

principles to incorporate a human rights criterion. This provides a good basis for follow-up action with Shell regarding Nigeria, as well as for pressing other companies to adopt similar codes. The Taskforce has also focused on the operations of Canadian companies in the Sudan, Burma, and Guatemala.

The churches also work on the rights of refugees and immigrant workers. The Anglican Church's Primate's World Relief and Development Fund (PWRDF) has responded to the global refugee situation by: advocating for the rights of refugees in Canada and in other parts of the world; monitoring national and international refugee policies; educating the Canadian public on the issue; supporting refugee programs of partners in the south through grants for emergency relief, development, policy and advocacy work for and with refugees; and supporting the network of Anglican volunteers engaged in refugee sponsorship and advocacy. The PWRDF makes frequent representations to the Canadian government expressing concern over aspects of the Canadian Immigration Law and the refugee determination process, through briefs, meetings with the Minister of Immigration and other immigration officials, and appearances before the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Citizenship and Immigration. It has also made submissions to the Executive Committee of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and to the UN Commission of Human Rights.

In Quebec, l'Association québécoise des organismes de coopération internationale (AQOCI), the umbrella group of Québec non-governmental organizations working in international co-operation, coordinates the Comité Francophonie, which is a part of the Canadian Human Rights Network. This is a coalition of 15 Quebec organizations working on human rights and democratic development. Its goal is to transform the Francophonie into a political forum that promotes human rights and democratic development.

Next year will be the 50th anniversary of the passage of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948. The chairman of the United Nations Association in Canada's Human Rights Committee, the Hon. Walter Maclean, will be travelling across Canada on a speaking tour in the lead-up to the anniversary.

3. Gender Equity

Policy goal: Ensure NGOs and governments fulfill gender equity commitments made at recent global United Nations conferences, with particular emphasis on promoting women's human rights, addressing the feminization of poverty, improving women's participation in power