

**Orthodox Church in America
16th All-American Council Resolution**

**Subject of Resolution: Central Church Administration Assessments
(Fair Share) Reduction**

**Submitted To: Preconciliar Commission Resolutions Committee
His Grace, Bishop Melchisedek, Chair
Archpriest John H. Erickson, Vice-Chair
Priest Victor Gorodenchuk
Gregory Nescott, Esq.
Dr. David Wagschal**

**Submitted By: New York State Deanery
Diocese of New York and New Jersey
Orthodox Church in America**

WHEREAS we affirm and support the vision of His Beatitude, Metropolitan Jonah, clearly articulated at the 15th All-American Council upon his election as Primate of the Orthodox Church in America, regarding the absolute necessity of strengthening the dioceses and parishes of the Church and decentralizing efforts of evangelization and Christian outreach;

WHEREAS we affirm and support the vision articulated and blessed by the Holy Synod of Bishops of the Orthodox Church in America in the Draft Strategic Plan of the Orthodox Church in America (Version 5.7) on strengthening and growing the dioceses and parishes of the Church, where “in the celebration of the Eucharist we become the Body of Christ and are equipped with all that is necessary to work out our own personal salvation, in and through Christ, and to bring this salvation to the world” (page 7);

WHEREAS the Central Church Administration [CCA] reports an operating surplus of over \$450,000.00 for the year 2010;

WHEREAS during the year 2010 the CCA expended 90% of revenues from fair share assessments contributed by the participating dioceses toward administrative and operating expenses of which 51% was expended in the form of salary and benefits for Executive, Administrative, Support and Department

Offices, while for the same time period reporting expenditures of 2% for charity, missions, Church growth, and seminaries (combined), and 3% for evangelization, Christian education, Christian service, youth/young adult ministries, pastoral life, vocations, liturgical music/translations, and chaplaincies (combined);

WHEREAS the vital and fundamental witness, ministries, and life of the Church are manifested most directly and dynamically in local parish communities sustained, nurtured, and empowered within a diocese;

WHEREAS the good-estate and building up of the Church is most directly affected by the allocation of limited resources at the parish and diocesan level;

WHEREAS the CCA fair share assessments levied upon the participating dioceses and, thereby, the diocesan parishes constitute a financial hardship in distressed economic circumstances and hinder the ability of a diocese to properly attend to strengthening parishes, establishing parishes, and all other financial needs and requirements toward fulfilling the vision and mission of the Church;

WHEREAS the Statute of the Orthodox Church in America gives to the All-American Councils the authority to set the rate of assessments to fund the Central Church Administration (CCA);

BE IT RESOLVED that the 16th All-American Council fix the CCA fair share assessment for each of the participating dioceses at an amount of \$50.00 per capita of the census of the participating dioceses, as determined each preceding year (2011, 2012, 2013) for the next triennium (2012, 2013, 2014);

And

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Metropolitan Council shall develop and prepare its budgets for the next triennium (2012-2014) at a level which is equal to no more than \$50.00 per capita of the applicable census of the participating dioceses.