



## UNITED RELIGIONS INITIATIVE

### *Proclamation*

*W*HEREAS, we, people of diverse religions, spiritual expressions and indigenous traditions throughout the world, established the UNITED RELIGIONS INITIATIVE (URI) to promote enduring, daily Interfaith cooperation, to end religiously motivated violence and to create cultures of peace, justice and healing for the Earth and all living beings; and

*W*HEREAS, we are living in a world of nations whose interdependence makes unity and respect for diversity a priority for the survival and advancement of our civilization; and

*W*HEREAS, the issue of peace embraces the deepest hopes of all peoples and remains humanity's guiding inspiration; and

*W*HEREAS, in 1981 the United Nations proclaimed that the International Day of Peace would be "devoted to commemorating and strengthening the ideals of peace both within and among all nations and peoples"; and

*W*HEREAS, the United Nations expanded the observance of the International Day of Peace in 2001 to include the call for a day of global ceasefire and non-violence, and invited all nations and people to honor a cessation of hostilities for the duration of the Day; and

*W*HEREAS, there is growing support among members of our organization throughout the world for the observance of the International Day of Peace, which affirms a vision of a healthy world at peace, and fosters cooperation among individuals, organizations and nations; and

*W*HEREAS, URI is committed to join hands with the United Nations and people around the world in pledging its commitment to peace and interfaith harmony, to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and to justice and healing for the earth and all living beings, on this day and always; and

**W**HEREAS, global crises impel all citizens to work toward converting humanity's noblest aspirations for world peace into a practical reality for future generations,

**T**HEREFORE, in active demonstration of understanding, unity, cooperation and peace, we, members of the UNITED RELIGIONS INITIATIVE throughout the world, do hereby join the United Nations to proclaim September 21, as

***"The International Day of Peace".***

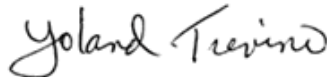
Throughout the world where we have URI members, we urge all our members to encourage all citizens of this world to work together to create peace, justice and healing for the Earth and for all living beings.

**MAY PEACE PREVAIL ON EARTH!**

Signed this 20 day of June 2006, on behalf of the Global Council of URI:



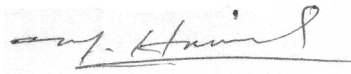
Rt. Rev. William E. Swing, President



Yolanda Trevino, Chair



Rev. Cn. Charles Gibbs, Executive Director



Mussie Hailu, Vice Chair