investing in certain corporations due to their involvement in military-related production or tobacco. Some of these corporations received shareholder resolutions. Although the General Assembly urges that stock in these companies not be held, MRTI formulated recommendations on proxy voting anyway as some organizations, congregations or individuals may still own stock in these corporations for various reasons, and yet utilize these recommendations as they consider voting their proxies. Companies on the GA divestment list will be marked with an asterisk.

For further information, please contact Rev. William Somplatsky-Jarman, Associate for Mission Responsibility
Through Investment, at (888) 728-7228, Ext. 5809 (toll-free) or by email at Bill.Somplatsky-Jarman@pcusa.org.

COMMITTEE ON MISSION RESPONSIBILITY THROUGH INVESTMENT 2014 INDEX OF SHAREHOLDER RESOLUTIONS PROXY VOTING RECOMMENDATIONS

A vote in support of the following shareholder resolutions is recommended. If votes have already been collected, a percentage of approval will be listed.

KEY

WD – This motion has been withdrawn due to other progress.

SEC – This motion is currently being challenged at the SEC.
O – This motion is omitted due to a ruling by the SEC.

CORPORATION	SUBJECT
AGL Resources Inc.	Discrimination Based on Gender Identity/Expression
AMEREN (Union Electric)	Lobbying Expenditures Disclosure
AT&T Inc.	Indirect Political Contributions Lobbying Expenditures Disclosure Report on Government Requests for Consumer Data -
WD	
Abbott Laboratories	Label Genetically Engineered Products Lobbying Expenditures Disclosure
Accenture	Lobbying Expenditures Disclosure - WD
Advance Auto Parts, Inc.	Adopt Greenhouse Gas Reduction Goals – Report - WD
Aetna	Board Oversight of Political Expenditures
Alpha Natural Resources, Inc	Climate Risk Water Impacts of Business Operations
Altria Group, Inc.	Educate Re: Health Consequences of Tobacco Products Lobbying Expenditures Disclosure
American Electric Power Company Change	Public Policy Advocacy on Energy Policy/Climate Change
Amgen Inc.	Lobbying Expenditures Disclosure - WD
Anadarko Petroleum	Climate Risk
Apple Computer, Inc.	Tax Policy Principles
Arch Coal Inc.	Water Impacts of Business Operations
Archer-Daniels-Midland Company	Sustainable Agriculture Policy
Bank of America Corp. Portfolio	Assess/Report GHG Emissions Resulting from Lending Portfolio Lobby Expenditures Disclosure Report on Business Standards - WD

Bank of New York Mellon Corporation Request Continuation of In-Person Shareholder Meeting
- **WD**

Black Rock, Inc. Lobbying Expenditures Disclosure

Boeing Company Lobbying Expenditures Disclosure

BorgWarner Inc. GHG Reduction Targets & Renewable Energy Sourcing

C. R. Bard, Inc. Separate Chair & CEO
Sustainability Reporting – GHG Reduction Targets

CBOE Holdings, Inc. Encourage ESG Disclosure

CF Industries Holdings, Inc. Sustainability Reporting – Energy Efficiency

CLARCOR Inc. Sustainability Reporting

CME Group, Inc. Encourage ESG Disclosure

CVS Caremark Corporation Lobbying Expenditures Disclosure

Cabot Oil & Gas Corporation Adopt Greenhouse Gas Reduction Goals – Report

California Water Service Group Climate Risk - **SEC**

Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce (CIBC) Vertical Comparison of Executive Compensation

Caterpillar Inc. Human Rights – Amend & Monitor Policy

Calgene Corporation Lobbying Expenditures Disclosure

Cerner Corporation Board Diversity

Chevron Corp. Climate Risk
Country Selection Criteria - Burma
Director With Environmental Expertise
Lobbying Expenditures Disclosure
Public Policy Advocacy on Energy Policy/Climate

