



## CELEBRATING THE CHALLENGE OF ECUMENICAL DIAKONIA THROUGH WORDS AND PICTURES

*“Ecumenical Diakonia is an integral part of the mission of the church. It is about transformation of lives and working to change a long history of asymmetrical power relationships between humanitarian actors. Hence at the formation of the WCC in 1948, it was a major pillar that addressed humanitarian needs in the aftermath of conflict.*

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**Dr Agnes Abuom**

*The International Convention on Human Rights was also established in 1948. The issue*

### **Amos 5:24**

**Instead, I want to see a mighty flood of justice, an endless river of righteous living.** (New Living Bible)

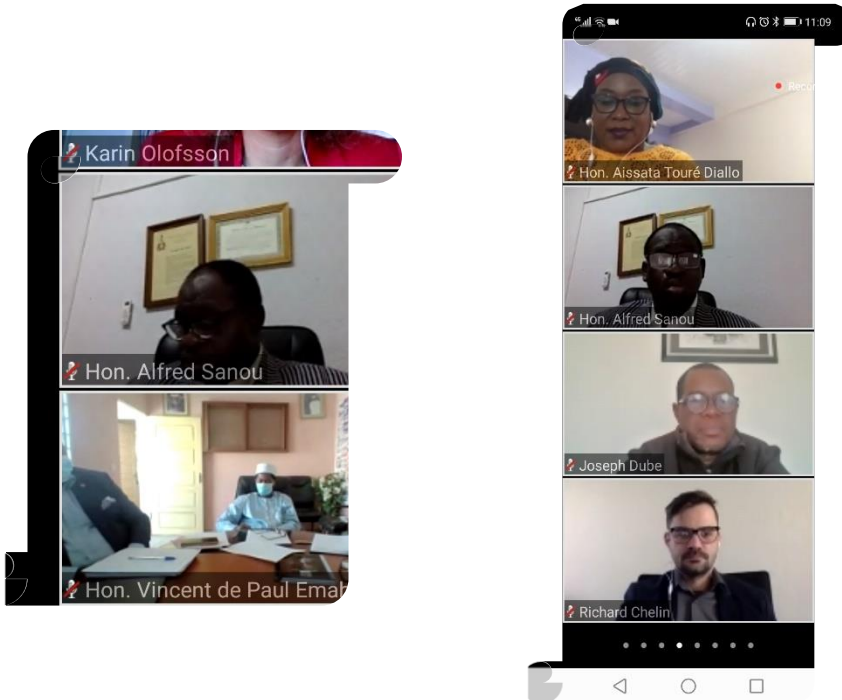
*of faith and rights as informing each other, not least in the context of the aftermath of the Second World War and the continuing challenges to human dignity. Declining respect for human rights must force Faith Based Organizations to address this issue.”*

**(Dr Agnes Abuom, moderator of the Central Committee of the World Council of Churches)**

**TRANSFORMING SWORDS INTO PLOUGHSHARES**

**((ISAIAH 2:4))**

**SILENCING THE GUNS IN AFRICA**



**SILENCING THE GUNS IN AFRICA:**  
**Pan-African Parliamentary Forum on Small Arms and Light Weapons Webinar 25 June 2021**

**MCSA MBO Miscellaneous Resolution 1.24 & 1.26**



**This is the scriptural justification for carrying assault rifles. It is said that the sword was the assault rifle of the day. - Luke 22: 36** *He said to them, "But now if you have a purse, take it, and also a bag; and **if you don't have a sword, sell your cloak and buy one.** 37 It is written: 'And he was numbered with the transgressors'<sup>[b]</sup>; and I tell you that this must be fulfilled in me. Yes, what is written about me is reaching its fulfillment."*

