



GATHERING IN HOPE PLEDGING COMMON ACTION

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GATHERING IN HOPE

Religions for Peace, the world's largest and most representative multi-religious coalition, advances common action among the world's religious communities for peace.

The *Religions for Peace* network comprises a World Council of senior religious leaders, including Buddhist, Christian, Hindu, Jain, Jewish, Muslim, Sikh, Shinto, Taoist, Zoroastrian and Indigenous leaders from all regions of the world; more than seventy national and four regional inter-religious bodies; and affiliated networks of religious youth and women of faith.

Guided by respect for religious differences and a vision of the world's religious communities cooperating effectively for peace, *Religions for Peace* mobilizes religious communities to collaborate on deeply held and widely shared concerns. The rapidly growing global *Religions for Peace* network of inter-religious councils and groups advances multi-religious partnerships to transform violent conflict, end poverty, promote just and harmonious societies, and protect the earth.

ABOUT THE COVER

Front: In 2006, the *Religions for Peace* Eighth World Assembly in Kyoto, Japan, convened more than 800 senior religious leaders from every region of the world and all major faith traditions to address the power of religious communities to confront violence and advance shared security. Photo credit: Mark Thompson. www.visualpoems.com

Right: Japanese master calligrapher Mr. Juichi Yoshikawa created a 12-foot rendering of the Japanese character for "path" onstage during the opening ceremony of the *Religions for Peace* Eighth World Assembly.

Other photo credits: Special thanks to Ms. Nicola Dove, Ms. Monica Dart, and Mr. Mark Thompson, as well as to *Religions for Peace*-Japan.

We share a conviction of the fundamental unity of the human family, and the equality and dignity of all human beings.

We affirm the sacredness of the individual person and the importance of his or her freedom of conscience.

ON THE PATH TO PEACE

We are committed to the ethical values and attitudes shared by our religious traditions. We uphold the value of life manifest in human community and in all creation...

We realize that human power is neither self-sufficient nor absolute, and that the spirit of love, compassion, selflessness, and the force of inner truthfulness ultimately have greater power than prejudice, hate, enmity or violence.

— from the *Kyoto Declaration*,
Eighth World Assembly, August 2006





PLEDGING COMMON ACTION FOR PEACE

Letter from the Moderator

Dear Friends:

The *Religions for Peace* Eighth World Assembly convened in August 2006. This made 2006 a year of summarizing our work and assessing our programs in a way that was both celebratory and candid. The Assembly also was a sign of a new beginning for our global multi-religious coalition.

The Assembly participants numbered some two thousand persons. In its business sessions, the Assembly engaged more than eight-hundred delegates. Today the *Religions for Peace* family includes more than seventy Inter-religious Councils and affiliates, representing every region and continent.

The challenges and trials faced by the human family at every significant point intersect with the world's religions. This is not an abstract or theoretical reality. The world's religions are, in fact, composed of living communities of faith: 5 billion in the world's population of more than 6 billion. There is not a single significant challenge of our time that is unknown to communities of faith.

Our Eighth World Assembly made a meaningful contribution to the quest for global peace by advancing a notion of *shared security*. This theme offers a "golden rule" for relations among nations as well as ethnic and religious communities. It is natural that all people seek to be secure and safe. The historical contradiction sometimes has been that the security and safety of one community has been claimed at the expense of others. This has often embedded conflict and violence in the human experience. The result is that the security of all is at risk. The notion of *shared security* offers the hope of breaking this cycle of threat and conflict.

The World Assembly has oriented the *Religions for Peace* family toward building alliances through fostering mutual understanding and collaboration among religious communities, non-governmental organizations, humanitarian agencies, and governments. At the heart of this process is the articulation of a common purpose for the benefit of humanity. We are fully aware that our inter-religious journey after the Assembly demands a well-developed strategy for the implementation of the vision of *Religions for Peace*. We are determined to equip our coalition to make a good contribution to the cause of peace and justice in the context of shared security. This contribution must be thoughtful as well as robust, faithful as well as effective.

