DOMINICAN CALL TO ACTION
2005-2006 UPDATE

Care of creation is the context out of which flows all that we do as Dominican Justice Promoters.

As Dominicans we:
• challenge the systems that dominate and oppress our world;
• preach truth that liberates all;
• study the interrelatedness of all;
• pray to sustain hope;
• encourage a life style that fosters equitable and mutually enhancing life for Earth community.

We recognize and rejoice in the 2004-05 Dominican Call to Action accomplishments.

We present the 2005-06 Call to Action for your implementation.

+ Recommend that Dominican institutions, schools, motherhouses/provincials offer meeting space for immigrants.
+ Make immigrant referrals to Catholic Charities as needed.
+ Promote the Catholic Campaign Immigration Reform launched by USCCB in May 2005.

MIDDLE EAST – IRAQ
The Dominican UN representatives will:
+ Continue to work with key UN personnel in New York/Geneva and other internationals NGOs, member delegations and independent experts of the UN
Sub-commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights and UN Special Rapporteurs.
+ Continue to provide oral and written statements to the UN Commission on Human Rights in Geneva.

The Iraq Coordinating Committee will:
+ Create a communication plan to include justice promoters, communicators and preachers.
+ Submit a written report at the North American Dominican Justice Promoters Meeting.

ISRAEL/PALESTINE
To join a working group: contact Eileen Gannon, OP, at egannon@verizon.net.

We will:
+ Read A Primer: Understanding the Palestinian-Israeli Conflict by Phyllis Bennis. To order, e-mail triprimer@yahoo.com.
+ Continue to support the Palestinian Solidarity Project.

BECOME MORE PUBLIC
We will:
+ Use the online magazine “DomLife” and the Dominican Leadership Conference.
+ Use congregation/province web sites to promote actions and statements.
AFRICA

We reaffirm our solidarity with the Dominican family in Africa.

We will:

+ Collaborate with the Dominican Alliance Africa.
+ Encourage participation and support of the Dominican Alliance Care Bear Project for an HIV/AIDS clinic in Africa by:
  a) introducing this project to our congregations/provinces
  b) ordering bears.
+ Read and promote A Call to Solidarity with Africa, USCCB, November 2001.
+ Promote the Millennium Challenge Account to relieve the African food crisis, debt and global health issues. Contact: Eileen Gannon, OP, egannon@verizon.net.
+ Urge congregations/provinces to make alternative investments through an international intermediary such as Shared Interest.
+ Continue to encourage congregations/provinces to be involved in shareholder advocacy regarding HIV/AIDS and with pharmaceutical companies.

COLOMBIA

We reaffirm our solidarity with the people of Columbia.

Contact: Marta Inés Toro, OP, 401-728-8490 or mitoro@netscape.net

We will:

+ Continue to raise awareness of human rights abuses in Colombia.
+ Connect Colombia with congregation/province corporate responsibility work.
+ Continue to be involved in the SOA Watch annual demonstration and legislative reform.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

We will establish and implement a Dominican Trafficking Network.

Co-Conveners: Reg McKillip, OP, 708-714-9124 or opjustice@aol.com
Judith Hilbing, OP, 708-714-9050 or jhilbing@aol.com

We will:

Educate

+ Gather resources for the Dominican family.
+ Develop and encourage educational workshops on trafficking at the local level.

Advocate

+ Provide workshops and information wherever Dominicans reside for local police, health and legal agencies.
+ Work to create and pass state legislation on trafficking.

Network

+ Create network with Dominican Sisters International and International Justice, Peace and Care of Creation Commission.
+ Connect with national and international organizations, e.g. Stop Trafficking, Anti-Slavery, Center Against Violence and Human Trafficking.

IMMIGRATION

We will establish and implement a Dominican Immigration Committee.

Convener: Pat De Marco, OP, dempa01@hotmail.com

We will:

+ Support and promote McCain-Kennedy Legislation, SB 1033 and HB 2330.
+ Create fact sheet on the “No Child Left Behind Act” on military presence in schools by March 2006.