



Tuesday, May 15 2024

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STATEMENT
COMMEMORATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF FAMILIES- MAY 15,
2024

Africa Christian Professionals Forum (ACPF) is an organization that brings together Christian Professionals from different countries in Africa from various denominations who are committed to promoting and protecting Family Values. We work closely with stakeholders and partners who form the national chapters to provide professional and technical support in influencing the development of a legal and social environment that is supportive of our values in society, the continent and beyond.

On this significant occasion of the International Day of Families, ACPF reiterates its steadfast commitment to upholding the dignity and sanctity of the family unit as God instituted. As an organization deeply rooted in Christian principles and values, we recognize the family as the cornerstone of society, essential for its stability, cohesion, and moral foundation.

In a world where the institution of the family faces unprecedented challenges, it is imperative for us to stand firm in our advocacy for laws and policies that defend, protect, and promote accepted family values in our societies. We call upon governments, institutions, organizations, and lawmakers to continue their efforts in advocating for the preservation of the family unit, drawing upon provisions and articles in various international documents and legal frameworks.

The United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, particularly Article 16, affirms the family as the natural and fundamental group unit of society, entitled to protection by society and the state. Similarly, the AU Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights underscores the importance of the family as the basic unit of society and emphasizes the duty of states to protect it.

Furthermore, international law and policies, including the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, recognize the family as the fundamental unit of society and affirm the rights of parents to provide direction and guidance to their children in accordance with their moral and religious beliefs.

In light of these legal and moral frameworks, the ACPF emphasizes the imperative of addressing threats to the family, including femicide, incest, poverty, gender-based violence, political instabilities, displacement due to natural disasters and political instabilities, permissiveness, Comprehensive Sexuality Education CSE, and neglect of elders. We firmly believe that these threats undermine the traditional family structure and pose significant risks to the well-being of individuals and communities.

In light of this, ACPF calls upon governments, institutions, organizations, and lawmakers across the continent to prioritize the enactment and implementation of laws and policies that uphold and strengthen the institution of the family. We urge them to:

1. Enact legislation that safeguards traditional family values, including marriage, parental rights, and the upbringing of children in a nurturing environment.
2. Allocate resources and support programs aimed at enhancing the well-being of families, including access to healthcare, education, and social services.
3. Take decisive action to address all forms of violence within families, including domestic abuse, gender-based violence, political instability, advocating for stopping incest, child neglect, and elder mistreatment, through robust legal frameworks and support services.
4. Foster initiatives that promote cohesion and unity within families, recognizing the diverse cultural and religious backgrounds across the continent.
5. Provide opportunities for family leaders, including parents and caregivers, to access training, resources, and support networks to fulfil their roles effectively.

As we commemorate the International Day of Families, let us reaffirm our collective commitment to protecting and promoting the dignity and integrity of the family unit. Let us work together to ensure that families are empowered to fulfil their essential roles in society, guided by the principles of love, respect, and mutual support.

SIGNED BY
AFRICA CHRISTIAN PROFESSIONALS FORUM

For media inquiries, please contact us at info@acpf.africa or acpf.africa@gmail.com