



# ALL AFRICA CONFERENCE OF CHURCHES (AACC)

## STRATEGY 2024-2028



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AACC-CETA

# **AACC STRATEGY**

**2024 – 2028**

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## FOREWORD BY THE AACC PRESIDENT

The 2024-2028 Strategy coincides with the AACC's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary. This means that the AACC celebrates the achievements of the past, runs with the work of the present, and tirelessly works for a better future.

The AACC Strategy is an important vehicle through which work will be done contextually to fulfil our vision of “life, peace, justice and dignity of God’s people.” This is important because of the diversity and variety that makes up the African context. This Strategy is an intersection of the spiritual and the practical, an advancement of the gospel of Jesus who came that we may have life in abundance. It is both proactive and prophetic.

The Strategy is in keeping with Christ’s call for us as believers to be one. So it promotes synergy among members who share a common witness. Our African elders have discerned this wisdom and said, “unity is strength, division is weakness.” Through ecumenical cooperation, this Strategy will promote a transformative ecumenism which will be effective in making a difference for God.

The theme of the AACC 12<sup>th</sup> General Assembly “***The love of Christ compels us***” is an energizing theme for driving this 2024-2028 Strategy. May God bless the work of the AACC and its strategy because, “Unless the LORD builds the house, the builders labour in vain. Unless the LORD watches over the city, the guards stand watch in vain.” (Psalm 127:1)

**Right Rev Lydia C. Neshangwe**

***President***

***All Africa Conference of Churches***

## INTRODUCTION

It is my great pleasure to present the AACC's 2024 – 2028 Strategy. This strategy has been developed following the successful implementation of the 2019-2023 strategy which had four programmatic pillars and two organizational pillars. The review of the previous strategy provided helpful information on the success of its implementation which has been considered in developing this Strategy.

This new strategy proposes to engage with greater ambition and differently where we have identified eleven programmatic pillars as well as two organizational pillars.

Our strategy endeavours to contribute as churches to the development agendas including Sustainable Development Goals and the AU Agenda 2063: "The Africa we Want." The AACC and her members desire to continue playing a prophetic role as we amplify their voices and role as a significant player in the continent's aspirations to work together for life, peace, justice, and dignity for every human being.

Undergirding this desire is our 12<sup>th</sup> General Assembly theme: **"The Love of Christ Compels us."** The love of God to us, and our love to God compel us to commit ourselves to carry out the great commission in ways that will lead to the realization of God's vision for a society that ensures life of dignity for all.

This strategy has been developed through a collaborative and consultative process involving internal and external stakeholders. As the Bible says in Proverbs 15:22, *"Without counsel plans fail, but with many advisers, they succeed,* we will continue counting on the support of all our stakeholders during implementation of this strategy.

We are optimistic that we will succeed in its implementation and commit it to the Lord as the bible says: Commit thy works unto the LORD, and thy thoughts shall be established. (Proverbs 16:3). Further, Proverbs 19:21 says "The human mind may devise many plans, but it is the purpose of the Lord that will be established." God has given us a free will to make the plans contained in this Strategy. But we leave it to God to guide us in

the right ways, as well as grant us wisdom and strength to implement it.

It is my prayer that God will bless the plans in this Strategy and they will flourish beyond our expectations and transform the lives of the millions of African people in the continent and beyond.

**AFRICA. MY HOME. MY FUTURE.**

**Rev. Dr. Fidon Mwombeki**  
*General Secretary*





# 1. CHAPTER ONE: WHO WE ARE

## 1.1. OUR IDENTITY

The All Africa Conference of Churches (AACC) is a continental ecumenical body that accounts for over 200 million Christians across the African continent, and a member of the worldwide ecumenical network. It is the largest association of Protestant, Anglican, Orthodox, and Indigenous churches in Africa with **210** members comprising of Churches, National Councils of Churches (NCCs), Theological and lay training institutions and other Christian organizations in 43 countries.

