



**I MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN  
2009 (FIRST) Regular Session**

**Resolution No.** 1 (LS)

Introduced by:

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2009 JAN -5 AM 10:48

**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  
CONGRATULATING THE MEMBERS OF SGI-USA, GUAM  
ON THE 34<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF SGI**

1 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF I**

2 ***MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN:***

3 **WHEREAS**, in response to the needs of an increasingly global  
4 community of Soka Gakkai members, the Soka Gakkai International (SGI) was  
5 formed in Guam on January 26, 1975, and on the same day thirty-four (34)  
6 years ago, one hundred fifty-eight (158) delegates from fifty-one (51) countries  
7 met for the first World Peace Conference, nominating Dr. Daisaku Ikeda, then  
8 president of Soka Gakkai, to head the new Soka Gakkai International; and

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

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

5           **WHEREAS**, today SGI is a worldwide network with eighty-two (82)  
6 constituent organizations and more than twelve million (12,000,000) members  
7 in one hundred ninety-two (192) countries and territories, sharing a common  
8 vision of global peace and prosperity and for twenty-nine (29) years has been  
9 accredited as a Non-governmental Organization (NGO) by the United Nations  
10 (UN); and

11           **WHEREAS**, as a NGO of the United Nations, SGI has worked tirelessly  
12 with other UN entities in promoting harmony and coexistence between  
13 nations in the fields of humanitarian relief and public education, with a focus  
14 on peace, environmental protection and human rights; and

15           **WHEREAS**, throughout the 1980s and 1990s, Dr. Ikeda' s peace  
16 proposals addressed such themes as the power of dialogue, the adoption of a  
17 Universal Declaration Renouncing War, and the need for mutual respect in  
18 cultural exchange; and he further cited the important role of the United  
19 Nations in maintaining global security, while challenging it to become more  
20 representative of the people and rather than just nation states; and

21           **WHEREAS**, Dr. Ikeda, who has attained the status of a world-  
22 renowned Buddhist scholar and peace activist, has made it his personal  
23 mission to engage in more than one thousand, five hundred (1,500) dialogues  
24 for peace with noted world leaders such as Dr. Arnold Toynbee; Nobel

1 Laureate and former President of South Africa Nelson Mandela; former U.S.  
2 Secretary of State Henry Kissinger; former Soviet Union President Mikhail  
3 Gorbachev; civil rights leader Rosa Parks; and Dr. Elise Boulding; and

4         **WHEREAS**, for his humanitarian endeavors in a range of fields, Dr.  
5 Ikeda has been a recipient of numerous honorary doctorates and awards  
6 including the United Nation Peace Award, the Rosa Parks Humanitarian  
7 Award, National Order of the Southern Cross of the Republic of Brazil, the  
8 United States Congressional Award, the Honorary Cross of Science and the  
9 Arts from the Austrian Ministry of Education, Medal of the Grand Officer of  
10 Arts and Letters from the French Ministry of Culture, the Grand Officer  
11 award from the President of the Italian Republic and the World Poet  
12 Laureateship from the World Poetry Society, the Order of Friendship from  
13 Russia, and the Honorary Doctorate from the University of Guam; and

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

17         **WHEREAS**, the members of the SGI resolve to contribute to the  
18 prosperity of their respective societies and countries, while respecting  
19 individual cultures, customs and laws; and

20         **WHEREAS**, Dr. Daisaku Ikeda and Mrs. Kaneko Ikeda have received  
21 worldwide recognition for fulfilling the dreams of Mr. Tsunesaburo  
22 Makiguchi and Mr. Josei Toda, with the establishment of the Soka Education  
23 system, which includes elementary to university-level institutions in Japan,

1 and Soka University of America located in Aliso Viejo, California, the  
2 establishment of the Min-On Concert Association, and the creation of the  
3 Tokyo Fuji Art Museum; and

4         **WHEREAS**, the members of SGI-USA, Guam have pursued activities to  
5 advance the cause of peace in dedication to the commitment by Dr. Ikeda; and

6         **WHEREAS**, on January 2000, SGI-USA, Guam commemorated the 25<sup>th</sup>  
7 anniversary of the founding of SGI, by co-sponsoring with the University of  
8 Guam, Soka University of America and SGI-USA the first Pacific Islands New  
9 Millennium Peace Conference; and

10         **WHEREAS**, the conference brought together government leaders and  
11 high chiefs from many of the Pacific Islands to share their memories of the  
12 Pacific War and resolve to never again allow such violence; and

13         **WHEREAS**, on January 2005, SGI-USA, Guam commemorated the 30<sup>th</sup>  
14 anniversary of the founding of SGI, by hosting numerous commemorative  
15 events in the name of peace, including the opening of two (2) traveling  
16 exhibitions, "Building a Culture of Peace for the Children of the World" and  
17 Morehouse College's "Gandhi, King, Ikeda: A Legacy of Building Peace";  
18 these traveling exhibits were displayed at the office of the Governor of Guam,  
19 the University of Guam and the Guam Community College; and

20         **WHEREAS**, SGI-USA, Guam hosted the Second Pacific Islands New  
21 Millennium Peace Conference for educators focusing on "Humanistic  
22 Education: Fostering a Culture of Peace" and sponsored a cultural festival  
23 celebrating the diverse culture of mankind; and

1           **WHEREAS**, on January 2007, SGI-USA, on its 32<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the  
2 founding of SGI-USA, Guam, another milestone was realized with the grand  
3 opening of its new Activity Center, an occasion that members of SGI-USA,  
4 Guam have been working hard for years in order to accommodate their  
5 members and Buddhist activities; and

6           **WHEREAS**, on January 26, 2009, SGI-USA, Guam will commemorate its  
7 34<sup>th</sup> anniversary by advancing the initiative that it is possible to transform the  
8 culture of violence into a culture of a peace; and

9           **WHEREAS**, during its 34<sup>th</sup> anniversary, SGI-USA, Guam will be hosting  
10 various events throughout Guam, including an exhibit at the Agana Shopping  
11 Center offering a variety of speakers and performing artists promoting the  
12 theme “From a Culture of Violence to a Culture of Peace: Transforming the  
13 Human Spirit”; and

14           **WHEREAS**, SGI-USA, Guam believes that the creation of lasting peace  
15 and the elimination of violence, rather than the promotion of high level social  
16 reform, ultimately lies upon the ability of each individual in earth to  
17 inherently embrace the spirit of peace their hearts; and

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

1 us here on Guam; now, therefore, be it

2 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina' Trenta Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on  
3 behalf of the people of Guam, recognize and commend the world-wide  
4 members of SGI on it's tireless efforts and dedication in promoting world  
5 peace, which is ever more relevant in the age of terror and war, and  
6 congratulates SGI-USA, Guam on the 34<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of SGI;  
7 and be it further

8 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairman of the Rules Committee  
9 certify, and the Secretary of the Legislature attest to, the adoption hereof and  
10 that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to President Daisaku and  
11 Mrs. Kaneko Ikeda of Soka Gakkai International (SGI);to Danny Nagosheiro,  
12 General Director; to SGI-USA; to SGI-USA, Guam, and to the Honorable Felix  
13 P. Camacho, *I Maga'lahaen Guåhan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA' TRENTA NA  
LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE \_\_\_\_ DAY OF JANUARY 2009.**

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Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.  
Speaker

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Tina Rose Muna Barnes  
Senator and  
Secretary of the Legislature