



The African Pulse

January - March 2026

Issue 17



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

The African Pulse

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The African Pulse is published periodically by the All Africa Conference of Churches as an information, educational and advocacy channel for the ecumenical movement in Africa.

AACC is a continental ecumenical body that accounts for over 200 million Christians across the Continent and a member of the world wide ecumenical network. It is the largest association of Protestant, Anglican, Orthodox and African Indigenous Churches. AACC has 210 members comprising Churches, National Councils of Churches (NCCs), Theological and Lay Training Institutions, and other Christian organizations in 43 African countries.

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Message from the General Secretary

Dear Readers,

Ecumenical greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. As we present to you this issue of the African Pulse, it is my sincere hope that you had a meaningful Easter season marked by reflection and renewal.

This issue covers the first quarter of the year 2026. The edition comes at a time when the global landscape is increasingly unsettled. The first quarter of the year has been characterized by rising tensions, conflicts, and uncertainties across the world that not only threaten lives and livelihoods but also challenge our collective commitment to justice, reconciliation, and human dignity. We pray that amidst all these, God sustains our witness to the Gospel and helps us to overcome all.

Within these pages, you will encounter stories, reflections, and initiatives that highlight the tireless efforts made by the AACC to continue promoting

peace, upholding human dignity, and advancing sustainable development in Africa. We are grateful to God for this ministry and I deeply appreciate and celebrate all our dedicated staff, member churches and partners whose work and invaluable contributions greatly informed the content of this issue.

Thank you.

Rev. Dr. Fidon Mwombeki,
AACC General Secretary
General Secretary





Governance, Membership Development & Networking

01 ▶

Ms. Faith Muthithi &
Ms. Evelyne Okunda



AACC General Secretary Official Visits and Engagements

By Faith Muthithi

The Office of the General Secretary at the All Africa Conference of Churches continues to nurture partnerships and strengthen ecumenical collaboration through strategic engagements with member churches and partners.

The General Secretary's meeting with the ZCC Delegation

On 26 February, Fr. James Phiri, General Secretary of the Zambia Council of Churches, paid a courtesy visit to Rev. Dr. Fidon Mwombeki at the AACC Secretariat in Nairobi. Accompanied by Rev. Allan Kasvugami and Pastor Stephen Mdoma of the Evangelical Fellowship of Zambia, the delegation engaged in dialogue on the evolving role of churches in society, commending AACC's continental impact.

Deepening Longstanding Partnerships with Bread for the world

On 27 February, AACC General Secretary hosted Imke Frederike from Bread for the World. The meeting focused on strengthening collaboration and exploring future program support, reaffirming a long-standing partnership.

Engagements with the Danish Moravian Mission

On 3 March, Arngeir Langås of the Danish Moravian Mission met with the General Secretary to explore ways of increasing the impact of their work at the grassroots level through strengthened cooperation.



AACC staff with Rev. Fekadu Daba, the General Secretary of the Presbyterian Church of Ethiopia on 13th March 2026.

A Courtesy visit by the General Secretary of the Presbyterian Church of Ethiopia

On 13th March 2026, Rev. Fekadu Daba, the General Secretary of the Presbyterian Church of Ethiopia paid a courtesy visit to the AACC General Secretariat in Nairobi. Rev. Fekadu was received by Ms. Phyllis Brewah, the Director for Finance and Administration together with other staff at the Nairobi office. During his visit, Rev. Fekadu also toured the ongoing construction works at the Desmond TuTu Conference Center.

An Interfaith Dialogue with the Embassy of Azerbaijan

On 27th March, the Secretary of the Embassy of Azerbaijan visited the AACC General Secretary to discuss opportunities for collaboration in promoting peace and interfaith coexistence. Both parties

highlighted ongoing efforts while noting challenges, including limited participation in ecumenical platforms and gaps in institutional representation.

The Encounter with a delegation of church leaders from Christian Aid

On 30th January 2026, Christian Aid, led by Pr. Bob Kikuyu, Senior Theology Advisor, visited the All Africa Conference of Churches with a diverse delegation of church leaders from England, South Africa, Pakistan, and South Sudan to strengthen partnerships and reflect on joint work in South Sudan. AACC leadership reaffirmed its advocacy role and commitment to sustainable peace, while partners emphasized the urgency of the peace process and the need for sustained dialogue and collective action to address the country's ongoing conflict challenges.



AACC General Secretary with the Secretary of the Embassy of Azerbaijan in Kenya on 27th March 2026.



AACC General Secretary with the ZCC general Secretary and his delegation on 26th February 2026.



The Christian Aid delegation and the AACC staff

AACC General Secretary Calls for Theologically Grounded Ecumenical Leadership in a Fragmented World

By Rev. Angele Dogbe

In a time marked by growing global divisions and deepening social fragmentation, the call for Christian unity remains both urgent and complex. Addressing this challenge, the General Secretary of the All Africa Conference of Churches (AACC), Rev. Dr. Fidon Mwombeki, delivered a compelling public lecture entitled **"Theology and Ecumenical**



Rev. Dr. Fidon Mwombeki delivering the public lecture. [Courtesy: Rev. Angele Dogbe]

Leadership in a Fragmented World," at the Protestant University of West Africa (UPAO) in Porto-Novo, Bénin.

The lecture took place on 13th March 2026, and it invited students and scholars to reflect on the theological foundations and practical demands of ecumenical leadership in today's world. In his presentation, Rev. Dr. Mwombeki guided participants through a theological reflection on John 17:21, highlighting Christ's prayer that believers **"may all be one."** Tracing the historical foundations of the ecumenical movement, he reflected on its development over the past two centuries and raised a critical question: why has the visible unity of the Church remained elusive despite more than 200 years of ecumenical engagement?

Rev. Dr. Mwombeki noted that while doctrinal unity continues to be challenging, churches have made meaningful progress in working together to serve humanity, particularly in efforts to alleviate suffering and address social challenges.

Concluding his lecture, he emphasized the urgent need for leaders who are theologically grounded, equipped with sound leadership skills, and experienced in ecumenical engagement to guide the Church in embodying unity while serving humanity in its rich diversity.

