



# THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF KENYA (ACK)

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## THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE PROVINCIAL SYNOD HELD ON 2<sup>ND</sup> AND 3<sup>RD</sup> MARCH 2011 AT THE ALL SAINTS' CATHEDRAL MULTI-PURPOSE HALL

### THEME: TOGETHER FOR CHRIST

#### PREAMBLE

The Standing Committee of the Provincial Synod consultation held at the All Saints Cathedral Multi-Purpose Hall on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2011 deliberated on the desired future of the Anglican Church of Kenya. We meditated on Jeremiah 29:11 where God assures His people: *“For I know the plans I have for you...plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future...”*. The meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2011 had the Marsabit Mission Area and the Anglican University as the main agenda.

After some deep reflections and open discussions, the consultation came up with a theme for this decade (2011-2020): **TOGETHER FOR CHRIST** and further resolved that we evolve the theme, *Empowering the Youth* for the year 2011. This annual theme will include our commitment to participating actively in the ongoing education debate; our commitment to developing the Anglican University and engaging intentionally in programs that will address peace building and conflict management.

#### MARSABIT MISSION AREA AND THE ANGLICAN UNIVERSITY

The committee received reports on the two items and extensively discussed the various issues in these reports. Due process for creation of dioceses will be followed in releasing information regarding the resolution to create the Diocese of Marsabit.

On the Anglican University, the committee approved the creation of the Kenya Anglican University Trust and its registration as a body corporate. The Trust will in turn form the University Council and other committees that will help establish the Main University Campus at Kanyuambora in Mbeere diocese. The University is to have constituent colleges in various regions of the Province. To achieve the financial need of about Kshs. 300 million to establish the University, the Standing committee resolved to have 27<sup>th</sup> March 2011 as the Provincial Education Day on which every Anglican will have the opportunity to contribute at least Kshs. 100 for adults, Kshs. 50 for youth and Kshs. 20 for children.

## **MESSAGE TO OUR NATIONAL POLITICAL LEADERS**

This is the message that the Church had for our political leaders and Kenyans at large in this new political dispensation:

The Church observes that the implementation of the National Constitution is a priority that must be put above political campaigns for 2012 general elections. Instead, our politicians should commit themselves to working towards ensuring an equitable distribution of resources and the strengthening of institutions that will ensure good governance and put a stop to the relentless pursuit for power. All potential politicians will need to internalise the heavy responsibilities of leadership and be accountable to the nation.

We urge all our national leaders to focus on keeping Kenya united especially as we move towards 2012 general elections by desisting from dividing people along ethnic lines or running into ethnic enclaves for support in political contests. To this end, we urge the two Principals to rise above personal interests and focus on national issues by ensuring continuous and meaningful consultations.

Our national leaders need also to put every effort in fighting corruption that threatens to erode gains made in national reforms. All public servants implicated and charged with corruption, impropriety, neglect, abuse of office or any other scandal must step aside.

We urge Members of Parliament to use their time in Parliament in conducting mature, issue-based debates and avoid running to the media to air their views when there are fall-outs. Further, politicians need to recognise that national issues are not party issues thus politicisation of national issues should be avoided.

The Church further observes that Kenya's Vision 2030 which provides direction on the nation's development agenda from 2008-2030 needs to bring out clearly moral and spiritual values as fundamentals to national development.

The Church notes with a lot of concern that some of our political leaders have been misleading the nation with their careless utterances. We want to remind them that they have a responsibility to be role models to everyone in the Kenyan society and especially the youth. They ought to conduct themselves in a dignified manner as they discharge their official duties in and out of Parliament and respect the codes of conduct that govern various institutions. We call on our national leaders to take into account the voice of the church that represents a large percentage of the Kenyan society especially in policy formulation and implementation.

## **MESSAGE TO THE PEOPLE OF KENYA**

There is a growing realization that winning the war against corruption will not be just confined to the top leaders. The realities of 2003 are still fresh in our minds after it became evident that the fight against this vice was more intense when the Kenyan public took it seriously. To this end, we encourage all Kenyans to once again take the fight against corruption seriously and personally. In order to achieve this, every Kenyan must support the institutions and structures that have been put in place to fight this vice. Similarly, we encourage all the people of Kenya to take up an active role in

monitoring the expenditure of public funds through social audits especially in the newly created county structures as well as in the existing decentralized funds like CDF and LATF.

## **RESPONSE TO THE CURRENT DROUGHT**

The Church while appreciating efforts by the relevant Government Ministries, observes that a lot still needs to be done. The government and Kenyans as individuals and communities must prioritise the mitigation of the effects of climate change. This calls for putting in place and supporting appropriate policies for the mobilization of resources to help in the alleviation of the suffering of those who are in drought-stricken areas in Kenya.

## **MESSAGE TO OURSELVES**

As the Anglican Church of Kenya, let us strive to speak in one voice in the spirit of our theme for the decade, **TOGETHER FOR CHRIST**.

In recognition of the role of the Church in moulding and influencing godly character, we commit to directing our energies and resources in nurturing the youth in the year 2011. We invite all Anglicans to reach out to the youth; embrace them, listen to them, empower them and involve them in all aspects of the mission of the Church in order to enable them reach their full potentials in Christ.

We now have a new constitution that belongs to all the people of Kenya irrespective of how they voted at the national referendum in August last year. Let us make every effort to take the lead in obeying our constitution and also in keeping the government accountable in its implementation.

In the field of education, we do urge all of us to remain steadfast in enhancing our responsibilities and roles in all our sponsored schools and aggressively revamp Christian ministry to schools in all our dioceses. Such a move will indeed help produce God fearing citizens with upright character that is fundamental to the realization of ongoing reforms.

We affirm that all children belong to Kenya and that there are no “private children”. We must therefore be careful to guard against potential discrimination during Form One and any other intakes. We urge the Ministry of Education to embrace a long-term solution of improving the quality of education in public schools. This will go a long way in ensuring a level playing ground for all as they transit to higher levels of education.

In conclusion, we take seriously our commitment to working towards the realization of our vision of *a growing, caring Anglican Church boldly proclaiming Christ*. We invite all Anglicans to make every possible contribution to the realization of this vision.

Thank you and God bless.

SIGNED.....  
**THE MOST REV DR. ELIUD WABUKALA**  
**ARCHBISHOP OF KENYA &**  
**BISHOP OF ALL SAINTS' CATHEDRAL**