



## Table of Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Message from the Chair of the Board and the Executive Director</b>	
<b>2</b>	<b>Food Sovereignty for Africa</b>	
	■ Comprehensive Measures for Better Farming Conditions.....	2
	■ Speakers' Tour: Lobbying for Better North-South partnerships.....	4
<b>3</b>	<b>Giving Voice to Survivors of Sexual Violence</b>	
	■ Women's Security and Justice.....	6
<b>4</b>	<b>HIV and AIDS in Focus</b>	
	■ Looking Beyond the Health Concern.....	8
	■ 'Together' Campaign Brings Hope for Local Communities.....	8
<b>5</b>	<b>Building Peace through Dialogue</b>	
	■ Community-driven Dialogue and Peace Gaining Momentum.....	10
<b>6</b>	<b>Financial Section</b>	
<b>7</b>	<b>About ACORD</b>	

Published in 2010, Nairobi, Kenya  
© 2010 ACORD (Agency for Cooperation and Research in Development)  
Designed by Christine Okila  
Cover Photo by ACORD in Rwanda  
Photographs by Ali Zang-Nezoune, Ann Chira, Dolico Limited, Integrated Regional Information Network, Julia Liliana, Kaiprod, Nick Elebe and Ruthpearl Ng'ang'a



Kampala Conference on women's security and due diligence, October 2009

1

## Message from the Chair of the Board and the Executive Director

It is our privilege to present to you the annual report of ACORD for the year 2009. We have journeyed together during the year and our support has continued to make a difference in the lives of women, men and children in Africa.

The report highlights the context of our development work as well as programmes delivered with our partners at local grassroots, national, regional, Pan African and global levels.

Globally in 2009, about one billion people were reported to be going hungry everyday. In Sub-Saharan Africa, about 230 million people were going without food or were undernourished. This situation is unacceptable.

At ACORD, we are taking immediate action to tackle the growing number of hungry people across Sub Saharan Africa through a range of practical actions linked to our advocacy aims and strategic positioning and not forgetting alliances that we have built with our northern partners.

In 2009 ACORD emphasised civil society and citizen engagement on the Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP) of the African Union as an entry point to address the poverty and rights for people and communities. The CAADP's ultimate goal is to eliminate hunger and reduce poverty through agriculture-led growth. ACORD is working to support farmers' groups in claiming a stronger role in forming policies on agriculture and food security.

ACORD together with its partners also continued to pursue the promotion of gender equality, through strengthening women's organisations and encouraging them to be part of national and regional policy forums. The organisation also continued to accompany efforts of communities and farmers in conflict management, conflict prevention and peace building processes. We also confronted HIV and AIDS-related stigma and discrimination in all its forms.

In all these processes, the policy and advocacy approaches used were informed by the need to link local realities with policy demands within regional, continental and international policy processes that have impact on the lives of people we work with. Our policy and advocacy work will continue to be driven by local needs based on people-centred research.

Still, there is much to be done seeing the challenges that continue to plague communities building their livelihoods and seeking justice in various pockets of the African continent. Food production, conflict resolution, HIV/AIDS and rights for women are just some of the challenges.

This means that the road map for African development is still unfinished and as such requires everyone's contribution.

ACORD is well positioned to address many of these challenges thanks to its far-reaching grassroots presence. Our role as a Pan African organisation working in common cause with people who are poor and those who have been denied their rights to obtain social justice and development enables us to work comfortably with associations and networks at the community level.

Therefore, 2009 becomes part of that long history of dedicated and focused work, spanning over 30 years aiming to attain social justice and

On behalf of ACORD staff, management, and Board we would like to thank all our partners and funders who have made it possible to make a positive difference in the lives of the poor and marginalised people for social justice in Africa.



**Ibrahim Ouedraogo**  
Chairperson



**Ousainou Ngum**  
Executive Director



Women preparing land for cultivation in Kitgum District of Northern Uganda. There is need to democratise debate and decision-making in the CAADP ensuring policy decisions are driven by participatory involvement of women's, and small-scale farmers' organisations

## 2 Food Sovereignty for Africa

### Comprehensive Measures for Better Farming Conditions

Food systems in Africa have consistently excluded the vast majority of those involved in producing food and feeding people from participating in formulating food and agriculture policies. These groups include women, small-scale farmers, indigenous people, migrants, agricultural and fishery labourers as well as pastoralists. It is vital that food producers, who make up a significant proportion of the hungry have a voice in determining policies that affect their own livelihoods.

