

United Nations Resolution on “Departments and Ministries of Peace” Project  
Revised May 23, 2007

**TASK: Obtain a Resolution in the General Assembly encouraging departments / ministries of peace within member states to assist the United Nations in fulfilling its mandate of cultivating a culture of peace.**

**BACKGROUND:** The idea of developing “departments or ministries” of peace (M/DOP) within governmental structures is a rapidly growing worldwide movement. It seeks to create the missing infrastructure at all levels of human existence necessary to promote a culture of peace. A global coalition of grassroots people from civil society, governments and organizations in countries around the world have come together at two world summits so far to support the concept of ministries and departments of peace. Known as the Global Alliance for Ministries and Departments of Peace ([www.mfp-dop.org](http://www.mfp-dop.org)) it consists of representatives from more than 23 countries. The Solomon Islands, the Philippines and Nepal actually already have existing departments of peace within their governments!

Concurrently, a committed coalition of non-governmental organizations (NGO’s) from various peace groups working at the New York headquarters of the United Nations have converged with the desire to enhance both the United Nations mandate and the Global Alliance for Ministries and Departments of Peace movement by connecting them together. This enthusiastic coalition has emerged from the mutual efforts of the Peace Caucus, with the “Culture of Peace” and “Ethics” Working Groups of the NGO Committee on Spirituality, Values and Global Concerns. Seeking to obtain a General Assembly Resolution encouraging departments / ministries of peace within member states was determined to be the most prudent concerted action to pursue towards this end.

**STRATEGY:** The task may be accomplished through small groups of well-informed NGO’s approaching United Nations Missions, personally connecting with them to develop rapport and begin dialogue about M/DOP. The pilot project will focus first on those 3 countries identified as having departments of peace. Letters and phone calls will be made to these missions requesting appointments. Meeting purpose will be to learn how much is known about M/DOP, as well as to educate on the movement and ask assistance in promoting the concept to other countries. Ultimately the goal is to get at least two Ambassadors willing to present M/DOP Resolution to the General Assembly.

**PREPARATION:** To provide a consistent structure to the dialogues, a comprehensive guide of possible issues and questions will be formulated. NGO’s should be conversant on specific aspects of departments / ministries of peace. Training will be arranged and it is suggested U.S. Bill HR-808 be read, as well as the Peace Alliance and Global Alliance websites ([www.thepeacealliance.org](http://www.thepeacealliance.org)) and ([www.mfp-dop.org](http://www.mfp-dop.org)). US delegate of Global Alliance who is UN liaison will coordinate with Global Alliance respective country representatives prior to visits. US delegates of the Global Alliance who are part of the New York DOP campaign will further enhance the project by their involvement as well.

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## **Suggested Sample UN “Department and Ministry of Peace” Resolution**

Whereas “We the People” of our planet have a sacred right to live in peace, as stated in General Assembly Resolution 39/11.

Bearing in mind all the many (83+) United Nations documents already written about creating a Culture of Peace (see <http://www.un-documents.net/k-000304.htm>) since June, 1945, particularly the Charter of the UN and its dedication to saving succeeding generations from the scourge of war which has brought untold sorrows to mankind and its wish for nations to live together in peace as good neighbors and to unite our strength to maintain international peace and security.

Whereas we are more than midway into the International Decade of the Culture of Peace for the Children of the World (2000 to 2010) as decreed by United Nations Resolution, yet violence seems to be an overarching escalating theme in the world. We can no longer afford the terrible costs of violence on all levels of society which threatens the very existence of the planet.

Whereas the concept of peace is a universal human value, yet we are still constantly challenged to govern ourselves in a culture of peace. Conflict is often taken as a reflection of the human condition without questioning whether the structures of thought, word and deed which we have inherited are any longer sufficient for the survival of the world.

Whereas a culture of peace may happen only when humanity has created the “right setting” and made it possible for a still more wonderful expression of rightness and divinity to manifest. Departments and ministries of peace can thus foster that “right setting” by providing the missing infrastructure, thereby making nonviolent alternatives to conflicts more possible at all levels.

Whereas departments and ministries of peace are practical, sensible pieces of legislation to make us safer ... holding the concepts of peace and nonviolence as primary organizational principles in society -- both domestically and globally; direct government policy toward non-violent resolution of conflict and seek peace by peaceful means in all conflict areas; act as a resource for the creation, gathering and coordination of best practices; educate to teach violence prevention, conflict resolution to all and support the military with complementary alternatives, strengthening non-military means of peacemaking and peace-building.

**Therefore, let it be resolved that the United Nations General Assembly encourages within Member States the creation and development of Departments and Ministries of Peace globally at all levels of governmental structure to augment, support and coordinate the work of the United Nations in fostering a culture of peace and non-violence.**