Change - **WD**
Energy Quantitative Risk Management Reporting for Shale

Operations
Separate Chair & CEO

ICCR Member Resolutions by Company

Chipotle Mexican Grill, Inc.	Sustainability Reporting
Church & Dwight Co., Inc.	Adopt Greenhouse Gas Reduction Goals - Report - WD
Cincinnati Financial Corp.	Sustainability Reporting
Coca-Cola Company	Establish Board Committee on Human Rights - O
Con-Way Inc.	Human Trafficking
Concho Resources Inc.	Report Methane Emissions
ConocoPhillips	Adopt Greenhouse Gas Reduction Goals - Report Discrimination Based on Gender Identity/Expression Lobbying Expenditures Disclosure Public Policy Advocacy on Energy Policy/Climate
Change - WD	
CONSOL Energy Inc.	Climate Risk
Danaher Corp.	Political Contributions
Dean Foods Company	Water Stewardship in the Agricultural Supply Chain
Denbury Resources Inc.	Adopt Greenhouse Gas Reduction Goals – Report
Dentsply International Inc.	Political Contributions
Devon Energy	Climate Risk Lobbying Expenditures Disclosure Public Policy Advocacy on Energy Policy/Climate
Change	
Dow Chemical Company	Refrain from Political Spending (GMOs) Reputational and Operational Impacts of Bhopal
Disaster	
Dr. Pepper Snapple Group	Adopt Comprehensive Recycling Strategy
Dunkin’ Brands Group Nanomaterials	Report on Products/Packaging Containing
DuPont Company	Refrain from Political Spending (GMOs) Report on Adverse Impacts of GMOs (Herbicides)

Duke Energy Corp.	Political Contributions
EOG Resources, Inc.	Quantitative Risk Management Reporting for Shale Operations Report Methane Emissions
EQT Corporation	Political Contributions
ESCO Technologies	Sustainability Reporting
Emerson	Lobbying Expenditures Disclosure – 41.66% Political Contributions - 47.38% Sustainability Reporting – GHG Reduction Targets - 38.07%
Energen Corporation	Report Methane Emissions
Entergy Corp.	Adopt Near-Term Actions to Reduce GHG Emissions
Exxon Mobil Corporation	Adopt Greenhouse Gas Reduction Goals - Report Climate Change Assumptions used for Strategic Planning - WD Discrimination Based on Sexual Orientation/Gender Identity Operational Risks: Likely Restrictions on Carbon Emissions Public Policy Advocacy on Energy Policy/Climate Change Risk Management Reporting for Shale Energy Operations Separate Chair & CEO
Facebook Inc.	Financial Risks of Childhood Obesity Lobbying Expenditures Disclosure
Fifth Third Bancorp	Political Contributions
FirstEnergy Corporation	Adopt Near-Term Actions to Reduce GHG Emissions
Franklin Resources, Inc.	Proxy Voting Policies
Gentex Corp.	Separate Chair & CEO - WD Sustainability Reporting - WD
Goldman Sachs Group Inc.	Free Prior & Informed Consent - WD

Google Inc.	Lobbying Expenditures Disclosure Tax Policy Principles
Halliburton Company	Human Rights Risk Assessment
Hess Corporation	Climate Risk Political Contributions
Hewlett-Packard Company	Human Rights – Amend & Monitor Policy
Hollyfrontier Resources	GHG Reduction Targets & Renewable Energy Sourcing
Home Depot, Inc.	Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO)
Honeywell International Inc.	Lobbying Expenditures Disclosure
International Business Machines Corp.	Lobbying Expenditures Disclosure
J. B. Hunt Transport Services, Inc.	Human Trafficking - WD
J.P. Morgan Chase & Co.	Lobbying Expenditures Disclosure Report on Business Standards - WD Separate Chair & CEO - WD
Jarden Corporation Hazards	Board Diversity Disclose, Reduce, and Eliminate Product Chemical
JetBlue Airways Corporation	Political Contributions
Joy Global Inc.	Board Diversity
Kinder Morgan, Inc. Coal	Long & Short-Term Financial & Operational Risks of
Kraft Foods Inc. Packaging Deforestation	Environmental Impact of Using Non-Recyclable Palm Oil, Soya, Sugar, and Paper Sourcing -
Kroger Co. Chain	Assess Human Trafficking/Forced Labor in Supply Chain Post-Consumer Product Packaging Recycling
Landstar System, Inc.	Human Trafficking