It is clear that communities of faith can be credible in their moral witness only by building mutual trust and respect among religions. Each religious community is invited to come into the circle of *Religions for Peace* in the fullness and integrity of its religious vision and practice. The common commitments required are the commitments to mutual respect and to solidarity in collaboration for the common good.

The *Religions for Peace* World Council and its Executive Committee, in collaboration with the International Secretariat, are in the service of the *Religions for Peace* global family. In our work together, and in partnership with the Inter-religious Councils and affiliates around the world, we are *gathering in hope and pledging common action*.



In the peace and joy of our collaboration,

(The Very Reverend) Leonid Kishkovsky



Religions for Peace, representing the world's diverse faiths, reaffirms the sanctity of human life and calls for a respect for human dignity.

— HRH Prince El Hassan bin Talal,
President Emeritus

Letter from the Secretary General

Dear Colleagues:

In more than seventy countries, the members of *Religions for Peace* gather in hope—joined in common action for peace. The religious duty to care for one another provides the base for *Religions for Peace* wherever it gathers.

Experience has taught us that when religious communities work together for peace they can do more than any one religious community can do alone. This experience gives us a taste of hope. It is a hope tempered by hard experience.

The burdens of the human family are too well known by members of *Religions for Peace*. Too many of us know too well the blood of war, how it kills, maims and destroys the lives of the innocent. Too many of us know too well the crushing weight of poverty, how it stunts, humiliates and plunders. Too many of us know too well the children orphaned by HIV/AIDS, how their families are decimated, their schools emptied, their lives shadowed by stigma and shame.

Our deepest religious convictions call us to act together to confront these urgent realities and we are doing so.

Today, our response is doubly urgent. Our religions, all of them, are perpetually vulnerable to being abused. This is not true of any one religion at any one time, but of all religions across time. Today, our religions are being hijacked by religious extremists, unscrupulous politicians, and the sensationalist media.

How are we in *Religions for Peace* responding to the double threat that confronts us: the threat to peace and the threat of abuse to our religions?

The short answer is that we—representatives of diverse religious communities—are doing it together. Respecting our differences, pooling our collective moral strengths and building an alliance that takes action is the way that we are working to both build peace and rescue our faith communities from abuse. That is our commitment in *Religions for Peace*.

Finally, while religious communities need to cooperate for peace, they cannot do it alone. We are working to build partnerships between the religious communities and other sectors of society. Today, we have outstanding trustees who are helping us to build effective, action-oriented partnerships with governments, development agencies, foundations, and businesses. Multi-religious cooperation in *Religions for Peace* has opened up the possibility for deeply principled, effective partnerships between religious communities and the public sector.

Please join me in reviewing accomplishments of the entire *Religions for Peace* movement on the pages of this Annual Report.

Our work expresses our hope.



In peace,

Dr. William F. Vendley

Eighth World Assembly



More than 800 religious leaders from a hundred countries developed concrete strategies to confront violence and advance shared security. Assembly delegates included Buddhist, Christian, Hindu, Jain, Jewish, Muslim, Sikh, Shinto, Zoroastrian and Indigenous leaders.

At the Eighth World Assembly, delegates forged a new notion of “shared security” in which all sectors of every society take responsibility for the safety of others.

Major steps were outlined for religious leaders, governments, international organizations, and businesses to address together violence and promote shared security.

Religious leaders also worked together to transform conflict in some of the most deeply troubled regions of the world, including Iraq, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Palestine/Israel, and the Korean Peninsula. Delegates





They came from the *Religions for Peace* network of more than seventy national and regional affiliated inter-religious councils and groups. Kyoto was the site of the first World Assembly of *Religions for Peace* in 1970.

from each of those regions stood together, made public statements condemning violence, and forged collaborative plans to address the conflict in these areas. [See “Global Agent,” page 10.]