Originally scheduled for two hours, the lecture extended to more than three hours due to the vibrant discussions that followed.



Theology and Interfaith Relations

Rev. Fr. John Njoroge

02 ▶



AACC - MTEL Students **Lead** **Creation Care Initiative** at Mindolo Ecumenical Foundation

Master of Theology in Ecumenical Leadership students, sponsored by the All Africa Conference of Churches (AACC) in partnership with St. Paul's University and based at the Mindolo Ecumenical Foundation (MEF), led a vibrant and action-oriented programme on Creation Care and Environmental Sustainability. The initiative brought together students from sister institutions within the MEF formation community, fostering a shared commitment to environmental stewardship.

The programme aimed to strengthen the growing resolve among ecumenical theological students across Africa to integrate care for creation into leadership formation and faith practice. Grounded in the biblical call of Genesis 2:15, it emphasized humanity's responsibility to care for God's creation. Participants were encouraged to move beyond theory and embody practical stewardship through daily actions within their institutions and communities.

Held within the MEF student community, the event highlighted the importance of collaborative approaches to sustainability while reinforcing unity among partner institutions through shared

ecological initiatives. A key highlight was a hands-on tree-planting exercise across the campus, symbolizing both environmental preservation and hope for future generations. This activity demonstrated that stewardship is not only taught but actively practiced within the formation environment.

The programme also introduced practical measures to strengthen environmental responsibility, including expanding monthly campus clean-up activities into broader ecumenical engagements, establishing inter-institutional student stewardship groups, and promoting improved waste management practices. Participants were further encouraged to take ownership of sustainability efforts by nurturing the planted trees, conducting environmental awareness outreach in churches around Kitwe, and integrating creation care into worship, theological reflection, and community life.

Speaking during the programme, Ms. Favour Aladapo, Student Leader and environmentalist, emphasized that collective responsibility makes stewardship visible and meaningful in formation for ministry and service.




*Mr. Roger Garwoh
facilitating the
Creation-Care
Initiative at MEF.
[Courtesy - Fr. Dr.
John Njoroge]*

Applications Open for the 7th Annual Theological Symposium on Freedom of Belief and Persecution in Africa

On 24th March 2026, the All Africa Conference of Churches (AACC), through its Theology and Interfaith Relations unit, opened applications for participation in the 7th Annual Theological Symposium, to be held from 5th–9th October 2026 in Nairobi under the theme: **“Freedom of Belief and Persecution in Africa Today.”**

Building on a series of annual theological symposia convened since 2019, the AACC continues to provide a platform for critical reflection and constructive engagement on contextual theologies shaping African churches today. The 7th Annual Theological Symposium will explore the realities of religious freedom and persecution across the continent, bringing together diverse voices to examine the theological, social, and political dimensions of this pressing issue.

Church leaders, theologians, scholars, youth leaders, individuals with lived experiences of religious persecution, policymakers and practitioners, as well as AACC partners in Africa and the diaspora, are invited to apply to participate in the symposium whose details are available at the [AACC official website](http://www.aacc-ceta.org).



ALL AFRICA CONFERENCE OF CHURCHES
AACC-CETA

Invites you to

7TH ANNUAL THEOLOGICAL SYMPOSIUM

In many African countries' freedom of belief and persecution is pertinent, marked by stories of oppression and marginalization, destruction of churches and/or places of worship, abductions of believers and even deaths. How will African faith communities respond to these religious injustices?
AACC invites theologians, church leaders, scholars and victims living these experiences into a conversation exploring the theme:

THEME
FREEDOM OF BELIEF AND PERSECUTION IN AFRICA TODAY


Thematic Focus Topics

- Historical accounts on freedom of belief and persecution.
- African Theological perspectives on persecution and freedom of belief.
- Role of governments in protecting and safeguarding freedom of worship.
- Biblical hermeneutical approaches informing theology of freedom of belief and persecution.
- Political and Religious factors perpetuating a culture of anti-Christian and religious minorities groups violence.

APPLICATION DEADLINE
15TH MAY 2026

NAIROBI - KENYA
5th-9th October 2026
For more info visit : www.aacc-ceta.org

SCAN THE QR TO APPLY



The Symposium will explore the realities of religious freedom and persecution across the continent, bringing together diverse voices to examine the theological, social, and political dimensions of this pressing issue.



Gender and Women

Ms. Faustian Nillan

03 ▶



AACC Strengthens **Ecumenical Women's Leadership** in Nigeria Ahead of International Women's Day

The All Africa Conference of Churches convened a two-day capacity strengthening workshop on Ecumenical Women Leadership and Mentorship of Emerging Leaders in Nigeria from 4–5 March 2026 at the Presbyterian Church of Nigeria Headquarters in Wuse 2, Abuja, ahead of International Women's Day. The training brought together about 40 participants, including women leaders and emerging young women from diverse Christian traditions and ecumenical platforms across Nigeria.

The workshop aimed to strengthen women's leadership in the Church and society through reflection, mentorship, and collaborative learning. It also formed part of the 2026 World Day of Prayer activities under the theme **"Come... I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28–30)**, which provided a spiritual foundation for the engagements.

In her welcome address, Ms. Faustina Nillan, Programme Executive for Gender and Women at the AACC, emphasized the importance of intentional leadership development and structured mentorship. She noted that empowering women

is central to building inclusive church leadership and advancing social transformation.

The keynote address, delivered by Bishop Dr. Onoja on behalf of the Christian Council of Nigeria General Secretary Rt. Rev. Dr. Evans Onyemara, affirmed the theological grounding of women's leadership and called for the removal of barriers limiting women's participation in church and public life. He further urged faith leaders to actively mentor emerging women leaders.

Technical sessions explored biblical foundations of women's leadership, intergenerational solidarity, gender justice advocacy, and the role of faith communities in promoting equality. Participants called for stronger mentorship frameworks and increased inclusion of women in leadership spaces.

The workshop concluded with a Commitment Statement and commissioning prayers, marking a renewed dedication to advancing women's leadership. It contributes to the AACC Strategic Plan 2024–2028, which prioritizes inclusive leadership and transformative engagement across Africa.



