

WHY THIS CAMPAIGN?

Members of DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE are uniting to call for a return to the core values of the organization. A number of different events that have occurred in recent years, including most recently, the modification of a legitimate advocacy campaign, that have brought frustration, disappointment and demotivation of members. It is important that DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE return to its mission and resume its leadership in international development.

WHY A REFORM OF THE GOVERNING STRUCTURES?

A reform of the governing structures of DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE has been in process since 2006 and was to be completed by August 2010. A governance committee was formed and several surveys had been conducted, allowing for many concerns to be expressed. However, the governing structures have yet to be reformed. It is critical that the restructuring of governing structures becomes a priority!

A well thought-out reform of governing structures should...

- Preserve and improve the democratic nature of the movement;
- Strengthen links between the grassroots members and the decision-making bodies, by improving communication and transparency between them;
- Strengthen the accountability and authority of the National Council members;
- Reinforce the effectiveness of Development and Peace and ensure its faithfulness to its mission.

WHAT CAN I DO?

- Sign the petition on the reverse side of this page and circulate it amongst your diocesan council, parish, etc., so that it can be signed by members and supporters of DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE.
- Share your own concerns about governance in a personal letter or a group statement addressed to the National Council members.
- Ask to meet with your National Council representative as well as your bishop to share your perspective.



LET'S GET DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE BACK ON TRACK!

DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE professes to be a membership-led organization. However the leadership has been turned up-side down. The decision to modify the 2012 Fall Campaign and to cancel the planned action was taken by a small group of decision-makers within the organization. Their decision was made despite the fact that the campaign had been created at the request of members during the regional assemblies. The members regrettably witnessed that this decision lacked in democracy, transparency, as well as efforts for consultation and communication. This has resulted in a major loss of confidence within the movement. This decision is especially distressing given that the membership has made repeated requests for better communication practices and information from D&P leadership.



More
than
ever!

RESTORING DIALOGUE

The governance structures of DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE must be re-evaluated with the goal of restoring trust and communication between the base/grassroots members and the decision-making bodies of the organization. The organization must rebuild its democratic nature if it is to carry out its mission

WHAT IS THE MISSION OF DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE?

*The Canadian Catholic Organization for DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE, a **democratic movement** for international solidarity, supports partners in the Global South in the pursuit of alternatives to unjust social, political and economic structures.*

*It **educates the Canadian population** about the causes of impoverishment of peoples and **mobilizes actions for change.***

*In the struggle for human dignity, Development and Peace associates with **social change** groups in the North and South.*

It supports women in their search for social and economic justice.

*DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE, the official development organization of the Canadian Catholic Church, is inspired by the values of the Gospel, particularly "**the preferential option for the poor.**"*

(Adopted September 10, 1995)

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL

DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE has long been recognised as a Canadian leader in international development. Its collaboration with grassroots organizations of the Global South has been a model of success. However, we believe that the leaders of our movement have faltered. Making sudden changes to the Fall Campaign has tarnished our reputation as an organization and limits its capacity to truly respond to the needs of our partners in the Global South.

Given that the members wanted a special campaign in 2012 to respond to CIDA funding cuts and its new policies;

Given that the special campaign was a result of thoughtful consideration by members at the Regional Assemblies and was approved at the National Council;

Given the ambiguity of the events surrounding the cancellation of the original 2012 Fall Campaign thereby directly undermining the mission and the decision-making processes of the movement;

Given that such a situation undermines the credibility of our movement, making it difficult to recruit, mobilise and retain members;

Given that such a demobilisation will have an impact on future fundraising and advocacy, making it difficult to remain in solidarity with our partners in the Global South;

Given that this is not the first time that the governing structures and decision-making processes have been questioned;

Given that a national consultation on governance reform had been realised (in all Regional Assemblies) in 2010 and that a governance committee was formed and whose mandate was to end in 2010;

We, members of DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE, ask that the National Council and its Executive give priority to a governance reform. This reform calls for a return to the mission of the organization, including its democratic functioning. Such a reform is necessary to restore our faith in the movement.

Such a reform should :

- Allow the governance committee to finish its mandate and to present its work to the members;
- Allow for members to be consulted and have an opportunity to give recommendations on how they envision the governance reform as to its democratic processes;
- Preserve and improve the democratic nature of the movement;
- Strengthen links between the grassroots members and the decision-making bodies, by improving communication and transparency between them;
- Strengthen the accountability and authority of the National Council members;
- Reinforce the effectiveness of DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE and ensure its faithfulness to its mission;
- Be put in place by 2014.

Name, surname (fonction)	Diocese or city	Signature

Please send your signed petition to the addresses below before **February 23, 2013**.
(If possible, send to both addresses.)

* By email: jeunessefrancophonedp@gmail.com (scan a copy and send to this address)

* By mail:

Francophone Youth
1425 Rene-Levesque Blvd W, 3rd Floor
Montreal, QC H3G 1T7
CANADA

NB : Please send you petition regardless of the number of signatures.

Each signature counts!