The Assembly elected sixty-one outstanding and representative religious leaders to serve as a World Council (formerly the Governing Board). Composed of senior representatives of a wide range of faith traditions, the World Council is the highest governing body of *Religions for Peace*, charged with actively promoting global inter-religious cooperation and overseeing strategies relevant to achieving our core mission. Individuals are appointed to a term that will conclude at the Ninth World Assembly.

Shared Security

At the *Religions for Peace* Eighth World Assembly, delegates forged a new notion of “shared security,” in which each person is responsible for the safety of the other. The entire *Religions for Peace* network has committed to bringing together members of governments, businesses, and civil society to develop concrete action plans to advance shared security.

“Shared security” brings attention to the need for mutuality: all stakeholders are accountable to one other. All human beings are vulnerable; this vulnerability can lead communities into using profoundly destructive methods to “secure” themselves against others. But ultimately no wall can be built high enough to protect us from one another. This practical reason for shared security complements a more basic moral reason for it, supported by every religious tradition: the responsibility each of us has to care for our brothers and sisters and to treat others as ourselves.



Eighth World Assembly Highlights



“Women of faith make available strength and hope when all seems hopeless.”

— from the Women’s Assembly,
Eighth World Assembly, August 2006

Strengthen and equip the global network. Representatives from our more than seventy national and four regional affiliated inter-religious councils (IRCs) attended the Assembly and participated in workshops to help develop and strengthen IRCs, focusing on improving organizational capacity, capacity assessment, resource mobilization, financial and grants management, and media relations. *A Guide to Building and Equipping IRCs* was launched at the Assembly. [See page 15.]

Address Poverty. *Religions for Peace* and the UN launched a toolkit to help religious communities work toward the UN Millennium Development Goals: eradicating extreme poverty, achieving universal primary education, promoting gender equality, reducing child mortality and hunger, and combating HIV/AIDS and other diseases. Available in English, French, Spanish, and Arabic, the toolkit is designed to assist religious communities in raising awareness, advocating, training, and conducting outreach to achieve the MDGs by 2015.

Mobilize Women. More than 400 participants from sixty-five countries concluded the *Religions for Peace* Women’s Assembly, 24–25 August, by adopting a Declaration: “Women of faith make available strength and hope when all seems hopeless.”

Launch global youth network. The *Religions for Peace* Youth Assembly, 21–25 August, produced its own Declaration, proclaiming: “We choose hope because that is the only way forward.”

“We draw on the spiritual assets of our religious traditions and on one another for the strength to continue our work”

— from the Youth Assembly,
Eighth World Assembly, August 2006

Launch a forum for faith-based development organizations.

There are many major development organizations associated with diverse religious traditions. Cooperation among these organizations could greatly strengthen their impacts. A commitment was made to launch a series of Faith-Based Round Tables in 2007 to help build new partnerships and create collaborative initiatives.

In addition, World Assembly delegates endorsed a **Declaration on Violence Against Children**, which commits religious communities to confront violence against children and protect children in their communities. The declaration was formally presented to the UN in October 2006 as part of the launch of the UN global Study on Violence Against Children.

The inaugural **Greeley Prize** was also awarded to the Women’s Desk of the Inter-religious Council in Liberia, a network that promotes religious tolerance, rallies to reduce gender and sexual violence, increases awareness of HIV/AIDS, and advocates for children.





COMMITTING TO NEW INITIATIVES

Personally, I don't think you can compartmentalize your personal life from your public vocation.

Faith is more powerful when it's lived.

— Dr. Vinu Aram, Vice Moderator, Religions for Peace
Director, Shanti Ashram, India

For **Religions for Peace**, building peace means transforming violent conflict, eliminating poverty, promoting just and harmonious societies, and protecting the earth. In 2006, the **Religions for Peace** World Council recommitted itself to working in three ways:

- To be a **Global Agent** that seeks to build peace.
- To **Build and Equip** inter-religious councils, a Global Woman of Faith Network, and a religious youth network on regional and local levels to advance peace through action.
- To **Network** its affiliated groups, fostering opportunities for information exchange and collaboration on all levels.

