



July 29, 2008  
Year of St. Paul

Brother Bishops:

In correspondence last month, I promised to keep you advised about the efforts of Catholic Relief Services to continue making sure its apostolate remains always faithful to Catholic moral principles in its acclaimed programs to combat the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

I am very grateful to our conference committees on doctrine and on pro-life activities for accepting the invitation of Ken Hackett and myself to provide careful review of CRS policies regarding the use of condoms in protecting against HIV/AIDS, and for their recent helpful recommendations for some changes. Thanks as well to John Norton, Russell Shaw, and Germain Grisez for their thoughtful reports that prompted this review.

In response to the advice from our conference committees, the controversial teaching document, *Flipchart for Client Education: HIV Prevention, Treatment and Care*, will no longer be distributed by CRS.

In addition, I have asked Bishop George Thomas, a member of the CRS board, to work with Dr. John Haas of the National Catholic Bioethics Center to collaborate on an update of CRS' Position on the *Prevention of Sexual Transmission of HIV*, making sure that all the recommendations proposed by the two USCCB committees are incorporated. The revised document will then be returned to the USCCB Committees for a final review. CRS will then keep the NCBC on retainer for future counsel and review of moral questions.

When this is all finished, I will see that all the bishops receive the pertinent documentation.

Thanks.

Fraternally in Christ,

Most Reverend Timothy M. Dolan  
Archbishop of Milwaukee  
Chair, Catholic Relief Services