

# NEWS FOR PARTNERS



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## Co-Directors launch into new roles at the Alliance

Archbishop Albert Chama Archbishop of Central Africa and Chair of the Alliance, has welcomed Revd Andy Bowerman and Revd Rachel Carnegie to their new roles, and looks forward to the "new and exciting stage" of the Alliance's work.

Archbishop Chama said, "Our new Directors will shape the Anglican response to the global challenges of poverty and injustice in our fast-changing world.

"This appointment marks the start of a new and exciting stage of the Alliance's development.

"We are now established as a charitable company.

"We have a global board, a solid programme of capacity building in development, a voice in international advocacy and a



**Above: Co-Directors Andy and Rachel met the full staff team in Wareham, Dorset, at a strategy planning meeting in March.**

record of support for church communities hit by disasters."

Both Andy and Rachel are committed to take forward the role of the Anglican Alliance in its next stages.

They said, "We are thrilled and honoured to be asked to co-lead the Anglican Alliance.

"We step into this role at a pivotal and creative time. We believe passionately that the

Church should remain at the forefront of community development, relief and advocacy, as an integral part of its mission, and expressing God's loving care."

In the next few months they will be connecting with colleagues across the Communion, having attended the Advisory Council and Board meeting in late March.

## Anglicans join Global Freedom Network to combat modern slavery

Archbishop Justin Welby, Pope Francis and Muslim leaders all gave their backing to a groundbreaking initiative to combat modern slavery and human trafficking earlier this year.

Archbishop Sir David Moxon, the Archbishop of Canterbury's Representative to the Holy See, signed a statement from the Global Freedom Network at the launch, which committed faith communities to helping eradicate modern slavery by 2020.

Revd Rachel Carnegie, Anglican Alliance Co-Director, has been invited onto the Council of the Global Freedom Network and she signed the document as a witness.

The Archbishop of Canterbury said: "The new Global Freedom Network is being created to join the struggle against modern slavery and human trafficking from a faith base, so that we might witness to God's compassion and act for the

benefit of those who are abducted, enslaved and abused in this terrible crime."

Rachel Carnegie said: "Through the Alliance's regional consultations, human trafficking has already been identified as a priority for the Anglican Alliance. With local churches across the world raising awareness to prevent trafficking and helping victims of slavery, we could transform this terrible situation."



**Above: Faith leaders sign the anti-slavery agreement at the campaign launch in Rome. Picture credit: Church Times**

## Small island states in advocacy for climate change justice

The Anglican Alliance and its partners in the Pacific region are strategically planning their advocacy to the G20 member countries in the build up to the G20 summit this year.

Pacific islanders will be taking part in a presentation to highlight the effect and impact of climate change especially on the small island nations of the Pacific.

Climate change hits the poorest people the hardest and delaying any action will only further hurt poor communities in developing countries like the islands of the Pacific.

Anglican representatives from these island nations will raise their voices to the G20 at the Civil Society Summit in June.

They want to highlight the severe impact of climate change in their region and advocate on behalf of the poorest.

Climate change is a significant challenge to those working for sustainable development and poverty alleviation across the globe. It continues to increase global food insecurity, hunger, poverty and social conflicts.

Those living on Pacific islands are struggling to protect their lives and livelihoods as they bear the brunt of natural disasters and the ongoing effects of climate change.

Natural disasters and food insecurity will further increase poverty and hunger in the Pacific unless prompt and urgent measures are taken at all levels, from international world leaders to the local and grassroots level communities.

The challenges caused by climate change are multi-dimensional and varied.

Pacific islanders are preparing to take their voices to the top 20 richest nations in the world.

Top priorities for advocacy include:

- ◆ Reduce gas emissions, by banning fossil fuel subsidies.
- ◆ Support small island nations to invest in disaster preparedness and local adaptation strategies
- ◆ Control/regulate food prices for people in developing countries

Small island states experience the effects and impact of climate change in varying degrees every single day.

From unpredictable low tides that expose the reef, to king waves that flood through the islands and take with them everything in their path—including people's homes, livelihoods and possessions.

