Include funding for family planning and safe abortion in Canada's G8 Maternal/Child Health Initiative

PETITION TO THE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT OF CANADA:

WE, THE UNDERSIGNED RESIDENTS OF CANADA, draw the attention of Members of Parliament of Canada to the following:

THAT in developing countries, 19-20 million women resort to unsafe (usually illegal) abortions every year; that thirteen percent of all pregnancy-related deaths are due to unsafe abortion, amounting to about 70,000 deaths per year; and that eight million women experience serious complications from unsafe abortion.

THAT lack of safe abortion care leads to the deaths of countless children in developing countries because 220,000 children lose their mothers every year from abortion-related deaths, and these children are ten times more likely to die within the next two years.

THAT it is hypocritical and immoral for Canada to deny certain human rights and life-saving health services to women in developing countries, while our Charter of Rights and Canadian law guarantees those same rights and services to women in Canada.

THAT Canada and other G8 leaders in Italy endorsed the Consensus for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health, which stipulates that "comprehensive family planning advice, services and supplies" are critical to improving maternal, newborn and child health."

THAT since Prime Minister Stephen Harper has repeatedly stressed that accountability will be the focus of the Canadian G8, this accountability should also apply to Canada's global commitments to provide the full range of reproductive health services.

THEREFORE your petitioners call upon Members of Parliament to include funding for safe abortion care and family planning/contraception in Canada's G8 maternal/child health initiative.

NAME	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE

Return completed petitions to your MP or to Abortion Rights Coalition of Canada (ARCC-CDAC), P.O. Box 2663, Station Main, Vancouver, BC V6B 3W3 info@arcc-cdac.ca