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FOR INFORMATION

Additional Actions on Public Issues

The following actions have been taken on public issues since 24 July 2009:

AFRICA

4 August Letter from the WCC's general secretary to Mr. Umaru Musa Yar'Adua, president of the **Federal Republic of Nigeria**, urging him to pay close attention to the situation, to ensure the safety of all citizens and to bring the perpetrators to justice following inter-communal violence in several areas of Northern Nigeria.

4 August Letter from the WCC's general secretary to the Christian Association of the **Federal Republic of Nigeria**, condemning the inter-communal violence which left many in the Christian community dead or wounded, with property destroyed and sending condolences to those affected, as well as prayers for peace and reconciliation.

ASIA/PACIFIC

3 August Letter from the WCC's general secretary to Mr. Asif Ali Zardari, president of the **Islamic Republic of Pakistan**, following the latest in a two month long series of attacks against Christians in the Punjab province. He reiterated that it was "a matter of serious concern" for the WCC and asked that the perpetrators were brought to justice and that the safety of past and possible future victims was assured.

18 August Letter from the WCC's general secretary to Dr Whi Ho Lee, widow of Mr. Kim Dae-jung, former president of the **Republic of Korea**, expressing condolences on the occasion of his death, thanking God for his life and leadership and noting with gratitude the fact that the WCC had the opportunity to support Mr. Kim during his time in exile outside Korea.

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

2 – 7 August Preparatory action towards the International Ecumenical Peace Convocation (May 2011):

"Living letters" ecumenical team visit to **Honduras**. The visit was organized following the June 2009 coup which replaced the elected president by an interim government. The team called on the churches of Honduras to remain

strong, to continue to speak out towards the reestablishment of the constitutional order and to accompany all the people suffering under the present situation.

MIDDLE EAST

10 August Letter from the WCC's general secretary to the leaders of the United Church of Canada (UCC) in advance of their 2009 General Conference. The letter expressed gratitude for and support of the UCC in their ongoing work for peace with justice in **Israel-Palestine**.

INTER-RELIGIOUS RELATIONS AND DIALOGUE

24 July Statement made by sixty Muslim and Christian clerics from Western Africa at the end of a five day conference on **Religion, conflict prevention, peace building and reconciliation**, calling for followers of both faiths "to complement each other's efforts for peace". The statement was co-signed by the WCC president from Africa, Rev. Dr Simon Dossou, as well as by representatives of the All Africa Conference of Churches (AACC) and the Fellowship of Councils and Churches in West Africa, both of whom work in partnership with the WCC.

31 July Statement made by 17 Muslim and Christian leaders calling for religious leaders in the region to contribute towards the peace and reconciliation process there following a two day conference on **Conflict resolution in the Horn of Africa**. Co-signatories included a president of the WCC, Abune Paulos I, a WCC central committee member, Dr Agnes Abuom and representatives of the AACC and the Fellowship of Christian Councils and Churches in the Great Lakes and Horn of Africa, partners of the WCC.

PEACE AND DISARMAMENT

12 August Public statement by the WCC's general secretary on the 60th anniversary of the signing of the **Geneva Conventions**, stating that the situation of violence in the world today made compliance with these conventions a priority for all governments and that "the complexity of today's armed conflicts" required the international community "to think of new ways to strengthen effective mechanisms" to respect the conventions.

24 August Letter from the WCC's general secretary to the Honourable Pie Ntavyohanyuma, President of the National Assembly, and the Honourable Dr. Yves Sahunyvu, First Vice President, of the government of **Burundi**. The letter applauded them on their recent ratification of the **Treaty of Pelindaba** and thus the successful completion of the Pelindaba ratification process in that country.