

## **2005:05 Increase Canada's Financial Contribution to the Global Fund for HIV/AIDS**

**Whereas:** the global HIV/AIDS situation is growing more critical, i.e: there are currently 40 million people infected with HIV/AIDS world-wide, of whom 28.5 million are Africans;

- more than half of those infected are under 25 years of age – of whom 75% are young women;
- there are currently 14 million children orphaned by AIDS;
- in 2002, fewer than 25,000 people lost their lives to AIDS in the richer Western countries as compared to 2.2 million who died of AIDS in the Global South, (9,600 per day average) for a total 25 million deaths to date;

**Whereas:** HIV/AIDS is decimating the workforce population, leaving children and grandparents with parental-financial -care responsibilities for sibling groups, cousins and grandchildren;

**Whereas:** there are some signs of success in regional attempts to stem the HIV/AIDS pandemic in some African and Latin-American countries, there are also grave concerns about the rate at which the disease is penetrating and expanding into Asia, Eastern Europe, and the throughout the Western World;

**Whereas:** the United Nations has established the UNAIDS Program, which has determined \$10 billion USD annually to be the minimum annual funding required to prevent and treat HIV/AIDS;

**Whereas:** only \$5 billion has been pledged to this Global Fund for HIV/AIDS, world-wide, to date, Canada's pledge being a total of \$100 million USD from 2001-2003 and an additional \$70 million CDN recently pledged for the period of 2005; therefore be it

**Resolved:** that the National Council of Women of Canada establish as policy support for HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment programs in Canada and abroad; and be it further

**Resolved:** that National Council of Women of Canada urge the Government of Canada to support the United Nations HIV/AIDS Program goals by increasing its contribution to help reach the \$10 billion funding required annually to administer HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment programs where they are needed; and be it further

**Resolved:** that National Council of Women of Canada urge the International Council of Women to request its National Councils to encourage their respective governments to take a proactive approach to the prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS around the world by:

- a. endorsing and following through on the UNAIDS Program Goal to raise \$10 billion annually;
- b. developing regional strategies and campaigns to inform their citizens that HIV/AIDS continues to be a threat from which everyone especially women and girls, needs protection.