Religions for Peace meaningfully advanced its work in all three ways throughout 2006. The Eighth World Assembly in August 2006 was an outstanding opportunity for members of the global **Religions for Peace** coalition to deepen their commitment to working with others around the world, forming partnerships and collaborating on new initiatives.

Global Agent



Since 1970, *Religions for Peace* has been known for its unique ability to bring together senior religious leaders of different faiths to advocate and work for peace. In 2006, *Religions for Peace* helped to build peace in some of the most deeply troubled areas of the world while helping to re-shape the very definition of what it means to be safe and peaceful in the modern world.

Advancing Shared Security

Religions for Peace worked to develop a new notion of shared security through a dynamic partnership with the Helsinki Process, which is sponsored by the governments of Finland and Tanzania. This partnership developed an initial notion of shared security that was later refined by 800 religious leaders in the Eighth World Assembly. The concept of shared security also provided a basis for developing a special partnership with the United Nations' Alliance of Civilizations, which is designed to address the dangers associated with what some have termed a "clash among civilizations."

Transforming Violent Conflict

Iraq. Despite escalating violence, *Religions for Peace* continued its work of assisting Iraqi religious leaders in their efforts to build peace. Building on work that dates to just weeks after the occupation of Bagdad in 2003, *Religions for Peace* convened senior Iraqi religious leaders three times in 2006—in London (March), in Kyoto at the World Assembly (August), and in Oslo (December). These meetings provided a vitally necessary channel for communication and opportunity to build trust and advance collaboration in the midst of sectarian violence.

Middle East. *Religions for Peace* advanced multi-religious dialogues in the Middle East on two levels: Israel/Palestine and the wider regional level. At the Eighth World Assembly, Israeli

and Palestinian religious leaders focused on issues that have caused great pain and division. They called on *Religions for Peace* to continue to support their efforts to build peace. On the regional level, leaders from across the Middle East took first steps to build a *Religions for Peace* Middle East Council of Religious Leaders.

Africa. *Religions for Peace*, under the leadership of the West Africa Inter-religious Coordinating Committee, initiated conflict prevention responses in Guinea, Liberia, Côte de Ivoire, and Sierra Leone. These efforts were continuations of significant *Religions for Peace* programs dealing with the violent wars in Sierra Leone and Liberia. In addition, *Religions for Peace* trained religious leaders in Uganda, Sudan, and Liberia in justice and reconciliation and how these concerns relate to the International Criminal Court. During its Eighth World Assembly, *Religions for Peace* assisted Sudanese Christian and Muslim leaders to build confidence and explore ways to advance inter-religious strategies to achieve peace after the twenty-year civil war.

Asia. Representatives of the four religions in Sri Lanka met at the Eighth World Assembly to search together for ways to end the civil war and requested that *Religions for Peace* help them form a representative inter-religious council. In response to the escalating tensions in the Korean Peninsula following a North Korean missile test, religious representatives from South Korea and the Asian region met in the Assembly to issue a common call for peace talks. This action was another step in *Religions for Peace's* ongoing commitment to serve as a link between the religious communities in North and South Korea.



Additional Achievements 2006

Religions for Peace addressed violence against children and focused on HIV/AIDS in Africa.