**38** *The disciples said, "**See, Lord, here are two swords.**"*

**"That's enough!"** he replied.



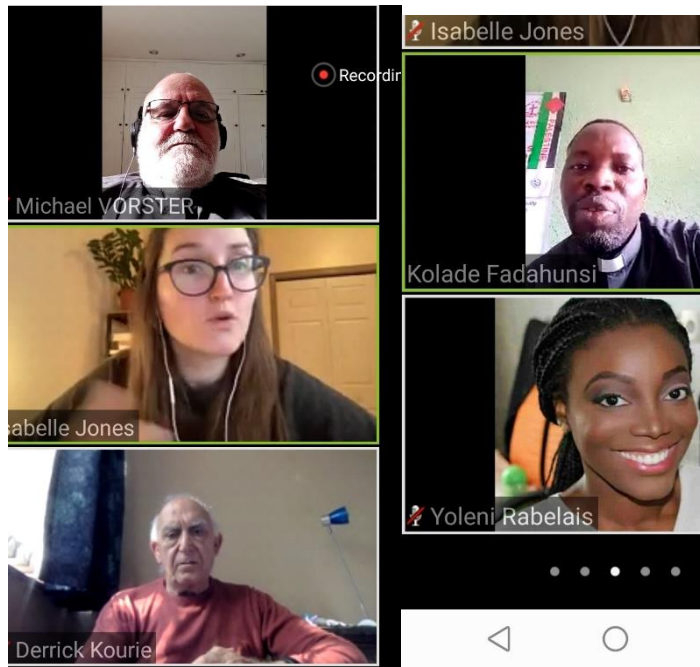
<https://johnpavlovitz.com/2018/02/21/no-christian-jesus-didnt-say-can-guns/>

**Resource links:**

<https://au.int/en/flagships/silencing-guns-2020>

[Armed violence destroys lives and societies - watch our new short film on its impact](#)

<https://www.gfsa.org.za/GunfreeSouthAfrica>



**WORKING TOWARD  
TRANSFORMING  
TECHNOLOGY TO SERVE  
AND NOT HARM  
HUMANKIND.**

Working toward the Prohibition of **LETHAL AUTONOMOUS WEAPONS SYSTEMS** with the **KILLER ROBOTS Campaign** & the World Council of Churches – A Webinar with Southern African Church Leaders and Council of Churches, 18<sup>th</sup> June 2021 10am.

**MCSA Resolution: 2.4 Year Book 2021**

<https://www.stopkillerrobots.org>

**CELEBRATING AND THE CHALLENGE OF WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 2021**

Religions for Peace Interfaith **Youth Climate Forum** (RfP-IYCF) and Religions for Peace South Africa (RfP-SA) celebrated World Environment Day 2021 through an Interfaith & Intergenerational Prayer & Peace Dialogue on, 03 June 2021

<https://youtu.be/OnRVtRjECmg>

Be inspired by this reflective sharing on how to move from values into action, from the teachings in our various faiths, to live in harmony with the Earth.

*“Oh, wow this is indeed inspiring! Those young speakers were brilliant! All steeped in the teachings of their faiths! That is unusual for young people. Thanks for sharing this. I might use it to inspire & challenge our youth.”* - From the **Presiding Bishop of the Methodist Church of Southern Africa Bishop Purity Malinga** after she viewed the Religions for Peace Interfaith Youth Climate Forum You Tube



*“The World Health Organisation (**WHO**) has warned that **COVID-19 will not be the last pandemic to trouble the world, and attempts to improve human health are bound to fail unless action is taken to address burning issues such as the Climate Emergency and to ensure animal welfare.**”*

[WHO calls upon world to expect more pandemics if ... – The Island](#)

*“We need leaders not in love with money but in love with justice. Not in love with publicity but in love with humanity” (Martin Luther King Jr.). And may I add leadership in love with and stewards of the earth creatures. Let us arise to the call and embrace the challenges as we pray, walk and work together. - Dr Agnes Abuom, moderator of the Central Committee of the World Council of Churches*

**Shalom  
Mike Vorster  
Director Ecumenical Affairs Unit**

**MCSA Ecumenical Affairs Unit working with others toward implementing:  
Church Unity  
Ecumenical Diakonia  
African Church Co-operation  
For a Christ healed and transformed Africa for the Healing and Transformation of Nations**

**To view previous Ecumenical Affairs newsletters, visit:  
[Ecumenical Affairs Unit – MCSA \(methodist.org.za\)](#)**



**THE METHODIST CHURCH OF SOUTHERN AFRICA**  
**The Methodist Connexional Office**  
33 Ernest Oppenheimer Ave  
Bruma Office Park, Bruma  
Private Bag X11  
Garden View 2047  
SOUTH AFRICA  
Tel: 011 615 1616