



# ALL AFRICA CONFERENCE OF CHURCHES (AACC) CONFERENCE DES EGLISES DE TOUTE L'AFRIQUE (CETA)

AACC-CETA

General Secretariat (HQ): P. O. Box 14205, 00800 Westlands, Nairobi, Kenya  
Tel: +254 724 253 354, + 254 20 4441483 • E-mail: [secretariat@aacc-ceta.org](mailto:secretariat@aacc-ceta.org) • Website: [www.aacc-ceta.org](http://www.aacc-ceta.org)

Nairobi, 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2020

Dear Member Churches,

## **RE: MARKING THE WORLD DAY AGAINST TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS**

Greetings from the AACC General Secretariat.

The World Day against Trafficking in Persons is celebrated on **30<sup>th</sup> July of each year**. Trafficking in persons is a heinous crime against humankind in the face of the law of every country on earth. The crime is perpetrated where women, men, youth and children are exploited for numerous purposes, including forced labor and sex for financial profits.

Despite Africa going through slave trade and colonization, it is still struggling after decades of independence to provide opportunities for its people to cater for their basic needs. They are therefore exposed to being lured into slave-like work, without proper or no remuneration, in their home country or in other countries. Traffickers take advantage of their desperation for survival and vulnerabilities to exploit them mercilessly.

The pandemic of COVID-19 has further increased the vulnerability of many people. Some have lost their jobs or their income-generating activities have been put to a halt or seriously slowed down, putting them at risk of becoming easy targets for traffickers.

As churches, we need to continue to encourage believers to have hope that they can find solutions to their problems right where they are. Instead of being discouraged by challenges, they should look for the opportunities hidden in them. However, if they want to explore opportunities in some other countries, they should be encouraged to follow due processes of migration or travels to country of choice.

We also call on church leaders to advocate with governments to be responsible by providing employment opportunities and enabling environment for the increasing population of youth to be gainfully engaged. This will undoubtedly reduce the quest in them to leave their countries through unsafe corridor.

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PRESIDENT: Rt. Rev. Arnold C. Temple • GENERAL SECRETARY: Rev. Dr. Fidon Mwombeki

### **SUB-OFFICES**

African Union Liaison Office: Nifasilk Lafto Sub City, Woreda 03, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia • TEL: +251 11 385 10 08 / + 251 11 385 10 95  
E-mail: [aaccoffice.au@aacc-ceta.org](mailto:aaccoffice.au@aacc-ceta.org)

Bureau Régional: 01 B.P. 2268 - Lomé 01, 1235, Rue de la Paix Bè-Château - Lomé-Togo • Tel: +228 22 21 59 24

Email: [bureauregional@ceta-aacc.org](mailto:bureauregional@ceta-aacc.org)



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Consequently, we would like to encourage you to mark the day **either on Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> July 2020 or Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2020**, where special prayers and presentations will be made to increase awareness of the dangers and crime of human trafficking. We will be glad to receive brief report and photos of the event in your churches.

*"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit". (Romans 15: 13)*

Yours in God's service,

REV. DR. FIDON MWOMBeki  
GENERAL SECRETARY

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