



Programme for Christian-Muslim Relations in Africa  
Programme des Relations Islamo-Chrétiennes en Afrique



# **ADDIS ABABA COMMUNIQUÉ**

**AFRICA CHRISTIAN & MUSLIM RELIGIOUS LEADERS  
CONFERENCE ON PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT**

**ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA, 8TH - 13TH JANUARY 2012**



## **Africa Christian and Muslim Religious Leaders Conference on Peace and Development**

### **Addis Ababa Communiqué**

We Christian and Muslim Religious Leaders from 8 African Countries: Cameroon, Egypt, Ethiopia, Liberia, Madagascar, Nigeria, Sierra Leone and Tanzania (mainland and Zanzibar) on the theme *“Africa Christian and Muslim Religious Leaders for Peace and Development”*, meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia between 8<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> January, 2012 under the auspices of the Programme for Christian-Muslim Relations in Africa (PROCMURA).

HAVING deliberated on the issue of Africa Christian and Muslim Religious Leaders Cooperation for Peace and Development.

HAVING ensured that some members of civil society and the media participated in the deliberations as partners in peace and development.

HAVING received the country reflections and specific papers on the subject matter

CONFIDENT that Africa is a continent of Religion and Religious people and that the social fabric of Africa is a Religious one.

CONSCIOUS that Islam and Christianity wield the largest following within the continent’s Religious landscape.

UNDER no illusion that there can be no peace in the African continent if Muslims and Christians are not at peace among and between themselves.

RECOGNISING that peace is a prerequisite for development and environmentally friendly development with an ethically accepted norm is an asset to peace

AWARE that governments and politicians consult religious leaders when the peace of the land is disturbed.

CONVINCED that religion is an integral partner in development

CONCERN that religion is sometime used or rather misused to perpetuate violent conflicts in some parts of the continent.

ALARMED by the tendency for ethnic exclusivism to find an ally in religion to perpetuate violence of unimaginable proportions thus stifling development.

### **Africa Christian and Muslim Religious Leaders for Peace and Development**



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AWARE of the propensity by some governments and policy makers to regard religious leaders as only concerned about the hereafter and not the here and now.

**Do hereby:**

- a) Resolve to work tirelessly to ensure that adherents of our respective religions live with their religious differences in peace and cooperate to promote the development agenda of Africa.
- b) Commit ourselves to replicate the focus of this conference in our respective countries.
- c) Resolve to cooperate with government, civil society and the media to enhance the peace and development endeavours of each country and region.
- d) To promote environmentally friendly development agenda as our religious tenets requires of us, to be good stewards of God's creation.

To this end, we call on the media:

- a) To partner with us in our quest and resolve to promote peace and development.
- b) To embark on responsible reportage of conflict situations so as to avoid inflaming passions and thereby further aggravating existing tensions.

We call on governments and the political elite:

- a) To desist from manipulating religion and religious people towards political ends and thus polarising religious people along sectarian lines.
- b) We urge development partners from anywhere to respect and take into consideration religious demography of the continent and not superimpose a secular agenda.

We call on the African Union and its regional bodies:

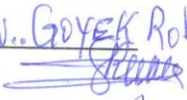

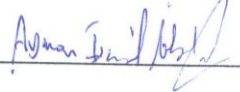
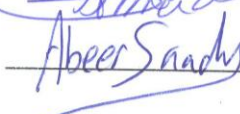

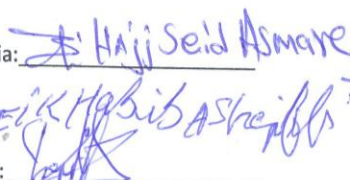
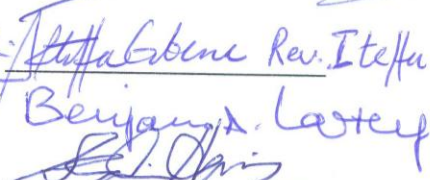





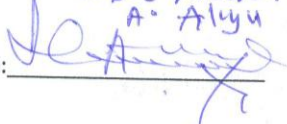
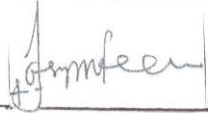
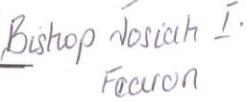


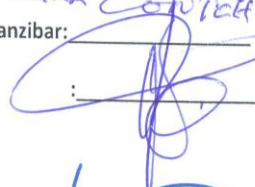
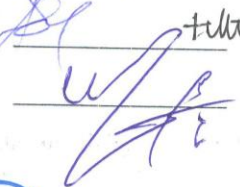
- a) To take religious people seriously when discussing the peace and development of the continent.
- b) To create avenues for consultation with Religious Leaders towards the spiritual and physical development of Africa.



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Signed on behalf of the Christian and Muslim Leaders here gathered:

- Cameroon: Rev. GUYEK Robert ELHADJ H.M. BANOUFE  
 
- Egypt: Ayman Inil Abeer Saady SHIEKH KHALED HASSAN  
  
- Ethiopia: Haji Seid Asmare Atta Gebene Rev. Itella Gebena  
SHIEKH HABIB ASHEIB Benjamin A. Lortey  
 
- Liberia: Sh. J. Davis  
 
- Madagascar: RASENDRAHASINA Lala (Rev) HAMED Ahmed  
shk. Dr. Khalid A. Alyu  
  
- Nigeria: J. A. Ayoade Samuel Bishop Josiah I. Focwon  
  
- Sierra Leone: HEED MALIMU  
SHEIKH ABU BAKARA CONTEH Rev. MOSES B. KHANU  
 
- Tanzania (mainland) and Zanzibar: Sh. W. A. A. A. Sh. W. A. A. A.  
 

Witnessed by:

- General Adviser of PROC MURA  
  
Rev. Dr. JOHNSON M. BILLAH