Institute Background & African Context & Opportunities and Challenges for a Peacebuilding Response by Universities & CSOs

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Conference Objective & Background

- Strengthen relationships among major peace studies programs and experts in Africa
- Build strong networks with peace studies institutes and experts in North America & Europe
- Mainstreaming & integrating peace studies into regular curriculum
- Application of CST in light of social justice into our academic programs

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Background

- This conference is as a result of recommendations made at a conference of Catholic Episcopate of the Great lakes Region for Peace and Reconciliation 19-21 2010 in Burundi
- Developed a proposal for Research in Education for Peace – approved by the General Assembly of Association of Catholic Universities and Higher Institutes of Africa and Madagascar (ACUHIAM)
- Support of CRS, CPN, AMECEA, ASEAC, SECAM & ACHUIAM
Final Declaration

Final declaration was made by bishops in October 2010: Simon Ntamwana (Gitega) & president of ACEAC; Emamnuel Obbo (Soroti) & delegate of the President of AMECEA;

Three areas of concern identified:

- Underutilization of the Church’s potential for peace & reconciliation
- Insufficient information on underlying causes of conflicts
- Insufficient coordination of the Church’s initiative for peace

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ACHUIAM

- This Institute is in line with Association of Catholic Universities and Higher Institutes of Africa and Madagascar (ACUHIAM) objectives highlighted in 1989 stating:
  - to promote academic collaboration among Universities and Institutes concerned;
  - to promote a high level of study and research;
  - to encourage exchange of knowledge through publications, exchange of programmes and of lecturers;

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Scientific Committee

- Scientific Committee of ACUHIAM has the responsibility to:
  - promoting regional cooperation, research and publications
  - organizing conferences in collaboration with member institutions

“Catholic universities should research and relate to society, the mismatch between university education and its context in relation to the problems of Africa in the 21st century being a big challenge.” (ACHUIAM)
Contextual Analysis of the Continent of Africa
Africa: Moments of Hope

- Since early 1990s we have seen expansion of democratic space
- More countries have gone through elections than in 1980s
- Democracy & human rights are in transition between gestation, labour pains, birth & abuse
- There are three major transitions of democracy in Africa:

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Economic Growth

- Quality of life has been improving
- Africa achieved GDP growth of 5.4% between 2000 – 2010 bringing additional $78 billion annually to GDP
- However, 2016 was the worst year with major economic decline
- According to IMP there was a decline in GDP in 2015 from 5.1 in 2014 to 3.4 esp. in oil producing countries
- However, Kenya, Ivory Coast, Senegal & Burkina Faso had high rates: 5.8-9% in 2016
Outlook for GDP Growth in Sub-Saharan Africa

Real GDP Growth in Sub-Saharan Africa
(Percent)

- Sub-Saharan Africa
- Oil-exporting countries
- Middle-income countries
- Low-income countries
- Fragile countries

Source: IMF: African Department database.
In 2012 Africa had the fastest growing economy in the world
Economic Growth Not Enough

- Africa needs to reflect about its indicators for economic growth & poverty indexes:
- Living above or below $1/day are categories promoted by IMF & World Bank but do not reflects reality on the ground
- We need to examine link between economic policies & quality of life
Conflicts in Africa

About 10 countries are in conflict or emerging out of conflict:
- Central African Republic
- DRC
- Sudan (Darfur)
- South Sudan
- Somalia
- Libya
- Egypt
- Mozambique

Conflicts vary and have different dimensions:
- Politico-ethnic
- Resource-based - DRC, Mali
- Politico-religious - Al Shabaab, Boko Haram

Perceptions on marginalization/exclusion - Kenya, Uganda, South Sudan, Mozambique, Mali, Ivory Coast, South Africa

The conflicts therefore need a broader analysis.

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Poor Governance

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Democratic Elections

- A few countries have held successful elections – South Africa, Ghana, Tanzania,
- Some have had pseudo elections – like Ethiopia, Rwanda, Kenya – presidents winning by over 95% although Kenyan case is different
- In Kenya & Ivory Coast the opposition pulled out of the elections citing unlevelled playing field
- Hotly contested elections in Kenya, Nigeria, Ghana, Zimbabwe, Uganda…
Political Participation and Marginalization

- Election: Politicization of Identities
- Systematic marginalization
- "Life time" presidents and constitutional manipulation
- Militarization of electoral processes
A president should never lose an elections!

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South Sudan Fragility Trend 2017
Perceptions in South Sudan on how various sectors of development have been affected by political instability

Source: Hekima Institute of Peace Studies & International Relations (HIPSIR), Nairobi, Kenya Nov 2017
Burundi Fragility Trend 2017

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Youth unemployment: A time bomb

• Increased number of unemployed youth: 13% increment (UN) & 40% Africa
• University graduates without jobs
• Lack of empowerment opportunities
• Vulnerability to recruitment into gangs, militia groups & drug nets

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Religious extremism

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Religious Conflicts

- Fundamentalism & challenge of Islam
- Sense of Self-sufficiency
- Increase in Pentecostal Churches
- Tensions Christians & Muslims in Tanzania in the coastal region:
  - Al Shabaab, Boko Haram, Tuareg, etc
Human Trafficking

Human trafficking is a crime against humanity. It involves an act of recruiting, transporting, transferring, harbouring or receiving a person through a use of force, coercion or other means, for the purpose of exploiting them.

The number of sexual trafficking in the world

117,000
people are made victims of human trafficking on average in Ukraine every year.

