

RES. 203/1/GC13/2523 (1980)

The Thirteenth General Conference,

Recognizing the increasing administrative expenses of the WFB Headquarters, recommends that the WFB Constitution, Rule 19 be amended to require that the entrance fee of U.S. \$50 to be paid by each new Regional Centre be increased immediately to US\$100.

RES. 204/2/GC13/2523 (1980)

The Thirteenth General Conference,

Taking cognizance of the fact that we have witnessed a great many people undergoing insurmountable hardship and suffering, and in order to keep abreast of the relief work, recommends that a Relief Service Office be set up within the WFB Headquarters (should the Hon. Treasurer of the WFB find it necessary) in order to serve efficiently for channelling all relief funds coming from the Regional Centres and their related organizations as well as from their individual members.

RES. 205/3/GC13/2523 (1980)

The Thirteenth General Conference,

Having taken into serious consideration the degenerating and deplorable conditions of some of the countries with majority of Buddhists and Buddhist minorities in Non-Buddhist countries, within the last decade,

Being convinced that collective peaceful but effective efforts of Buddhist organizations and individuals have not been adequately, appropriately and frequently explored for the purpose of promoting solidarity, goodwill and understanding among world Buddhists to solve the urgent common problems confronting them today,

Assuming that new ways and means can be found not only among the WFB Regional Centres, but also among all Buddhists in order to meet in concord, discuss their problems in concord, and disperse in concord as better Buddhists than they were when they met,

Realizing the urgent need for examining and understanding the main global problems confronting mankind today and the foreseeable future, directly affecting the very survival of the Buddhists as well as the non-Buddhists,

Resolves that early steps should be taken (a) to explore the possibilities of either convening a special World Buddhist Conference of Buddhist Leaders and Scholars by the WFB itself or (b) to get one or more of the governments of countries with a Buddhist majority like Sri Lanka to convene such a World Conference to examine the present condition of the World Buddhists and *plan for a future course of action*,

And also further resolves to appoint a competent factfinding goodwill mission to collect relevant information and if necessary to visit the country with the permission of the government of the country concerned and convene this conference as early as possible but definitely before the next General Conference in consultation with the Secretariat.

RES. 206/4/GC13/2523 (1980)

The Thirteenth General Conference,

Taking cognizance of the wanton destruction of works of Buddhist art, architecture, sculpture and painting and manuscripts scattered throughout the world,

Resolves to request the United Nations and UNESCO to appoint a Commission consisting of men of letters and archaeology including representatives of the WFB to examine the conditions of these monuments, in order to take preventive remedial measures to safeguard these treasures described by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization — UNESCO — as monuments to world heritage that belong to the entire world, and to elect a Committee from among the delegates to prepare the terms of reference of the said UN—UNESCO Commission.

RES. 207/5/GC13/2523 (1980)

The Thirteenth General Conference,

Recognizing that Buddhism is not only a legacy of the past ages but is a religion which is vitally alive in today's society, necessarily dealing with every problem solution, it is taken for granted that Buddhists follow the normative principles such as expressed in *panchasilā*, which Sakyamuni Buddha exemplified and which innumerable Buddhist leaders have followed. Nevertheless the way of interpreting and applying those normative principles has been varied. For instance, in the history of Buddhism in Japan, they have been enacted on situational basis though this was done through logical and concrete assessment of situations at hand. We must say, however, that this is not enough today, because in the present day world, problems one society faces are no longer confined to the society itself but have increasingly been assuming similar nature in interaction with those of other Buddhist societies. Accordingly, we believe that it is of utmost importance for the leaders of International Buddhist Communities to define the way of interpreting and applying of normative principles, so that concerted action becomes possible,

Resolves that by the time of the next Conference, all WFB centers should furnish and publish their views and attitudes toward such problems as mentioned below :

miracles, superstition, heterodoxy, confronting other religions, women's status, nihilism, the danger of war, poverty, science, economics, racism, diminishing natural resources, suicide, euthanasia, modern technology, population growth and racial discrimination, etc.

that relate to the welfare and happiness of sentient beings.

RES. 208/6/GC13/2523 (1980)

The Thirteenth General Conference,

Having deliberated on the various needs of different countries and noting their diversity in nature and taking into consideration resolutions of a similar nature already made, and being convinced that the most urgent need of the hour is the spread and practice of the Buddha Dhamma among nations,

Resolves that extensive and wide-spread national and international activities in respect of Dhammaduta work such as the publication of pamphlets, general books, and text books on Buddhism through mass media, especially among the socially neglected and economically backward areas; conducting of both oral and correspondence courses and work connected therewith; the establishment of appropriate centres of Buddhist worship and learning such as Sunday schools and meditation centres, training institutes especially in areas where they are most urgently in need; and the creation of a fund to meet expenses in connection with such Dhamma-duta activities, such fund to be established through the active participation of the regional centres.

RES. 209/7/GC13/2523 (1980)

The thirteenth General Conference,

Noting that the innocent Buddhists of Kampuchea, a traditional Buddhist country, have been denied their fundamental human rights of holding their own views and norms of action and also peaceful living in the country of their birth as Buddhists due to ideological conflicts and ensuing warfares;

Therefore resolves that appeal be made to the world communities or their organizations, such as the United Nations, to ensure the rights of the Kampuchea refugees so as to be able to return to their mother country and live in peace adhering to their own religio-cultural and socio-economic views and norms of action.

RES. 210/8/GC13/2523 (1980)

The Thirteenth General Conference,

Noting that it is essential for the Refugee Relief Service to help men regain self-reliance and yet it is crucial to this goal that those children who have lost their parents due to unfortunate wars and natural calamities be able to secure healthy growth and necessary education, and also noting that our Buddhist activity is far from satisfactory achievement;

Therefore resolves that sponsorship or foster-parenthood be promoted among Buddhists to extend their financial aid for the sake of those needy children, and also that for this purpose, the WFB Headquarters be requested to implement necessary steps through proper guidelines.

RES. 211/9/GC13/2523 (1980)

The Thirteenth General Conference:

Having noted with apprehension diversity among the member countries regarding the Buddhist calendar and, in particular, the date of Wesak,

Resolves to request the Ad-hoc committee appointed to deal with that matter to study the situation once again, and to arrive at a universal agreement for the Buddhist Era and date for Wesak, taking into account the traditions prevailing in the various countries.

RES. 212/10/GC13/2523 (1980)

The Thirteenth General Conference,

Desiring to eliminate war, reduce conflict, and further the cause of world peace,

- (1) Resolves to urge the Regional Centres to improve their working contacts with, and participation in, the deliberations of peace-loving religious and non-religious bodies;
- (2) It further urges them to undertake exchanges of cultural groups among themselves, with prior information to Headquarters. Expenses are to be borne by the receiving country;
- (3) It also requests Regional Centres in countries where monks are plentiful to dispatch some monks to those countries where there is a severe shortage of Sangha to act as teachers to the local Buddhist Communities.