



PRESS RELEASE

PROCURA Calls for Peace and Calm as Tension Continues to Mount Over Anti-Government Protests in Kenya

Nairobi, Kenya – June 27, 2024: The Programme for Christian-Muslim Relations in Africa (PROCURA), a Pan-African Christian organization dedicated to promoting peace, peaceful coexistence and constructive relations between Christians and Muslims across the continent of Africa, is deeply concerned by the recent unprecedented demonstrations in Kenya, pitying anti-government protesters on one side and the government on the other side.

The tensions between protesters demonstrating against the contested Finance Bill 2024 and other underlying governance issues have quickly escalated to violent confrontations between the mostly young people on the streets and the police, leaving behind a trail of loss of lives and destruction of properties as witnessed on Tuesday, June 25th, 2024.

Kenya has been a peaceful nation, apart from instances of election violence that erupt occasionally during general election periods. As an economic and tech hub in the region, Kenya hosts people of different nationalities worldwide. Kenya is largely known to be a peaceful country, a safe haven and a beacon of hope for many countries across the continent. For this reason, PROCURA calls on all parties involved in the ongoing standoff to refrain from using violence to either express their concerns or repulse the protesters.

We further urge the church, faith-based organisations, and civil society organisations to create avenues for engaging the government and the youth in peaceful negotiations and to be the voice of reason during this period. PROCURA stands ready to play a part in this process.

As a Pan-African peace-building organisation, we emphatically urge all parties to prioritize peaceful dialogue and prevent the country from descending into violence and lawlessness. We have seen the destructive impact of violent confrontations between the people and the police or the state. Such situations often deepen divisions and sow seeds of discord among the people. Our call is to the country's leadership, political leaders, religious leaders, civil society groups, and all Kenyans to prioritize peace and constructive engagement in addressing the grievances raised through lawful and peaceful means.

At these most challenging times, Kenya should draw inspiration from its rich history of unity as a country that has celebrated its diverse cultural and political affiliations. It is not a time to pull different sides or to take hardline stands.

We continue to closely monitor the situation and remain steadfast in our commitment to contributing positively to the quest for lasting peace and stability in Kenya.

God bless Kenya, God bless Africa!

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