### Poverty Reduction

The implementation of the Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP) process provides viable options that can effectively address the poverty and rights for people and communities in Africa. The CAADP's goal is to eliminate hunger and reduce poverty through agriculture-led growth.

CAADP was established in 2003 when African Governments committed themselves, in the Maputo Declaration, to increase their investment in agriculture by up to 10% of national budgets. Although progress has been slow for the last few years, the global food price shock that impacted on the world in 2007 and 2008 brought agriculture and food security back to the top of the international agenda.

ACORD strives to contribute to the process by promoting a sustained movement of farmers and bringing their needs to the attention of policy-makers and national governments. Grassroots partnerships also help to strengthen the farmers' networks and enhance access to markets and trade capacities at national and regional levels.

These activities serve to uphold CAADP targets and government commitment of 10% national budget investment in agriculture and ensure investments benefit small-holder farmers and women in particular.

In 2009, ACORD conducted capacity assessments of the food sovereignty networks at national level in order to enhance quality of interventions in policy advocacy. This exercise and the information derived is helping to identify the needs as well as define modalities for supporting and helping farmers' networks to grow.



**“Countries must be free to prioritise production for domestic consumption and food self-sufficiency and must be able to take action to prevent dumping and to counter abuses of market power by agribusiness”**

**- Beyond 10%: Making the CAADP Work for Food Sovereignty in Africa**



Small-scale farmers harvesting crops. Given the primary role that women hold in African agriculture, they must have direct input into formulating agricultural policies at all levels, including the international level.

## Speakers' Tour: Lobbying for Better North-South Partnerships

**“ In Africa, the economic and financial crisis has already turned into a food crisis and Economic Partnership Agreements will only make it worse ”**

**Mary Sakala, Eastern and Southern African Small-Scale Farmers Association.**

Economic Partnership Agreements, or EPAs, are a subject of negotiation between African, Caribbean and Pacific countries and the European Union. The debate continues to elicit strong reactions from African civil society organisations as doubts emerge concerning the real benefits for local farmers.

With the aim of bringing the concerns of farmers in particular to the attention of European decision-makers, ACORD organised a 'Speakers' Tour' for farmers' leaders, national parliamentarians and ACORD in March 2009.

With support from ACORD and its European partners, the delegation traveled to Berlin, Brussels, Madrid, Paris and London to engage European farmers, parliamentarians, civil society and media in discussions regarding the EPAs and the European Common Agricultural Policy, both instruments that are likely to lead to negative results for Africa's small-scale farmers.

***“The current food crisis highlights the urgency of the fair trade regulations. Rather than maintaining Africa's dependency on developed countries' benevolence, we require a fair agreement, focusing on development”***

**Catherine Kimura, Chairperson of the Trade Committee for the East African Legislative Assembly.**

## Shielding from Unfair Competition and Fragmentation

At the European parliament in Brussels African farmers and parliamentarians stressed the harmful effects of European Union dumping of agricultural products. While in Belgium, the delegates also visited the largest Flemish farmer organisation (Boerenbond). They were pleased to hear Boerenbond sharing their concerns that African regions should have the possibility to protect their domestic and regional market from unfair competition.

It is feared that EPAs will hamper development prospects of emerging African markets and constrain local initiatives geared towards ensuring food security in the continent. In addition, the fear that EPAs shall hamper regional integration efforts has progressively been confirmed as real.

Therefore, the struggle by civil society organisations and farmers' movements to be heard is expected to continue in future. This is likely to garner stronger support from the grassroots across Africa, as the down-sides associated with EPAs begin to manifest themselves.



**Street march during 2009 'Stop, Think and Resist' campaign to speak out against harmful effects of Economic Partnership Agreements.**



Mosaic reflecting the grim reality of hidden war crimes and the struggle to end impunity for sexual violence against women and girls



## Giving Voice to Survivors of Sexual Violence

### Women's Security and Justice



Kampala Conference, October 2009

The increase in the level and type of violence against women and girls in the last decade has shown that legal frameworks on paper amount to little without enforcement and commitment to the rule of law. This is particularly true for Africa's fast-changing communities. New challenges that have emerged include the sub-regional nature of conflicts and trafficking of persons across porous borders.

