

COUNCIL OF ANGLICAN PROVINCES OF AFRICA – CAPA
CONSEIL DES PROVINCES ANGLICANES D’AFRIQUE
CONSELHO ANGLICANO DAS PROVÍNCIAS DA ÁFRICA (CAPA).

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STATEMENT FOR PEACE ON THE CONGO CRISIS

FROM: THE AFRICA ANGLICAN PRIMATES

Date: 12TH FEBRUARY, 2025

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God"
(Matthew 5:9)

We, the Africa Anglican Primates representing the Anglican Communion in Africa, express our deepest and grave concern and unwavering solidarity with the people of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) amid the ongoing crisis that has persisted for decades. The turmoil impacting the nation is a profound humanitarian tragedy, marked by violence, displacement and suffering that affects millions of innocent lives.

We acknowledge the extensive history of conflict in the DRC, deeply rooted in colonial legacies and exacerbated by political instability, economic exploitation, and ethnic tensions. This crisis has taken a heavy toll, resulting in the loss of lives, the disruption of families, and the endangerment of communities that have long sought for peace and justice.

As followers of Christ, we are called to be peacemakers, advocating for love, reconciliation, and justice. We therefore urge:

1. **An End to Violence:** We call for an immediate cessation of hostilities and an end to the violence perpetrated against vulnerable populations, especially women and children, particularly in the areas around the eastern province of the country. The protection of all civilians must be prioritized, and those who commit acts of violence must be held accountable.

2. **Dialogue and Reconciliation:** We encourage all parties involved in the DRC's conflict to engage in meaningful dialogue, prioritizing reconciliation efforts that foster understanding and healing among diverse communities. The path to peace requires a commitment to listening, understanding, and resolving grievances through non-violent means. In this wise, we lend our support to the various initiatives by the regional blocs such as the EAC, SADC, the AU and the UN and other well-meaning bodies.

Releasing Our Potential to Realize Our Possibilities

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3. **Support for Humanitarian Aid:** We urge the international community, including governments, humanitarian organizations, and individuals, to extend their support to address the urgent needs of those affected by the crisis. Access to water, food, healthcare, shelter and education must be prioritized to restore dignity and hope within especially the displaced communities.

4. **Respect for Human Rights:** We call for the protection of human rights and the promotion of justice within the DRC. Our commitment to Christ's teaching compels us to stand against corruption, oppression and any actions that violate the inherent dignity of every human being.

5. **Sustainable Development:** We acknowledge that long-term peace in the DRC requires addressing the root causes of conflict, including poverty, inequality, and lack of access to resources. We implore national and international leaders to work collaboratively towards sustainable development in the region, ensuring that the wealth of the DRC benefits all its citizens.

We, the Africa Anglican Primates, stand with the people of DRC in prayer and action. We encourage local churches and communities to be agents of peace, fostering environments where love and hope can flourish despite the shadows of despair.

May God grant us the strength and wisdom to work together towards a peaceful and just future for all in the DRC.

In Christ's Love and Service,



MOST REV. ALBERT CHAMA
PRIMATE, CHURCH OF THE PROVINCE OF CENTRAL AFRICA
AND CAPA CHAIRMAN
For and on behalf of all AFRICA ANGLICAN PRIMATES

Releasing Our Potential to Realize Our Possibilities