## 1.2. VISION:

- Churches in Africa together for life, peace, justice and dignity.

## 1.3. MISSION

All Africa Conference of Churches (AACC) is a fellowship of churches and institutions in Africa working together in their common witness to the Gospel by: -

- Mobilizing to faithfully live the message of God's love;
- Nurturing a common understanding of the faith;
- Interpreting and responding to challenges to human dignity; and,
- Acting prophetically in word, life and services for healing.

## 1.4. CORE VALUE

In obedience to God and the imperatives of the Gospel and Christian ethical standards by respecting the dignity and God's image in every human being.

## 1.5. HOW WE WORK

AACC works through and with member churches in the continent in the following ways:-

- We address issues facing the people of the African continent;
- We are proactive and prophetic in the accompaniment of churches in Africa;

- We engage in discernment for and promotion of positive transformation;
- We are issue-driven and focus on result oriented programs;
- We are committed to ecumenical vocation and in facilitating synergy amongst our members and with the people of Africa;
- We encourage creativity and innovation in our programmatic work; and
- Facilitates ecumenical theological conversations towards common witness of the faith at continental level;

## **1.6. OUR STAKEHOLDERS AND PARTNERS**

- Our Members
- Ecumenical partners
- Development agencies
- Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)
- Governments and multilateral institutions
- Foundations and private corporations
- Academic institutions

## **1.7. AACC STRATEGIC POSITIONING IN THE CONTINENT**

- We have offices in Nairobi, Lome and Addis Ababa.
- Provides increased visibility of African churches on international and ecumenical spheres, providing a coordinated voice for the churches in Africa;
- Has a credible track record for accompaniment of churches in difficult situations, both in churches and in society;
- Engages on behalf of churches in major initiatives like the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), African Union (AU) Agenda 2063, European Union (EU) – Africa Relations as well as creating awareness of these issues among churches;
- Offers continental programs on relevant needs of the churches; and
- With its observer status at the African Union, works to promote

cooperation with the AU and its organs as well as other regional bodies, carrying out advocacy on pertinent issues on behalf of the churches, and voices out the ethical and spiritual values to be upheld.

## **2. CHAPTER TWO: - AACC PROGRAMMATIC FOCUS AREAS**

### **2.1. THEOLOGY AND INTERFAITH RELATIONS**

#### **2.1.1. Ecumenical Formation**

##### **Programmatic Goals**

- Theologically train and form young theologians on the global & regional ecumenical movement at master's degree level;
- Nurturing and mentoring young theology students and practicing young theologians into prophetic ecumenical roles;
- Empowering young theology students, practicing young theologians and educators with skills and knowledge in Diakonia ecumenical leadership;

##### **Programmatic Interventions**

- Theological Training and Formation in ecumenism through AACC Master of Theology in Ecumenical Leadership Studies Programme;
- Young theology students and practicing young theologians' participation in the AACC Theological Initiatives;
- Conducting annual theological colloquiums and essay writing in the AACC Theological Initiatives;

#### **2.1.2. Addressing Misleading Theologies**

##### **Programmatic Goals**

- Constructively engage churches in identifying, analyzing and deconstructing contextual misleading theologies;
- Disseminate various approaches in addressing contextual misleading theologies through publications;

### **Programmatic Interventions**

- Provide a save space for constructive dialogue with theological institutions on deconstructing misleading theologies on the continent;
- Equip church leaders, theologians and theology students with skills and knowledge to identify, analyze and deconstruct contextual misleading theologies;
- Conducting annual theological symposia on addressing contextual misleading theologies;

#### **2.1.3. Interfaith Relations**

##### **Programmatic Goal**

- Raise awareness on interfaith dialogue on the continent.
- Programmatic Interventions
- Accompany member churches in interfaith dialogues, mediations and reconciliations on request;
- Integrate interfaith dialogue within theological training and formation in the AACC Master of Theology in Ecumenical Studies Programme;
- Engage in the African Union Interfaith initiatives.