With funding from the Dutch Government's MDG3 Fund, ACORD launched a regional programme in 2009 titled 'The Hidden War Crimes: Challenging the Impunity for Sexual and Gender Based Violence in Countries within the International Conference for the Great Lakes Region'.

The programme involves ACORD's work in Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. This will contribute towards implementing mechanisms to address impunity and access justice for survivors of sexual and gender-based violence, and promote women's rights and agency.

## Milestones on Ending Impunity for Sexual and Gender Based Violence in 2009

April, 2009

At the launch of the 'My Body, My Rights' campaign in Nairobi, the need to instill political commitment, expand constitutional capacity and engage community participation and responsibility were strongly voiced.

"The challenge right now is for us to recognise the seriousness of the problem and avoid becoming part of the perpetrators without knowing it. We must therefore take courage and do what needs to be done at the right time", said Josephine Odera of United Nations Fund for Women in Central Africa. She also encouraged the participants to step up the advocacy efforts to stem the impunity for sexual violence.

Based on findings of Judicial audits conducted in the 5 countries, recommendations made appeal for stronger national legislation on sexual crimes, sustained skill-building for handling sexual violence within the police service, promotion of health infrastructure that is sensitive to sexual violence needs, and strengthening capacity of community based organisations towards monitoring and response.

October, 2009

The second Pan African conference on ending impunity for sexual violence, entitled '*women's security and due diligence - relocating the narratives*' was held in Kampala, Uganda. The conference provided not only a reflection platform but also a space for practical engagement with actors on the meaning of women's security and transitional justice platforms and structures for redefining women's response to the impunity on sexual violence.

A conference communiqué was developed from the forum by the team of representatives of parliamentarians, regional institutions and civil society organisations in the Great Lakes region.

They committed to engage more and new strategies to hold governments accountable, invest in enhancing leverage and building links, engage new constituencies and opportunities as well as challenge ideological frameworks that cast women as lesser beings.

**" You cannot carry out fundamental change without a certain amount of madness. In this case, it comes from non-conformity, the courage to turn your back on the old formulas, the courage to invent the future. "**

**- Thomas Sankara**



A Women's forum for awareness on prevention of mother to child transmission of HIV near Lake Victoria in Kenya

## 4 HIV and AIDS in Focus

### Looking beyond the Health Concern

In many African communities today, the negative effects of HIV and AIDS continues to cut across all sectors particularly education and agriculture. The notion previously held that HIV and AIDS was purely a health matter has shifted dramatically in recent times.

More than 25 million people who comprise the prime production age bracket of 15 to 49 years are estimated to be infected with the HIV virus. Further within this category, 60% are aggregated as women and girls.

This paints a grim picture of the scorecard on the Millennium Development Goal 6 to combat HIV and AIDS. The loss of productive members of the community impacts a household's ability to produce or purchase food.

But there is hope. Sensitisation programmes by ACORD and various grassroots organisations, networks and partnerships are contributing towards the reversal of the negative trends in Sub-Saharan Africa. This is happening alongside mainstreaming HIV in all activities related to food security, especially gender and conflict transformation.

The decrease in prevalence rates reported in Sub-Saharan Africa is putting some smiles on peoples' faces. In addition, the needs of people living with HIV are now featuring in global campaigns such as the Aids Free Generation Campaign as well as the 15% budget allocation to health under the Abuja Declaration.

**“Poverty is both a consequence and cause of the spread of HIV and AIDS. These cross linkages continue to feature at all levels including at individual, household, community, national, regional as well as global levels.”**

**Ousainou Ngum, ACORD Executive Director.**

### ‘Together’ Campaign Brings Hope for Local Communities

A national campaign entitled “men and women together for the prevention of mother to child transmission of HIV” was a key moment for ACORD in Burundi. It was an important opportunity to launch the World AIDS Day and HIV Week activities, as well as facilitate public forums, talk shows, and visits to HIV/AIDS homes for affected people.

The events attracted activists and champions for the rights of people living with or affected by the prevalence of HIV/AIDS from 11 provinces as well as representatives from organisations working on HIV-related issues.

ACORD's work in Burundi was focusing on promotion of universal access to care, in order to keep track of the commitments by States to invest at least 15% in the health sector. The livelihood conditions of people affected by HIV and AIDS, particularly women was our main concern during the campaign.

