



CANADIAN CATHOLIC ORGANIZATION FOR

**Development
and Peace**

**Report to the
Canadian Conference of Catholic
Bishops**

Annual Plenary Meeting

OCTOBER 2007

1 INTRODUCTION

As is often the case when one reaches 40 years of age, a reflection takes place. One is old enough to have had a past and young enough to be thinking more about how to approach the future. As it is for individuals, so it is for organisations. As DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE celebrates its 40th year in 2007, introspection and reflection is occurring at all levels of the organisation.

We are one year into a planned major realignment of the organization, a process that is demanding a great deal from the National Council members, Diocesan Council members, and the staff. As with any major renewal effort, the first year has been challenging. We are now entering into a period of reflection, evaluation and strategic planning to chart the course for the future.

This report will focus on the major changes, activities and milestones reached throughout this year.

2 40TH ANNIVERSARY

DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE was created by Canada's bishops in 1967 in response to the challenge from Pope Paul VI in his papal encyclical *Populorum Progressio* (On the Development of Peoples) written in March of that year. The encyclical challenged Catholics worldwide to pay close attention to the appalling conditions of life affecting millions of people in most of the less developed countries of the world (now referred to as the Global South). The Canadian bishops created the **Canadian Catholic Organization for DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE** giving it an international solidarity mandate: to undertake and support development projects and to educate Canadian Catholics and the Canadian public about issues of social justice and worldwide poverty.

40 years later, we now have 13,000 members across Canada actively engaged in realizing our mandate, and supporting our awareness-building campaigns and the development work carried out in solidarity with our international and local partners in the Global South.

40th Anniversary commemorative events are taking place throughout the dioceses and parishes of Canada during this year. In May 2007, the Bishops of Canada wrote an inspirational **Pastoral Letter**, which was included in our **40th Anniversary commemorative booklet**, along with specially-composed 40th Anniversary Eucharistic Prayers of the Faithful to be used for Eucharistic celebrations. We highlighted our international work with success stories from partners in Africa, Asia and Latin America, and reviewed our history with a recap of the *Share Lent* and awareness-building campaigns over the years.

On June 2, 2007, **His Eminence Cardinal Jean-Claude Turcotte** presided over a concelebrated Eucharistic Celebration for Development and Peace with **Archbishop André Gaumond, Bishop Martin Currie, and Bishop Luc Cyr** at St. Joseph's Oratory in Montreal. The celebration was taped for broadcast across Canada on the CBC network program **Le Jour du Seigneur**.

More celebrations and commemorative events are scheduled in numerous dioceses across Canada during the remainder of this special year.

3 OFFICIAL POST-TSUNAMI MISSION – INDONESIA

A joint mission of the **Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB)** and **DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE** visited Indonesia in February 2007 to review the reconstruction projects supported in the wake of the devastating Asian Tsunami of December 2004.

Representing the CCCB were: **Most Reverend André Gaumond** (Archbishop of Sherbrooke and President of the CCCB); **Most Reverend James Weisgerber** (Archbishop of Winnipeg and Vice-President of the CCCB); and **Monsignor Mario Paquette** (Secretary General - CCCB).

The members representing DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE were: **Hélène Trépanier**, National Council President; **Tom Hardjowirogo**, member of the National Council and Chair of the Asia Program Committee; and Executive Director **Michael Casey**.

The goal of the mission was to assess the work carried out by DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE and our partners in Aceh, Indonesia, the area hardest hit by the disaster. The delegation participated in the official handover ceremony of the successful reconstruction project of 3,300 houses to local ownership and management in 23 villages.

The joint CCCB and DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE delegation to Indonesia was a milestone on a number of fronts: the scope of the tour, the strategic issues addressed, the number of meetings with prominent Indonesian personalities and significant partner groups, all of which contributed to reinforcing the profile and reputation of DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE, as well as our program and approach in Indonesia. The mission was a statement of solidarity between the Catholic Church of Canada and the Catholic Church of Indonesia. In Indonesia, the six million Catholics represent less than 3 % of the 235 million (mostly Muslim) population.

Highlights of the mission included:

- a meeting with **His Eminence Cardinal Julius Riyadi Darmaatmadja, S.J.** and the leaders of the Indonesia Catholic Bishops' Conference and its emergency relief and development agency – **Karina-Caritas Indonesia** – in Jakarta;
- a symbolic launch of the **Share Lent** campaign at a concelebrated Mass on Ash Wednesday in the Cathedral of Medan (North Sumatra) with **Most Reverend Alfred Gonti Pius Datubara, O.F.M. Cap.**, Archbishop of Medan;
- donation of a new school bus for children in the name of **Caritas Canada** (jointly paid for by CCCB and DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE) to the **Budi Dharma Catholic School** in Banda Aceh, affiliated with the only Catholic parish in this predominantly Muslim region. The school's bus had been swept away and destroyed in the tsunami, and several of the school children were innocent victims of the tragedy.