With the land being so low lying, Pacific

islands are disproportionately impacted by climate change, which affects every branch of every community.

For example, the king tides that flood much of the islands cause the salination of ground water wells and arable gardening lands, which destroys the soil and makes it unsuitable for growing staple crops.

Severe coastal erosion on the most exposed islands has resulted in a loss of protective coastal vegetation.

As the ocean warms coral becomes bleached, which adds to the damage of the coastal habitat and leads to the reduction of fish and shellfish stock, which is the main source of protein for island people.

And there is more: the rise in the sea level, the contamination of the water and land, and the loss of a secure food supply has pushed island people away from their homes.

Communities have been forced to leave behind their homes, customs and cultures and adapt as they move to nations more secure than their own.

The Alliance's platform at the Civil Society Summit (C20) will give Anglicans in the Pacific, together with churches and agencies in the region, an opportunity to bring their voices to world leaders and effect change for communities around the world.

## Long term support from local church for victims of Typhoon Haiyan

A disaster response project has been put together by the Episcopal Church in the Philippines to build more resilient and better adapted communities after Typhoon Haiyan struck the islands in November last year.

The Episcopal Church in the Philippines has worked closely with Anglican agencies and the Anglican Alliance, to develop a ground-breaking project to rebuild stronger communities in areas most affected by Typhoon Haiyan.

Immediately after the disaster, the Church responded with food and emergency relief through the National Council of Churches in the Philippines.

The second phase of the Church's relief mission will involve rebuilding homes and restoring livelihoods in the most vulnerable communities.

Key objectives for the project are disaster-risk-reduction and climate change adaptation.

Episcopal Relief & Development and Anglican

Board of Mission Australia, have helped develop the project and will be on the ground to help the Church take forward the project for the next three to four years.

Four target communities have been identified for outreach, with the aim of empowering local people to help each other.

The four priority communities are based in remote mountainous or coastal areas of the Philippines and are out of the reach of international agencies and current relief

efforts.

The Church is also engaged with the Philippine Centre for Social Enterprise (PCSE), which has social enterprises running in areas affected by the super-typhoon.

The Church will come alongside PCSE and help restore these enterprises, and provide the infrastructure and tools needed to revive the economy.

For more information on the appeal please see our website: <http://anglicanalliance.org/news/18954/>



Above: preparing food aid for communities in the Philippines



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## Remarkable relief response as Anglicans reach out in South Sudan

Churches and agencies around the world have come together in support of the relief response in South Sudan, since fighting broke out across the nation in December last year.

The local Anglican church have been a key part of the relief response, with the Episcopal Church of South Sudan & Sudan (ECSS&S) mobilising their development arm SUDRA to reach out.

Archbishop Daniel Deng Bul Yak, Archbishop of South Sudan and Sudan, set up an Emergency Crisis Committee to coordinate the relief response.

The network of Anglican agencies across the Communion, as well as partnerships with Tearfund, Christian Aid and the Mennonite

Central Committee, have all provided support to the local church.

Funds pledged are currently being used by ECSS&S to support Internally Displaced People (IDPs) in camps around the country.

They have completed the provision of food to 3,000 displaced children in Awerial, and expect to provide food to a further 20,000 people in Awerial, 9,000 people in Nimule in Magwe county, and 6,473 people in Lolugo 2 camp in Juba by the end of March.

They will further outreach to approximately 15,000 people in Renk by mid-April.

And there are still needs to be met. ECSS&S will expand their relief response as funding

is received.

Meanwhile, SUDRA is developing Phase Two of the programme, which will focus on counselling and peace and reconciliation.

Activities in the trauma healing, counselling and advocacy areas will be conducted in collaboration with the Justice, Peace and Reconciliation Commission.

The immediate humanitarian situation remains critical; conflict continues between government and opposition groups across the country.

A recent UN report indicates that 4.9 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance - 793,700 are currently being provided with assistance, out of a target of

3.2 million.

This includes people displaced or otherwise impacted by the violence, the host communities receiving displaced families, refugees living in South Sudan, and other communities whose lives and livelihoods are threatened by the crisis.