- **UN partnership to stop violence against children.** Convened more than forty religious leaders and experts from thirty countries in Toledo, Spain, to develop ways in which religious communities can address violence against children. This consultation was convened in partnership with UNICEF and its resulting declaration was presented to the UN in October at the launch of the UN global Study on Violence Against Children.
- **Strengthening national partnerships.** Through its long partnership with national affiliates in Africa, *Religions for Peace* has helped strengthen leadership at the national level on HIV/AIDS: 1.) The Inter-religious Council of Uganda has received a direct grant of \$15 million from USAID and is a principal recipient of the Global Fund; 2.) the Zambian Interfaith Networking Group (ZINGO) is running a national radio program supported by UNICEF and others and has been recognized as the national coordinating body of faith groups by the Zambian AIDS Commission; and 3.) affiliates in eight other countries are members of national policy and planning bodies on HIV/AIDS and Orphans and Vulnerable Children.
- **XVI International AIDS Conference in Toronto.** Placed inter-faith religious communities on the front lines of action against the HIV/AIDS pandemic at this major assembly.

Religions for Peace continued to grow its family of multi-faith groups, particularly in Asia, Latin America, and the Caribbean.

- **Latin America.** The sub-regional Latin American Council of Religious Leaders was launched in June.
- **African Council of Religious Leaders.** Forged action plans and played a key role in preparing for the Eighth World Assembly at a pre-Assembly consultation.

Religions for Peace engaged women of faith as key peacebuilders, particularly in Africa and Latin America.

- **Central America.** Forged collaborative action plans to address violence against women, rural poverty, and gender inequity in Guatemala.
- **Great Lakes Region, Africa.** Helped train workers on how to heal children who survived genocide in Rwanda.
- **Religions for Peace Governance.** During the Women's Assembly in Kyoto, Japan, delegates elected the International Women's Coordinating Committee to serve the thousands of women's groups working in *Religions for Peace*.

United Nations. *Religions for Peace* established a relationship with the newly formed UN Peacebuilding Commission in Burundi and Sierra Leone—its two pilot countries—and on the global level in New York. *Religions for Peace* engaged in advocacy at the UN for a global Arms Trade Treaty and advanced the concerns of religious communities at the UN Small Arms Review Conference.

Working for Human Development

Religions for Peace established a partnership with the UN to help achieve the Millennium Development Goals, which aim to eliminate extreme poverty by 2015. *Religions for Peace* was mandated by the UN to produce materials to equip the world's religious leaders to work together to help realize these important goals. [See "New Publications and Tools," page 15.]

In 2006, through the Hope for African Children Initiative and other partnerships, *Religions for Peace* affiliates in ten African countries were equipped to expand their work to provide care and support for children orphaned by the HIV/AIDS pandemic. Over the past year, they have reached more than 20,000 children and trained more than 1,500 local religious leaders.

Building and Equipping



Religions for Peace supports religious communities in their desire to work together for peace by assisting them to build unique mechanisms for cooperation—inter-religious councils (IRCs). *Religions for Peace* facilitates religious communities' efforts to build representative, action-oriented, and sustainable IRCs on national and regional levels.

Global Women of Faith Network

The *Religions for Peace* Global Women of Faith Network has four regional networks: Africa, South East Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, and South and Southeast Asia.

More than 400 women of faith gathered in Kyoto, Japan, for the Women's Assembly from 24-25 August, 2006. The delegates affirmed the leadership of women of faith in building peace and advancing shared security. The women of faith adopted the Women's Assembly Declaration, which laid the foundation for the Global Women of Faith Network strategic framework for action for 2007-2011. The women of faith joined other delegates for the *Religions for Peace* Eighth World Assembly.

Building Regional Women of Faith Networks

- The African Council of Religious Leaders and the African Women of Faith Network convened in Nairobi for the World Assembly Pre-Consultation for Africa to strengthen their joint action plan and agree upon their coordinating committee structure.
- In 2006, the coordinating committee of the Latin American and Caribbean Woman of Faith Network met in Panama and elected their executive coordinating council, strengthening their networks across the region and advancing forward joint action. The network mobilized around gender violence, women and conflict, women's role in the national dialogue process, and discrimination against women
- Women of faith from Israel/Palestine—Jewish and Arab (Muslim and Christian)—held consultative sessions to deepen trust and create an environment conducive to sharing personal, religious and political viewpoints.

