Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange Congregational Stance on A Call to Jubilee: Debt Cancellation
September 1999

We, the undersigned, believe that the new millennium should bring hope to the poorest people and nations of the world.

Petition

We the undersigned, believe that the start of the new millennium should be a time to give hope to people living in poverty. We must put behind us the mistakes made by both lenders and borrowers and cancel definitively the crushing international debt of impoverished countries burdened with high levels of human need and environmental distress.

We call upon the leaders of the richest countries, the commercial banks, the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, regional development banks and other international financial institutions to write off these debts by the end of the year 2000.

We ask these leaders to cancel the debt in a way that benefits ordinary people and without conditions that perpetuate or deepen poverty and environmental degradation. We ask them to work with governments and civil society to prevent recurring cycles of destructive indebtedness.