



General Assembly

Membership: General

16 December 2017

First session

Agenda item 1

Resolution adopted by the General Membership on 16 December 2017**1/01. National cooperation against Mass Incarceration in America**

The General Assembly,

Acknowledging Isaiah 61:1-2, by which GOD prophesizes the anointment of men to proclaim liberty to the captives, and open the prisons for those who are bound.

Welcoming United Nations resolution 68/237 Proclaiming 2014 – 2025 the International Decade for People of African Descent with a theme of recognition, justice, and development.

Conscious that 1 in every 15 African American men are currently incarcerated and 1 in every 3 black men can expect to go to prison in their lifetime.

Gravely concerned that 25,562¹ African American students were arrested and 50,100² were referred to law enforcement during the 2013-2014 school year³.

Recognizes the \$75 billion private prison industry has a powerful profit motive to establish legislation to criminalize adolescent in school behavior subjecting past, current and future students to the criminal justice system without adequate representation and advocacy.

Conscious federal law, if invoked, protects parents right to due process proceeding with school district to resolve disputes and acknowledges the rights to represented by lawyer and non-lawyer advocates during proceeding⁴.

Taking note of the community initiatives discussed, to reduce incarceration rates and improve public educations accountability to teaching our children, during the general memberships meetings on 12/09/2018 and 12/16/2018,

¹ Represents 34.8% of school related arrest.

² Represents 26.1% of law enforcement referrals.

³ https://ocrdata.ed.gov/StateNationalEstimations/Estimations_2013_14

⁴ Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) protects due process rights for 2 years

1. *Proclaims* the General Memberships intention to abate mass incarceration through the deployment of financial resources, community service hours, and on-staff advocacy services (legal and non-legal) to provide child advocacy services in the public education system; arraignment intervention for non-violent strict liability offences in the federal courts; and appellate review for extra-jurisdictional convictions.
2. *Request* the Trustee of the General Assembly to continue consultation with members of the General Assembly and other stakeholders, with a view to elaborating programs for the reduction of Mass Incarceration rates, with draft programs, financial plans, and action plans for child advocacy, arraignment intervention, and federal appellate review initiatives, to be finalized and adopted during the first session of the assembly and not later than 1 February 2018;
3. *Calls for* the allocation of predictable funding from the regular budget for the effective implementation of the program of action and activities under the Mass Incarceration.