Lincoln Electric Holdings, Inc.	Adopt Greenhouse Gas Reduction Goals – Report - WD
Lincoln National Corp.	Sustainability Reporting
Lorillard, Inc.	Educate Re: Health Consequences of Tobacco Products Lobbying Expenditures Disclosure
Lowes	Adopt Greenhouse Gas Reduction Goals - Report
MGM Resorts International	Human Trafficking
Marathon Oil Corp.	Set Reduction Targets for Methane Emissions
Marathon Petroleum	Adopt Greenhouse Gas Reduction Goals – Report Lobbying Expenditures Disclosure
McDonald’s Corp.	Human Rights Risk Assessment
Mead Johnson Nutrition Co. WD	Implement Comprehensive Palm Oil Policy (GHG) -
Mettler-Toledo	Adopt Greenhouse Gas Reduction Goals – Report - WD
Microsoft Corporation	Human Rights – Amend & Monitor Policy - WD
Mondelez International, Inc. Deforestation	Palm Oil, Soya, Sugar, and Paper Sourcing - Post-Consumer Product Packaging Recycling
Monsanto	Material Financial Risks of GMO Seed Contamination – Reported vote 6.70%
Morgan Stanley	Lobbying Expenditures Disclosure
Motorola, Inc.	Human Rights – Amend & Monitor Policy Political Contributions
Nabors Industries, Inc.	Board Diversity
National Fuel Gas Company	Discrimination Based on Gender Identity/Expression
O’Reilly Automotive, Inc. Identity - WD	Discrimination Based on Sexual Orientation/Gender
ONEOK Inc.	Report Methane Emissions

Oasis Petroleum Inc.	Adopt Quantitative Goals for Reducing Flaring
Occidental Petroleum Corporation Operations	Risk Management Reporting for Shale Energy Review Federal, State, Local Lobbying
PACCAR, Inc.	GHG Reduction targets & Renewable Energy Sourcing
PNC Financial Services Group, Inc. Portfolio - WD	Assess/Report GHG Emissions Resulting from Lending Request Continuation of In-Person Shareholder Meeting
Panera Bread Company	Implement Comprehensive Palm Oil Policy (GHG) Sustainability Reporting
Peabody Energy Corp.	Water Impacts of Business Operations - WD
PepsiCo, Inc. Deforestation	Palm Oil, Soya, Sugar, and Paper Sourcing - Report on Land Rights
Pfizer, Inc.	Review Federal, State, Local Lobbying - SEC Separate CEO & Chair - WD
Phillips 66	Adopt Greenhouse Gas Reduction Goals – Report
Questar Corporation Targets - WD	Sustainability Report/Methane Emissions Reduction
Pioneer Natural Resources Company Energy	Quantitative Risk Management Reporting for Shale Operations
RPC, Inc.	Sustainability Reporting
Raytheon Company	Lobby Expenditures Disclosure
Reynolds American Inc.	Educate Re: Health Consequences of Tobacco Products
Ross Stores, Inc. Identity - WD	Discrimination Based on Sexual Orientation/Gender
Royal Bank of Canada	Vertical Comparison of Executive Compensation

SLM Corporation (Sallie Mae)	Adopt Proxy Access Bylaw
SM Energy Co.	Climate Change Management Plan
Safeway Inc. Simpson Manufacturing Co., Inc.	Post-Consumer Product Packaging Recycling Sustainability Reporting - WD
Southern Company	Adopt Near-Term Actions to Reduce GHG Emissions
Spectra Energy Corp.	Political Contributions Report Methane Emissions
Superior Energy Services	Human Rights Assessment
Time Warner Cable Inc.	Lobbying Expenditures Disclosure Review Federal, State, Local Lobbying - WD
Tyson Foods, Inc. - WD	Risks Associated with Indefinite Use of Gestation Crates
United Continental Holdings, Inc.	Human Trafficking
United Parcel Service of America, Inc.	Lobbying Expenditures Disclosure Review Federal, State, Local Lobbying
VF Corporation	Water Risk in the Supply Chain
Valero Energy Corporation	Adopt Greenhouse Gas Reduction Goals - Report
Valmont Industries, Inc.	Adopt Greenhouse Gas Reduction Goals – Report - WD
Verizon Communications Inc.	Lobbying Expenditures Disclosure Report on Government Requests for Consumer Data - WD Wireless Network Neutrality
Visa Inc.	Lobbying Expenditures Disclosure
WPX Energy Inc.	Climate Change Management Plan
Walmart Stores, Inc.	Lobbying Expenditures Disclosure
Wells Fargo & Company	Direct Deposit Advances - WD Report on Business Standards - WD
Wendy’s International, Inc.	Financial Risks of Childhood Obesity

Westinghouse Air Brake Technologies Corp.	Board Diversity
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Wolverine World Wide, Inc.	Sustainability Reporting – Apparel Supply Chain - WD
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Yahoo! Inc. eBay Inc.	Political Contributions Lobbying Expenditures Disclosure – WD
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**ITEM B.105
 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: **Comment to the 221st GA (2014) - Overture 055 “On Authorizing a Consultative Process to Provide Guidance for the Church’s Response to the Dramatic Changes Taking Place in Cuba—From the Presbytery of Santa Fe.”**

Recommendation:

That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board approve the following comment on Overture 055 “On Authorizing a Consultative Process to Provide Guidance for the Church’s Response to the Dramatic Changes Taking Place in Cuba—From the Presbytery of Santa Fe.”