Hampering the delivery of relief aid is the unstable security situation, resulting in the limited operations of the major humanitarian agencies.

The work of the local church is critical at this time.

You can support the work of ECSS&S and SUDRA through the appeals posted on our website at: <http://anglicanalliance.org/news/18982/>



### “We are showing the strength of the Church to support the vulnerable”

**In the pictures: Children in Awerial wait to be fed by the Mothers' Union volunteer teams, as part of the Church's relief response in South Sudan. The Church will continue to provide immediate relief to those most in need. Photo credit: SUDRA**

In this case study, SUDRA describe the moment 3000 children were fed at a camp in Awerial, near the town of Bor.

SUDRA expect to provide food to a further 20,000 people in Awerial, 9,000 people in Nimule in Magwe county, and 6,473 people in Lolugo 2 camp in Juba by the end of March.

“Once we arrived in Awerial, the goods were offloaded under the supervision of the local Diocese of Awerial team.

“The team supervised the counting of all items and compared it with the documentation at the time of

loading in Juba.

“Once off-loaded, the items were stored inside church property with concrete floors.

“Access to these store rooms was controlled by the Diocesan Emergency Coordinator.

“Since the Awerial response included cooking the food in nine different locations, some of the items were immediately distributed to a site supervisor, who was generally a Mothers' Union leader.

“The Mothers' Union mobilised teams to prepare, cook and distribute the foods

at all nine locations.

“The cooked meal is prepared to provide approximately half a child's required food intake – 644 calories.

“It was determined that at this time most children are able to access one meal per day from other sources and should be able to acquire the remainder of their nutritional requirements from other sources such as friends or volunteer caregivers, extended family, or other feeding programs.

“The diocesan teams, along with members from the IDP

community, selected the 3,000 participants on the basis of need and vulnerability.

“Priority was given to children who arrived in Awerial without any parents or guardians, particularly to children under age five, as there were additional rations available. Children with a single parent were included, from youngest to oldest.

“This case study provides an illustration of the strength of the Church: we have a long history in mobilising volunteers to support the vulnerable in times of emergency, and we have the developed systems to respond to such a crisis.”

## First cooperative meetings take place at Upazilas in Bangladesh

Inclusion and diversity have been highlighted as a top priority by cooperative groups in Bangladesh, as the first of their meetings for a new gender and governance initiative took place.

The project, funded by the Commonwealth Foundation, aims to raise the voices of women and young people in key policy and decision-making.

Marginalised women and young people are the focus of the project, which will equip those living in the climate change prone coastal belt of Bangladesh.

Over 1000 women and young people will be trained in advocacy to establish policies for inclusion in economic and governance processes.

In particular the training will be used in advocacy for the needs of those affected by climate change in the region.

The project will build their advocacy capacity and increase their access to financial markets and improved technologies.

Beginning in September last year, the project has so far brought together three cooperative groups, with 600 women members in total.

Surveys across three levels of the community had already been undertaken, to identify the needs of marginalised communities and highlight those eager to take part.

Local communities, 'Upazila' community forums, and a district level partners' meeting all took place.

Community workers carried out the consultations, and are now in place as the cooperative group leaders to take forward their exciting task.

Each leader is committed to raising the voices of marginalised women and young people, and can see the need for proactive and cooperative policies to be implemented.

Inclusion and increased diversity has been highlighted as a top priority.

Cooperative groups recognise that they need to be included in decision-making and that their voices should be heard.

As policies are implemented which affect personal lives, good governance demands that all voices are considered.

Shabitri Biswas is a Community Worker at Botiaghata Upazila (pictured above). She said, "The project will bring a big change in the cooperative thinking, if we become successful.

"It will turn into a movement that demands the inclusion of women in the policy making process."

Shabitri shared the concept



**Above: an orientation meeting at Batiaghata Upazila, where a women's cooperative determine the project objectives.**

for the project with her fellow cooperative members. They all reacted positively and said, " We have always asked to be a part of policy formation. It is what creates and affects our livelihoods."

The whole process will be taken forward by 60 cooperative leaders of three cooperative groups, covering three Upazilas (sub-districts).

