

I MINA'BENTE NUEBI NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2008 (SECOND) Regular Session

Executive Committee
Resolution No. 159

Introduced by:

David L.G. Shimizu

Tina Rose Muña Barnes

J. T. Won Pat

Frank F. Blas, Jr.

Edward J.B. Calvo

B. J.F. Cruz

James V. Espaldon

Mark Forbes

Judith Paulette Guthertz

Frank T. Ishizaki

J. A. Lujan

A. B. Palacios, Sr.

v. c. pangelinan

R. J. Respicio

Ray Tenorio

Relative to commending and congratulating the World-Wide Members of Soka Gakkai International (Sgi) on their tireless efforts and dedication in promoting World Peace and congratulates SGI-USA, Guam on the thirty-third (33rd) Anniversary of the founding of SGI.

1 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF I**
2 ***MINA'BENTE NUEBI NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN:***

3 **WHEREAS, thirty three (33) years ago, on January 26, 1975, one**
4 **hundred fifty eight (158) delegates from fifty one (51) countries met on Guam**

1 for the first World Peace Conference at which Soka Gakkai International was
2 Inaugurated; and

3 **WHEREAS**, Guam was selected as the venue to conduct the first World
4 Peace Conference, given that the *Chamorro* people suffered so terribly from the
5 ravages of war; and

6 **WHEREAS**, from this auspicious occasion, the delegates founded Soka
7 Gakkai International (SGI), thus began the worldwide grassroots activities of
8 peace, education and culture, based on the humanistic outlook of Nichiren
9 Buddhism; and

10 **WHEREAS**, today, SGI is a worldwide network with eighty two (82)
11 constituent organizations and more than twelve million (12,000,000) members
12 in one hundred ninety (190) countries and territories, sharing a common
13 vision of global peace and prosperity and for twenty-eight (28) years has been
14 accredited as a Non-governmental Organization (NGO) by the United Nations
15 (UN); and

16 **WHEREAS**, as a NGO of the UN, SGI has worked tirelessly with other
17 UN entities in promoting harmony and coexistence between nations,
18 disarmament, human rights and humanitarian relief; and

19 **WHEREAS**, throughout the 1980's and 1990's, Dr. Ikeda's peace
20 proposals addressed such themes as the power of dialogue; the adoption of a
21 Universal Declaration Renouncing War; and the need for mutual respect in
22 cultural exchange, and he cited the important role of the United Nations in
23 maintaining global security, while challenging it to become more
24 representative of the people and not just nation states; and

1 **WHEREAS**, Dr. Ikeda, who has attained the status of a world-renowned
2 Buddhist scholar and peace activist, has made it his personal mission to
3 engage in more than one thousand five hundred (1,500) dialogues for peace
4 with such noted world leaders as Dr. Arnold Toynbee; Nobel Laureate and
5 former President of South Africa Nelson Mandela; former U.S. Secretary of
6 State Henry Kissinger; former Soviet Union President Mikhail Gorbachev;
7 Civil Rights Leader Rosa Parks; and Dr. Elise Boulding; and

8 **WHEREAS**, Dr. Ikeda, the recipient of two hundred-eleven (211)
9 Honorary Doctorates since May of 2007 and a recipient of the UN Peace
10 Awards has used the principles of Nichiren Buddhism throughout his own
11 life and in his role as President of SGI where he acts to support the
12 membership in a number of ways, including providing support and
13 encouragement through his writings and lectures, by striving to promote a
14 dialogue on Nichiren Buddhist principles as they apply to today's global
15 challenges, and as such, Dr. Ikeda is viewed as a great role model by millions
16 of people around the world on how to apply this practice in their own lives,
17 and is often referred to by some members as their "Mentor in Life"; and

18 **WHEREAS**, Dr. Ikeda has encouraged the members of SGI to devote
19 their lives to planting seeds of peace throughout the world, rather than
20 seeking to bring the flowers of their own lives to bloom; and

21 **WHEREAS**, the members of the SGI resolve to contribute to the
22 prosperity of their respective societies and countries, while respecting
23 individual cultures, customs and laws; and

24 **WHEREAS**, Dr. Daisaku Ikeda and Mrs. Kaneko Ikeda have received
25 worldwide recognition for fulfilling the dreams of Mr. Tsunesaburo