Group photo of the training participants

Beneficiary of the AACC Women's Entrepreneurship Programme shares about her inspiring Journey



For Mrs. Valentina Araba Segua Monnie, the aroma of fresh bread and pastries is more than just a culinary delight; it is the scent of a lifelong calling. As the founder of Vally's Bakery, Valentina has artfully blended childhood inspiration with professional rigor and faith-led resilience, transforming a student hustle into a burgeoning Ghanaian brand. We are delighted to share with your insights from the inspiring interview that Valentina had with the AACC Communications officer during the preparation of this issue.

Interviewer (AACC Communications Officer): *Valentina, let's start at the beginning: Where did this passion for baking come from?*

Valentina: My journey began in my mother's kitchen. Watching my mother, Mrs. Noel Monnie, express her creativity as a home baker really planted the seed. I was fascinated by how she combined flavours and poured dedication into everything she made. Those early experiences stayed with me and eventually shaped my career path.

Interviewer: *When did you decide to venture into baking as a business?*

Valentina: It was 2017. In that year, I started baking and selling meat pies on campus. At the time, it might have seemed like a simple student hustle, but for me, it was much more. I saw it as a space to practice, experiment, and improve my craft every day.

Interviewer: *What did that early experience teach you about entrepreneurship?*

Valentina: It taught me discipline and the importance of consistency. It wasn't just about making money. I had to learn to refine my skills and commit to excellence. There were many challenges I had to face and each of them made me better.

Interviewer: *How do you end up as one of AACC women entrepreneurs?*

Valentina: In 2021, AACC organized a women entrepreneur's exchange forum and through the Christian Council of Ghana, I was invited to participate. That training was transformative. I already had the baking skills and I was running the business on small scale but in this training, I learnt things that completely changed my perspective and made me crave for growth and expansion. I learned about financial management,

and leadership, and I was challenged by other women's accomplishments in their businesses. In the trained we formed a group of women entrepreneurs in AACC churches and yeah! We have been remained in touch till now.

Interviewer: In what ways did the Exchange Forum impact on your life?

Valentina: It helped me move from thinking of myself as just a campus baker to seeing myself as a big business owner. I began to understand that my bakery could grow into something much bigger and a brand that could have real economic impact.

Interviewer: What are some of your highlights in your journey as an entrepreneur?

Valentina: I have many but let me share just one. Sometime back I got the opportunity to work as a Kitchen Specialist at Our Chalet in Switzerland. It was an incredible experience that exposed me to global standards in food service and hospitality.

Interviewer: What values does your business stand for?

Valentina: One of them and most important for me is inclusivity. I believe everyone deserves to enjoy good food and that's why I focus on offering options for different dietary needs, including gluten-free and dairy-free products.

Interviewer: Finally, what is your vision for the future, and what keeps you grounded?

Valentina: I envision my bakery, Vally's Bakery, becoming a household name across Ghana, with multiple branches and the capacity to serve hundreds of customers daily. My journey is guided by faith, especially the promise in Jeremiah 29:11, which reminds me that God has good plans for my future. What started as a small campus baking journey has grown into a much bigger vision and I'm excited for what lies ahead.



I started baking and selling meat pies on campus. At the time, it might have seemed like a simple student hustle, but for me, it was much more. I saw it as a space to practice, experiment, and improve my craft every day.



Youth

Mr. Brian Muyunga

04 ▶



AACC Youth Leadership Sparks Call for Intentional Living at Chosen Generation Retreat in Uganda



Mr. Brian Muyunga addressing the youth leaders.

The Executive Secretary for Youth at the All Africa Conference of Churches, Muyunga Brian, served as Keynote Speaker and Theme Expositor at the Chosen Generation Youth Retreat held from 2–11 January 2026 at Kaazi Camping Site, Busaabala, organized by St. Mark’s Cathedral, Luwero Diocese.

The retreat, themed **“Living with Intentionality: Refuelling Our Purpose in a Lukewarm World” (Revelation 3:14–22; Esther 4:14)**, brought together young people for spiritual formation, reflection, and leadership development. Representing the AACC, Muyunga conveyed New Year greetings and fraternal solidarity from the continental ecumenical fellowship.

He opened the engagement with a symbolic gesture of encouragement by presenting a celebratory cake on behalf of the AACC, affirming the Church’s commitment to accompanying

grassroots youth ministries and nurturing young leaders at the beginning of the year.

In his keynote address, he challenged participants to confront **“lukewarmness”**— a faith that professes belief but lacks conviction and action. He linked this to contemporary realities such as corruption, inequality, violence, and sexual and gender-based violence, emphasizing the need for courageous and prophetic leadership among young people.

Drawing from Esther 4:14, he reminded the youth that they are positioned **“for such a time as this”** to act with purpose and integrity. He also connected the message to the continental vision of **“Africa: My Home, My Future,”** urging youth to take responsibility in shaping a just and hopeful Africa.

The retreat strengthened youth networks and reaffirmed the AACC’s commitment to transformative youth leadership across Africa.

Pre-Valentine's Day Webinar Convenes **Youth and Church Leaders to Engage on Matters of Love, Life, and SRHR**

As the Valentine's season highlights themes of love, intimacy, and relationships across the world, it also exposes the urgent need for honest and compassionate conversations around sexual and reproductive health matters within families and communities. In light of this, the All Africa Conference of Churches (AACC) convened a pre-Valentine's Day webinar featuring an intergenerational conversation on matters of love, the sanctity of life, and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) in the contemporary world. The webinar took place on 12th and 13th February 2026.

The dialogues opened with insightful biblical reflections by Rev. Mary Mwangi from the African Christian Churches and Schools, Kenya, and Mr. Fredrick Savage from the Anglican Church, Sierra Leone. Both drew from 1 Corinthians 13 to emphasize that love does no harm and urged participants to protect their dignity and well-being as they mark the Valentine's season and beyond.

