



Dignity, Human Security and Economic Stability of People in the Middle East

Name of the National Association proposing the motion: YWCA OF PALESTINE and YWCA of the USA

Text of the motion

"Recognizing that the escalating military aggression and intensified acts of violence in the Middle East are adversely affecting the Arab and Israeli peoples, especially women and children, we all upon the world YWCA and all national associations to support the empowerment of women in the Middle east region by contributing to the development of programs that enhance the dignity and security of women, promote their rights, as well as promise sustainable future for their children. We also call for the implementation of the Security Council Resolution 1325".

Supporting evidence of the motion

"War, escalating military aggression, intensified acts of violence and the continued Israeli Occupation of Palestine, Lebanon and the Syrian Golan Heights since 1948 and its effects on the Israeli and Arab peoples, are leading to further territorial fragmentation and displacement and are having detrimental effects on women and children. As a result, the physical survival of women, their basic rights and needs, and their mere existence with dignity and self respect are greatly threatened. Women are becoming increasingly marginalized and poor: they continue to suffer all kinds of physical aggression, rape, and murder by external military forces in the region, imprisonment, loss of jobs, or they are unable to access employment. Moreover, due to mobility restrictions and the continued imposition of military checkpoints, the number of women headed households in the region will continue to grow. Children are left to suffer the psychological and traumatic effects as victims of terror".

What are the financial implications for the local YWCAs, national YWCAs and the World YWCA?

The YWCAs are already bound by their constitutions and declared missions to support women and children and work towards sustainable Peace. The YWCA's are called upon to support initiatives and programs in their countries as well as local initiatives and programs in the region that contribute to the promotion of equitable education, health and social services as well as social justice, peace education and peace.

Three practical steps of action that need to be undertaken by local YWCAs, national YWCAs and the World YWCA for implementation of the recommendation

1. The World YWCA and National YWCA's around the World are urged to call for the end of all military aggressions and occupations of Palestine, Lebanon, and Iraq and urge their respective governments and UN Agencies to call on all parties to promote Peace with Justice.
2. The World YWCA and National YWCA's around the World are called upon to continue to educate and raise awareness regarding the root causes of the conflict in the Middle East, violations of human rights in the region, and support all previous Middle East Resolutions from 1967 to 2003, including support to the Olive Tree Campaign
3. Demonstrate your support to the Middle East region by supporting skill training, social and psychological counseling and professional/career development for women, as well as educational, social and psychological support to children who are victims of the continued escalation of military aggression in their countries as well as the Middle East Region.