

SUDAN INTER-AGENCY WORKING GROUP (SIARG):

Mission Statement and Operational Guidelines

MISSION STATEMENT

The Sudan Inter-Agency Reference Group (SIARG) is a NETWORK of Canadian church and non-governmental organizations with Sudan-related programming. It was formed on September 26th, 1998 at a church/NGO-organized roundtable on Sudan. Its purpose is to systematically link member agencies and to provide a mechanism for sharing information, analysis and ideas and for undertaking common initiatives. Members are involved in a wide range of activities including conflict resolution, capacity building, human rights research and advocacy, education, development and relief. On occasion members may speak or act in groups or in unison to fulfill policy and project goals and objectives. Members also will explore options to relate to and support Sudanese organizations in Canada.

OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES

Host Agency

One member of the SIARG will be designated as host agency and will provide minimal administrative support and coordinate meetings, activities and initiatives. The host agency will delegate tasks to other members as the need arises.

Governance

The SIARG will function as a "committee of the whole". Members will occasionally evaluate this means of operating and can form a steering committee if deemed necessary.

Frequency of meetings

Members will normally meet twice a year. Special meetings and teleconferences can be called if necessary. Any member is free to request a meeting should the need arise. Requests should be conveyed to the host agency which in turn will poll other members.

Funding

Funding will be provided through annual membership fees of \$100 and members' special grants. All funds should be remitted to the host agency. Funding may also be sought from official funding bodies for occasional special initiatives. Member agencies are generally expected to cover their own travel and accommodation costs associated with meetings of the SIARG. However, subsidies will be provided for those coming from exceptionally long distances.