

THE CHALLENGES OF SOLIDARITY IN THE GREAT LAKES REGION

[Pax Christi International (PCI) Initiatives and Perspectives]

History and Vision

Pax Christi International was founded in the ashes of World War II as a Catholic voice for peace and reconciliation.

It is a movement of reconciliation based on Christ's gospel of peace.

It seeks a peace that flows from justice and a commitment to active nonviolence and solidarity.

It hopes to be a prophetic voice within the Church and the world.

PCI History of Involvement in Africa Dates Back to the....

(Pax Christi International and Sections)

Struggle Against Apartheid

Support for Conscientious Objectors in Angola

Civil War in Sudan

Netweaving Civil Society in Africa (37 members to date) with Rest of
the World

General Approaches Taken by PCI
To be in Solidarity with the Church in the Great Lakes Region

Convening Peace Bridging Consultations
(Two African Wide and three Great Lakes Regional Consultations)

Constructing Spaces for Collective Reflections and Open/Honest Conversation and Dialogue
(Identity, Peaceful Co-Existence, Compelling Visions)

Crafting Creative Responses and Tradition
(Annual Peace Week Celebration, A Day of Prayer for Justice and Peace)

Calling for Netweaving of Peoples, Relationships and Communities
(People to People Exchange)

Creating International Voices for Multi-Level Advocacies
(EU, UN Agencies, Capitol Hills, etc)

ALL in Partnership with Members in the Region

**Effective and Appropriate Ways in Working with the Church in the
Great Lakes Region**

**Unmindful of Our Name
To Accompany the Journey of the People and the Church
Recognize and Honor People's Work for Peace
Africa Helping Shape the Peace Platforms of the Movement**

Possible Response to the Articulated Needs of the Church in the Region

To Partake in the Liberating Education of Peoples and Communities

To Continue Searching for and Pursuing Active Nonviolent Conflict Transformation

“I matters little how much information we have of violent conflicts if we have not grasped its deep historical roots, structural dimensions, cultural underpinnings and compelling visions.”

ChV

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