

4:00 - 4:30 **HEALTH BREAK**

4:30 - 5:30 Group Discussions - Rev. Dr. John Njoroge

5:30- 6:40 Plenary – Report from the 5 Groups - Chairperson from each Group

7:00 pm **DINNER**

DAY 3 – October 31st, 2024

7:00 - 8:30 **BREAKFAST**

8:30 - 9:00 Devotion and biblical reflection - Psalms 141:3-5 2 Peter 1:5-9

9:00 - 9:10 Recap

Topic 5: **Available Mechanisms and Approaches on Regulation of Religious Entities**

(The presenters are expected to expound on other available or even alternative mechanisms & approaches related to self-regulation of religious entities. Presenters are expected to venture into roles and perspectives of national and regional ecumenical bodies on self-regulation of religious institutions; what are other regulations alternatives available, including self-regulation and Complementary Symphony for churches in Africa).

9:10-10:10 ·The Role of Government in Regulating Churches and Religious Institution In Africa: A Proposal on Churches Self - Regulation in Namibia. - Rev.Dr. Musodza Archford – Namibia

Engaging Religious Leaders with Communities Regstral on Policy Making for Combating Misleading Theologies: A Case of Tanzania. - Prof. Lugazia Faith Kokubelwa – Tanzania

10:10-10:30 Plenary Discussions

10:30 - 11:00 **HEALTH BREAK**

Topic 6: Contextual Governments' Incentives to Religious Personalities and Institutions

(The presenters are expected to examine the government's incentives to religious personalities and institutions, and their impact on church-state working relations. This will include tax exemptions, diplomatic privileges, state interferences in the context of regulations and controls).

11:00 - 12:20 The Impact of Religious Expansion in the Democratic Republic of Congo: Ecclesial Challenge in the Context of Government Regulations. -Rev. Dr. Mfoutou Kado Nelly Espérance – Congo Brazzaville

Brown Envelope: A Theological Perspective on Church-State Relationship in Zambia. - Ms. Mwakasenga Upendo – Zambia

12:20-1:00 Plenary Discussions

1:00 – 2:30 LUNCH BREAK

2:30 – 3:30 Way forward & Closing - Rev. Dr. Fidon Mwombeki, AACC – GS



AACC-CETA

ALL AFRICA CONFERENCE OF CHURCHES

AACC 5TH ANNUAL THEOLOGICAL SYMPOSIUM ON MISLEADING THEOLOGIES

THEME: ROLE OF GOVERNMENTS' REGULATION ON CHURCHES AND RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS IN AFRICA

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Founded in 1963, the All Africa Conference of Churches is an ecumenical fellowship representing more than 200 million Christians in 43 African countries working to make a difference in the lives of the people of Africa through ministries of advocacy and presence on the continental, regional, and local levels. The General Secretary is Rev. Dr. Fidon Mwombeki from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania.

DAY 1 – October 29th, 2024

7:00 - 8:00 **BREAKFAST**

8:00 - 8:30 Registration of the guests by Sarah Mutinda

8:30 -9:00 Devotion – Romans 13:1-7

9:00-9:15 Introduction to the Symposium by Rev.Dr. Njoroge

9:15 – 9:30 General Secretary’s Welcome Remarks

9:30 -10:00 KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Role of Governments’ Regulation on Churches and Religious Institutions in Africa.

The Keynote address will expound the roles of the governments’ in regulating churches and religious institutions in Africa. It is expected the keynote address will articulate the ongoing proposals and public outcry on the need to regulate churches and religious institutions because of the ongoing misleading theologies. This will be articulated at the backdrop of having governments’ interventions on one hand and call for self-regulation on the other hand. What are the theological prepositions and implications for the African Churches!

The keynote address will ignite a conversation on governments’ constitutional mandate to regulate and control religious activities for the common good and safeguarding the freedom of worship, beliefs and expressions.

The keynote address will conclude by focusing on the impact of governments’ regulations and control on religious activities and the states relationship with faith-based entities.

