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The Honourable Bev Oda, P.C., M.P.
Minister of International Cooperation
The House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A6

December 4, 2009

Minister Oda,

Last week I asked for your kind attention to the approval of the KAIROS CIDA contract for 2009-2013. The Christian Reformed churches in Canada, along with other churches, civil society organizations and citizens, are deeply disappointed, both with the decision to deny this important grant and with the manner in which it was communicated.

KAIROS' international partnerships, with CIDA's decades-long support of them, have protected lives and livelihoods and enhanced human dignity. As I said last week, this is a ministry that we value deeply. Therefore, we ask you to reconsider the decision to deny CIDA support to KAIROS.

Furthermore, we ask that you take steps to communicate clearly and transparently with KAIROS and its member organizations about the reasons for this decision. Good communication with your office and CIDA is vital as churches and civil society partner with the Government of Canada in the work of justice and development. We trust that open dialogue will allow the vital work of KAIROS and others to continue,

Sincerely,

Rev. Bruce Adema
Director of Canadian Ministries

cc. Mary Corkery, Executive Director, KAIROS
Canadian International Development Agency (Minister Oda's Office)

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