Comment:

This overture displays a familiarity with the remarkably strong relationship that has remained between the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and the Presbyterian Church in Cuba over the years. It recognizes the significant changes underway within Cuba and in that country's relations with other nations in the Caribbean, Latin America, and Europe. The overture proposes a cost-effective way to build upon the work of the Cuba Mission Network and the mission partnerships that have made our Presbyterian witness and connection so distinctive and durable. The dual consultation model is designed to include a diversity of voices framed by the mission of the church. The consultation in Cuba, to be developed with our mission partners, would be arranged by the Advisory Committee on Social Witness Policy and World Mission in full accordance with the requirements of U.S. law and the hopes of that church. As in other social witness and mission reports prepared for the General Assembly in the past, the goal is to gather faithful persons with significant experience and expertise whose prayer and reflection may help guide both our churches for years to come.

ITEM B.106
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: Comment to the 221st GA (2014) - Overture 66 “Providing Trauma Crisis Counseling Consultation to Train in Best Practices in Caring for Survivors of Homicide Victims”

Recommendation:

That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board approve the following comment on Overture 66 Providing Trauma Crisis Counseling Consultation to Train in Best Practices in Caring for Survivors of Homicide Victims

Comment:

The Presbyterian Mission Agency, through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) is already engaged in providing support to communities impacted by gun violence through its National Response Team and staff. The National Response Team and staff are skilled professionals, clergy and clinicians with expertise in responding to and supporting churches and communities who are impacted by acts of public violence.

In addition to providing initial support immediately after an event, PDA also offers emotional and spiritual care, compassion fatigue and resilience training for religious and community leaders that strengthens their capacity to equip the community to recover from the trauma of the violence.

PDA has also produced one full length award-winning documentary on gun violence, "Trigger"

ITEM B.107
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: Comment to the 221st GA (2014) - Overture 065 “On Endorsing the Women of Faith for the 1,000 Days Movement – From the Presbytery of National Capitol”

Recommendation:

That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board approves the following comment on Overture 065 “On Endorsing the Women of Faith for the 1,000 Days Movement – From the Presbytery of National Capitol”

Comment:

Recognizing the importance of this campaign and the impact it has on improving the lives of women and children around the world, Presbyterian Mission Agency has formed a “1000 Days Roundtable” that includes representatives from World Mission, Racial-Ethnic and Women’s Ministries, Presbyterian Women and Compassion, Peace and Justice to encourage congregations to get involved in the campaign.

The 1000 Day Campaign reinforces and strengthens the poverty alleviation work that the PCUSA is engaged in through long term mission partnerships in Bangladesh, Liberia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Peru, Haiti, Ethiopia, Malawi, Southern Sudan and Zimbabwe.

<http://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/pw/justice/>

<http://triggerdoc.com/> and "Tapestry," <https://vimeo.com/91726932> a shorter (28 minutes) award-winning documentary on the processes of recovery and healing in communities after public violence, viewed through the lens of PDA National Response Team members who have done such responses. Both of these documentaries also have study materials designed to equip congregations and communities to engage in dialogue about gun violence.

PDA welcomes the opportunity to enhance the resilience, skills, and awareness of its mid council partners and their congregations as the PCUSA seeks to bring a healing presence and a prophetic word into the scourge of public violence afflicting our country. This could be accomplished as an invitational event through mid-councils to Stony Point or regionally, if preferred.

**ITEM B.108
 FOR ACTION**

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

Subject: Comment to the 221st General Assembly (2014)

Recommendation:

That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board approve the following comment on Overture 15, *On Entering a Two-Year Season of Reflection on the Plight of Unwanted Children, and Appointing a Special Committee on Abortion Review-From the Presbytery of South Alabama.*

Comment:

The 217th General Assembly (2006) affirmed the monitoring report from the Advisory Committee on Social Witness Policy (ACSWP), which reviews the implementation of problem pregnancies and abortion policies. Presbyterian Mission Agency ministries preparing resources on problem pregnancies and abortion strive to reflect a diversity of opinion in the resources that are produced. Resources revised in 2010 prepared by Racial Ethnic & Women’s Ministries cover the range of faithful responses in these difficult situations, and they include: *Problem Pregnancy: When No Choice Is Easy – For the Pregnant Woman; There’s Always A Father – Does the Father Have a Problem, Too?; When Pregnancy Involves Loss - Helping Others Face Pregnancy Loss; When You Need Wisdom – Helping Others Face Problem Pregnancy.*

