

# ALL AFRICA CONFERENCE OF CHURCHES (AACC) CONFERENCE DES EGLISES DE TOUTE L'AFRIQUE (CETA)

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#### **ALL AFRICA YOUTH CONGRESS – NAIROBI DECLARATION**

Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity. (1 Timothy 4:12, NIV)

Mindful of the African Union Agenda 2063, we, the youth of Africa, gathered in Nairobi, Kenya at the 2nd All Africa Youth Congress, united in purpose and bound by the deep-seated call to Peace, justice, dignity, and Pan-African transformation, reaffirm our commitment to shaping Africa as a home and a future of innovation and shared prosperity where young people are inspired to invest their talents and resources into the continent's future. Standing in this Kairos moment, a decisive time that calls for bold action, we recognize that the choices we make today will define the Africa we bequeath to future generations. Guided under the banner of "Africa My Home, Africa My Future," this Congress has renewed our conviction that young Africans are not just beneficiaries of the development agenda but they are active partners, leaders, implementers and definers of the Africa we want as projected by AU Agenda 2063.

Building from the foundation laid by the 2022 Ghana Declaration, this year's Congress is convened at a critical time where Africa is grappling with various challenges including Political Insurgencies, Violent extremisms, tribal and resource-based conflicts, closure of democratic spaces. These are further perpetuated by the continuous violation of human rights, climate injustice, illicit financial flows, economic meltdown and especially the precarity of health care accessibility.

Over the past days we have engaged in vibrant plenaries, practical skills sessions, and thematic working groups focused on active citizenship, entrepreneurship, faith, fertility and the future, sexual and reproductive health and rights, democracy and governance, policy for economic and ecological justice, strategic climate litigation, ending irregular migration and human trafficking, peacebuilding and reconciliation and Tech Facilitated Gender based violence. Throughout these dialogues of hope, we have been challenged to strengthen leadership that is grounded in integrity, spirituality, social accountability and community

service. We have also been reminded that for Africa to rise sustainably, youth inclusion can no longer be negotiated.

As this Congress comes to an end, we reaffirm the Ghana Declaration's spirit of solidarity and the need for sustained partnerships between youth, faith-based organizations, civil society, governments and the private sector.

## We therefore call for:

#### 1. African Governments to:

- End tyranny and corruption, uphold the rule of law, protect democratic principles, and reject electoral deceit and despotic regimes.
- Unify the continent, make visa-free travel for all Africans a lived reality, advancing our social and economic integration.
- Concretize the Pan-African vision by implementing visa-free travel for all Africans, facilitating socio-economic integration and the continent's economic emancipation, as envisioned by the OAU founding fathers.
- Strengthen the monitoring and evaluation of Bilateral Labor Migration Agreements to make them comprehensive tools that holistically protect the rights of young African workers in the diaspora.
- Call on the international financial community to cancel illegitimate and odious debts in order to free up fiscal space to enable investment into social protection and tackling youth unemployment.
- Unite on the reform of the global financial architecture by advancing the ethos of a UN-led restructuring of the debt, tax and climate finance regimes.
- Implore the AU and CARICOM to strengthen their reparative justice agenda to ensure that colonial debts are repaid, artefacts are repatriated and the environment is restored.
- Invest radically in youth-led climate action, agribusiness, artificial intelligence, peacebuilding, and social entrepreneurship.
- Strengthen social protection, ensuring equitable access to healthcare, education, and Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights for all.

# 2. African Regional Organizations to:

- Guard the legacy of Ubuntu, Pan-African solidarity, and civic freedom.
- Fully implement the African Continental Free Trade Area and enforce visa-free intra-African travel to enable safe and dignified migration.
- Model ethical, transformative leadership anchored in humility, transparency, and accountability.
- Raise the youth voice. Double youth representation in all continental decision-making, not as observers, but as co-creators of policy.

# 3. AACC Member Churches (All Africa Conference of Churches) to:

- Reinforce the role of faith values in leadership grounded on integrity and spirituality governed by policies that promote gender equality, equal access to resources and leadership opportunities.
- Sustain solidarity with the youth through partnerships that empower and inspire transformation.
- Reinterpret theology through Ubuntu, confronting violent extremism, gender-based violence, patriarchy, and generational division.

## 4. All Participants of the 2nd AAYC to:

- Commit to strengthening local networks and scaling community initiatives through intergenerational dialogues.
- Mobilize talents and resources to reframe Africa as a home of opportunity via entrepreneurial activities to solve local problems with local solutions and resources.

## 5. All Africans (On the Continent and in the Diaspora)

- To support intentional efforts for youth economic empowerment including decent work, inclusive financial systems, green jobs, and sustainable economic pathways.
- To embrace collective renewal: "You do not leave your house because your roof is leaking, instead you find ways to fix it".

We rise as one united generation, unbowed, unbought, and unbroken. Rooted in the spirit of Ubuntu, we declare our unwavering commitment to an Africa of peace, justice, dignity, and radical transformation.

We refuse to inherit a divided, dependent, and disempowered continent. We are the sons and daughters of Africa's rebirth, the living fire of a people destined not just to survive history, but to rewrite it.

We stand upon the shoulders of giants, Winnie Madikizela Mandela, Thomas Sankara, Julius Nyerere, Kwame Nkrumah, and countless others who dreamed and bled for this continent. Their struggle was not in vain, it was a mandate passed to us, the youth of a new dawn. We accept that mandate, to be the generation that embodies Ubuntu, demands justice, pursues unity, and secures Africa's liberation in every sphere of life. We are the generation of courage and conviction.

We are the heartbeat of a new Africa, an Africa that thinks freely, leads boldly, and loves deeply. We are the children of Sankara's dream, Nyerere's wisdom, and Mandela's fire.

We are the architects of an Africa that will no longer wait for permission to rise.

Africa is our home. Africa is our future!