A Growing Network

As religious extremism continues to escalate around the world, people of faith are more committed than ever to work together—denouncing extremism and working for a just and lasting peace.

In 2006, *Religions for Peace* assisted in forming numerous new inter-religious councils: Botswana and the Democratic Republic of Congo in Africa; and Bolivia, Chile, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guyana, Panama, Puerto Rico, Surinam, and Trinidad and Tobago in Latin America and the Caribbean. In addition, *Religions for Peace* formalized six regional youth networks and expanded its women of faith network, particularly in Latin America and Asia. [See “List of IRCs,” page 14.]

The development of *A Guide to Building Inter-religious Councils* was a major contribution in the efforts to help religious communities and their leaders to formalize multi-religious mechanisms for cooperation.

National network formation and capacity building were identified as priorities by many affiliated regional and sub-regional women of faith networks and IRCs in 2006. This was carried forward in the following countries: Rwanda, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Tanzania, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Kenya and India. A Central American Sub-regional Consultative meeting and action planning of women of faith was held in Guatemala.



Building Capacity & Providing Tools

To support religious leaders in effectively engaging their constituencies, *Religions for Peace* developed materials in 2006 to help strengthen inter-religious councils, combat poverty and disease, and place women at the front lines of conflict transformation. [See “New Publications and Tools,” page 15.] Specially designed training sessions were held throughout Africa, Latin America, and the Caribbean in using these materials. For example, *Religions for Peace*:

- Trained religious leaders in Uganda, Sudan, and Liberia in justice and reconciliation regarding the International Criminal Court and
- Mounted a broad-based training and advocacy campaign in Africa to combat discrimination against HIV/AIDS. Such trainings resulted in reaching 4,500 women and youth trainers in Kenya alone and the delivery of hundreds of relevant sermons and messages at local houses of worship.

All manuals may be downloaded at www.Religionsforpeace.org/resources/toolkits/index.

Global Youth Network

The *Religions for Peace* Global Youth Network gained full momentum in 2006 when the six regional inter-religious youth networks were launched in Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Europe, North America, as well as in Latin America and the Caribbean. Concrete success in mounting action programs in six regions inspired donors to award funding to carry out similar projects around the globe to confront some of our most urgent challenges—building peace, addressing environmental issues, and coping with the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

More than 300 religious youth leaders gathered at the Youth Assembly in Hiroshima and Kyoto, 21-25 August 2006, and adopted the Hiroshima Declaration, which pledged, “We choose hope because that is the only way forward.” The youth also announced their concrete action plan and elected a fifteen-member International Youth Committee (IYC) representing the world’s faith traditions from six continents.

Operating a Network

Religions for Peace simultaneously advances multi-religious cooperation on global, regional, national, and local levels. Networking across these levels involves sharing information, forging internal alliances and advancing public partnerships.

The global *Religions for Peace* network—connecting religious communities at multiple levels, from the grassroots through national inter-religious councils and groups, regional inter-religious councils, to the most senior leadership represented on the World Council—allows *Religions for Peace* to align religious communities around common problems, discern areas of shared concern, and commit to taking action.

The *Religions for Peace* Eighth World Assembly in Kyoto, Japan, was the largest and most powerful example of multi-religious networking in 2006. The Youth Assembly and the Women's Assembly—both of which preceded the World Assembly—were powerful opportunities for individuals to identify together what issues were most critical in their communities. Developing mentorships, combating gender-based violence, and confronting the HIV/AIDS pandemic are just some of the areas around which members rallied to cooperate.