The launch of the World AIDS Day and HIV Week took place at the Ntusigarinyuma Association's home for people living with HIV in Kayogoro Province.

*“Following the awareness discussions on HIV, I was able to understand the advantage of going for counselling and testing, especially when expecting a child. I have gone for a HIV test and i am receiving support including a dairy cow given to me to help feed my baby. The good news is that my child is HIV-negative and she is a gift from me to the Ntusigarinyuma Association for their help”,* says Bernadette, a member of the Ntusigarinyuma Association for People infected with HIV and AIDS.

Statistics from 2009 showed that out of the 80% of expectant women expected to visit voluntary counseling and testing centres in Burundi, only 39% did so, while only 10% followed the guidelines for prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV to conclusion.

In addition, weak participation by all community members, especially men was seen as one of the biggest challenges. Hopefully, the “Together” campaign in Burundi can contribute to change this to the better.

## 5

## Building Peace Through Dialogue

### Community-driven Dialogue and Peace Gaining Momentum

Promoting dialogue among communities around the issues of natural resource management can lead to a more peaceful response towards resource management. This was the case in Chad where ACORD has been promoting peace-building through a project for joint natural resource management.



*Farmers and pastoralists in Chad listen attentively during community dialogue and training*

Land use, access to water points and other related natural resource activities are part of the social dynamics that have led to disputes and violent conflicts among communities in Chad's Chari, Guera, Hadjer Lamis and Ouaddai regions. In 2009, approximately 300 people lost their lives as a result of the resource-based violence.

The Local Convention tries to correct these cycles of violence by engaging the local communities in dialogue among themselves in an attempt to develop sustainable grassroots solutions to their problems. The peace-building efforts were able to reach more than 150,000 people in 10 community groups from 4 regions.

“Conflicts, whether of political, economic or social nature have devastating effects on unstable countries and on most vulnerable sectors of the population, especially women, children, the elderly and the poor”

**Implementation of the United Nations Recommendations on the Causes of Conflict and the Promotion of Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa, 2009.**

The local authorities at grassroots level shared copies of the Local Convention with members of sub-committees in their zones. Additional support from community leaders demonstrated the high level of interest by the local communities in building lasting peace.

ACORD partnered with Fikirna, a peace-building think tank and advocacy group, to be able to reach the most remote places in its dissemination plan. Furthermore, members from the units that formed the framework for consultation made regular trips to different zones to explain further the significance of the peace accords to the different communities.

**“The farmer and pastoralist groups have been able to own and make use of the endogenous mechanism for prevention of conflict reflecting their willingness to take conflict management on to the next level”**, explains Abdoulaye, a local community peace-building representative from Bokoro.

As a result, persistent conflicts have diminished significantly over the last one year, and fewer corrupt practices by the security forces are being reported. Most importantly, the pastoralists and farmers have begun to practice peaceful co-existence witnessed through marriages, baptisms and trade.

“Before the Local Convention, it was the local authorities and the security agencies who used to mediate during conflicts. But nowadays, the community members themselves are able to come together to find solutions as primary actors and arbitrators of peace”, notes a member of a grassroots peace network from Hadjer Lamis.

An ever-increasing interest in supporting the peace-building and negotiation process has been observed from other community actors, the European Union and other funding groups, policy-makers and even neighbouring countries. This is encouraging and promises hope for communities in conflicts that arise from natural resource utilisation.

# 6 Financial Section

## ACORD Financial Statement For the Year Ended 31 December 2009

(In GBP '000)

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2009	Total 2008
<b>Income</b>				
Donations and similar resources	42	0	42	33
Resources from government and other	1,457	6,131	7,588	6,762
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1,499</b>	<b>6,131</b>	<b>7,630</b>	<b>6,795</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Charitable activities - ongoing	1,315	6,354	7,669	6,361
Governance Costs	105	53	158	161
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>1,420</b>	<b>6,407</b>	<b>7,827</b>	<b>6,522</b>
<b>Net income/Expenditure</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>(276)</b>	<b>(197)</b>	<b>273</b>
Total funds brought forward	873	616	1,489	1,216
<b>Total funds carried forward at the end of the year</b>	<b>952</b>	<b>340</b>	<b>1,292</b>	<b>1,489</b>

All income and expenses arise from continuing activities. There are no other gains or losses other than shown above, therefore no statement of recognised gain and losses is presented.