SUCCESSFUL AID IN ACTION - BANDA ACEH

The delegation's visit to Banda Aceh, the worst hit of all the tsunami areas in Asia, was the most noteworthy of the tour. Delegation members were able to assess for themselves the remarkable success of the housing and infrastructure reconstruction project of our partner **UPLINK (Urban Poor Linkages)**, jointly funded by **DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE** (our largest-ever single partnership contribution) and **Misereor** (the international aid organization of the Catholic Church of Germany).

This project, involving the construction of 3,300 new family dwellings in 23 villages at a cost of approximately CDN\$25 million, has now been recognized in development circles as an outstanding example of how local organizations and overseas development aid agencies can work together quickly to re-establish people's lives and livelihoods in the aftermath of a major disaster.

In Banda Aceh, UPLINK set up the **JUB** – the **Jaringnan Udeep Beusaree Network** (*roughly translated as "living together"*), a community-based project management group, to

oversee the massive rebuilding project. JUB represents citizens' committees in the 23 villages that have been completely rebuilt with permanent structures, with help from DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE contributions. The men and women of these communities, who lost everything in the tsunami, had their say on how they would rebuild. They not only chose the designs for their homes, helped in the construction but also planned the community centers and decided where the new roads and community infrastructure would be built. Part of the DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE contribution was also used to help set up alternative economic initiatives such as mushroom farms and medicinal herb processing.

On Sunday, February 25, 2007, the joint CCCB and DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE delegation took part in celebrations marking the official transfer of the UPLINK project to the JUB network of local community groups.

4 DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

In November 2006, we signed a new five-year funding agreement (2006-2011) with the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) for core program funds and support of our international partnerships, to supplement the financial support we receive from Canadian Catholics. This new agreement, our first-ever long-term agreement of 5 years, continues our accompaniment of our southern partners under the theme *"Building More Just and Equitable Communities"*.

Within the constraints of our financial re-structuring, we have maintained the number of countries in which we are active with our programs (28 countries in Latin America, Africa, and Asia), but have focused on consolidating the number of our projects and partners. We reduced our number of projects by approximately 30%, and the number of partners by approximately 25%. Based on our partnership principles, we are maintaining our long-term relationships while reducing the number of short-term projects and activities.

Over the long term, the program will foster the emergence of global, sustainable human development based on the principles of social justice, public participation in decision-making, gender equality, and respect for the environment.

5 DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION / SOLIDARITY PROGRAMS

In the Fall of 2006, we launched a new five-year advocacy program focusing on responsible management, use, and equitable access to natural resources by our governments, Canadian companies and individual Canadians. For the first two years, our actions focus on extractive industries, specifically mining operations.

FALL ACTION CAMPAIGN 2006

Over 152,000 Canadians signed action cards calling on the Government of Canada to establish legal measures that would impose socially responsible standards of corporate behaviour for Canadian mining companies with regard to the environment as well as human rights. We asked our members to meet with their regional parliamentary representatives and, through dialogue, make them aware of our concerns. 35 MPs have already met with our members.

NATIONAL ROUNDTABLES CONSULTATION

While members of DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE were raising public awareness of the issue of the corporate social responsibility (CSR) of Canadian companies, the Canadian government set up a consultation process aimed at gathering opinions from the general public, industry, the universities and socially responsible investors.

The **National Roundtables on Corporate Social Responsibility** were the federal government's response to the June 2005 recommendation by a parliamentary committee to

regulate Canadian corporations overseas. In six sessions held across the country, with public outreach sessions in Vancouver, Calgary, Toronto and Montreal, the Roundtables brought together the extractive industries and civil society representatives, plus academics and experts. DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE made presentations at each outreach session; while partner organizations - the **African Initiative on Mining, Environment and Society**, and **Cardinal Oscar Andres Rodriguez**, President of Caritas Honduras - sent written presentations.

In a hard-won consensus, hammered out after hours of discussions on CSR standards, monitoring and compliance mechanisms, civil society and the mining industry came up with a set of recommendations. The main one is to create an independent ombudsman to investigate allegations of non compliance with CSR standards.

This recommendation is the theme of our **Fall Action 2007** campaign, pressuring government to deliver on its commitment to act on the findings of the Roundtables consultation.

6 EMERGENCY RELIEF

DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE designates 10% of its *Share Lent* proceeds for emergency relief projects to alleviate suffering caused by natural disasters and civil conflict. Our principal partner in emergency response is the **Caritas Internationalis** network, through which approximately 85% of our emergency relief funds are channelled to victims around the globe.