In 2006, the 217th General Assembly reiterated the role of the church in individual and families’ lives as they face problem pregnancy issues:

The church has a responsibility to provide public witness and to offer guidance, counsel, and support to those who make or interpret laws and public policies about abortion and problem pregnancies. Pastors have a duty to counsel with and pray for those who face decisions about problem pregnancies. Congregations have a duty to pray for and support those who face these choices, to offer support for women and families to help make unwanted pregnancies less likely to occur, and to provide practical support for those facing the birth of a child with medical anomalies, birth after rape or incest, or those who face health, economic, or other stresses. [*Minutes of the 217th General Assembly (2006), p. 905*].

The 1992 policy states,

Problem pregnancies are the result of, and influenced by, so many complicated and insolvable circumstances that we have neither the wisdom nor the authority to address or decide each situation. Christians seek the guidance of Scripture in the midst of relationships and circumstances of awesome proportions that affect their interpretation and decision making.

We affirm the ability and responsibility of women, guided by the Scriptures and the Holy Spirit, in the context of their communities of faith, to make good moral choices in regard to problem pregnancies.

We call upon Presbyterians to work for a decrease in the number of problem pregnancies, thereby decreasing the number of abortions.

The considered decision of a woman to terminate a pregnancy can be a morally acceptable, though certainly not the only or required, decision. Possible justifying circumstances would include medical indications of severe physical or mental deformity, conception as a result of rape or incest, or conditions under which the physical or mental health of either woman or child would be gravely threatened.

The Christian community must be concerned about and address the circumstances that bring a woman to consider abortion as the best available option. Poverty, unjust societal realities, sexism, racism, and inadequate supportive relationships may render a woman virtually powerless to choose freely [*Minutes* of the 204th General Assembly (1992), p. 368].

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A) continues to be guided by the 204th General Assembly policy on abortion and problem pregnancies and encourages the church to continue to approach this challenging issue with the atmosphere of “open debate and mutual respect” for a variety of opinions (*Minutes*, 1992, Part I, p. 374].

In 2014, there were no funds budgeted in the form of grants from the Presbyterian Mission Agency (PMA) to any of the ten networks of Presbyterian Health, Education and Welfare Association, including Presbyterians Affirming Reproductive Options (PARO). No funds from the PMA were given to Planned Parenthood or the Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice (RCRC).

ITEM B.109
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: **Comment to the 221st GA (2014) - Overture 013 “On Reviewing General Assembly Policy Regarding the Two-State Solution in Israel Palestine—From the Presbytery of San Francisco”**

Recommendation:

That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board approve the following comment on Overture 013, “On Reviewing General Assembly Policy Regarding the Two-State Solution in Israel Palestine—From the Presbytery of San Francisco” to the 221st GA (2014).

Comment:

PC(USA) mission partners in the Middle East agree that the current “facts on the ground” and the slim chance of success for the current peace process render a Two-State solution unattainable at the current time. It is their view that the long-standing PC(USA) policy, reaffirmed as recently as 2010, supporting a Two-State solution is unrealistic in light of the continued expansion and intractability of Israeli settlements and the obstinacy of the Israeli military occupation of Palestine.

ITEM B.110
FOR ACTION

FOR PRESBYTERIAN MISSION AGENCY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S OFFICE USE ONLY			
	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: Comment to the 221st GA (2014) - Overture 007 “On Taking Meaningful Action to Reduce Gun Violence – From the Presbytery of National Capital.”

Comment to the 221st GA (2014) - Overture 038 “On Gun Violence Prevention – From the Presbytery of Hudson River.”

Recommendation:

That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board approve the following comment on Overture 007 “On Taking Meaningful Action to Reduce Gun Violence – From the Presbytery of National Capital” and Overture 038 “On Gun Violence Prevention – From the Presbytery of Hudson River.”