This is a summary extract of the full accounts. The full accounts are audited by Horwath Clark Whitehill LLP and are available on our website: [www.acordinternational.org](http://www.acordinternational.org)

**Maggie Pankhurst**  
Treasurer of the Board

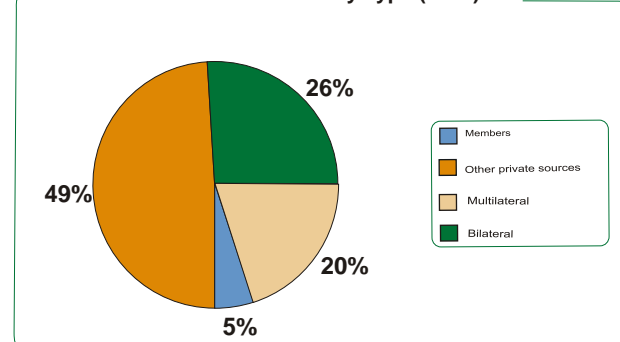
**Ibrahim Ouedraogo**  
Chairman

## Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2009

(In GBP '000)

	2009	2008
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Tangible fixed assets	21	1
<b>Current Assets:</b>		
Debtors	1,962	2,498
Cash at bank and in hand	850	593
Amounts falling due within one year	(1,541)	(1,603)
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>1,292</b>	<b>1,489</b>
<b>Funds</b>		
Net restricted funds	340	616
Unrestricted funds	952	873
<b>Net funds</b>	<b>1,292</b>	<b>1,489</b>

## ACORD's Income by Type (2009)



## 7 About ACORD

ACORD is a Pan African organisation working for social justice and development. ACORD is present on the ground in 17 countries delivering programmes on livelihoods with focus on food sovereignty, peace building and conflict transformation, gender and HIV/AIDS. Governance and civil society strengthening are cross-cutting elements common to all ACORD's work.

The Board of Trustees provides guidance and oversight. This structure is supported by a consultative international decision-making process. The key elements of this process are the annual general assembly and tri-annual donors' roundtable and learning forum.

### Vision

A society in which all citizens are equally able to achieve their rights and fulfill their responsibilities.

### Mission

ACORD works in common cause with people who are poor and those who have been denied their rights to obtain social justice and development and be part of locally rooted citizen movements.

### Core Values

- We believe people are the primary actors in their own survival and development
- We work for social justice and equality, especially for the poor and marginalised
- To achieve this, we work in partnership with communities and in alliance with other organisations
- We contribute to the resolution of conflicts affecting the communities with which we work, aware that social justice and equality are the basis of meaningful peace
- To advance these values, ACORD will carry out its work with integrity and courage
- We respect and celebrate diversity, both within the communities we work with, and within our own organisation
- We seek to achieve excellence in what we do.

