



Resolution

INTERNATIONAL PERSECUTION OF CHRISTIANS

- WHEREAS** there is a persistent and widespread international persecution of Christians not only in Northern Africa and the Middle East, but elsewhere in the world; and
- WHEREAS** previously the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom had recommended that the President should designate Iraq a “country of particular concern” under the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 because of the ongoing and severe abuses of religious freedom in Iraq, particularly against Christians; recently, in Afghanistan, Said Musa, a former Muslim who had converted to Christianity was arrested, imprisoned, and threatened with a death sentence for his expression of Christian faith; and Shoaib Assadullah, an Afghan Christian who was arrested for giving a Bible to a man who later reported him to authorities, remains behind bars, fearing the death penalty; and
- WHEREAS** this threat has become so apparent that other governmental bodies have decried acts of violence and discrimination committed against Christians; when the Joint Committee of the Conference of European Churches and of the Council of Bishops’ Conferences of Europe recently called upon the European Union to advocate more vigorously on behalf of persecuted Christians, the foreign ministers of the European Union this month responded by releasing a statement condemning the global persecution of Christians; and
- WHEREAS** The current Obama Administration has not focused in its public statements or policies on this obvious problem of international persecution of Christians, and without a strong position from the United States, Christians will find themselves in ever increasing peril, particularly in Northern African and Middle Eastern nations that are experiencing instability, civil unrest, and ill-defined political futures; therefore be it
- RESOLVED** National Religious Broadcasters calls upon President Barack Obama to make a bold public statement against the international persecution of Christians, and to further enforce that position through his choice of Executive Branch appointments and through his foreign policy decisions.