



THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF KENYA (ACK)

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The Anglican Church of Kenya

Statement by the Archbishop of the Anglican Church of Kenya, The Most Rev. Dr. Jackson Ole Sapit

Following the publication of the independent review by Keith Makin into the Church of England's handling of allegations of serious abuse by the late John Smyth QC, the archbishop of Canterbury, the Hon. Justin Welby resigned, accepting responsibility on his behalf and on behalf of the Church of England.

It is deeply regrettable that horrific abuses of the magnitude cited by the review continued for so long under the watch of those entrusted with safeguarding vulnerable members of the church and society. As a member of the global family of Anglican Communion, The Anglican Church of Kenya categorically condemns any act of abuse, oppression and injustices as well as any form of coverup of such abuses. Our hearts go out to all the victims of Smyth's abuses, and we pray for their continued healing.

We call upon the Church of England to extend full support to all affected and to correct such historical wrongs and prevent a repeat of such failures. It is incumbent upon the church to develop and implement effective safeguarding policies. Taking cue from Archbishop Justin, let all who may have been culpable in one way or another take responsibility and make amends. We pray for Hon. Welby and his family, and equally pray for the Church of England and the two other Provinces, which were affected by Smyth's terrible actions. Indeed, we continue praying for the entire Anglican Communion and urge all believers to serve all humanity with compassion and love, always promoting the dignity and wellbeing of all people.

As we serve, let's do so with humility and integrity, always careful that, "if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall! (1 Corinthians 10:12).

The Most Rev. Dr. Jackson Ole Sapit
The Archbishop of the Anglican Church of Kenya
13th November, 2024.