Inter-religious Councils and Affiliated Groups

Africa

Regional Bodies:

African Council of Religious Leaders

Sub-Regional Bodies:

West Africa Inter-Religious Coordinating Committee

National Inter-Religious Councils and Groups:

The Inter-religious Council of Burundi

World Conference of *Religions for Peace* Cameroon

The Forum of Religious Confessions of Cote d'Ivoire

Inter-religious Council of the Democratic Republic of Congo

Ethiopian Inter-Faith Forum for Development Dialogue and Action

Ghana Conference of *Religions for Peace*

Inter-religious Council of Guinea

Inter-religious Council of Kenya

Inter-religious Council of Liberia

Malawi Public Affairs Committee

Council of Religions of Mozambique

Nigeria Inter-religious Council

Interfaith Commission of Rwanda

Inter-religious Council of Sierra Leone

World Conference of *Religions for Peace* South Africa

Sudan Interreligious Council

World Conference of *Religions for Peace* Tanzania

Inter-religious Council of Uganda

Zambia Interfaith Networking Group

Asia and the Pacific

Regional Bodies:

Asian Conference of *Religions for Peace*

National Inter-Religious Councils and Groups:

World Conference of *Religions for Peace* Australia

Religions for Peace Bangladesh

Cambodian Interreligious Council

China Committee on Religion and Peace

Korean Council of Religionists

Religions for Peace India

Indonesian Conference on Religion and Peace

World Conference of *Religions for Peace* Japan

The Religion and Peace Academy, Nepal

World Conference of *Religions for Peace* New Zealand

World Conference of *Religions for Peace* Pakistan

Religions for Peace Philippines

Korean Conference on Religion and Peace

Interreligious Organisation, Singapore

National Council of *Religions for Peace* Sri Lanka

Religions for Peace Thailand



New Publications and Tools

Religions for Peace is committed to developing tools and resources so that communities of faith can build trust and peace directly on the grassroots level. These are the materials produced by the *Religions for Peace* team in 2006; all are available for download on our Web site, <http://religionsforpeace.org/resources/toolkits/index>.



A Guide to Building Inter-Religious Councils

Religions for Peace supports religious communities in their desire to work together for peace. One way is to build a formal network – an inter-religious council (IRC). This step-by-step introductory manual is designed to help religious leaders form and develop an IRC.



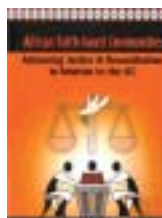
Women Of Faith Transforming Conflict: A Multi-Religious Training Manual

This manual, which has been field tested in West Africa and Southeast Europe, is devoted to helping women of faith communities become major actors for peace.



Faith in Action: Working Toward the Millennium Development Goals

Religions for Peace partnered with the United Nations to develop, field test, and launch a tool kit specifically designed to help religious communities address and meet the UN Millennium Development Goals: eradicating extreme poverty, achieving universal primary education, promoting gender equality, reducing child mortality and hunger, and combating HIV/AIDS and other diseases by 2015. The tool kit is in English, French, Spanish, and Arabic.



Justice & Reconciliation, International Criminal Court

Religions for Peace worked with African faith-based organizations to develop ways in which religious communities can work toward justice and reconciliation in relation to the International Criminal Court (ICC). The manual, which will be translated into French, will help promote relationships among religious leaders, faith-based organizations, and the ICC.

Europe

Regional Bodies:

European Council of Religious Leaders
Religions for Peace Europe

National Inter-Religious Councils and Groups:

Religions for Peace Austria
World Conference of *Religions for Peace* Belgium
Interreligious Council of Bosnia and Herzegovina
Religions for Peace Croatia
World Conference of *Religions for Peace* France
Religions for Peace Germany
World Conference of *Religions for Peace* Italy
Interreligious Council of Kosovo/*Religions for Peace*
Religions for Peace Netherlands
Religions for Peace Poland
Religions for Peace Romania
Interreligious Council of Russia/*Religions for Peace*
World Conference on Religion and Peace/Sweden
World Conference of *Religions for Peace*
United Kingdom

Latin America and the Caribbean

Regional Bodies:

Latin American and the Caribbean Council of Religious Leaders

National Inter-Religious Councils and Groups:

Argentine National Interreligious Committee
Barbados Interreligious Organization
Interreligious Dialogue Table of Bolivia
Abrahamic Forum of Chile