Rev. Angele Dogbe, Director of AACC's regional office in Lomé and Migration, and Mr. Victoire Wamunyu, a youth pastor from the Baptist Church in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), facilitated the dialogue. Their joint presentation drew from

Angele's life and experiences as a senior pastor who has been married for 27 years, as well as Victoire's experience as a Gen Z youth who recently transitioned from dating and courtship into marriage three months ago. Conversations centered on the challenges of finding the right marriage partner, sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), prevention of sexually transmitted infections, teenage pregnancies, mental health, religion, culture, and family planning.

"This webinar has set the tone for our Valentine's season, and I am hopeful that we will look beyond the flowers and celebrate a love that does not hurt, but heals," noted the webinar's moderator, Ms. Tabitha Akanji from the Baptist Church, Nigeria, as she called the intergenerational dialogue to a close.



The Facilitators: Pastor Victoire Wamunyu and Rev. Angele Dogbe and Rev. Beatrice Ruara in dialogue during the session

Methodist Church in Sierra Leone Reaffirms Commitment to **Youth Participation in Continental Ecumenical Processes**

During the 146th Session of the United Methodist Church Sierra Leone Annual Conference, held on 6 March 2026 at the Bishop Baughman United Methodist Church, church leaders renewed their commitment to strengthening youth engagement in continental ecumenical and Pan-African initiatives under the **"Africa: My Home, My Future"** campaign.

The session was attended by 1200 delegates including clergy and lay delegates from across the Country. During the youth and young adults annual report session, Ms. Elizabeth Yambasu, Sierra Leone's National Coordinator for the Second All Africa Youth Congress (AAYC 2025), presented an overview of youth participation in the continental movement, highlighting Sierra Leone's representation of 17 delegates.

Ms. Yambasu reported that out of the 17 participants from Sierra Leone who attended the Congress, seven were from the United Methodist Church, with five of them fully sponsored by the Sierra Leone Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. She expressed appreciation to church leadership for its continued investment in youth empowerment and participation.

She further highlighted the transformative impact of the Congress on young participants, noting that it provided valuable exposure in leadership development, entrepreneurship, and networking, equipping them to contribute meaningfully to church and society.

Ms. Yambasu also outlined strategies being used by the Sierra Leone delegation to localize the **"Africa: My Home, My Future"** campaign, strengthen ecumenical engagement among young people, and promote active citizenship through faith-driven youth initiatives in Sierra Leone.

In response, the Head of the United Methodist Church in Sierra Leone, Bishop James Boye-Caulker, reaffirmed the church's commitment to supporting young people. He pledged to continue strengthening collaboration with the Council of Churches in Sierra Leone to expand opportunities for youth participation in both national and continental ecumenical platforms.



Ms. Elizabeth Yambasu presenting the youth and young adults during the annual 146th Session of the United Methodist Church Sierra Leone Annual Conference

Young Faith Leaders Trained to Promote SRHR and Sustainable Population Growth for Quality Life in Mozambique



Participants engaged in a group assignment during the second day of the training [Courtesy: Brian Muyunga]

From 26 to 29 March 2026, Maputo hosted the All Africa Conference of Churches (AACC) in-country Training of Trainers on the use of Contextual Bible Studies (CBS) manuals on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) and Sustainable Population Growth (SPG). The training, implemented within the framework of the **Africa: My Home. My Future.** campaign, equipped twenty young faith leaders from AACC member churches and other Christian organizations across Mozambique with faith-based tools and practical skills to address critical issues affecting their communities, including early pregnancies, HIV and sexually transmitted infections, and limited access to essential health services necessary for holistic wellbeing and sustainable development.

In his opening remarks, AACC's Executive Secretary, Youth, Brian Muyunga encouraged participants to embrace the training as an opportunity to expand their knowledge, skills, and resources as young leaders expected to drive transformation. He noted that initiatives such as this reflect the vision of **Africa: My Home. My Future.** Campaign empowering young people to take ownership of the continent's future by promoting responsible choices, healthy families, and sustainable communities.

Rev. Armindo Folichane Cumbe called on churches to strengthen their role in guiding young people in navigating SRHR and population-related challenges. He cautioned against misleading

theologies that discourage informed decision-making on relationships and family planning, and emphasized the need for churches to provide accurate, contextual, and empowering teachings that uphold human dignity.

Participants engaged in dynamic sessions combining Bible study, role play, and open dialogue. Using the Young People's Resource Packs on Faith, Love and Life and Faith, Fertility and the Future, facilitators: Nataniel Mandlhate and Albertina Quive demonstrated how scripture can be used to facilitate honest discussions on SRHR and population growth, promote learning, and inspire transformative christian mission in communities.

Reflecting on her experience, Yolanda Cossa shared that the training strengthened her confidence and

equipped her with practical skills to address SRHR and SPG issues within her community, particularly menstrual hygiene and teenage pregnancies.

The training concluded on Palm Sunday with an ecumenical worship service, after which participants developed and shared action plans outlining the SRHR issues they will address and strategies to promote sustainable population growth.

"We are going back with a commitment to work together to promote holistic health and wellbeing of people in our communities and to pursue a more sustainable future for Mozambique and Africa at large." Expressed Agostinho Cossa, one of the participants.



Trained youth leaders introducing the CBS manuals to the Zion Union Apostolic Christian Church Chiboene Parish during their outreach activities following the training.



Ecological Justice

Dr. Tinashe Gumbo
& Adrian Chikowore

05 ▶



AFAN-CJ Leads Climate Awareness and Stakeholder Engagement Initiatives in Benin

By Dr. Tinashe Gumbo

From 13th to 16th March 2026, the African Faith Actors Network on Climate Justice (AFAN-CJ) successfully implemented a series of country-level initiatives aimed at raising awareness on climate change and strengthening collaboration among key stakeholders for climate action in Benin.

A key highlight of the initiative was a public March held to showcase the AFAN-CJ's work and vision, in addition to providing an opportunity for engagement on environmental stewardship among local institutions.

The program also featured a multi-stakeholder meeting between AFAN-CJ members and tra-

ditional leaders, civil society representatives, policymakers and the media to engage on how to foster collaborative climate action and strengthen community resilience to the impacts of climate change.

