



## **Procedures for Resolutions to the 15<sup>th</sup> All American Council November 10 - 13, 2008**

In order to encourage wider discussion of issues facing our Church, the Preconciliar Commission is expanding provisions for submission and discussion of resolutions and proposed amendments to OCA Statute. Parishes and other church bodies (deaneries, dioceses, stavropegial institutions) may submit proposed resolutions in advance of the council to a newly-established Resolutions Committee.

- The Resolutions Committee will review each submission. If necessary it will discuss possible editorial changes with the submitting body.
- If substantially identical resolutions are submitted, the Committee will consolidate them into a single resolution, again after consultation with the submitting bodies.
- If, in the estimation of the Committee, a proposed resolution clearly lies outside the competence of the All-American Council, whether on canonical grounds or OCA Statute grounds, the Committee will inform the submitting body of this. In case of doubt, a proposed resolution will be submitted to the Holy Synod to determine whether it can be brought before the All American Council.
- If a proposed resolution is determined to lie outside the competence of the All American Council, the Committee, in consultation with the Holy Synod and the proposing body, will consider alternative ways of bringing issues underlying the proposed resolution to the attention of the All American Council.
- As soon as possible after receipt and review of a proposed resolution, the Committee will post it on the OCA website. Feedback mechanisms will be provided in both electronic and paper form.
- After review of submissions, the Resolutions Committee will turn over proposed resolutions to the Preconciliar Commission for inclusion on the All American Council agenda. Deliberation on proposed resolutions will take place in plenary sessions throughout the course of the council.
- Resolutions from parishes normally shall bear the signatures of the parish priest and the president of the parish council; those from deaneries, of the dean and other priests of the deanery; those from dioceses, of the bishop and the diocesan chancellor; those from stavropegial institutions, of the abbot, dean or rector and at least one other member of the institution in question.

- As in past All American Councils, resolutions may also be proposed in the course of the council itself. Details concerning procedures for submission of such proposals will be posted at a later time.

- Procedures for amendment of the OCA Statute differ from procedures for All American Council resolutions in many ways. Procedures for Statute amendment are set forth in the OCA Statute Article XIII sections 1-2. Here are the sections relating to Statute amendment. The complete Statute is available on the OCA website

. **Article XIII** - Amendments

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**Section 1** This Statute may be amended by an All-American Church Council. Proposed amendments must be submitted to the Church 90 days prior to an All-American Council. The parishes must have all proposed amendments to be acted upon by the All-American Church Council in their possession 60 days prior to the Council.

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**Section 2** A final draft of all proposed amendments from the parishes shall be mailed, together with recommendations of the parishes and the Statute Commission, 60 days prior to the All- American Council.

- Proposed amendments to the Statute must be sent to the OCA Chancery to the attention of the Commission on Canons and Statutes by **August 15, 2008**. Copies of proposed Statute amendments will be sent to the Commission Chair and to the respective hierarch under whose jurisdiction the submitting parish or church body falls.

- Proposed resolutions from parishes and other church bodies must be submitted to the Resolutions Committee by **September 15, 2008**. Copies of proposed resolutions will be sent to the Resolutions Committee and to the respective hierarch under whose jurisdiction the submitting parish or church body falls.

July 15, 2008