A CALL TO BUILD ONE KENYA, ONE PEOPLE

We thank the National Council of Churches of Kenya (NCCK), the All Africa Conference of Churches (AACC) and the Council of Protestant Churches of Rwanda (CPR) for facilitating the visit by the Delegation from Kenya consisting of 100 church leaders, elders, women and youth drawn from various communities. The meeting took place from 4 – 9 February 2013 in Kigali, Rwanda.

We shared in the experience of the people of Rwanda. We witnessed the great havoc, death and destruction that occurred during the 1994 genocide. We were pleased to see the great work of healing, reconciliation and reconstruction that is going on. We were encouraged by numerous messages from our people of Rwanda, who reminded us again and again that Kenya plays a very strategic role in the region and in the whole continent. They beseeched us to do all we can to prevent hatred and fear from destabilizing Kenya.

We were guided by the word of God that teaches that all human beings are created in the image of God (Genesis 1), making them and the life within each one sacred, to be respected and loved regardless of gender, class, race religion or tribe.

Jesus emphasized the Ten Commandments that God gave mankind to guide them in their relationship with God, with their heart and with all your soul. In view of this, we commit that to so love neighbor, who is more valuable than life, not just a dream of peace and hope.

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Jesus emphasized the Ten Commandments that God gave mankind to guide them in their relationship with God, with their heart and with all your soul and with all your strength; and love your neighbor as yourself, (Luke 10:27). In doing so, God is helping us to love each other and with the rest of creation when he said, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength; and love your neighbor as yourself.” (Luke 10:27). In doing so, we commit that to so love neighbor, who is more valuable than life, not just a dream of peace and hope.

We therefore bring the following messages.
We commit ourselves to facilitate peace, foster reconciliation, nurture unity, and build bridges among communities. We will offer advice to political leaders. We will shun hatred, fear and divisions. We refuse to be pawns in the political game of tribalism. We have the responsibility to initiate and spearhead homegrown solutions to conflicts in our communities.

Message to the Religious Leaders
Religious leaders are the conscience and moral compass of society. You must remain true to the prophetic calling. Kenyans look up to you for guidance. You are the only leaders with a weekly platform to preach peace, facilitate dialogue, nurture unity, offer hope and call people to be responsible citizens.

You must be the salt and light to the Kenyan society. You must be impartial but not indifferent. Do not forfeit your prophetic role at the altar of personal gain. You must lead Kenya to seek God in prayer, repentance, forgiveness and restoration.

Message to the Media
Media informs the history of Kenyan. As you carry out this noble task, we urge you to nurture our fragile peace. Your coverage of elections must be free and fair, objective and accurate.

Message to the People of Rwanda
The Kenyan Delegation appreciates the warm welcome and hospitality accorded to us. It’s beyond comprehension the pain and suffering that the people of Rwanda went through during the 1994 genocide. It is a warning to us that we must do all in our power to resolve our historical injustices; grievances related to land and impunity before they foment widespread violence in Kenya. Your story of recovery and reconstruction is a beacon of hope to Kenyans, Africa and the whole world. We are touched by your resilience. We will pray with you in this journey.

Message to Africa
To the people of Africa, we have great potential and an equal measure of challenges bedeviling our continent. However, we should always find homegrown solutions to our problems, unleash our potential, renew our dignity, celebrate our resilience and always live to the true spirit of Africa. We have the energy, capacity and God’s blessings to take our continent to the next level. Long live Africa!

SIGNED at the Presbyterian Guest House, Isano Center, Kigali RWANDA this 8th day of February 2013 by:

Rev Henry P KIRUI
Kalenjin Elder

Mr Joseph Mbuthia GICHURU
Kikuyu Elder

Mr John AMUKOYE
Luhya elder

Mr Michael ALOSA
Luo Elder

Mr Samuel BOSIRE
Kisii Elder

Rev David ole LEKUTIT
Maasai Representative

AND WITNESSED by

Rev Canon Peter KARANJA
General Secretary, National Council of Churches of Kenya (NCCK)

Rev Dr Andre KARAMAGA
General Secretary, All Africa Conference of Churches (AACC)

Dr Tharcisse GATWA
General Secretary, Protestant Council of Churches of Rwanda (CPR)