During the meeting, Rev. Dr. Mwombeki delivered a message of solidarity, encouraging the AFAN-CJ to sustain the momentum it has created in mobilizing faith communities for climate justice.

Stakeholders present at the meeting committed to strengthening collaboration with AFAN-CJ in advancing climate justice initiatives in Benin.



Group photo of Participants in the stakeholders meeting for climate action held on 14th March 2026. [Courtesy: Dr. Tinashe Gumbo]

Regional Interfaith Climate Consultation frames **COP32** Agenda on the sidelines of the African Union Summit



Group Photo of Participants Courtesy of Act Alliance

By **Adrian Chikowore**

Convened on the sidelines of the 2026 African Union Summit by the AACC in partnership with the Act Alliance, the Regional Interfaith Consultation aimed at setting the agenda for COP31 in Turkey and COP32 in Addis Ababa in 2027. Participants stressed that faith institutions must leverage their unique position to mobilize grassroots communities and bridge the gap between local action and high-level policy agendas for COP 31 and COP 32. To ensure impact, faith networks must shift from broad ambitions to concrete engagement strategies with clearly defined indicators that address current barriers to accessing high-level negotiation spaces.

Emphasis was also made on the need for faith actors to move beyond observation to institutionalizing their influence through a structured, evidence-based approach. A primary recommendation was the establishment of an eco-theological extension and research component to provide continuous policy support. This mechanism would

be responsible for producing quarterly interfaith position papers that address the multifaceted nature of the climate crisis through a justice lens.

The consultation concluded with two priority actions being formally adopted to guide the role of faith climate justice actors and these included, the development of a Comprehensive Concept Paper to visualize the interfaith coordination structure. This document will synthesize all ideas from the meeting report to envision how faith actors can operate as a unified alliance without prematurely defining specific roles. The second was the formation of a Joint Interfaith Coalition and Campaign wherein participants agreed to strengthen a joint interfaith coalition/alliance with the AFAN-CJ being muted as a potential structure and thereby launch a campaign of faith leaders and actors. This platform will provide the visibility and access needed to address the cross-cutting issues of climate, development, and economic justice leading up to and beyond COP 32.

Faith Actors Advance Proposal for “Conference of the People” to Democratize Global Climate Dialogue

By Dr. Tinashe Gumbo

The AACC convened faith-based partners on 26 February 2026 to review and contribute to an ambitious climate justice initiative spearheaded by the Organization of African Instituted Churches. The meeting brought together six representatives of ecumenical and interfaith actors to refine a concept note aimed at strengthening people-centered climate action across Africa and the wider diaspora.

Participants expressed concern over the limitations of the Conference of the Parties (COP) processes, noting that they have become increasingly political, elitist, and financially inaccessible to ordinary communities. While COP negotiations

continue to generate global resolutions, delegates highlighted persistent gaps in implementation, particularly affecting Africa and people of African descent who remain disproportionately impacted by climate change.

In response, faith actors are advancing plans to convene a “**Conference of the People**” (COP 1), an alternative global platform designed to elevate grassroots voices and lived experiences of climate change. The proposed gathering, expected in the last quarter of 2026 in Nairobi, aims to bring together approximately 500 participants from across the world, with a strong focus on Africans and the diaspora.



Group photo of the participants

Faith Actors Reflected on COP30 Outcomes

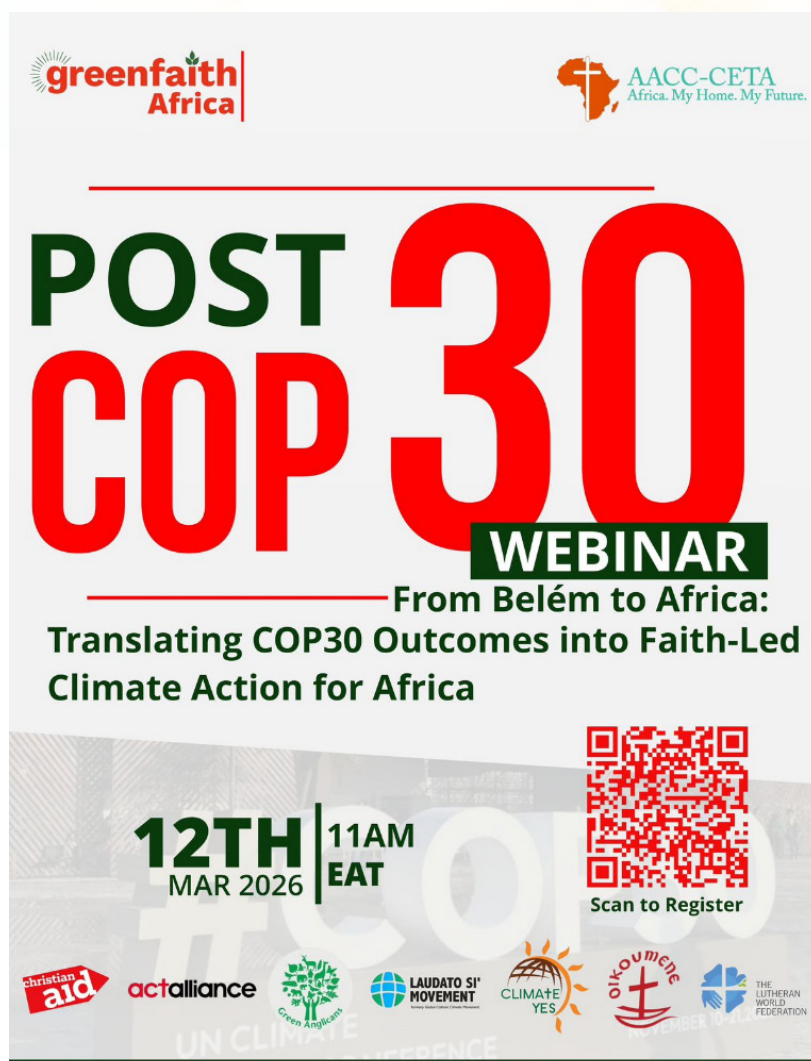
By Dr. Tinashe Gumbo

On 12 March 2026, the AACC and Greenfaith Africa, in collaboration with other faith actors, convened a webinar to reflect on the outcomes of COP30. Other faith actors who participated include the World Council of Churches, Lutheran World Federation, Climate YES, Christian Aid, Laudato si, ACT Alliance, and Green Anglican Movement, among others. The outcomes of COP30 represent a critical moment for influencing the global climate agenda and informing Africa's collective climate negotiating and implementation priorities. Speaking at the meeting, the AACC Programs Director, Rev. Dr Lesmore Gibson Ezekiel, who was the keynote speaker, challenged the faith actors in Africa to engage their individual Heads of State and Government to ensure they meaningfully address Africa's adaptation needs, financing gaps, realities of loss and damage, and gender justice concerns.