These will be supported by three Community Empowerment Forums, one from each Upazila; and two District Partners' Forums from two of the districts.

Forums bring together support staff from the administration department, representatives from financial institutes, activists from civil society, officials

from the cooperatives and technical experts from different line-departments.

Key challenges have been identified, and are being addressed in the project implementation stage—the first of these is to bring the policy makers together with those involved in the project, to initiate participation and create a space for the voices of the marginalised to be heard.

Another significant outcome of the project will be to share good practice in the areas of effective policy advocacy; extended participation of women in governance; and increasing scope to establish enterprises for women.

The project will continue into its next stages over the coming year.

## From interest to action: engaging communities in development

Isobel Owen, Programme Officer at the Anglican Alliance, writes here to introduce her role and involvement in Umoja, which is also known as church-community mobilisation .

"Part of my role at the Anglican Alliance is to support the exchange of learning and the building of coalitions on specific themes and priorities identified by the regions of the Anglican Communion.

"A key focus for many parts of the Anglican Church around the world is church-community mobilisation/Umoja.

"I first learned in detail about CCM/Umoja in March 2011 whilst I was in Embu,

Kenya at one of the envisioning workshops for church leaders.

"As part of the workshop we visited local communities to learn about the Umoja process.

"What really stays with me is witnessing the confidence, ingenuity and resilience that local community members had put in to action to transform their circumstances, and that this whole change had begun in their local church.

"I am always encouraged by the sheer scale of interest and uptake across the Anglican Communion for CCM/Umoja.

"In 2012, due to the high level of demand for CCM/Umoja, the Council of African

Provinces of Africa (CAPA) and partner organisations created a post for an Umoja facilitator across Africa.

"The CAPA Umoja facilitator coordinates the key trainings of facilitators and the envisioning of Anglican church leaders to take churches from interest to action.

"At the Anglican Alliance we work alongside the CAPA Umoja facilitator, Revd Fedis Nyagah, to bring together the regular meeting of agencies—including Anglican Communion Office, CMS and CMS Africa, Mothers' Union, Tearfund, and Us (formerly USPG)—working with Anglican churches worldwide.

"I was very encouraged when we last met to see ideas forming around how to engage children and young people in the CCM/Umoja process and how to embrace the crucial place that they have in every community.

"Please join me in prayer for Revd Fedis Nyagah at CAPA, as she leads envisioning workshops for church leaders and facilitators' trainings in Kenya and Zimbabwe in March and April.

"And for everyone working on children and young people's involvement in CCM/Umoja: that they will see community transformation at every level."

## Church in Brazil joins movement for peace and climate justice



**Above: Bishop Mauricio Andrade (centre) at the Sixth National Congress for the Landless People's Movement, with representatives and organisational partners.**

Bishop Mauricio Andrade brought a message from Archbishop Francisco da Silva, the Primate in Brazil, in support of land rights and the struggle for peace and justice.

Anglicans across Brazil were able to take part in the Landless People's Movement of Brazil (MST) Sixth National Congress.

In his message Archbishop Francisco highlighted the importance to be connected as church to social movements and the national struggles for justice and peace.

He said: "As the church of God in this country, the Episcopal-Anglican Family joins the MST, one of the greatest allies of the Brazilian society, in this time of grace and martyrdom, which attests to all people of good faith in mission, also fulfilled by this movement, to respond to human need with love, to seek to transform unjust structures of society and the struggles for safeguarding the integrity of creation, and to sustain the renewal of land.

"Our commitment as a church must be clear and non-negotiable in the recognition, support and involvement with movements that are fighting for justice and the rights of the planet and the people that dwell therein, that make campaigns for which our foods are without pesticides and our agriculture is mainly to feed the starving population.

"The earth and all life belong to the Lord. We cannot stand idly by while the majority of the population suffers and is exploited or enslaved by a minority still powerful in the country."

Bishop Mauricio joined 15,000 activists from the 27 states of Brazil, and over 200 people who came from all over the world.

Friends of MST, churches, partner organisations and other social movements all joined to celebrate the 30th anniversary since MST launched in 1984.

