



Canadian Arab Federation  
La Fédération Canado-  
Arabe

## ACTION ALERT

**December 08, 2009**

### **KAIROS's Loss of Funding Latest Attack on Freedom of Speech**

#### **RESTORE CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CIDA) FUNDING TO KAIROS**

On November 30, KAIROS received notice from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) that their project proposal for 2009 - 2013 had been declined. Their 2009-2013 proposals were developed within two priority sectors of CIDA: promoting good governance (human rights) and advancing ecological sustainability (reducing the impact of climate change and addressing land degradation). It was approved at every level of CIDA before being declined on November 30.

This decision terminates a 35-year history of cooperation between CIDA and KAIROS and its predecessor organizations, thus, compromising the work of human rights and ecological integrity in the developing world.

This attack on KAIROS is part of a pattern of attacks launched against organizations whose politics differ from that of the Harper government. The Canadian Arab Federation's funds were cut earlier this year by Minister Jason Kenney and Citizenship and Immigration Canada for our political stances which are contrary to theirs. It began with CAF, now KAIROS is put in the same dire situation and, according to the National Post; the next nongovernmental organization to be affected is "Alternatives". The Post reports "The Conservative government is set to slash millions of dollars in funding to Alternatives, a Montreal-based nongovernmental organization associated with a number of left-leaning causes and which has been critical of Canada's involvement in the war in Afghanistan."

It is time for concerned Canadians to take a stand against this blatant injustice. We urge you to contact your MP to discuss this crucial matter.

Please also write to:

The Rt. Hon. Stephen Harper, Prime Minister of Canada: [pm@m.gc.ca](mailto:pm@m.gc.ca)

The Hon. Bev Oda, Minister of International Cooperation: [oda.b@parl.gc.ca](mailto:oda.b@parl.gc.ca)

and Margaret Biggs, President of CIDA: [Margaret.Biggs@acdi-cida.gc.ca](mailto:Margaret.Biggs@acdi-cida.gc.ca)

requesting a reversal of the decision.

Please copy your letters to KAIROS at [info@kairoscanada.org](mailto:info@kairoscanada.org)

**[www.caf.ca](http://www.caf.ca)**

**Established in 1967, the Canadian Arab Federation is a national, non-partisan, non profit and membership-based organization. CAF represents Canadian Arabs on issues relating to public policy.**