Between 800,000 and 4 million
men, women and children are deceived, recruited, transported from their homes and sold into slavery around the world each year.

Moldova
57,000

Romania
28,000

Belarus
14,000

Bulgaria
9,500

Human Trafficking Cases

Sexual exploitation and forced labor are the most common forms of human trafficking in the world.

20%
human trafficking cases involve the sex industry.

80%
human trafficking cases involve the labour industry.


CREATED BY: Piktochart

Human trafficking is a $32-billion industry worldwide.

The United Nations estimates that between 800,000 and 4 million men, women and children are deceived, recruited, transported from their homes and sold into slavery around the world each year.

Up to 4 million people disappear every year. They are forced into labour and prostitution.

Report Human Trafficking: 0800-555-999

200,000
people in Eastern Europe

150,000
non-Japanese women

2.3 million
in India

200,000
in Bangladesh

142,000
people in

The number of sexual trafficking in the world

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Mineral Resources & Conflicts

Africa’s Natural Resources

Selected Resources:
- Oil production
- Gas production
- Diamonds
- Uranium
- Copper
- Manganese
- Iron ore
- Gold
Exploitation of natural resources & Environmental Degradation

> Potential root-cause to conflict

- Mining contracts favour the multinationals
- Working conditions are poor
- Environment gets destroyed
- Potential conflicts in a number of African countries

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Regional Marginalization

Unjust distribution of Natural Resources

Stalled peace talks
Refugee Situation in the World

65.3 million forcibly displaced people worldwide
21.3 million refugees
10 million Stateless people

Where the world’s displaced people are being hosted
- 12% Americas
- 29% Africa
- 6% Europe
- 39% Middle East and North Africa
- 14% Asia and Pacific

53% of refugees worldwide came from three countries
- Somalia: 1.1m
- Afghanistan: 2.7m
- Syria: 4.9m

Top hosting countries
- Jordan: 664,100
- Ethiopia: 736,100
- Islamic Republic of Iran: 979,400
- Lebanon: 1.1m
- Pakistan: 1.6m
- Turkey: 2.5m

33,972 people a day forced to flee their homes because of conflict and persecution
10,700 staff UNHCR employs 10,700 staff (as of 31 October 2016)
128 countries We work in 128 countries (as of 31 October 2016)

We are funded almost entirely by voluntary contributions, with 86 percent from governments and the European Union.

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Source: UNHCR / 20 June 2016
-Top 10 camps in the World

5. Al Zaatari, Jordan 101,402 mostly from Syria
Top Ten Refugee Camps

- **4. Jabali, Gaza** – 110,000 mostly from Southern Palestine
- **3. Kakuma camp, Kenya** – 124,814 mostly South Sudanese
- **2. Dolo Ado, Ethiopia** – 201,123 mostly Somalians
- **1. Dadaab, Kenya** – 496,130 – largely Somalians
The African continent experiences one of the largest movements of refugees and internal displacements. With Europe and USA tightening their borders against immigrants, close to 80% of migrations happen across borders of the African governments. In Eastern, Great Lakes & Horn of Africa, there are more than 4 million displaced persons & more than 3 million refugees. Close to 1 million attempting to cross the Mediterranean.
Can’t leave! What next?

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Theory of Lateral pressure

- There is a global shift in the treatment of refugees & immigrants – seen as security & economic threat

- **Theory of lateral pressure** - tendency of individuals or societies to expand their spheres of influence & exert pressure for control (whether economic, political, military, scientific, religious, etc)

- Different actors in migration exert their pressures differently

- Governments may issue decrees to ban or control refugee movements, e.g. President Trump decree banning entry to US (for 90 days) for 7 majority Muslim countries: Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria and Yemen – Added Chad & Venezuela.

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Unemployment & Poverty

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South Africa - Unemployment

South Africa Unemployment Rate

- Jul 2014: 25.4%
- Jan 2015: 24.3%
- Jul 2015: 26.4%
- Jan 2016: 25.5%
- Jul 2016: 26.7%
- Jan 2017: 27.1%
- Jul 2017: 27.7%

Source: TradingEconomics.com, Statistics South Africa

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“The complex problems must be addressed not only to realize the sustainable development goals but for communities to have dignity and live in peace and harmony.”

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Role of Catholic Universities in light of CST

- Academics ought to be three major roles:
  - Teaching – expansion of knowledge, individual formation & creating consciousness to justice
  - Research – cutting edge research on social issues of concern
  - Social action – engaging with social structures to effect the needed change
- Pope Benedict’s post-synodal response to Africa (Africæ Munus)
- “The task we have to set for ourselves is not an easy one, situated as it is somewhere between immediate engagement in politics – which lies outside the Church’s direct competence – and the potential for withdrawal or evasion present in a theological and spiritual speculation which could serve as an escape from concrete historical responsibility” (Africæ Munus, no.17).
“Dear brothers and sisters in Catholic universities and academic institutions, it falls to you, on the one hand, to shape the minds and hearts of the younger generation in the light of the Gospel and, on the other, to help African societies better to understand the challenges confronting them today by providing Africa, through your research and analyses, with the light she needs.”

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Application of CST at University Level

1. Guides individual consciences in making just decisions

2. Influences the Public Sector’s activities

3. Shapes the Church’s response to social issues

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Responding to Challenges

Grassroots: Human rights, peace organizations, civil organizations, Religious institutions

Middle range leadership

Decision makers

Engaged Church

MPs, PM, AU, IGAD, UN

Lack of coordination

Vigilant Church

Civil Society area of influence

Prophetic Church in Solidarity

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Thank You