

For consideration by the Congregations Working Group, January 19, 2007

Draft International Policy Guidelines

In alignment with its international vision statement, the Board of Trustees establishes these policy guidelines for the work of the Office of International Relations:

1. The UUA will encourage and foster partnerships between member congregations and other U*U congregations and/or other international communities and agencies that model right relations and economic fairness, work for human rights and build civil capacity.
2. The UUA will nurture its historic and traditional commitments with Unitarian and Universalist groups worldwide committed to global understanding, diplomacy, and shared programs.
3. The UUA will combine resources with other U*U organizations to identify and nurture emerging groups, providing them with inspiration, leadership development and the opportunity to grow.
4. The UUA will join with interfaith alliances to participate in the promotion of human rights worldwide, sp. with such issues as genocide, health pandemics (ex. HIV/AIDS), religious freedom, and peace.

To consider adding the following to the UUA Board Vision for International Engagement:

“promote opportunities to end the structures of racism and other oppressions; and...”

UUA Board Vision for International Engagement

The work of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) is to serve member congregations and support UU institutions bearing witness to our liberal religious faith and bringing our principles to life. Mindful of both the brokenness and the potential for reconciliation in the world, the Board of the UUA commits to strengthen and energize UUA member congregations by facilitating their connection to the transforming power of international engagement and partnership. In support of this commitment we urge the UUA administration and member congregations to foster institutional partnerships that:

- Model friendship and right relations, economic fairness and responsible stewardship of resources among partners;
- Promote human rights, religious freedom, international peace and justice; and
- Increase the visibility of Unitarian Universalism, Unitarianism, and Universalism as an active positive presence in the world.