This was reinforced by Adrian Chikowore, the AACC Economic Justice Officer, who moderated the session. Chikowore added that faith actors are strategically positioned within Africa's climate governance landscape. They are trusted moral authorities, grassroots mobilizers, service providers, and advocates who can bridge international and regional policy commitments and lived community experiences.

The webinar was attended by more than 100 participants representing faith actors, policy

makers, and members of civil society. It was an opportunity to equip African faith actors with a shared understanding of COP30 outcomes and strengthen their collective advocacy to influence Africa-centred, just, and gender-responsive climate action ahead of COP31 and 32. COP32, dubbed the **'African COP'**, will be held in Ethiopia. The post-COP30 meeting was strategic to prepare the continent.



The Visibility Poster for the Webinar



Economic Justice

Mr. Adrian Chikowore

06 ▶



Faith Actors Speak Out Against Global Inequality via **Interfaith Liturgy amidst World Economic Forum convening**

By Mr. Adrian Chikowore

From the 19th to the 23rd of January, the Global Inequality Week ran concurrently with the World Economic Forum (WEF) in Davos, Switzerland, where global leaders engaged in global economy discussions to address and set priorities on global issues. This year's convening occurred at a time where there has been intensifying competition among major powers is reshaping global influence and regional stability, while societies are increasingly polarized in many countries. On the 21st of January, the AACC convened partners such as Fight Inequality Alliance and Msingi Trust at the AACC Chapel in Nairobi to advance faith-based global economic justice policy positions drawing from initiatives including the Zacchaeus Tax Campaign, the Jubilee debt cancellation agenda, and WeThe99 Campaign.

Through a hybrid Interfaith Liturgy, faith actors challenged the status quo on global economic governance and included actions where faith actors and civil society reflected on the moral

imperatives and actions for a just global economic system and included simultaneous processions in Kenya, Zimbabwe, South Africa and the United States of America.

The Interfaith Liturgy on Global Inequality implored faith actors to strengthen coordination and partnerships so that their policy advocacy calls can contribute towards;

- *Curbing the haemorrhage of Africa's resources and wealth through illicit financial flows.*
- *Reforming global tax rules in order for them to work for the people, not only multinational company profits.*
- *Influencing tax justice by advancing calls on taxing wealth, capital, and multinational corporations in proportion to their capacity.*
- *Ensuring that developing countries have an equal voice and decision-making power in global tax and debt governance*



Picture: Courtesy of Adrian Chikowore

Faith Actors in Southern Africa Recommit to Leading the Alternative Mining Indaba

By Dr. Tinashe Gumbo

The 2026 Alternative Mining Indaba (AMI) ended in Cape Town on a high note as faith actors recommitted to leading local, national, and regional AMIs to guarantee the good stewardship of God's creation. Running under the theme, **"Alternative Stories of Mining,"** the AMI took place from 9th to 12th February and created a safe space for community members, faith actors, and civil society representatives to share their experiences and stories from across their countries. The AACC joined faith actors and other non-state actors to amplify the voices of communities and champion just transitions. The main objective of AACC's participation was to reaffirm faith actors' leadership commitments to the AMI at various levels.

Ahead of the AMI, the AACC, in collaboration with the Economic Justice Network of FOCCISA and the Zimbabwe Council of Churches (ZCC), convened a reflection session during which faith actors in Southern Africa recommitted to taking a leading role in championing transparency and accountability in mineral governance within their countries. At the conclusion of the AMI, delegates produced a compelling declaration, which was submitted to the Mining Indaba leadership meeting in the same town.

The declaration called for ethical stewardship of Africa's mineral resources, referencing the Bible: **"The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it."** Faith actors committed to continuing to play

an active role in calling out injustices in the mining sector, affirming human dignity, stewardship, and justice; providing spiritual healing; and integrating mining discussions into church discourse as they partner with other non-state actors.

Celebrating the faith leaders' recommitment, Dr. Tinashe Gumbo, AACC Programme Executive for Ecological Justice, noted that as faith actors recommit themselves to leading the AMI, interfaith approaches will also be promoted going forward.

"Our sole purpose on this earth is to care for everything in it, and as youth from the Church, we should do everything within our capacity to support the AMIs in our respective countries," expressed Mr. Keith Muhati, a member of the Africa Youth Network from the Friends Church in Kenya.



Some of the Faith Actors delegation at the AMI. [Courtesy: Keith Muhati]

AACC Reaffirms Commitment to Just and Inclusive Resource Governance at Pamoja Alliance Launch

Mr. Adrian Chikowore, AACC Programme Executive for Ecological Justice, Mr. Admire Mutizwa from the Zimbabwe Council of Churches, Rev. Suzanne Matala of the United Methodist Church in Zambia, and Fr. Toussaint M. Kafarhire of the Arrupe Jesuit University during a panel discussion



By Mr. Adrian Chikowore

The All Africa Conference of Churches participated in the Continental Strategy Planning and Launch of the Pamoja Critical Minerals Alliance held from 24–27 February 2026 in Harare, Zimbabwe. The convening, organized by the Southern Africa Resource Watch, brought together key stakeholders to advance a people-centered approach to Africa’s critical minerals sector.

The AACC contributed to the discussions by facilitating a session titled **“Faith in Action: Strengthening Community Voice in Mining and Energy Transitions.”** The session highlighted the critical role of faith actors in shaping inclusive and just development pathways.

