

**Africa-Canada Forum  
Annual General Meeting  
22-23 April, 2009**

***Meeting the Challenge of Democratic Development,  
Peace and Economic Justice in Africa***

Best Western Victoria Park Suites, O'Connor Salon  
377 O'Connor St, Ottawa

**Agenda**

**Goals**

- Launch the ACF Platform from Action : Africa Matters
- Raise Africa's profile as a priority of Canadian Foreign Policy

**Wednesday, April 22**

9:00 - 10:00 **Welcoming Remarks**

Moderators: Caroline Boudreau, Inter Pares, and Denis Tougas, Entraide missionnaire

- Objectives of the General Meeting, Review of the Agenda
- Launch of the ACF Platform for Action

10:00-10:30 **Pause**

10:30 -12:00 **Africa in the Turmoil of the Global Financial Crisis**

Moderator: Wendy Gichuru, United Church of Canada

Objective: deepen our understanding of how Northern-designed solutions to the global financial crisis will or are affecting Africa, in particular in light of the traditional demands for debt cancellation and genuine African-led development.

1. **Responses to the Financial Crisis**  
*Fraser Reilly-King*, Coordinator, Halifax Initiative
2. **Africa in the Turmoil of the Global Financial Crisis**  
*Lawson Body-Kouglo*, Coordinator, Social and Economic Policy Department,  
The International Trade Union Confederation – African Regional Organisation  
(ITUC-Africa)

11:30 – 12:00 **Open Discussion**

12:00 – 13:30 **Lunch**

13:30 – 14:30 **Where is Africa in Canada's International Peace and Defence Policy?**

Moderator Jim Davis, Kairos

Objective: Analyze the emerging trends of Canada's International Defense Policy, and the place assigned to Africa. In past decades, Canada has played important roles in supporting peace in Africa, be it through strengthening African institutions in West Africa, or important diplomatic involvement in peace and electoral processes, i.e. in Sudan, the Great Lakes and the DRC. This analysis should help us understand Canada's reluctance to contribute to peace operations in Africa, as well as how Canada relates to the US Africa Command.

**1. Canada's Support to Peace Processes in Africa**

*Surendrini Wijeyaratne*, Program Officer, Peace and Conflicts, Canadian Council for International Co-operation (CCIC)

**2. African Peace Operations in Canada's Defence and Foreign Policy**

*Fergus Watt*, World Federalist Movement - Canada

14:30-15:00 **ACF Finances and Governance**

Moderators: Brian Tomlinson, CCIC and David Onyalo, Canadian Labour Congress

15:00 – 15:30 **Pause**

15:30 – 17:30 **Workshops: from Rhetoric to Action**

Objective: Participants will look at one of the following ACF priority areas and develop a road map with concrete actions. For each objective, participants will identify tools, key moments/events, and target audiences. The draft road map included in the participant kit will help guide the discussion. Particular attention should be given to identifying attainable results and integrating women's rights into all the themes. The reports from the small group discussions will be done in plenary the next morning.

▪ **Putting Africa Back on the G8 Summit 2010 Agenda**

Moderator: Dennis Howlett, Make Poverty History

▪ **Corporate Social Responsibility and Extractive industries**

Moderator: Denis Tougas, Entraide missionnaire

▪ **Right to Food and Rural Development**

Moderator: Stefan Cherry, Mennonite Central Committee Canada

17:30- 19:00 **Networking Happy Hour**

Cash bar

## **Thursday, April 23**

### **9:00 – 10:00 Strategy Session**

Moderator: Anne Gardner, Canadian Crossroads International

- Reports from Workshops
- ACF Road Map 2009-2011
- Preparation for afternoon meetings with officials and MPs

### **10:30- 11:00 Pause**

### **11:00 – 11:45 Challenges and Hopes for Africa**

Moderator: Wendy Gichuru, United Church of Canada

*Reverend Dr. André Karamaga*, General Secretary, All Africa Conference of Churches

### **11:45 – 12:00 Closing Remarks and Evaluation**

Moderators: Caroline Boudreau, Inter Pares and Denis Tougas, Entraide missionnaire

### **12:00 – 13:00 Lunch**

### **Afternoon Meetings with officials and MPs**

13:00- 14:00 David Angell, Prime Minister Personal Representative for Africa, Foreign Affairs

15:00- 16:00 Africa-Canada Parliamentarian Association