10:00 - 11:30 HEALTH BREAK

10:45 -11:45 Plenary Discussions by Rev. Dr. Lesmore

The moderator will guide the plenary to discuss the “The Roles of Governments Regulations on Churches and Religious Institution” from the keynote address

11:45 - 12:45 Question and Answer session

12:45 - 2 :00 **LUNCH BREAK**

2:00 - 4 : 00 Diverse responses to the Keynote Address

- **Government Regulations and Control on Churches and Religious Institutions– Kenyan Context: Rev. Hon. Mutava Musyimi**

- **Government Regulations and Control on Churches and Religious Institutions – Rwandese Context: Rev. Dr. Julie Kandema**

- **Government Regulations and Control on Churches and Religious Institutions – Zambian Context : Rev. Dr. Zulu William**

4:00 - 4:30 **HEALTH BREAK**

4:30-6:00 Short Papers Presentations Group 1

- The Challenges and Opportunities of Regulating Religious Radicalism in the 21st Century.Rev. Dr. Lomojo David Lokoro – Kenya
- The Role of Government Regulations on Churches and Religious Institution in Nigerian. Rev. Bp. Dr. Israel Adelani Akanji – Nigeria
- Discussions

4:30 – 6:00 Short Papers Presentations Group 2

- Theology of the Two Kingdoms: An Assessment into the Perception and Practice of the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus. Mr. Futa Moti Daba – Ethiopia
- The Role of Religious Institutions in Curbing Cultism Through Theological Training and Public Sensitization Policies. Rev. Dr. Bwire Jonn Peter – Kenya

- Discussions

7:00 **DINNER**

DAY 2 –October 30th, 2024

7:00-8:30 **BREAKFAST**

8:30-9:00 Devotion and Biblical Reflection- Mark 12:13-17

9:00-9:10 Recap

Topic 1. Theological Perspectives on Church – State Relations.

(Presenters are expected to articulate theological perspectives on church - state relations. Both the Bible and ecclesial traditions have different perspectives on church – state relations. Scriptures and church traditions are fundamentally quoted in either to support or disagree on the church -state relations. Therefore, the presenters are expected to present various theological perspectives as purportedly determine church -state relations in Africa and beyond).

9:10-10:10 Balancing Ecclesial Integrity and Inclusivity: A Liberation Theological Critique of Church Registration Regulations in Botswana - Rev.Dr. Tshelametse Tshenolo Jennifer - Botswana

Church-State Relations in A Religio-Political Landscape: A Theological Appraisal – Case Of Malawi. - Rev. Dr. Kumwenda Colby Nehemiah - Malawi

10:10-10:30 Plenary Discussions

10:30 - 11:00 **HEALTH BREAK**

Topic 3: Theological Perspectives on Church-State Relations in Christianity

(Presenters are expected to articulate church-state relations in the history of Christianity. Lessons learnt from the Nicaea Council and Early Church, Medieval (St. Augustine of Hippo), Reformation (Lutheran, Calvinism, Anglicanism) and post-missionary periods regarding church-state relation. The presenters are expected to highlight how these lessons responded to the heresy of the time and enhanced religious responses to societal issues. How can the lessons learnt be applicable to the context of addressing misleading theologies in Africa today?)

11:00- 12:00 Reading John Calvin on the Interface Between Church and State: A Paradigm for the Construction of Church-State Relations in African Christianity. - Rev. Prof. Epie Membong – Cameroon

The Extent of Government’s Interference and Regulation of the Nigerian Church. - Rev.Jantiku Ijasini Jamare – Nigeria

12:00-12:45 Plenary Discussion

1:00- 2:30 **LUNCH BREAK**

Topic 4: Governments Constitutional Mandate on Relegating churches and Religious Institutions

(The presenters are expected to critically and objectively articulate government’s constitutional mandate to regulate churches and FBO’s in various contexts in Africa. This will also include other extant laws and policies existing in various countries and how they are likely to cause tensions between the church and the state relations. Presenters will explore which ways these possible partnership/tensions can be mitigated for the sake of the common/public good, safety, religious freedoms and expressions (FORB) as guaranteed by constitutions of the different countries, the African Charter on Human and Peoples Rights and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights).

14:30 – 16:00 Evaluating the Efficiency of Government Partnerships with Religious Institutions in Social Development in the Context of Church – State Relations. - Prof. Azer Marianne Amir Rofael – Egypt

A Critical Analysis of the Proposed Law to Establish the National Council for Christian Education in Nigeria. - Rev. Dr. Aigbadumah Christopher Aigbadumah – Nigeria