



December 7th, 2009

Greetings Minister Oda,

It was with great sadness that our organization learned CIDA's project funding for KAIROS Canada was terminated. As you know, KAIROS works collaboratively with several faith and justice groups in order to address inequality throughout the world. By working to promote human rights and prevent violence and oppression; KAIROS contributes to the advancement of a more just and equitable world. KAIROS thirty five year relationship with CIDA cannot be understated as it takes an inordinate amount of time to build authentic relationships, create strategic alliances, and develop results in areas of common concern to CIDA and its' partners.

Gerry Barr, representing CCIC has requested a meeting with you to clarify issues on behalf of the membership. We would respectfully urge you to meet with Mr. Barr so as to provide clarity to the sector as a whole. For the international development sector and CIDA to reach our respective goals—it is important that we have a common understanding of expectations. CIDA's Partnership Branch supports effective development work that concurrently responds to issues identified by Canadians. The dovetailing of these mutually beneficial objectives works well in the overall goal of poverty reduction, human rights promotion and sustainable development. Moreover, these partnerships further fortify the aspects set out in the Official Development Assistance Accountability Act: poverty reduction, listening to the perspectives of the poor, and consistency with international human rights standards. Perhaps you can appreciate that there is much confusion in the sector as it would seem KAIROS is a natural fit with supporting CIDA to reach its own goals.

We strongly encourage you to meet both with KAIROS and CCIC so that the development field understands CIDA's objectives. In the end, this meeting of the minds will assist not only CIDA but the sector as we move forth to jointly realize our mutual aspirations of creating a better world. We encourage you to revisit the decision about cutting funding to KAIROS; hopeful that a fruitful dialogue regarding expectations will result in finding common ground.

Thank you in advance for reconsidering this decision. MATCH International wishes you, your family and CIDA staff a peaceful holiday season.

Yours sincerely

Kim Bulger, Executive Director
MATCH International

c:c: Mr. Gerry Barr
Ms. Mary Corkery
Ms. Margaret Biggs