



The Methodist Church of Southern Africa

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8 July 2021

Synod Bishops,
Synod Mission Coordinators, and
Justice & Service Desk Coordinators
MCSA Crisis Management Team

Dear Bishops,

APPEAL FOR THE PLIGHT OF THE PEOPLE OF CABO-DELGADO PROVINCE-MOZAMBIQUE

Warm greetings to you from the Methodist Church of Southern Africa (MCSA).

Recently, the Presiding Bishop Rev Purity Malinga published a statement on the situation in Cabo-Delgado Province in Northern Mozambique. Mozambique forms part of the six countries within the MCSA Connexion.

Since 2017, the Cabo Delgado has suffered from numerous terrorist attacks. According to Mozambique Authorities and the recent violence has led to more than 2,500 deaths and more than seven hundred thousand displaced and destitute people. The crisis has escalated dramatically since the beginning of 2020. It is estimated that if the conflict continues this way the numbers of internally displaced people could rise to 1 million. Whilst it is alleged to be of a religious nature the MCSA has been reliably informed that the violence has affected both Muslims and Christians.

In response the Presiding Bishop, convened a virtual Connexional meeting with Synod Bishops, Mission and Justice and Service Desk Coordinators. The purpose was to reflect on the unfolding conflict, the threatening emergence of insurgency in the Southern African region, as well as agree on an appropriate MCSA Response. A Connexional Crisis Management Task Team has been established to guide the MCSA response.

Noting the immense human suffering as a result of this conflict and in the midst of the deadly global Covid-19 pandemic, the meeting has identified seven crucial areas of intervention that will be implemented in partnership with various stakeholders already working in this area namely:

1. Emergency/Humanitarian Assistance: Connexional effort to respond to the need for food, clothing, building materials, etc. Through the Mission Unit and in partnership with various local, regional and international partners we seek to respond to the needs in meaningful and tangible ways,
2. Peace Building and Resilience to Radicalization, points 2 and 3 training is spearheaded by the Mozambique Synod in partnership with the government,
3. Promoting Development for Peace Initiatives,
4. Advocacy for peace and against terrorism to be a regional MCSA initiative.
5. Mobilizing regional and international support through the MCSA partners.
6. Training in conflict resolution and mediation of locals through partnerships with related Non-Governmental organisations in the region, and
7. Agricultural Development: as a means of creating sustainable livelihoods through partnership with AgricSA.

In order to avert a possible human catastrophe, the PBO through the Mission Unit is appealing to the MCSA Connexional family to rally around the people of Cabo-Delgado and assist with providing support through the areas mentioned above.

Contributions towards alleviating the plight, suffering and pain of those affected will be highly appreciated. This letter seeks to appeal for monetary contributions from Methodist individuals, societies, circuits and organisations that are able to contribute. Contributions are to be deposited into the Mission Unit – Methodist Relief and Development Fund:

MCSA Relief Fund

A Christ-healed Africa for the Healing of Nations

Presiding Bishop:
Rev Purity N Malinga
E-mail: presbish@mco.org.za

General Secretary:
Rev Michel W Hansrod
E-mail: gensec@mco.org.za

Lay President:
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First National Bank
Main Street – Branch
Code: 251-705
Account Number: 505 4009 2504 (Referenced Cabo-Delgado-Mozambique)

It will be appreciated if all the contributions can be made by the 31st July 2021.

Representatives of the various countries on the Connexional Crisis Management Task Team are requested to liaise with their respective Synods, to establish the type of aid and determine with the Mission Unit the means by which these will be sent to Mozambique. The following Task Team members in the countries are:

Botswana:	Mrs Raitsanye Nkagisang	email address:	hazelreaitsanye@gmail.com
eSwatini:	Mr Sifiso Dlamini	email address:	sifisokd@yahoo.com
Namibia:	Mrs Enid Keramen	email Address:	tomzodine64@gmail.com
Mozambique:	Mr Azarias Muchangu	email Address	azariasmuchanga@gmail.com >
South Africa:	Mr Lester Sedras	email address:	lester@warehouse.org.za

I humbly appeal to all Methodist people to kindly contribute towards this venture.

Yours in Christ,

Musi S J Losaba (Rev)
Director
MCSA Mission Unit

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