1 Makiguchi and Mr. Josei Toda, with the establishment of the Soka Education
2 System, which includes elementary to University-Level Institutions in Japan,
3 and Soka University of America located in Aliso Viejo, California, the
4 establishment of the Min-On Concert Association, and the creation of the
5 Tokyo Fuji Art Museum; and

6 **WHEREAS**, the members of SGI-USA, Guam have pursued activities to
7 advance the cause of peace in dedication to the commitment by Dr. Ikeda
8 including the donations of numerous books to the Nieves M. Flores Memorial
9 Library, the University of Guam Tan Siu Lin Library, and the Guam
10 Community College Library; and

11 **WHEREAS**, on January 2000, SGI-USA, Guam commemorated the
12 twenty-fifth (25th) Anniversary of the founding of SGI, by co-sponsoring with
13 the University of Guam, Soka University of America and SGI-USA the first
14 Pacific Islands New Millennium Peace Conference; and

15 **WHEREAS**, the conference brought together heads of states and high
16 chiefs from many of the Pacific Islands to share their memories of the Pacific
17 War and resolve to never again allow such violence; and

18 **WHEREAS**, on January 2005, SGI-USA, Guam commemorated the
19 thirtieth (30th) Anniversary of the founding of SGI, by hosting numerous
20 commemorative events in the name of peace, including the opening of two (2)
21 traveling exhibitions, "Building a Culture of Peace for the Children of the
22 World" and Morehouse College's "Gandhi, King, Ikeda: A Legacy of Building
23 Peace" which was co-sponsored by the Guam Martin Luther King Jr. Human
24 Rights Commission, these traveling exhibits were displayed at the Main

1 Conference Room of the Governor of Guam, the University of Guam and the
2 Guam Community College; and

3 **WHEREAS**, SGI-USA, Guam hosted the Second Pacific Islands New
4 Millennium Peace Conference for educators focusing on “Humanistic
5 Education: Fostering a Culture of Peace” and sponsored a cultural festival
6 celebrating the diverse culture of mankind which was attended by state
7 education leaders and philosophical and religious leaders; and

8 **WHEREAS**, on January 13, 2007, SGI-USA, on its thirty-two (32)
9 Anniversary of the founding of SGI, Guam, another milestone was realized
10 with the Grand Opening of its new Activity Center, something that the
11 members of SGI-USA, Guam have been working hard for years in order to
12 accommodate their Buddhist activities; and

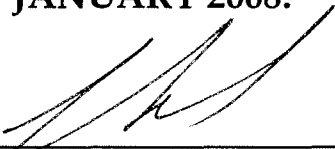
13 **WHEREAS**, on January 26, 2008, SGI-USA, Guam will celebrate another
14 landmark occasion with the celebration of the thirty-third (33rd) Anniversary
15 of the Inauguration of SGI; and

16 **WHEREAS**, Dr. Daisaku Ikeda and Mrs. Kaneko Ikeda have dedicated
17 more than sixty (60) years of their lives to the promotion of peace, culture, and
18 education through their committed efforts as leaders of SGI and continues to
19 serve as inspiring examples of how one person’s committed efforts can
20 transform the lives of millions of people around the world including those of
21 us here on Guam; now, therefore, be it

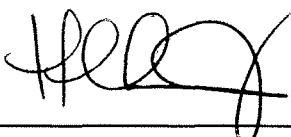
22 **RESOLVED**, that the Executive Committee of *I Mina’Bente Nuebi Na*
23 *Lihselaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of *I Lihselaturan Guåhan* and the
24 people of Guam, recognize and commend the world-wide members of SGI on

1 it's tireless efforts and dedication in promoting world peace, which is ever
2 more relevant in this era of terror and war, and congratulates SGI-USA, Guam
3 on the thirty-third (33rd) Anniversary of the founding of SGI; and be it further
4 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairman of the Executive
5 Committee certify, and the Secretary of the Legislature attest to, the adoption
6 hereof and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to President
7 Daisaku Ikeda of Soka Gakkai International (SGI); to Mrs. Kaneko Ikeda; to
8 SGI-USA; to SGI-USA, Guam; and to the Honorable Felix P. Camacho, *I*
9 *Maga'lahaen Guåhan.*

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF I MINA'BENTE NUEBI NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 11TH
DAY OF JANUARY 2008.**



EDWARD J.B. CALVO
Acting Speaker and
Chairman, Executive Committee



FRANK F. BLAS, JR.
Senator and Acting
Secretary of the Legislature