The Congress included studies and debates, and provided the opportunity to exchange experiences on advocacy and land rights.

Anglicans in attendance were

able to share their experiences and provide their support to the movement, which struggles for justice and reconciliation in the region.

A forward strategy for MST was also proposed. Top priorities include advocacy and land reform, food sovereignty, climate justice, and gender-based violence.

Around 1500 children were also able to participate. They had the opportunity to attend educational activities, as well as visit a health department, a collective kitchen, a Peasant Culture Exhibition, and a Land Reform and an Agro-Ecological Faire.

The church in Brazil are mindful to take politics and society seriously, and they are thankful for their presence at this kind of event.

They said: "This is a prophetic opportunity to listen to Gods loving, caring and instructive voice.

"We long for the words of Psalm 85:10-13: 'Faithful love and truth have met, righteousness and peace [shalom] have kissed.

"Truth springs up from the ground, righteousness gazes down from heaven.

"Yes, God gives what is good, and our land yields its produce.

"Righteousness walks before God, making a road for his steps."

The Anglican Alliance are working with the church and social movements across Latin America and the Caribbean to build capacity and share learning.

**Below: Children take part in the Congress in Brazil**  
Photo credit: TallesReis/MST



## Voices of the young

Yvi Leíse Rosa Calvani (pictured below) is a young Anglican woman who took part in the Anglican Alliance's 'Peace-builders Exchange' in 2012.



Yvi recently participated in the Sixth National Congress of the MST.

Here she shares her experience, and urges young people to join the battle for peace and justice.

"I have taken part in the Sixth National Congress of the MST so that I can witness and understand a little more about the struggles of the landless.

"I want to deepen the discussion on land reform—it is so important to change the unjust structures of the society and think about what a new society could be.

"The Congress gave room for some very positive discussions, and highlighted the fundamental aspects of the struggle for peace and justice.

"We must carry on against imperialism and multinational corporations. And we must put land reform back on the agenda of the government.

"I think the most memorable moment for me was the drama performance, which displayed all of the struggles fought by the Movement since it began in 1984. It really highlighted and brought together the last 30 years of challenges and achievements.

"The church should be involved with the work of the Movement to help strengthen their claims, which listen to the cries of the people.

"The church must work not only to have political involvement, but also an active presence in camps and settlements.

"This is seen already in Cascavel, where Rev. Luiz Carlos Gabas visits camps and takes an active role in social action.

"I have realised during the Congress that at least 60% of the members of the plenary were young people who were there fighting for their rights.

"I leave a message to the youth: always read, understand, and become more involved in the fight that belongs to everyone."

## International Women's Day 2014 marked with "Mama Diocese"



Women in leadership are inspiring change in every region of the Anglican Communion. The resource brings you their stories and shows us how, in faith and perseverance, women have become key leaders in transforming their communities – working for justice and development and responding to human need with loving service.

Join the Anglican Alliance on International Women's Day as we celebrate women all over the world. And use our toolkits and Bible studies to help your church take action.

Women need access to education, healthcare, skills and finance to fulfil their potential. We can all play our part to make that a reality.

Let's see women empowered to transform their communities!

ANGELICAN ALLIANCE

**Above: Our International Women's Day resource 2014**

Over 200 women joined Rhoda Kwashi, the wife of Bishop Jacob in the Diocese of Zonkwa, Nigeria, as she marked International Women's Day with the Anglican Alliance.

Rhoda Kwashi, known as "Mama Diocese" to those she works with, was celebrated in the Anglican Alliance's resource 'Inspiring Change'.

The resource included stories from women across the Communion, as well as a Bible study and notes for reflection.

In the picture, left, women from Zonkwa diocese take part in a rally to mark International Women's Day 2014.

## Archbishop Justin Welby commends work of local church in DRC

Archbishop Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury recently visited the church in DRC and saw their initiatives to end the suffering of sexual violence.

HEAL Africa is a hospital which provides medical, psychosocial, spiritual and economic support to survivors of sexual violence. The hospital is a partner of the Anglican Church of the Congo and Tearfund.