Comment:

Compassion, Peace and Justice Ministries are engaged in addressing the issues related eradicating gun violence in the United States in response to the 219th General Assembly (2010): <http://www.pcusa.org/resource/gun-violence-gospel-values-mobilizing-response-god/> The Presbyterian Mission Agency has developed numerous resources to equip congregations to respond to concerns about gun violence. <http://www.presbyterianmission.org/gunviolence/>

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Peacemaking Program and the Office of Public Witness are working collaboratively to both raise awareness and promote the passing of common sense gun laws in local communities, states and the U.S. Congress. The promotion of effective advocacy strategies and ways that congregations can become involved in reducing gun violence are being promoted through the collaborative efforts of these three programs. The PC(USA) documentary "Trigger" is being promoted through Middle Governing Bodies, local congregations and community based organizations across the country. <http://triggerdoc.com/> A petition drive calling for Common Sense gun laws is continuing until national legislators pass common sense gun laws.

Overture 007 and Overture 38 affirm and support the work on addressing gun violence currently being done by the Presbyterian Mission Agency.

**ITEM B.111
 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: **Comment to the 221st GA (2014) - Overture 016 “On Encouraging Use of the Code of Conduct for the Protection of Children from Sexual Exploitation. – From Presbytery of New York City”**

Recommendation:

That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board approve the following comment on Overture 016 “On Encouraging Use of the Code of Conduct for the Protection of Children from Sexual Exploitation. – From Presbytery of New York City”

Comment:

This overture affirms the work of the Presbyterian Mission Agency and Presbyterian Women being done through the Human Trafficking Roundtable <http://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/human-trafficking/>. The Human Trafficking Roundtable is a collaborative programmatic effort that works to end the commercial sexual exploitation of children with ECPAT-USA (End Child Prostitution and Trafficking) and ECPAT-International. This Roundtable was created in response to previous General Assembly actions calling on the church to condemn the international trafficking and sexual exploitation of women and children. <http://apps.pcusa.org/ga217/business/overtures/ovt1905.htm> <http://www.pc-biz.org/MeetingPapers/%28S%28zvdsf4j0l3qiatt4fkqpoc%29%29/IOBView.aspx?m=ro&id=1539&promoid=7>

This overture asks the agencies of the church and all Presbyterians to use companies that have signed the Code of Conduct for the Protection of Children from Sexual Exploitation in Travel and Tourism <http://www.thecode.org/>

It also encourages the programs and ministries of the Presbyterian Church to engage in education and provide opportunities for advocacy with tourism businesses that have not yet adopted the code of conduct. There are resources available to those who would like to engage in advocacy, including a card that individuals can leave with hotels, airlines, and others in the travel industry to encourage them to sign on to the Code of Conduct for the Protection of Children from Sexual Exploitation in Travel and Tourism. <https://www.pcusa.org/blogs/swords-plowshares/2013/5/1/ecpat-code/> The PC(USA) is the first denomination to co-brand the Code of Conduct card.

ITEM B.112
FOR ACTION

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

Subject: Comment to the 221st GA (2014) - Overture 044 “On The Uses of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (Drones) - From the Presbytery of Genesee Valley.”

Recommendation:

That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board approve the following comment on Overture 044 “On The Uses of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (Drones) - From the Presbytery of Genesee Valley.”

Comment:

The General Assembly has addressed issues of war and peace on numerous occasions through the years. This includes speaking to specific weapons, for example land mines and nuclear weapons, and the questions about the morality of their use.

Drones represent a new technology not fully addressed in any current PC(USA) policy related to weapons of war. The adoption of this overture or the report from Advisory Committee on Social Witness Policy would establish policy to guide the work of programs of the Presbyterian Mission Agency called to address these matters.

ITEM B.113
FOR ACTION

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

Subject: **Comment to the 221st GA (2014) - Overture 049 “On Food Sovereignty for All – From the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta”**

Recommendation:

That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board approve the following comment on Overture 049 “On Food Sovereignty for All – From the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta”

Comment:

The Presbyterian Mission Agency though the Presbyterian Hunger Program offers prayer and study materials for congregations about the food system, food sovereignty and food justice at <http://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/foodcrisis/introductory-materials/> and <http://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/hunger/hunger-facts-and-materials/>.

Working with ecumenical partners, the Hunger Program produced “Food Sovereignty for All” http://www.pcusa.org/site_media/media/uploads/hunger/doc/food_sovereignty_for_all-php_final.pdf.

Funds from the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering support partners engaged in food sovereignty initiatives in impoverished areas in the USA and overseas <http://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/hunger/wai/>. These funds also connect concerned Presbyterians with international partners that have initiated campaigns on issues like land grab. <http://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/joininghands/foodandland/>.

This overture affirms and strengthens the current work of the Presbyterian Hunger Program.

