



PROGRAMME FOR CHRISTIAN-MUSLIM RELATIONS IN AFRICA
PROGRAMME DES RELATIONS ISLAMO-CHRETIENNES EN AFRIQUE



WEST AFRICA CHRISTIAN RELIGIOUS LEADERS STATEMENT ON COUNTERING RADICALISATION AND VIOLENT EXTREMISM

26th – 29th June, 2016

We, Christian Religious Leaders of men, women and youth from Eight (8) West African Countries of Burkina Faso, The Gambia, Ghana, Liberia, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo and the Central African country of Cameroon at the invitation of the Programme for Christian-Muslim Relations in Africa (PROCMURA) met at the PROCMURA Meeting and Conference Center, Nairobi from 26th – 29th June, 2016 for a Seminar on the theme “**COUNTERING RADICALISATION AND VIOLENT EXTREMISM**”.

HAVING REFLECTIVELY listened to various presentations on the philosophy and ideological framework which inform the brutal and inhuman activities of the radicalised and violent extremists in the different countries around Africa and indeed worldwide;

MOVED BY the vivid pictorial narratives of the reality of mayhem caused by the violent extremists as reflected in abductions and random killings in West, Central and East Africa among others, and how in a number of cases, innocent young girls and boys are used as suicide bombers to destroy themselves and other innocent people;

VERY CONCERNED that religion (in the African context) which has from time immemorial informed African spirituality of ‘live and let live’ with our religious differences in peace, and promoted the wholeness of life here and now and the hereafter, is being used as a vehicle to destroy life and thereby violate the essence of religion as Africa understands it;

RECOGNISING that building constructive intra-religious relations is a prerequisite for constructive inter-religious relations towards countering radicalisation and violent extremism and all forms of negative tendencies in which religion may be implicated;

UNDERSTANDING and ACCEPTING that as Christian Religious Leaders we must at all times pray and work for peace in society and peaceful co-existence between and among people of religion and in the context of PROCMURA between Christians and Muslims;

AWARE that the activities of the radicalised violent extremists have destabilised families, created Internally Displaced Persons (IDP’s) and refugees;

DO HEREBY RESOLVE TO:

Remain in solidarity with each other and with our Muslim brothers and sisters of goodwill, to work towards countering radicalisation and violent extremism through EDUCATION and CREATION OF AWARENESS AND SENSITIZATION in our churches and in the wider society;

Engage our National Governments, Regional Organizations, the African Union, International Organizations, our Muslim neighbours and other religious communities to seriously take concrete steps toward addressing the increasing menace of radicalization and violent extremism;

Fully support PROCMURA in all its endeavours aimed at intra-Christian engagement and inter-Christian and Muslim engagement towards countering radicalisation and violent extremism.

Issued in NAIROBI, Kenya this 28th day of June 2016.

Signed:

S/No	Name of Country	Rep(s) of Church Leadership	Women Rep(s)
1.	Burkina Faso	Pasteur Tapsoba I, Flavien	Dr Marie Louise Florence COMPAORE
2.	Cameroon	Rev. Robert Goyek 	MBARUKO HENRIETTE nie HENGA NJIBIUKA
3.	Ghana	Bishop Nathan Samwini Metho dist church Ghana 	ANGELA BANNERMAN
4.	Liberia	Rev. Emmanuella Johnson 	Rebecca A. Tarpah-Major R.A. Major
5.	Nigeria North	Ven. Joshua Mallam 	Theresa Adams Adams
6.	Nigeria West	Ven Dr Adekoya Julius 	Dr Felicitas Lateju
7.	Senegal	Diouf Joseph 	
8.	Sierra Leone	Rev. Christiana Sultan-Koroma	Borama
9.	Togo	Past. Onyami K. APADOU 	Mme TOUIT A.M. Kabo.
10.	THE GAMBIA		Annie P. Belle