

Archbishop Desmond Tutu encourages national charity

One World Week (OWW) is holding a crucial training day on Saturday, 14th March at Reading Town Hall. Key supporters from across the country will gather together to discuss how they are going to stimulate thousands of people across the UK to put on "Hungry for One World" themed events in October 2009.

A personal message from Archbishop Desmond Tutu will be shared with participants *"Thank you for having the passion the people who support your One World project have...of course we are now facing a very difficult situation... however you are there and you have to keep reminding all of us that we are family!"* (British Council Lecture 19th February 2009, London)

Key supporters and advisors from local and international charities, including Muslim Aid (MA), Islamic Relief (IR), Islam Awareness Week (IAW) and Catholic Aid for Overseas Development (CAFOD) will take part in discussions and workshops. Participants will come up with some fresh ideas for stimulating others to put on OWW events this year.

"At core, One World Week is about all of us finding the shared spaces where we can come together, across differences, to make change happen. It is about recognising the differences which divide us, while celebrating our shared dreams and common human values. When we work with one another to understand each other's perspectives, we can make positive change that could have ripple effects across our One World." Milind Kolhatkar, Chair of Trustees.

The OWW national office and supporters are more committed than ever to join together to challenge inequality, discrimination and degradation locally and globally. OWW 2009 (18th – 25th October 2009) promises to be a reminder that we can individually contribute to alleviating the hunger in our world.

For the opportunity to be part of this training day please call Mina 0118 9394933 or go to the website www.oneworldweek.org and download an application pack.

Notes to Editors

Photo times for press: 14th March 2009 1.45 pm Reading Town Hall, Water House Chamber. Contact in advance Jenny 0118 939 4933 on the day 07967930799

One World Week, a national development education charity based in Reading celebrated its 30th anniversary last year. What started in 1978, with a few individuals coming together to challenge themselves and others to think about their responsibilities and connections globally, has grown to worldwide movement with over 11,000 people taking part. One World Week takes place during the third week in October (this year 18th – 25th October). Supporters are encouraged to use the week as a focus to get together and to become involved in local events that celebrate the diversity of cultures, as well as encouraging action for justice, equality and peace. The theme this year is "Hungry for One World". OWW's current 3 year project "Exploring Ubuntu – One World Week Across Faiths" (DIFD funded) aims to raise awareness of international development to a wider audience. The project is reaching out to people of many faiths; starting with Muslims, as the second largest religion in UK, either through supporting people within their own faith communities to raise awareness of global issues through OWW events, or building on existing inter faith development activities. Check out our website www.oneworldweek.org for more details.

For more press information about OWW please contact Jenny Cameron Project Manager 0118 939 4933 or jenny@oneworldweek.org.