ITEM B.114
FOR ACTION

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

Subject: Comment to the 221st GA (2014) - Overture 064 “On Divestment from Fossil Fuel Companies – From the Presbytery of the Palisades”

Recommendation:

That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board approve the following comment on Overture 064 “On Divestment from Fossil Fuel Companies – From the Presbytery of the Palisades”

Comment:

The Presbyterian Mission Agency, through the Environmental Ministries Office, <http://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/environment/> provides Bible studies, devotionals, educational resources and advocacy suggestions, all designed to equip congregations to increase involvement in caring for God’s creation, including becoming certified as an “Earth Care Congregation” <http://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/environment/earth-care-congregations/>.

There are also resources available that specifically address concerns about climate change. <http://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/environment/climate-change/>

The PCUSA is an active member of Creation Justice Ministries, <http://www.creationjustice.org/> an ecumenical partnership addressing climate change and other environmental concerns. The PCUSA is also founding member of Ceres, <http://www.ceres.org/> and the Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility (ICCR) <http://www.iccr.org/>. These organizations routinely review behavior of fossil fuel companies and mobilize business leadership for a sustainable world.

The Committee on Mission Responsibility through Investment (MRTI) engages corporations in support of policies and practices that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and works in coalition with other organizations.

**ITEM B.115
 FOR ACTION**

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

Subject: Comment to the 221st GA (2014) - Overture 041 “On Removing Cuba from the List of State Sponsors of Terrorism – From the Presbytery of Long Island.”

Comment to the 221st GA (2014) - Overture 048 “On Lifting All Travel Restrictions for U.S. Citizens Traveling To Cuba – From the Presbytery of St. Augustine.”

Recommendation:

That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board approve the following comment on Overture 041 “On Removing Cuba from the List of State Sponsors of Terrorism – From the Presbytery of Long Island” and Overture 048 “On Lifting All Travel Restrictions for U.S. Citizens Traveling To Cuba – From the Presbytery of St. Augustine.”

Comment:

The Presbyterian Mission Agency has been engaged in mission with church partners in Cuba since 1890. <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/global/cuba/> In 1967 the Presbyterian-Reformed Church in Cuba (IPRC) was established as an autonomous denomination. Nine presbyteries have established partnerships with the IPRC. Travel restrictions and sanctions make these partnerships more difficult.

In February 2014, the Office of Public Witness, together with Church World Service and the Latin America Working Group, hosted a delegation of ecumenical leaders from Cuba in Washington, DC.

The purpose of the visit was to advocate for normalized U.S. relations with Cuba. Removing Cuba from the List of State Sponsors of Terrorism and lifting all restrictions for both U.S. and Cuba travel were among the issues discussed in the joint deliberations with the State Department and Congressional Offices.

<http://www.pcusa.org/news/2014/3/18/cuban-church-leaders-press-normalization-us/>

**ITEM B.116
 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: Comment to the 221st GA (2014) - Overture 050 “On Affirming the importance of Sustainable Development and the Precautionary Principle – From the Presbytery of Southern New England”

Recommendation:

That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board approve the following comment on Overture 050“On Affirming the importance of Sustainable Development and the Precautionary Principle – From the Presbytery of Southern New England”

Comment:

The current PCUSA policy on sustainable development, “Hope for a Global Future” <http://www.pcusa.org/resource/hope-global-future-toward-just-and-sustainable-hum/> does not fully address the Precautionary Principle lifted up in this overture.

This overture also asks that the General Assembly commission a study to review this principle and prepare a paper for use by congregations. If the Assembly affirms this recommendation, it should be referred to the Advisory Committee on Social Witness Policy for implementation.

There would be financial implications for the commissioning of a study group and paper.

ITEM B.117
FOR ACTION

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

Subject: Comment to the 221st GA (2014) - Overture 22 Supporting Middle East Peacemaking – from the Presbytery of New Covenant

Recommendation:

That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board approve the following comment on Overture 22 Supporting Middle East Peacemaking – from the Presbytery of New Covenant

Comment:

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) has worked in close collaboration with ecumenical partners throughout the Middle East for nearly two centuries, listening attentively to their expression of their witness, lives, hopes and needs. This overture in its Rationale and Recommendations is at sharp variance with the lived experience of our ecumenical partners in Israel-Palestine. Whether they are Palestinian citizens of Israel suffering from discrimination in almost every aspect of their lives or Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza enduring a multi-decade military occupation and economic colonization, their reality reflects an enormous imbalance of power.

Strategies and programs seeking a just peace based on a two-state solution that fail to acknowledge and account for this reality on the ground will be ineffective if not counterproductive.