#### **2.1.4. Resource Management and Networking**

##### **Programmatic Goals**

- Mobilize theological resources in terms of resourceful persons, library materials and funds;
- Promote theological networking and sharing of intellectual, printed, digital and financial resources among AACC – Theology Partners;
- Programmatic Interventions
- Engage in grant writing projects that promote theological inputs to the AACC programmes;
- Collaborate in research and publication with ecumenical partners and theological institutions;

- Promote proactive role of theological institutions in Africa in reshaping theological education, research, publication and sharing of available resources among partners;

## 2.2. ECCLESIAL LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

**Programmatic Goal:** Churches in Africa accompanied and equipped with skills for ethical leadership, conflict transformation and ethical resource management

### **Programmatic Interventions:**

- Capacity strengthening in ethical leadership for ecclesial transformation.
- Promote culture of good governance and democratic transition in churches and church-related organizations.
- Accompany churches in conflict transformation through tailor-made mediation mechanism.
- Collaborate with relevant organizations like Globethics to enhance the capacity of churches for ethical investments and resource management.
- Advocate for Ecumenical Diakonia as mission imperative for churches and accompany member churches and councils in their diaconal ministry through capacity strengthening.
- Create and maintain a pool of mediators and resource persons drawn within and outside AACC constituency for deployment where needed.
- Develop and popularize tools that will be useful to churches and institutions on ethical leadership, conflict transformation and ethical resource management.

## 2.3. GENDER AND WOMEN

### 2.3.1. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

**Programmatic goal:** Address Gender Inequalities and promote women's empowerment

**Programmatic Interventions:**

- Enhance advocacy on the implementation, ratification and domestication of existing legal frameworks on gender justice and women's rights in the continent
- Mobilize women for increased participation in public governance
- Promote women's participation in church leadership
- Engage in advocacy actions on the rights of widows

**2.3.2. Sexual and Gender Based Violence**

**Programmatic goal:** Ending Sexual and Gender Based Violence

**Programmatic Interventions:**

- Increase awareness on the alarming incidence of SGBV in the continent
- Deepen collaboration with other relevant organisations addressing SGBV
- Increase men's participation in the fight against SGBV e.g. through the AACC's Male Champions for gender justice.
- Launch a continental campaign on ending SGBV
- Engage young people in the SGBV campaign

**2.4. SUSTAINABLE POPULATION GROWTH IN AFRICA**

**Programmatic Goal:** Promote sustainable families for sustainable population growth in Africa

**Programmatic Interventions**

- Stimulate conversations within the churches on sustainable population growth and demographic dividend in Africa
- Capacity building for young people to promote establishment of sustainable families for a sustainable population Growth
- Develop and disseminate resource materials on sustainable population growth

## 2.5. YOUTH PARTICIPATION IN CHURCH AND SOCIETY

### 2.5.1. Pan – Africanism and Active Citizenship

**Programmatic goal:** To nurture the spirit of Pan-Africanism and promote meaningful civic participation

**Programmatic interventions:**

- Promote Pan Africanism and meaningful civic engagement on the theme: AFRICA. MY HOME. MY FUTURE.
- Support the All Africa Youth Network’s participation in church and civic spheres.
- Hold the second All Africa Youth Congress in 2026
- Encourage young people in the diaspora to participate in the work of the churches in Africa
- Popularize and promote youth knowledge and ownership of the regional, continental and international policies and campaigns for social, economic, ecological, and gender justice
- Create platforms for engagement, networking and exchange of best practices on digitization and use of technological advancements to foster job creation creativity and innovation

### 2.5.2. Leadership development for young people

**Programmatic Goal:** - To facilitate the holistic development of young people into transformative, responsible leaders

**Programmatic interventions:**

- Empower youth leaders through trainings and mentorships
- Promote Youth Participation in church leadership and Ecumenical networks

