

AFRICA ACTION SHEET



JUBILEE EDITION

“Love for the people of Africa has inspired the Africa Europe Faith & Justice Network” - Archbishop Michael Fitzgerald M Afr

On 13th April around 250 people attended the Jubilee Celebration and study event at Westminster Cathedral Hall, many of them from the 50 Missionary Congregations of women and men who founded the Network in 1988, and colleagues from African countries.

There were several African choirs who led music in the *Acholi* language of Uganda and the *Twi* language of Ghana during the Mass, dancing down the aisle for a lively Offertory procession, carrying baskets of fruit and presenting a large map of Africa.

Introducing the event, **Martin Kalunga-Banda**, a fellow of *Future Considerations, Oxford*, reminded us of the current sad realities:

- *half the world (more than 3 billion people) live on less than US\$2.00 a day*
- *one and a quarter million children die each year from lack of access to clean drinking water and adequate sanitation*
- *the wealthiest 20% of the population account for 76.6% of the world's total consumption, the poorest fifth just 1.5%*



The Ugandan Choir

“Missionary work for Africa must be done in Europe as well as in Africa”



Sr Pat Robb CJ

TAX JUSTICE

Jenny Brown, *European Union relations adviser at Christian Aid* said: “Developing countries lose \$160 billion a year in tax they are owed by individuals and companies not paying their taxes because half of world trade goes through tax havens.” She urged those present to lobby the Government to do more to stop tax dodging by British companies. More information at www.taxjustice.net



Martin and Agnes Kalunga-Banda

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 12-18th May 2013

Today 870 million people are in desperate need of food. This is a scandal! This **Christian Aid Week** we can help some of the world's poorest families get enough to eat. For good! Find out more at: www.christianaid.org.uk



LANDGRABBING IN AFRICA “Food to eat or to run your car?”

“Every year the UK burns enough food as fuel to feed 10 million people. The use of food crops as biofuels is driving hunger and landgrabs. This is madness in a world where one in eight people already go hungry”

A key driver of the current land grab was clearly the 2007-8 global food crisis, characterised by rising fuel prices, by food exporters placing restrictions on exports (causing people to lose faith in the world food market), and by the dramatic switch in the American Midwest from farmers growing maize for food to growing maize for fuel.

–African land deals lead to water giveaway’ which threatens or diverts water supplies from use by the local people *and endangers Food Sustainability and Security.*

A wide range of speculators including agribusinesses, big corporations, and food traders investing in land as a long-term asset, including hedge fund and pension fund operators has led to a huge increase in “**Food Speculation**” which further impacts on **Landgrabbing**.

Global land grabbing is a difficult, complex terrain, involving a multiplicity of actors, great secrecy, huge power imbalances and extensive corruption at many levels. The long-term consequences of what we are now observing could well be catastrophic. *Robin Palmer, is a Land Rights Adviser with Mokoro, an Oxford-based consultancy that promotes sustainable development.* More information and action: www.stopafricanlandgrab.com



An attentive audience



Francis Poku

CONTROL OF SMALL ARMS IN AFRICA

Francis Poku, retired Minister for Security in the Ghanaian government, spoke of his experiences and the need to continue to work for peace and security.

- There are 100million small arms in Africa, especially around the Horn, in Central Africa and many areas of West Africa.
- The trafficking and easy availability of small arms fuel instability and conflict, threatening security and sustainable development in affected countries.



The Jubilee Mass
Procession of Celebrants

To work for weapons control is to work for peace

*The Africa Action Sheet
is produced by the:*

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NEW email address:

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IF CAMPAIGN

Hyde Park, London—8th June

Lobbying the G8 meeting of world leaders

IF world leaders take action on tax dodging, landgrabs, transparency and aid when they meet at the G8 in Northern Ireland this June, we could start to end global hunger and be the generation that ensures that there is
ENOUGH FOOD FOR EVERYONE.

Join thousands of campaigners in London’s Hyde Park on Saturday 8th June.

Details from: info@christian-aid.org