

**Faithful Action for Justice**  
**KAIROS Strategic Directions and Strategies 2006-2010**

**Responsive to the gospel vision of justice, we, the KAIROS community, commit ourselves to work towards a world where:**

- ❖ **our churches are united in the work of social justice such that**
  - a) heads of church and others in the faith community are actively engaged in addressing the intrinsic interconnection between social, economic and ecological justice issues;
  - b) there is an increased awareness and support from congregations to advocate for an ethical, faith-based response to societal issues, including minority rights and gender justice; and
  - c) there is an ever-deepening experience of the call to do justice in the living out of our personal faith.
  
- ❖ **KAIROS is a model of transformative faith and resistance such that**
  - a) it is part of the movement to resist oppression and the abuse of power, witnessing to our faith, providing thoughtful alternatives to systems of domination, and generating excitement, energy, and hope;
  - b) it models the diverse, hopeful and faithful community it seeks to create;
  - c) it strives for excellence in research, clear analysis, explicit values and effective dissemination of information; and
  - d) it acts as a catalyst for ecumenical cooperation.
  
- ❖ **KAIROS works with partners and colleagues in Canada and abroad such that**
  - a) it collaborates in the peaceful efforts by partners, especially those in high risk areas, for human rights, the eradication of HIV/AIDS, economic and ecological justice and self-determination;
  - b) the churches strengthen their links with civil society organizations globally;
  - c) the churches and Canadian policy-makers increase their capacity for, and practice of, consulting partners in the Global South to better understand critical justice issues and formulate policy responses in the light of that knowledge.
  
- ❖ **Canada's policies and practices promote social, economic and ecological justice such that**
  - a) Aboriginal rights and perspectives are recognized and implemented in Canadian public policy;
  - b) Canadian social policies, including a more just distribution of wealth, are effective in reducing poverty in this country;
  - c) priority in Canadian government policy is accorded to (i) the needs of the marginalized in society (including refugees, refugee claimants and migrants); and (ii) responsible action to protect the environment;
  - d) domestic and foreign policy is framed in rights-based terms and informed by the needs of the common good;
  - e) enforceable national and international regulatory mechanisms govern the activity of transnational corporations;
  - f) poor countries are freed of debt; and
  - g) trade and economic policies enhance the dignity of citizens, respecting their political, economic, social and cultural rights.

**We will use the following strategies to enable us to achieve this vision for a more just world:**

- 1) focusing our work over a multi-year span, identifying achievable objectives in key areas, with an emphasis, where feasible, on collaboration across program areas;
- 2) strengthening our ecumenical relationships to (i) coordinate and maximize our capacity for public education, animation, and advocacy; and (ii) respond to invitations from KAIROS member denominations to support their programs for congregational involvement in addressing issues of systemic change;
- 3) providing opportunities for church leaders and others in the KAIROS community to deepen their engagement in ecumenical justice work, including participation in delegations and in effective follow-up actions and advocacy;
- 4) strengthening our networks across Canada with an emphasis on engaging young Canadians in the gospel imperative of working for a more just social order;
- 5) increasing KAIROS' capacity to use creative communication techniques and spiritual, artistic and liturgical expressions of justice work;
- 6) fostering opportunities to explore the meaning of diversity in the context of KAIROS as a Christian organization and of KAIROS' commitment to allowing the worldview of those on the margins to transform our work and ourselves; and
- 7) promoting a deeper understanding of the biblical and theological foundations of our work and increasing our ability to use this learning in public discourse.

Approved by the KAIROS Board at its meeting of September 29, 2005