The Presbyterian Mission Agency has worked and is working to promote General Assembly policy affirming universal human rights and international humanitarian law applying the same ethical standards and moral principles to all nations. This involves public policy advocacy in international arenas such as the United Nations and domestically with the U.S. Government, economic development and humanitarian relief, and engagement with transnational corporations to conform their practices with respect for human rights, international law and economic and social justice.

ITEM B.118
FOR ACTION

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

Subject: **Comment to the 221st GA (2014) - Overture 14 Divestment from Caterpillar, Hewlett-Packard, and Motorola Solutions - from the Presbytery of San Francisco**

Comment to the 221st GA (2014) - Overture 61 on Adopting the Mission Responsibility Through Investment (MRTI) Recommendation on Divestment – from the Synod of the Covenant

Recommendation:

That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board approve the following comment on Overture 14 Divestment from Caterpillar, Hewlett-Packard, and Motorola Solutions - from the Presbytery of San Francisco and Overture 61 Adopting the Mission Responsibility Through Investment (MRTI) Recommendation on Divestment – from the Synod of the Covenant

Comment:

This overture supports the recommendation from the Presbyterian Mission Agency, approved at its February 2014 Board Meeting, calling for Caterpillar, Hewlett-Packard and Motorola Solutions to be added to the General Assembly’s list of companies whose stocks and bonds are proscribed from investment (commonly known as the General Assembly Divestment List.)

This recommendation is based upon the comprehensive report by the Committee on Mission Responsibility Through Investment (MRTI) <http://www.pcusa.org/resource/mrti-report-and-recommendations-israel-palestine-c/> on its multi-year engagement of corporations involved in non-peaceful pursuits in Israel and Palestine as defined by the General Assembly.

ITEM B.119
FOR ACTION

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

Subject: **Comment to the 221st GA (2014) - Overture 026 “Regarding a National Moratorium on the Imposition of the Death Penalty – From the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta”**

Recommendation:

That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board approve the following comment on Overture 026 “Regarding a National Moratorium on the Imposition of the Death Penalty – From the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta”

Comment:

The Presbyterian Church has opposed the death penalty by action of previous General Assemblies as outlined by this summary. <http://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/101/capital-punishment/>

The Office of Public Witness (OPW) continues efforts to eliminate the death penalty through active engagement in fair sentencing discussions within ecumenical and interfaith settings. The OPW is connecting to grassroots communities that are organizing around these issues as a majority of the efforts to eliminate the death penalty are taking place in local communities and at the state level.

This recommendations outlined in this overture affirm current policies and raise the visibility of this issue.

ITEM B.120
FOR ACTION

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

Subject: Comment to the 221st GA (2014) - Overture 30 Calling for a Boycott of All Hewlett-Packard Products – from the Presbytery of New Brunswick

Recommendation:

That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board approve the following comment on Overture 30 Calling for a Boycott of All Hewlett-Packard Products – from the Presbytery of New Brunswick

Comment:

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) has historically supported boycotts as a non-violent economic strategy to counter unjust practices and/or promote social change.

These efforts have included boycotting table grapes and fast food companies on behalf of farm workers, Nestle for selling infant formula in the developing world, and J.P. Stevens sheets and towels to support textile workers.

Most recently, the 220th General Assembly (2012) endorsed the consumer boycott of all Israeli products coming from the Occupied Palestinian Territories.

<http://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/mrti/boycott/>

ITEM B.121
FOR ACTION

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

Subject: **Comment to the 221st GA (2014) - Overture 068 “On Helping To Remedy the Tragic Conditions in the Democratic Republic of the Congo – From the Presbytery of Boston”**

Recommendation:

That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board approve the following comment on Overture 068 “On Helping To Remedy the Tragic Conditions in the Democratic Republic of the Congo – From the Presbytery of Boston”

Comment:

Overture 68 was drafted by the Advocacy Committee of the Congo Mission Network (a PCUSA Community of Mission Practice) with input from PCUSA partners in Congo: the Presbyterian Church of Congo, the Church of Christ in Congo and the Presbyterian Church of Kinshasa. These partners have asked PCUSA to advocate, on their behalf, for the US government to address the need in DR Congo for heightened respect of human rights and more effective governance. Our partners have specifically voiced concern for the need to address the issues of gender based violence, child soldiers, extractive industries and need for improved education. By passing this overture PCUSA would be giving voice to the concerns of our Congolese church partners and addressing the root causes of poverty which have caused this resource rich country to be at the very bottom of the Human Development Index.