Interreligious Group of Columbia

Religions for Peace Costa Rica
Religions for Peace Dominican Republic
Inter-religious Meeting of Ecuador
Religions for Peace El Salvador

Interreligious Guatemalan Dialogue on Development

Interreligious Organization of Guyana

Interreligious Council of Mexico

Ecumenical Committee of Panama

Peruvian Inter-Religious Conference - *Religions for Peace*

Ecumenical and Inter-Religious Coalition of Puerto Rico

Inter-religious Council in Suriname

Interreligious Organization of Trinidad and Tobago

Jewish-Christian Fraternity of Uruguay

Committee of Relations between Churches and Synagogues Established in Venezuela

Middle East

National Inter-Religious Councils and Groups:

World Conference of *Religions for Peace* Iraq
Inter-religious Coordinating Council in Israel

North America

National Inter-Religious Councils and Groups:

World Conference of *Religions for Peace* Canada
Religions for Peace USA

Financial Information

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

December 31, 2006
(with comparative totals at December 31, 2005)

ASSETS

Cash (including \$1,270,930 and \$44,461 in interest bearing accounts in 2006 and 2005)	\$ 1,270,580	\$ 133,650
Investments	2,004,049	1,904,461
Pledges receivable	416,199	421,370
Other receivables	18,137	30,108
Security deposits	27,150	23,033
Prepaid expenses	7,129	2,984
Furniture and equipment – at cost (net of accumulated depreciation of \$352,327 and \$336,815 in 2006 and 2005)	24,331	39,843
Leasehold improvements – at cost (net of accumulated amortization of \$50,725 and \$46,093 in 2006 and 2005)	5,784	10,416
Total assets	\$ 3,773,359	\$ 2,565,865

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Liabilities		
Accrued expenses and other liabilities	\$ 147,676	\$ 216,120
Line of credit advance	912,984	152,788
Total liabilities	1,060,660	368,908
Net assets		
Temporarily restricted	2,849,593	2,830,254
Unrestricted	(136,894)	(633,297)
Total net assets	2,712,699	2,196,957
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 3,773,359	\$ 2,565,865

The complete financial statements for the years ended December 31, 2006 and 2005 are available from the World Conference of *Religions for Peace*.

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

For the year ended December 31, 2006
(with comparative totals for year ended
December 31, 2005)

	2006			2005
	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total	Total
REVENUES, GAINS AND OTHER SUPPORT				
Grants	\$ 358,282	\$ 2,820,170	\$ 3,178,452	\$ 2,031,262
Contributions	1,593,373	257,393	1,850,766	620,085
Interest/dividends	1,743	77,458	79,201	71,879
Miscellaneous	2	153	155	2,303
Net gain (loss) – investments		40,251	40,251	(40,570)
Net assets released from restrictions	3,176,086	(3,176,086)	–	–
Total revenues, gains and other support	5,129,486	19,339	5,148,825	2,684,959
EXPENSES				
Program services				
Assembly	1,489,839		1,489,839	–
Conflict Transformation	642,723		642,723	622,950
Child	656,538		656,538	672,083
Women	293,412		293,412	180,174
Inter-religious Council Building	223,768		223,768	606,285
Secretary General	283,717		283,717	
Other programs	42,277		42,277	227,139
Total program services	3,632,274		3,632,274	2,308,631
Supporting services				
Administration and general	575,573		575,573	471,197
Fund raising	425,236		425,236	543,432
Total supporting services	1,000,809		1,000,809	1,014,629
Total expenses	4,633,083		4,633,083	3,323,260
Change in net assets	496,403	19,339	515,742	(638,301)
Net assets – beginning of year	(633,297)	2,830,254	2,196,957	2,835,258
Net assets – end of year	\$ (136,894)	\$ 2,849,593	\$ 2,712,699	\$ 2,196,957

The complete financial statements for the years ended December 31, 2006 and 2005 are available from the World Conference of *Religions for Peace*.

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