## 2.6. ECOLOGICAL JUSTICE

**Programmatic goal:** Promote Environmental care and climate justice

**Programmatic interventions:**

- Promote environmental care and climate justice from local to global



- Organize capacity strengthening sessions on environmental care and stewardship of the earth
- Facilitate and support local initiatives of member churches and the Africa Faith Actors Network for Climate Justice (AFAN-CJ)
- Strengthen young people's capacity and enhance their involvement in addressing the climate change crisis

## 2.7. ECONOMIC JUSTICE

**Programmatic goal:** Work for economic justice for all

**Programmatic Interventions:**

- Support faith based advocacy for transparency and accountability on public resources and finance (e.g. corruption, tax justice and rising inequality)
- Strengthen and coordinate ecumenical advocacy for economic justice at continental and global levels
- Equip churches for active participation in public finance and economic development analysis in their countries.

## 2.8. MIGRATION, TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS AND MODERN SLAVERY

**Programmatic Goal:** Safeguard human dignity in the context of migration, trafficking in persons and modern slavery.

**Programmatic Interventions: -**

- Advocate for just and fair treatment of migrants
- Increase awareness on the dangers of human trafficking and irregular migration among young people and families
- Work with ecumenical institutions globally and Africans in the diaspora to address the challenges of migration
- Support churches to engage governments on the push factors

## 2.9. HEALTH AND HEALING

**Programmatic Goal:** Empower and facilitate churches to promote wholistic health and healing

**Programmatic Interventions: -**

- Facilitate theological conversations on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights among young people and intergenerational dialogues.
- Strengthen Youth Capacity to promote holistic health & well-being
- Promote preparedness for resilience against pandemics and epidemics
- Collaborate with specialized ecumenical ministries such as Ecumenical Pharmaceutical Network (EPN) and Africa Christian Health Associations Platform (ACHAP) on promoting health and healing.

## 2.10. PEACE IN AFRICA

### 2.10.1. Peace

**Programmatic Goal:** Maintain ecumenical presence for sustainable peace in Africa

**Programmatic interventions:**

- Maintain high level ecumenical diplomacy through the AACC's Eminent Persons Ecumenical Program for Peace in Africa (EPEPPA)
- Capacity building for church leaders, women and youth on peace building and conflict resolution
- Accompany AACC members in reconciliation and mediation initiatives
- Countering violent extremism and radicalization
- Advance youth advocacy and activism on silencing the guns by 2030

### 2.10.2. Democratic culture and good governance in Africa

**Programmatic Goal:** Promote democratic culture and good governance in Africa

**Programmatic interventions:**

- Capacity building of churches on democracy and good governance
- Participate in and coordinate election observation missions
- Enhance dialogue, research, monitoring and advocacy activities on democratization and elections in Africa.
- Facilitate learning exchanges and dissemination of best practices on good governance and democracy

## 2.11. **ADVOCACY AND THE AFRICAN UNION /AFRICAN UNION OFFICE**

### 2.11.1. **Representation of Faith-Based Organization's Voice**

**Programmatic Goal:** Influence decision and policy-making in power centres in Africa and beyond

**Programmatic Interventions:**

- Establish and maintain relations with prioritized stakeholders.
- Engage governments and other duty bearers to influence decision and policy making

### 2.11.2. **Engage with Agenda 2063**

**Programmatic Goal:** Accompany AU Agenda 2063 by implementing projects that advance it, whilst monitoring the progress of its implementation.

**Programmatic Interventions**

- Focus on Governance and Democracy under aspiration 3
- Focus on Peace and Security under aspiration 4
- Advocacy for women's rights and youth engagement with a focus on aspiration 6
- Accompany AACC Member Churches in Human Rights Advocacy on the African Continent
- Create spaces for dialogue on agenda 2063 & progress towards its implementation.