The panel featured contributions from Rev. Suzanne Matala of the United Methodist Church in Zambia, Fr. Toussaint M. Kafarhire of the Arrupe Jesuit

University, Admire Mutizwa from the Zimbabwe Council of Churches, and Rev. Baxton Maulidi from Malawi as respondent.

Discussions underscored the significant influence of the Church in advocating for policies that protect mining communities and promote a just energy transition. Participants emphasized the responsibility of faith communities to stand for justice and the wellbeing of their people, even in the face of powerful state and corporate interests.

The session concluded with a call to leverage the Pamoja Critical Minerals Alliance Social Movement as a vital platform for mobilizing faith-based organizations, youth, women, and mining communities to ensure Africa’s natural resources contribute to shared prosperity and sustainable development.



AACC Regional Office in Lomé

Rev. Angele Dogbe

07 ▶

AACC Empowers Young Faith Leaders to **Tackle Migration and Trafficking in Persons in Burkina Faso**

In response to the growing risks surrounding migration in West Africa, the All Africa Conference of Churches (AACC), in partnership with the Association of Evangelical Reformed Churches of Burkina Faso (AEERB) convened a youth training workshop from 22–25 March 2026 in Ouagadougou.

Burkina Faso, a key transit point along regional migratory routes, faces increasing challenges linked to irregular migration, human trafficking, and modern slavery. Many young people, driven by unemployment, insecurity, and climate pressures, are lured into dangerous migration pathways, often exposing them to exploitation and abuse. The situation is further worsened by ongoing insecurity in the Sahel, which has displaced over two million people, many of them youth.

The training brought together young leaders and civil society actors to strengthen their understanding of migration dynamics and build their capacity to respond. Participants explored the root causes of migration, the tactics used by traffickers, and the risks associated with irregular migration.

While opening the training, Rev. Dr. Fidon Mwombeki, AACC General Secretary, emphasized the theological dimension of migration, noting that it is deeply rooted in Scripture and calls the



Group photo of the participants [Courtesy: Rev. Angele Dogbe]

Church to respond with justice, compassion, and dignity. He encouraged the participants to actively engage their communities, advocate for the protection of vulnerable migrants, and become agents of positive change.

The workshop also focused on practical action. Participants were equipped with knowledge of legal protection frameworks and encouraged to promote awareness in their communities. Particular emphasis was placed on the need for psychosocial support for survivors and the role of churches in providing care and advocacy.

By the end of the training, participants developed action plans to guide their work in promoting safe migration and protecting vulnerable communities.

FECCIWA Assembly Sparks Renewed Hope for Ecumenical Revival in West Africa



Group photo of the participants

The Fellowship of Christian Councils and Churches in West Africa convened an Extraordinary General Assembly on 18–19 February 2026 in Accra, bringing together church leaders and ecumenical partners in a spirit of reflection, accountability, and renewed hope for the future of the fellowship in West Africa. Held at the Presbyterian Women’s Center in Abokobi, the Assembly marked a critical moment in FECCIWA’s journey toward institutional strengthening and spiritual renewal.

Representing the All Africa Conference of Churches, Rev. Angele Wilson-Dogbe delivered a goodwill message on behalf of the General Secretary, Rev. Dr. Fidon Mwombeki. She commended FECCIWA’s leadership for convening the Assembly despite recent institutional challenges, noting that the gathering itself reflected resilience and a shared commitment to rebuilding stronger foundations.

Addressing past financial and accountability concerns, Rev. Wilson-Dogbe encouraged delegates to seize the moment as an opportunity

for transformation. She underscored the importance of strengthening governance systems, ensuring transparent financial stewardship, renewing programmatic relevance, and rebuilding trust among members and partners.

Placing FECCIWA’s renewal within the broader regional context, she highlighted pressing challenges facing West Africa, including insecurity, forced migration, youth unemployment, and interreligious tensions, stressing that the AACC as a continental body though very vocal and impactful in addressing the above mentioned issues, it cannot do it all alone. In this regard, she emphasized that a revitalized FECCIWA would be instrumental in amplifying the ecumenical voice and advancing faith-based responses to these realities.

Reaffirming AACC’s commitment to its member churches across 43 countries, she expressed confidence that the Assembly would mark not merely a recovery, but a renewed and vibrant chapter in FECCIWA’s mission in the region.

12th BIENNIAL CONFERENCE

THEME:

Rethinking Health Systems for Africa's Future:
Equity, Innovation, and Sustainability



Health and Healing

08 ▶

Ms. Ann Kioi



AACC Reaffirms Commitment to Strengthening Faith-Based Health Systems at ACHAP Biennial Conference in Madagascar

Ms. Ann Kioi, Director for Gender, Women, Youth and Sustainable Population at the All Africa Conference of Churches, represented the AACC at the 12th Biennial Conference of the African Christian Health Associations Platform held from 24–27 February 2026 in Antananarivo, Madagascar.

The conference, themed ***“Rethinking Health Systems for Africa’s Future: Faith, Innovation, and Sustainability,”*** brought together faith leaders, health practitioners, policymakers, and development partners to deliberate on the future of healthcare delivery across the continent. It served as a critical platform for strengthening collaboration and advancing faith-based contributions to resilient and inclusive health systems.

Discussions focused on sustainable health financing models, innovative approaches to service delivery, and the role of faith-based institutions in addressing persistent gaps in Africa’s health systems. Participants emphasized the need for

stronger partnerships that integrate community-driven solutions with national and continental health strategies.

Ms. Kioi’s participation reflected the AACC’s continued commitment to advancing holistic health and wellbeing as part of its broader agenda on justice, human dignity, and sustainable development. She contributed to conversations that underscored the importance of faith leadership in shaping responsive and equitable health systems that serve the most vulnerable communities.

The gathering concluded with renewed commitment among participants to strengthen advocacy, deepen partnerships, and support transformative approaches to health across Africa.

Participants emphasized the need for stronger partnerships that integrate community-driven solutions with national and continental health strategies.