Accompanied by Archbishop Henri Insingoma and Mark Simmonds, the UK's Minister for Africa, Archbishop Justin also learnt about the church's 'Silent No More' initiative.

This initiative is supported by the UK government and implemented by the church in partnership with Tearfund.

The 'Silent No More' initiative works through the local churches to tackle sexual violence, create safe spaces to support survivors, challenge impunity of perpetrators and promote positive male role models.

Archbishop Justin said: "The terrible suffering of the peoples of eastern DRC is a global tragedy.

"The most seriously affected are the most vulnerable, women and children.

"The programme of HEAL Africa is a notable contribution, setting a wonderful example of holistic care, best practice, and deep Christian compassion in

partnership with the Anglican Church."

Working with local communities, the church has found that Bible reflection and learning from survivors have been key to shaping its response.

Archbishop Henri and Madame Mugisa Insingoma have promoted this work for many years in DRC and spoke together at the launch of the *We Will Speak Out* coalition at Lambeth Palace in 2011.

Archbishop Henri said: "I welcome the joint work between the Anglican Church, Tearfund and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office to end sexual violence.

"This is a priority issue for my church and for me personally."

The church's work in DRC remains an inspiration for this ecumenical coalition, which brings together churches and agencies from across the world to work together to tackle sexual violence.

Combating gender-based violence remains a central concern for the Communion.

Revd Rachel Carnegie, Anglican Alliance Co-Director, who has visited the church's work in DRC, said:

"The Anglican Church of Congo, working with other partners like Tearfund and HEAL Africa, has some inspiring examples of how transformation can be

achieved.

"The churches and other faith groups are in a unique position to break the silence around sexual violence and support survivors to recover their health and lives so they can play a leading role in the response."

Revd Andy Bowerman, who co-leads the Anglican Alliance, said, "Men have a key role in challenging the violence, transforming gender relations, and ending the impunity of perpetrators.

"The truth is that this is not just an issue for Africa or for women. It is vital that men everywhere stand up and speak out."

A campaign initiated by Restored, an international alliance working to end violence against women, engages men in the battle and encourages them to stand up and speak out for the women in their communities.

Working closely with the Anglican Networks and Anglican Communion Office Women's desk, the Anglican Alliance seeks to learn from the Church in Congo and other provinces which have active programmes,



**Above: Archbishop Justin with Archbishop Henri Insingoma and Mr Simmonds in DRC**

such as Southern Africa, Rwanda, Burundi, Papua New Guinea and others.

These examples and innovative approaches are then shared around the Communion to encourage further engagement by local churches to break the silence and end the trauma of sexual violence.

Revd Terrie Robinson, Networks' Coordinator and Women's Desk Officer, said, "The Church's courageous response to sexual violence in Congo is a good news story set in difficult and traumatic circumstances.

"It serves as inspiration to Anglicans and others around the world as we take steps towards ending sexual violence.

"We need to ensure that survivors of gender based violence are listened to and that we help enable them to recover and flourish in their families and communities."

## Faith-based coalition attend Global Summit to end sexual violence

As a member of the *We Will Speak Out* coalition, the Anglican Alliance is taking part in a Global Summit to End Sexual Violence in Conflict.

In 2014 the Anglican Alliance, together with the *We Will Speak Out* coalition, will be highlighting the role of churches and faith-based agencies in preventing and ending sexual violence in conflict.

The Global Summit to End Sexual Violence in Conflict will be hosted by the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office in London from 10-13 June.

The Foreign Secretary and Angelina Jolie, Special Envoy for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, will co-chair the Summit.

It will be the largest ever gathering to combat sexual violence. The Global Summit hopes to build momentum against sexual violence in conflict and inspire practical action for those most affected.

A proposed series of events will involve faith leaders, survivors, community based practitioners and coalition members to share research findings, lessons, and challenges and good practice that can be applied to other countries and contexts.

The *We Will Speak Out* coalition brings together representatives from the Communion, churches and Christian non-governmental organisations, to prevent and end gender based violence in

communities around the world.

Working in partnership, the coalition harnesses efforts to prevent and eliminate sexual violence by supporting the church to speak out against sexual violence.