### 2.11.3. Capacities Strengthening

**Programmatic Goal:** Strengthen the skills and abilities of AACC members through sharing and pooling of skills for improved advocacy engagements.

#### **Programmatic Interventions**

- Develop advocacy tools and roll out the AACC Advocacy policy
- Awareness creation, trainings, and members involvement
- Advocacy support to other AACC interventions, and AACC Members

### 2.11.4. ENGAGING GLOBAL AND CONTINENTAL DEVELOPMENT AGENDAS

**Programmatic Goal:** Creatively engage with UN Agenda 2030

#### **Programmatic Interventions**

- Continue popularization of development agendas amongst churches for ownership to contribute to their realizations
- Equip churches to monitor implementation and hold their governments accountable

## 3. CHAPTER THREE: ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP AND SUSTAINABILITY

### 3.1. GOVERNANCE, MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND NETWORKING

#### 3.1.1. Governance

**Programmatic Goal:** Ensure all governing bodies effectively perform their governance functions (General Committee, Board of Trustees and other committees)

#### **Programmatic Interventions:**

- Provide training on role of governance in an organization
- Facilitate and enable governance to play its role adequately

### 3.1.2. Membership Development

#### **Programmatic Goals:**

- Promote growth in membership (increase member churches)
- Increase presence and relevance of AACC in the member churches

#### **Programmatic Interventions:**

- Put in place a strategy for increasing membership
- Increase contact with members and ensure their more active participation in AACC
- Engage in theological discussions with Pentecostals and charismatic churches

### 3.1.3. Communication and Networking

**Programmatic Goal:** Present AACC adequately both in the continent and globally

#### **Programmatic Interventions:**

- Ensure sustained and effective communication essentials for effective networking and information sharing
- Effective and sustained communication with stakeholders

### 3.1.4. Africans in the Diaspora and People of African Descent

**Programmatic Goal:** Engage with Africans in the Diaspora

#### **Programmatic Interventions:**

- Invite Africans in the Diaspora to actively participate in appropriate AACC programs

## 3.2. EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY

### 3.2.1. Human Resource Management

**Programmatic Goal:** Maintain highly effective, motivated and qualified human resources

### **Programmatic Interventions:**

- Emphasize on leadership, professional management of staff and long-term planning of all human resources
- Improve human resource systems to support staff performance management
- Improve and maintain staff welfare and safeguard their safety and security in their working environment
- Enhance internal communication within the organisation

### **3.2.2. Information and Communication Technology (ICT)**

**Programmatic Goal:** Enhance Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in all areas of our work

### **Programmatic Interventions:**

- Equip AACC with modern and adequate ICT infrastructure

### **3.2.3. Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting (PMER) System**

**Programmatic Goal:** Implement Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting system consistently

### **Programmatic Interventions:**

- Training on PMER amongst staff
- Consistent utilization and management of the PMER system
- Participatory monitoring, evaluation, reflection and learning (PMERL)

### **3.2.4. Financial & Compliance Management**

**Programmatic Goals:** Maintain the organizational integrity of AACC

### **Programmatic Interventions:**

- Ensure compliance with regulations and statutory requirements in the countries hosting AACC offices (Kenya, Ethiopia and Togo)
- Put in place compliance mechanisms in relation to all our work and with all partners

- Strengthen effective and efficient financial management
- Maintain an effective reporting mechanism to build strong donor confidence

### **3.2.5. Sustainability**

**Programmatic Goal:** Ensure long term sustainability of AACC Programmes

#### **Programmatic Interventions**

Strengthen proactive institutional risk management to address risks present in the contexts and environments where we work

- Ensure prudent and effective management of resources
- Build a strong internal collaboration in resource mobilization
- Maintain a vibrant professional fundraising unit
- Invest on the AACC properties development
- Enhance marketing and branding efforts of the SBU.
- Improve and maintain a good and strong customer relationship