## Board of Directors

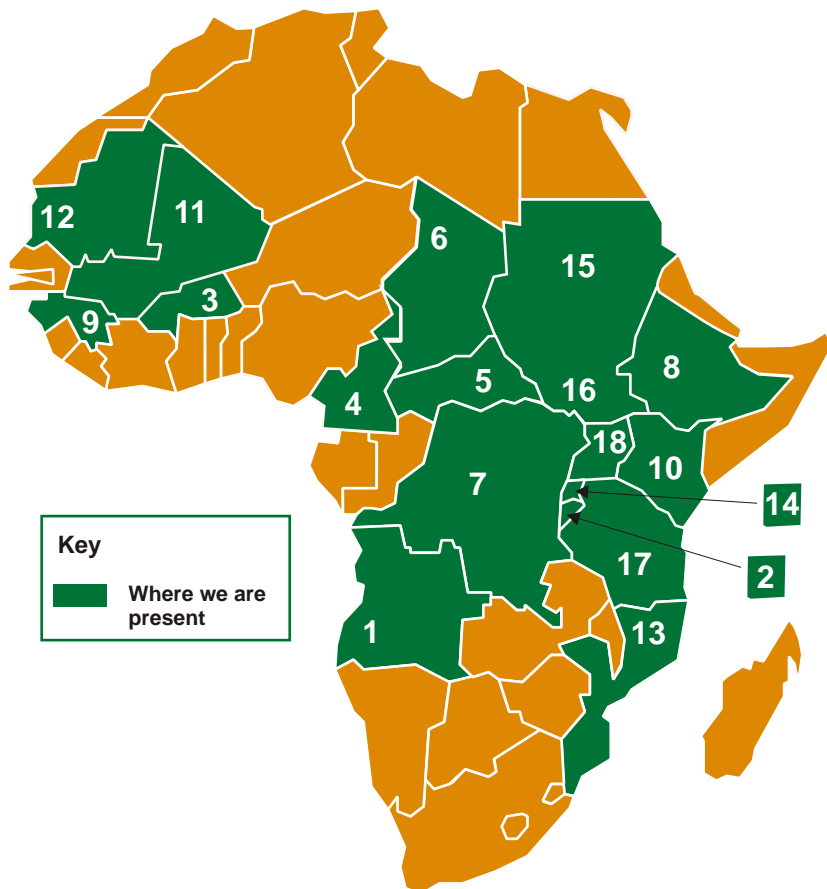
Kevin Teopista M. Akoyi  
 Richard Bennett  
 Sylli Gandega  
 Molly Kane  
 Gertrude Kazoviyo  
 Kwame Kuffour  
 Mutizwa Mukute  
 Ibrahim Ouedraogo - Chair of the Board  
 Maggie Pankhurst - Honorary Treasurer  
 Betty Plewes

## Senior Management Team

**Ousainou Ngum**, Executive Director  
**Emime Ndiokubwayo**, Head of Policy and Advocacy  
 (joined in November 2009)  
**Kristin Seljeflot**, Head of Funding  
 and Partnership Development  
**Carine Kidwingira**,  
 Human Resources Manager  
**Elijah Lutwama**,  
 Head of Finance  
**Monique Van Es**,  
 Programme Operations and Development Manager



## ACORD's Presence in Africa



### Where we work

- |                             |                                 |                   |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Angola                   | 7. Democratic Republic of Congo | 12. Mauritania    |
| 2. Burundi                  | 8. Ethiopia                     | 13. Mozambique    |
| 3. Burkina Faso             | 9. Guinea                       | 14. Rwanda        |
| 4. Cameroon                 | 10. Kenya                       | 15. Sudan - North |
| 5. Central African Republic | 11. Mali                        | 16. Sudan - South |
| 6. Chad                     |                                 | 17. Tanzania      |
|                             |                                 | 18. Uganda        |

## Resources Referred to in this Report

Beyond 10%: Making the CAADP Work for Food Sovereignty in Africa; Policy Briefing Paper No. 6; June 2009



Stand Up, Take Action to Free the Hungry Billion, Policy Briefing Paper No. 7; October 2009



WTO Doha Round Has Lost Its Development Flavour, Policy Briefing Paper No. 8 November 2009



Making the Law Count: A Synthesis Audit of Legal Practice on Sexual Violence in the Great Lakes Region



Smash the Glass: Redefining Approached to Ending Impunity for Sexual and Gender Based Violence - A Pan African Conference Report, Kampala, October 2009



The Power of Action - A 30 minute documentary on DVD that follows the stories of people in Rwanda, Burundi and Tanzania.



ACORD Handbook: Community Social Peace and Recovery Model - Generating Leadership for Sustainable Peace and Recovery among Divided Communities



These and other ACORD resources can be found at:  
[www.acordinternational.org](http://www.acordinternational.org)

**ACORD is a Pan African organisation present in 17 countries,  
working with the poor and marginalised people for social  
justice and development**



## **ACORD Secretariat**

### **Nairobi Office:**

ACK Garden House  
P.O Box 61216 - 00200  
Nairobi, Kenya  
Tel: + 254 20 272 11 72/ 85/ 86  
Fax: + 254 20 272 11 66  
E-mail: [info@acordinternational.org](mailto:info@acordinternational.org)

### **London Office:**

Development House  
56 - 64 Leonard Street  
London, EC2A 4LT  
United Kingdom  
Tel: + 44 (0) 20 7065 0850  
Fax: + 44 (0) 20 7065 0851

ACORD is a registered charity governed by memorandum and articles of association In the United Kingdom.

Registered charity No. 283302 / Company Registration No. 1573552

**[www.acordinternational.org](http://www.acordinternational.org)**