

## **Earth Charter Principles**

Democracy, Nonviolence, and Peace

13. Strengthen democratic institutions at all levels, and provide transparency and accountability in governance, inclusive participation in decision making, and access to justice.
14. Integrate into formal education and life-long learning the knowledge, values and skills needed for a sustainable way of life.
15. Treat all living beings with respect and consideration.
16. Promote a culture of tolerance, nonviolence and peace.

## **IHM Congregational Documents**

“We feel compelled to participate in shaping a new world order consonant with gospel values of harmony and unity, peace and justice, and an equitable sharing of the world’s resources.”  
- IHM Assembly ’72, Affirmation 10

“The campus as a whole will provide opportunities for learning and experiences necessary for transformational education of mind, body and spirit.”  
- MCLRMP Integrating Idea, 1999

“We choose to en flesh this call by working with others to build a culture of peace and right relationship among ourselves, with the Church, and with the whole earth community.”  
- IHM Chapter 2000 Directions

“We feel compelled to nurture a reconciling and healing community among ourselves and beyond, to live and work non-violently toward a world of peace with justice.”  
- IHM Assembly ’72, Affirmation 10



## **The Earth Charter and IHM Beliefs and Values**



## **Earth Charter Principles**

Respect and Care for the Community of Life

1. Respect Earth and life in all its diversity.
2. Care for the community of life with understanding, compassion and love.
3. Build democratic societies that are just, participatory, sustainable and peaceful.
4. Secure Earth’s bounty and beauty for present and future generations.

## **IHM Congregational Documents**

“We are aware that when we lose the reverence for and awe of creation, as well as an understanding of our place as partners with the earth community, our sense of God and of ourselves is diminished.”  
- Enactment on Eco-Justice, IHM Chapter 1994

“Convinced that the plight of the Earth is intimately connected to global poverty, violence and oppression, we commit our personal and communal efforts and resources to build sustainable community. This commitment challenges us to both personal transformation and to systemic change.”  
- Chapter 2000 Directions

“We believe in an ecological consciousness that fosters an interdependence of all nature, nurturing relationships that will enhance the well being of the earth and all persons.”  
- IHM Congregational Belief Statement on Sponsorship, 2000

## **Earth Charter Principles**

### Ecological Integrity

5. Protect and restore the integrity of Earth's ecological systems, with special concern for biological diversity and the natural processes that sustain life.
6. Prevent harm as the best method of environmental protection and, when knowledge is limited, apply a precautionary approach.
7. Adopt patterns of production, consumption and reproduction that safeguard Earth's regenerative capacities, human rights and community well-being.
8. Advance the study of ecological sustainability and promote the open exchange and wide application of the knowledge...

### **IHM Congregational Documents**

“(W)e are called to personal conversion and structural change. The alienation of people from the earth and each other; unequal access to the resources of the planet; pollution of our land, air and water; oppression of many people for the material benefit of a few; and the continuous promotion of consumerism call us to respond with a renewed vision.”

- Monroe Campus Long-Range Master Plan (MCLRMP)  
Integrating Idea

“We choose to work collaboratively to create a culture of right relationship with the earth community, a relationship marked by sustainability and eco-justice. We will do this through our varied ministries, by educating ourselves, and through our life-style choices, both personal and corporate.”

- IHM Chapter 2000 Directions

“...We prefer to invest in companies which show some evidence of seeking to improve conditions in society...”

- IHM Responsible Investment Guidelines, 1998

## **Earth Charter Principles**

### Social and Economic Justice

9. Eradicate poverty as an ethical, social, and environmental imperative.
10. Ensure that economic activities and institutions at all levels promote human development in an equitable and sustainable manner.
11. Affirm gender equality and equity as prerequisites to sustainable development and ensure universal access to education, health care, and economic opportunity.
12. Uphold the right of all, without discrimination, to a natural and social environment supportive of human dignity, bodily health and spiritual well being, with special attention to the rights of indigenous peoples and minorities.

### **IHM Congregational Documents**

“In our struggle to live the gospel today, we recognize our call... to eradicate the causes of injustice and oppression and to help create structures that will promote justice and peace...”

- IHM Constitutions, Article 11

“We urge one another to be conscious of the poverty, hunger and injustice suffered by the great majority of the human family and to make choices which clearly reflect that...we stand with and for the poor.”

- IHM Constitutions, Article 13

“We pledge ourselves to analyze, critique and transform structures that keep women in a state of oppression in both Church and society.”

- IHM Assembly '87 Directions

“We feel compelled to stand in solidarity with those who suffer in a world characterized by fragmentation, violence and poverty.”

- IHM Assembly 72, Affirmation 10