Advocacy at the African Union

09



AACC Advances Faith Actors' Priorities at the African Union Heads of State Summit

By Mr. Adrian Chikowore

The All Africa Conference of Churches (AACC) has commenced engagements at the AU ECOSOCC Civil Society Pre-Summit Symposium on the side lines of the African Union Summit. The theme of this year's AU summit is, **"Assuring Sustainable Water Availability and Safe Sanitation Systems to Achieve Goals of Agenda 2063."** The AU-ECOSOCC Pre-Summit Symposium was organized to offer faith actors and civil society a strategic space to deepen their understanding of Africa's development priorities and approaches to water governance.

The AACC's engagement at the AU Summit is grounded in the Christian conviction that water is a gift from God and a sacred trust entrusted to humanity. Ensuring its sustainable financing is therefore a moral responsibility and very essential to

advancing economic and climate justice, upholding the God-given dignity of every human being, nurturing peace, and promoting sustainable development across Africa. Despite the growing financing commitments, water remains inadequately funded, less-coordinated and reliant on debt creating instruments. The AACC is thus advancing faith actors' advocacy renewed commitment to water financing as a strategy for ensuring climate resilience, good governance and human rights.

The AACC delegation to the symposium is comprised of Adrian Chikowore the Economic Justice Programme lead, the Executive Secretary for Gender, Faustina Manyangu and Bishop Vicentia Kgabe, the Bishop of Pretoria Diocese of the Anglican Church of Southern Africa.



AACC delegation at the AU-ECOSOCC Pre-Summit Symposium in Addis Ababa on 9th February 2026 [Courtesy - Mr. Adrian Chikowore]

AACC Highlights the **Role of the 'Africa: My Home. My Future.'** Campaign at the AYLDC in Addis Ababa



MS. Mahlet Abreham making her presentation at the AYLDC. [Courtesy: Mahlet Abreham]

Ms. Mahlet Abreham

From 25th to 26th March 2026, 200 young leaders gathered at the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) in Addis Ababa for the African Youth Leadership and Diplomacy Conference (AYLDC). The event provided a vibrant platform for dialogue, collaboration, and leadership development among African young people.

Representing the All Africa Conference of Churches (AACC), Ms. Mahlet Abreham, AACC Programme Executive for the Horn of Africa Peace Project delivered a compelling address on youth, migration, and Pan-Africanism. Her address highlighted the role of the Pan-African Campaign on Africa: My

Home. My Future. in challenging young people to rethink migration narratives and shift their agency from looking for opportunities to leave Africa to striving to lead, develop and flourish within Africa. She emphasized that the continent's greatest strength lies in its youth, whose energy, ideas, and innovation are key to building the Africa We Want.

Participants were encouraged to see Africa not as a place to escape, but as a space of opportunity and responsibility. They were urged to take ownership of the continent's challenges and translate their ideas into practical solutions rooted in African identity, collaboration, and innovation.



Finance and Administration

10 ▶

Ms. Phyllis Brewah



AACC Celebrates Nine Years of Dedicated Service by Ms. Anysie Uwimana

On 27 February 2026, the All Africa Conference of Churches celebrated Ms. Anysie Uwimana for her outstanding nine years of dedicated service to the ecumenical fellowship, marking the conclusion of a tenure defined by commitment, professionalism, and compassion.

Anysie, a member of the Presbyterian Church of Rwanda, joined the AACC in 2017 and served in various capacities, including Executive Secretary for Compliance and Quality Assurance. Over the years, she played a key role in strengthening the organization's operational systems and accountability frameworks.

Among her notable contributions was her service as Local Coordinator for the AACC 11th General Assembly held in Kigali in 2018, where she contributed significantly to the successful coordination of one of the AACC's landmark continental gatherings.

The AACC General Secretary, Fidon Mwombeki, described Ms. Anysie Uwimana as "a very reliable and loving person who would never allow a colleague to make avoidable mistakes." He further commended her strong sense of responsibility and her commitment to ensuring accountability, noting that she consistently called colleagues to reflect on their actions and decisions, strengthening a culture of integrity within the organization.

Colleagues also paid tribute to her generous, loving, and caring nature, highlighting that she



Rev. Dr. Fidon Mwombeki, Ms. Anysie Uwimana, Ms. Phyllis Brewah and Ms. Daisy Adhiambo (the administrative and Human Resource Assistant) cutting a cake during the celebration.

consistently offered herself to help others and accompanied them through both difficult and joyful moments.

"As her supervisor, I have had the privilege of working very closely with Ms. Anysie and have experienced her as a deeply supportive, caring, and dependable colleague who is always willing to teach, support and learn from others," remarked Ms. Phyllis Brewah, Director for Finance and Administration.

In her remarks, Ms. Anysie expressed deep appreciation to the AACC for offering her the opportunity to serve the ecumenical movement at continental level. She described her time at the AACC as filled with meaningful experiences, valuable lessons, and personal and professional growth. She also cherished the relationships built with colleagues and partners across the continent, noting that these connections profoundly shaped her journey profoundly.

AACC's Desmond Tutu Conference Centre **Temporarily Closed for Major Upgrade**

On 19th March 2026, the All Africa Conference of Churches announced the temporary closure of the Desmond Tutu Conference Centre (DTCC) to allow for renovations and the construction work aimed at upgrading and expanding its facilities. The six-month closure, expected to last from 1st April until October 2026, will see improvements designed to enhance service delivery and meet the evolving needs of DTCC's clients.

For years, the DTCC has served as a key convening space in Nairobi, hosting conferences, faith

dialogues, and regional engagements that have shaped conversations across Africa. Its renovation and upgrade, therefore, are a strategic investment in the future of hospitality and ecumenical engagement in Africa.

During the temporary closure, all services including conferencing, accommodation, restaurant, and gym facilities will remain unavailable. However, the AACC Secretariat offices in Nairobi shall continue to operate and remain accessible for inquiries.



Ms. Faith Mutie, AACC Property Manager, guiding Rev. Fekadu Daba, the General Secretary of the Presbyterian Church in Ethiopia, through a tour around the DTCC construction site on 13th March 2026.



AACC-CETA