



We Are Raising our Voices Against Human Trafficking, Please Join Us.

Societies are judged by how they treat the least among them. Today we, the Council of Anglican Provinces of Africa (CAPA), urge you to look at the plight of people in our communities who have been reduced to merchandise. They are bought and sold for labour, sexual exploitation, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or for the removal of body organs.

Trafficking in persons is a serious crime and a grave violation of human rights as well as a transnational organized crime that affects communities globally. Every year, thousands of men, women and children fall into the hands of traffickers either in their own countries or abroad. Almost every country in the world is affected by human trafficking, whether as a country of origin, transit or destination for victims. According to the Global Slavery Index (2018) Regional Analysis of Africa, 62% of Africans are vulnerable to modern slavery and the estimated number of people living in modern slavery is about 9,240,000.

The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed and worsened many global inequalities, created new obstacles on the path to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and left millions of people at greater risk of being trafficked for sexual exploitation, forced labour, forced marriage and other crimes. These realities on the plight of migrants, refugees, internally displaced persons among others from different Anglican Provinces on the continent undergirds CAPA's response to the migration and human trafficking issues on the continent.

CAPA, in collaboration with other partners and stakeholders, seeks to lend support to regional and global efforts to respond to the issues of migration and trafficking on the continent. Mindful of national, sub-regional and continent-wide actions on the issues of migration and human trafficking, CAPA invites all to join in the fight against human trafficking especially as we mark the World Day Against Trafficking in Persons.

The 2020 theme for the World Day Against Trafficking in Persons focuses on the first responders to human trafficking. These are the people who work in different sectors - identifying, supporting, counselling and seeking justice for victims of trafficking, and challenging the impunity of the traffickers. Faith Communities are the backbone of society. We therefore invite you to join in the fight against human trafficking and to support victims in multiple ways as first responders and by



supporting others already doing the work. We call upon you today to join us as we fight to protect our neighbors.

Your contribution could be to speak about the ills of trafficking in persons, raise awareness of the potential of trafficking among those vulnerable to the crime, sharing of information, challenge structures that expose the vulnerable and the marginalized to the crime of human trafficking, offer prayers for those caught in the web of traffickers and being trafficked and above all provide support to those affected by the ills of trafficking. Together we can and we must raise our voices against trafficking in persons.

Sincerely yours,

VEN. J.W. KOFI deGRAFT-JOHNSON
GENERAL SECRETARY
COUNCIL OF ANGLICAN PROVINCES OF AFRICA