It is also calling for strong and positive leadership and that the church might become a 'safe' place for people to go to.

Anglican leaders have already given their support to the initiative - Archbishop Thabo Makgoba, Archbishop of Southern Africa, recently spoke out at a coalition launch in South Africa.

And the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, highlighted the important work of the church during his visit to the DRC earlier this year.

Across the Anglican Communion the local church and Anglican agencies are responding to the urgency to prevent and end gender based violence by breaking the silence and stigma around these issues, challenging harmful attitudes, and engaging women and men to take action.

In 2012 the Anglican Consultative Council enacted Resolution 15.07 on Gender-based and Domestic Violence. Amongst other recommendations it states, "In penitence and faith we must move forward in such a way that our churches truly become a living witness to our belief that both women and men are made in the image of God."

Since this resolution Anglicans worldwide have been active in a range of initiatives, including the 16 Days of Activism against Violence against Women and White Ribbon Day.

A resource produced by the Women's Desk at the Anglican Communion Office helped churches and individuals mark the 16 days.

Many Anglican leaders have been very dynamic in speaking out about gender based violence in their communities and demonstrating the great potential of the church to act.

Leaders have spoken of the need to address the root causes and underlying social norms and values around gender relations and masculinities which give rise to gender based violence.

They have highlighted the importance of engaging both men and women in their communities, countering stigmatisation of the survivors of gender based violence, and committing to end impunity and a lack of punishment.

You can see more on the coalition website at [www.wewillspeakout.org](http://www.wewillspeakout.org).



**Above: The logo for the Global Summit, hosted by UK FCO**

## Archbishop Thabo speaks out at coalition launch in South Africa

At the launch of the *We Will Speak Out* South Africa campaign, Archbishop Thabo Makgoba challenged the church to break the silence and do more to prevent and respond to sexual violence.

To coincide with the 16 Days campaign at the end of last year, local churches united in South Africa to launch the *We Will Speak Out* South Africa coalition.

A national event at the Anglican Cathedral Church of St Alban the Martyr, Pretoria, was led by Archbishop Thabo Makgoba, and brought together local churches, the National Prosecuting Authority, UNAIDS, UN Women, Tearfund and HOPE Africa.

The call to form the *We Will Speak Out* South Africa coalition came from research commissioned by Tearfund into the experiences of survivors of sexual violence in

South Africa and how the church had responded to them.

*We Will Speak Out* has also launched campaigns in Burundi, The Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda and Liberia.

The research report *Breaking the Silence* was presented at the national launch in South Africa and highlights the urgent need for the local and national church to unite across denominations and take immediate action to end sexual violence.

Archbishop Thabo Makgoba said, "*Breaking the Silence* speaks to the core of who we are as a nation, as a church seeking to reflect Jesus, and as communities who have desires and dreams for a different future.

"We have failed terribly as a community and as a nation in protecting our most vulnerable

women and girls who have suffered violence, not once but many times over.

"Our faith teaches and gives us the foundation to build a violence-free South Africa where men, women, boys and girls work together to bring peace for all.

"We speak out with one voice putting aside our differences and division."

The report has found that sexual violence is widespread across South Africa, and has a deeply traumatising and damaging effect on survivors.

It also highlights that the church is central to community

life and has untapped potential to prevent and respond to sexual violence.

The church can provide care and support, stand alongside survivors seeking justice, and identify and challenge harmful attitudes and beliefs within society that perpetuate sexual violence.



**Above: Archbishop Thabo Makgoba at the We Will Speak Out launch in South Africa last year**



**St Andrews House**  
**16 Tavistock Crescent**  
**London W11 1AP**  
**UK**  
**+44 (0)20 7313 3922**

**Website:**  
[www.anglicanalliance.org](http://www.anglicanalliance.org)

**Facebook:**  
[www.facebook.com/anglicanalliance](http://www.facebook.com/anglicanalliance)

**Twitter:**  
[www.twitter.com/anglialliance](http://www.twitter.com/anglialliance)

## Alliance Facilitators



June Nderitu  
 Africa Facilitator  
[june.nderitu@aco.org](mailto:june.nderitu@aco.org)  
 +254 722554688