In 2006-2007, we launched special appeal campaigns for emergency assistance to victims of the massive flooding in South Asia (India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal), and for the victims of the earthquake in Peru.

We continued our ongoing support to **Jesuit Relief Services** for their programs with internally displaced persons and refugees in disaster areas.

Our **Emergency Relief Policy** was revised and updated to reflect the growing presence and importance of emergency relief in our overall programming.

7 SHARE LENT

As always, the annual **Share Lent** collection represents the single most important fund-raising event for DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE, accounting for approximately 40% of our total annual revenue. The support received from Canadian Catholics through this special collection is the foundation of our movement and our work to promote development and social justice throughout the world.

The support of our bishops is critical for the success of this annual collection. There has consistently been a direct positive link between the active involvement of the bishops (in the form of pastoral letters or discussion and promotion of the collection) and the amount contributed to our work. DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE is very grateful for this support and encouragement.

Our 2007 Share Lent collection is approximately \$9.2 million, a slight increase over last year. Our Lenten campaign has maintained this general level of support for several years, indicating a plateau in our revenues from this traditional source.

8 NETWORKING

DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE continues to maintain active global linkages with international and Canadian development networks and organizations. We are closely linked with and active members of (among others) **Caritas Internationalis**; **CIDSE** (International Cooperation for

Development and Solidarity); **Kairos**; the **Canadian Council for International Cooperation (CCIC)**; l'Association québécoise des organismes de coopération internationale – **AQOCI**; and **Pax Christi**.

In June 2007, **Caritas Internationalis** convened its General Plenary Assembly at the Vatican, a meeting which gathers all 162 member agencies (including DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE as **Caritas Canada**) every four years. **Cardinal Oscar Andres Rodriguez** of Honduras was elected President of the Caritas confederation, and **Ms. Lesley-Anne Knight** was elected as Secretary-General, the first woman to hold this office. Ms. Knight was formerly the Director of International Programs for our sister agency in the UK – the **Catholic Agency for Overseas Development (CAFOD)**.

Also in June 2007, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE became a member of the **Canadian Foodgrains Bank (CFGB)**, joining 14 other Canadian Christian church-based organizations in an ecumenical coalition engaged in the worldwide mission to end hunger. Our membership in CFGB will help generate supplementary program funding for us, which will contribute directly to food security projects with our partners in the Global South.

These networks and relationships enable us to work in close partnership with other organizations and leverage our resources to expand our reach and effectiveness in achieving our development goals.

9 INSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS / ORGANIZATIONAL RENEWAL

The restructuring process begun in June 2005 completed its first phase during the year, designed to address key challenges facing DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE, including:

- An aging and declining membership in traditional sectors in the Catholic Church
- Static levels of core revenue and financial contributions
- Steadily increasing levels of operating expense
- An aging staff complement

The renewal plan called for all departments to “share the burden” in cost-cutting, reduction of personnel, and streamlining of services, each according to its percentage use of the budget. Renewal meant not only reducing our size and operating structure, but positioning ourselves to adapt and change the way we worked. Changes to revitalize and build the movement were initiated, including:

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS: FOCUS ON PARTNERSHIP

The International Program Department (IPD) realigned the responsibilities for managing and administering our extensive partnership network in 28 countries, strengthening the management team with the addition of two Assistant Director positions. Over a 2 to 3-year period, the partner network will be consolidated and focused on a reduced number of partners, to improve effectiveness in our development programs while continuing to nurture and sustain our long-term partnerships with more than 200 civil society organizations (CSOs) in the Global South.

EDUCATION: DYNAMIC AND UNIFIED

The Education Department, formerly operating as two distinct sectors (French and English), was united under the leadership of one national Director of Education, directing two teams, with the support of an Assistant Director. The number of animators was reduced, and some positions converted to part-time. The results of the three-year Membership-Leadership program are beginning to show, with the emergence of more diocesan and parish leaders,

actively engaged in promoting the work of DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE throughout our national network.

ADVANCEMENT: REACHING OUT ACROSS CANADA

The newly-created Advancement Department grouped Communications, Fundraising (direct giving, major and planned gifts) and database operations into a new core service, with a mandate to reach out to new supporters, building our membership network by emphasizing our international successes. A new position of Web Editor was created, to take full advantage of emerging communications and information technology to expand the reach of our message to a wider global audience. The Advancement Department will identify and build sources of sustainable funding, and heighten our national and international visibility with mainstream media.

MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION: STREAMLINED AND STRENGTHENED

The General Management and Administrative Services Departments were streamlined to provide essential support to the movement in Finance and Human Resources, and to strengthen our Governance functions, consistent with our democratic and participative nature. The national secretariat in Montreal relocated to smaller quarters, and the Toronto office was downsized to focus primarily on supporting our national education programs and representation in Canada's largest archdiocese.
