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## National Black Nurses Association Announces Commitment to World Health Resolution

SILVER SPRING, MD, August 1, 2017, The National Black Nurses Association announces the passage of its resolution "Global Health: NBNA's Commitment to World Health" at the Opening Ceremony of its 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Institute and Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada. "The NBNA Ad Hoc Committee on Global Health developed the resolution to respond to the historic UN Summit of 2015 on the 17 Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,", stated Dr. Eric J. Williams, NBNA President. "This resolution brings the topics of global health and social justice to the forefront of the NBNA agenda. It provides our members and the nursing community with specific actions to protect and promote well-being throughout the world."

NBNA has supported the FSIL School of Nursing in Haiti and helped to sponsor missions by NBNA members to Haiti and the Benin Republic.

## NBNA Resolution Title: Global Health: NBNA'S Commitment to World Health

**Whereas,** Global health is defined as local, state, regional, national and transnational health promotion, surveillance, prevention, determinant, treatment, and solution activities.

**Whereas,** Nursing is a science-based profession that influences population and society health through interdisciplinary collaboration.

Whereas, Nurses are in a unique position to lead and influence global health in education, service, practice and research.

Whereas, The global mobilization behind the Millennium Development Goals has produced the most successful anti-poverty movement in history. The landmark commitment entered into by world leaders in the year 2000—to "spare no effort to free our fellow men, women and children from the abject and dehumanizing conditions of extreme poverty"—was translated into an inspiring framework of eight goals, with wideranging practical steps to enabled people across the world to improve their lives and their future.

Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger	Goal 5: Improve maternal Health
Goal 2: Achieve universal primary education	Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women	Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability
Goal 4: Reduce child mortality	Goal 8: Develop a global partnership for development

**Whereas,** On 1 January 2016, the <u>17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)</u> of the <u>2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development</u> — adopted by world leaders in September 2015 at the <u>historic UN Summit</u> — officially came into force. Over the next 15 years, with these new universal goals, countries will mobilize efforts to end all forms of poverty, fight inequalities and tackle climate change, while ensuring that no one is left behind. The SDGs build on the success of <u>the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)</u> and aim to go further to end all forms of poverty. The new Goals are unique in that they call for action by all countries, poor, rich and middle-income to promote prosperity while protecting the planet. They recognize that ending poverty must go hand-in-hand with strategies that build economic growth and addresses a range of social needs including education, health, social protection, and job opportunities, while tackling climate change and environmental protection.

Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere	Goal 10: Reduce inequality within and among
	countries
Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and	Goal 11: Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and
improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture	sustainable
Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being	Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and
for all at all ages	production patterns

Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and quality education for all	Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change
and promote lifelong learning	and its impacts
Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all	Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans,
women and girls	seas and marine resources
Goal 6: Ensure access to water and sanitation for all	Goal 15: Sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation, halt biodiversity loss
Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all	Goal 16: Promote just, peaceful and inclusive societies
Goal 8: Promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment and decent work for all	Goal 17: Revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development
Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote sustainable industrialization and foster innovation	

Whereas, The most daunting issues facing the world are the mounting waste problem, air pollution, use of chemicals, coal and oil, unsafe water and global warming, that impairs public health, pollutes the environment and threatens to expose some poor and minority communities to toxicity and reduced greenery.

Whereas, Our founding mother of black nurses, Mary Mahoney, pushed us into the future by inviting nurses to do our part in making the world a better place for all population to live with fond memories.

**Whereas,** NBNA is the voice for over 150,000 US nurses, participating in 100 chapters in 34 US states that focuses on improving the lives of every person regardless of race, ethnicity or location.

Whereas, Approximately 100,000 families in Flint, Michigan have been affected by the water contamination crisis, including roughly 12,000 children who have unjustly been exposed to toxic water with high levels of lead. Reports have stated that the percentage of Flint children with elevated blood levels doubled from 2014 to 2015, and has resulted in unexpected health consequences and demonstrates the need to protect our most vulnerable populations.

**Whereas,** In every state in the US and every country in the world, there are environmental hazards, man-made and national disasters, socioeconomic and health inequities, violence and human trafficking, and contamination that threat the health and well-being of the humans.

Whereas, The 12<sup>th</sup> President officially established the Ad Hoc Committee on Global Health to promote, integrate and foster NBNA's global health activities by developing meaningful opportunities for NBNA members, students and faculty to building sustainable partnerships that focus on strengthening the critical role of nurses in the global health workforce, and supporting worldwide social justice.

- Therefore, Be It Resolved: The National Black Nurses Association, Inc. (NBNA) global health goals will focus on achieving social justice, building nursing capacity, strengthening nursing education and eliminating health disparities globally to:
  - Communicate methods of empowering people in underserved communities around the world in developing strategies to improve their unhealthy environments.
  - Increase access to culturally competent care.
  - Educate NBNA members and nurses around the world to be responsive to global inequity.
  - Develop local and global partnerships to support the capacity of nurses to improve and strengthen health systems and nursing education in under resourced communities around the world.
  - Build global nursing capacity through increasing access to advanced knowledge and evidenced based practice.
  - Provide opportunities for transformational nurse exchanges between countries.
  - Contribute to the global effort for expanding nursing's leadership role in changing health policies and improving health systems and nursing education.
  - Inform policy makers about economic advantages and benefits of changing the environment for healthier populations.
  - Promote justice in underdeveloped unhealthy communities among the governmental agencies of those laws that guides the actions of the local administrations
- Therefore, Be It Resolved: The NBNA supports the Millennium Goals produced in 2000 and the <u>17 Sustainable Development Goals</u> of the <u>2030 Agenda for Sustainable</u> <u>Development</u> — adopted by world leaders in September 2015 at the <u>historic UN</u> <u>Summit</u> of 2015.

Therefore, Be It Further Resolved, this resolution brings the topics of global health and social justice to the forefront of the NBNA agenda and provides our members and the nursing community with specific actions to protect and promote well-being throughout the world. NBNA nurses will respect, the dignity, human and social rights of the communities we serve locally, nationally and abroad. We will respectfully adhere to our mission, ethical obligations to human rights and our professional practice to make the world a safer place to live.

**Sponsorship:** (Requires original hand signatures)

Organization Name: National Black Nurses Association 2016-2017 Global Health

Committee

Name: <u>Dr. Shirley Evers Manly, Title: Global Health Committee Chair, Date:</u>
(Resolution Author)

Name: <u>Dr. Margie Cook, Title: Global Health Committee Co-chair, Date:</u>
(Resolution Author)

Co-Authors: Members of the 2015-2017 Global Health Committee

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