Michael A. Roy  
 Asia Facilitator  
[michael.roy@aco.org](mailto:michael.roy@aco.org)  
 +8801 711840808



Paulo Ueti  
 Latin America and Caribbean  
 Facilitator  
[paulo.ueti@aco.org](mailto:paulo.ueti@aco.org)  
 + 55 (61) 9246 9949



Tagolyn Kabekabe  
 Pacific Facilitator  
[tfkabekabe@aco.org](mailto:tfkabekabe@aco.org)  
 +677 74 65869

Dear friends,

Welcome to the first issue of our 'News for Partners' in 2014! We are delighted to have commenced our work as joint Co-Directors for the Anglican Alliance.

We are looking forward to working with you as we take the Alliance into its next stages, building on the strong legacy of its first director, Sally Keeble.

As you can see from the pages of this newsletter, the Alliance is gathering momentum around the Anglican Communion.

The humanitarian crisis in South Sudan, following the recent violent conflict, has seen the Alliance facilitating a united response from across the Anglican Communion. The response of the Church in South Sudan has been remarkable and communities have been able to rely on its presence and constancy in a time of turmoil.

A co-ordinated relief response in the Philippines after Typhoon Haiyan has also seen the local church there respond to human need by loving service, building on the resilience of local communities.

As another of our three core pillars, churches across the Communion are engaging in advocacy: preparation towards the G20 in Australia this year is just one of the many examples.

An anti-slavery initiative, the Global Freedom Network, was launched in March, bringing Archbishop Justin Welby alongside Pope Francis and Muslim leaders to call on all faiths to combat modern slavery and human trafficking.

And a feature on the We Will Speak Out campaign highlights the work of churches around the world who are engaging in action on violence against women.

We hope you enjoy reading the latest Alliance news from across the Anglican Communion!

With every blessing,

**Rachel and Andy**  
**Co-Directors, Anglican Alliance**

## June Nderitu fills crucial role as Africa facilitator

Ms June Nderitu has taken up the role as the Anglican Alliance's new Facilitator for Africa.

June is to be based at the Nairobi office of CAPA - Council of Anglican Provinces in Africa - under the leadership of Canon Grace Kaiso.

Anglican Alliance Chair, Archbishop Albert Chama, said, "We are happy to announce that June Nderitu has been formally engaged as our Africa Facilitator for the Anglican Alliance.

"We are grateful to CAPA for

hosting the Africa Facilitator for the Anglican Alliance.

"With June in place, we look forward to sharing information and skills in development, relief and advocacy from the continent of Africa.

"We know that June brings a wealth of experience to the job having worked in the Anglican Development Services of the Church of Kenya.

"She understands that there is a global church that can make a difference to the well-being of all people."

The Africa Facilitator will be

based in the CAPA offices, and will have a key role to deliver the priorities identified in 2011 at the first regional conference in Africa.

June has previously worked at the provincial offices of the Anglican Development Services in Kenya, serving most recently as the Advocacy Programme Coordinator.

June's vision and aim is "to make a positive contribution in my generation towards Social Transformation."

June said: "I look forward to joining this great team!"

## Advisory Council and Board meet in Hong Kong

At the end of March the Anglican Alliance's Advisory Council and Board met for the first time to discuss strategy for the next three years.

Co-Directors Revd Andy Bowerman and Revd Rachel Carnegie were in attendance to share their vision and the priorities for each region.

The results of the meetings and the Alliance's priorities for the next stages of its work will

be shared online in April.

Earlier in March the full staff team met in Wareham, Dorset for a strategy planning meeting and team retreat.

It was the first time ever that the full staff team had been together.

Regional priorities, which were identified by consultations in each region in 2011, were highlighted and included in the Alliance's work plan.

And relationships within the staff team continued to flourish as each member shared their hopes for the year.

June Nderitu, who has been appointed as Africa Facilitator, was welcomed to the team.

Every member of the team valued the time together and the opportunity to plan for coming years.

We are looking forward to the next chapters!