About FECCLAHA
Fellowship of Christian Councils and Churches in the Great Lakes and Horn of Africa (FECCLAHA) is a regional ecumenical organization seeking to provide a platform for sharing perspectives on issues of common concern, particularly regarding peace building and conflict transformation in the Great Lakes and Horn of Africa region.

Officially launched in March, 1999, FECCLAHA aims at fostering strong ecumenical cooperation. It encourages its members to take ownership and responsibility for problems in the region and proactively seek solutions to these challenges.

FECCLAHA Membership:
It draws its membership from churches and national councils of churches of nine countries in the Great Lakes and Horn of Africa region. These are: Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Sudan, Tanzania, and Uganda.

FECCLAHA Vision:
The creation of communities that are inclusive, harmonious, and living an abundant life in the Great Lakes and Horn of Africa.

FECCLAHA Mission:
To enhance peace and reconciliation in the Great Lakes and Horn of Africa by facilitating ecumenical cooperation and fellowship within the framework of holistic Christian ministry.

FECCLAHA Core Values:

Human Dignity: We recognize that all people are created in the image of God and should enjoy abundant life.

Compassion: We acknowledge and seek to bring healing and contribute towards building healthy communities through mediation, forgiveness, and reconciliation.

Justice: We advocate for equity in accessing services and national resources guided by truth, integrity, and transparency.

Peace: We work towards establishment of environments that are secure, where people live in harmony, accept, and respect one another irrespective of their race, ethnicity, religion, gender, and physical status.

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MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The year 2010 was characterized by national elections and referenda, important transitions that not only determine the destiny of a citizenry in the country, but also the region and indeed the continent. FECCLAHA, in line with its vision, mission and objectives continued to engage in different peace building activities as we sort to fulfill our mandate of being peace makers in the Great Lakes and Horn of Africa.

Some of the trends, challenges and key highlights of the year included:

- **National Elections and Referendum**: These took place in Tanzania, Burundi, Rwanda, Ethiopia, Sudan and Kenya. Of concern to FECCLAHA is the trend where violence is increasingly becoming synonymous with elections in Africa. The increasing challenges facing the management of elections and election disputes in Africa called for an effective ecumenical accompaniment of electoral processes. To this end through our Ecumenical Election Assistance Programme we sort to walk with our member churches and national councils of churches (NCCs) to ensure that elections deliver on human security. We accompanied our members through Civic Education, Election observation, and advocacy for peace. We therefore celebrate with them the relative calm during the electoral period.

- **Multiplication and mushrooming of militia groups in the region**: Militias and other armed groups are increasingly becoming de facto governments in many places that FECCLAHA works. In such circumstances, power - as Ali Mazrui would say - is in the hands of those with instruments of destruction rather than those in charge of production. To this end, in 2010, FECCLAHA continued her engagement with negotiations towards the humanitarian rescue of women, children, and some ex-combatants held by the Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA).

- **The ever rising cases of sexual and gender based violence in the region**: In continued efforts towards combating all forms of Gender Based Violence in the region, FECCLAHA in collaboration with the World Council of Churches – Ecumenical HIV & AIDS Initiative for Africa (WCC-EHAI) focused on exploring the links between perceptions of masculinity, Gender Based Violence, and the spread of HIV & AIDS in the region. In addition, FECCLAHA facilitated a process towards developing an Inter-Faith Forum for combating Gender Based Violence through advocacy and women empowerment in Eastern DRC. Supported by NCA-Great Lakes Region, the process, whose geographic focus is South and North Kivu, aims at providing an advocacy platform and harmonizing gender based Gender Based Violence activities in Eastern DRC.

- **The continuation of latent and sporadic violent conflicts**: This is a trend that has continued to undermine the gains so far made in promoting peace and reconciliation in the region. In a bid to mitigate this set back, FECCLAHA family spent considerable time reflecting on the theme “From Reaction to Conflict Prevention: The Role of the Church”, during the 2010 Regional Ecumenical Forum (REF). The outcome of this forum was a beginning of a process that will culminate in building capacity for early response within the churches and councils of churches and developing a faith based Conflict Early Warning System Manual.

- **Intra and inter-religious collaboration and efforts**: FECCLAHA continued to explore ways of intervening in the conflicts in the Horn of Africa region through the Religious Leaders Peace Initiatives in the Horn of Africa. Through this platform, FECCLAHA together with Africa Council for Religious Leaders (ACRL) and AACC convened an interfaith meeting for religious leaders from the Inter-governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) countries with their central focus being deliberations on peace, security, and stability in the Horn of Africa. Closely related to this, was the accompaniment of the Senior Clergy Consultative Forum of Kenya (SCCF) which was formed as a conflict prevention strategy in the pre and post referendum period in Kenya.

- **Youth in Peace building**: It is not an exaggeration that youth constitute approximately 60% of the population in the region where FECCLAHA that fall within our mandate. Hence, the youth continue to be an important constituency to the region. In response to this reality FECCLAHA has continued to contribute towards building young peace ambassadors in the region and in cultivating the culture of peace among students. In 2010, our efforts to involve and empower the youth were made through Civic education, creation of a regional youth network and an Exchange Programme.

- **Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW’s)**: This year, FECCLAHA continued to address through the Nairobi based Ecumenical Working Group on Small Arms and Light Weapons and their impact on human security through the Nairobi based Ecumenical Working Group on Small Arms and Light Weapons and their impact on human security through the Nairobi based Ecumenical Working Group on Small Arms and Light Weapons and their impact on human security through the Nairobi based Ecumenical Working Group on Small Arms and Light Weapons and their impact on human security through the Nairobi based Ecumenical Working Group on Small Arms and Light Weapons and their impact on human security through the Nairobi based Ecumenical Working Group on Small Arms and Light Weapons and their impact on human security through the Nairobi based Ecumenical Working Group on Small Arms and Light Weapons and their impact on human security through the Nairobi based Ecumenical Working Group on Small Arms and Light Weapons and 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Weapons and their impact on human security through the Nairobi based Ecumenical Working Group on Small Arms and Light Weapons and their impact on human security through the Nairobi based Ecumenical Working Group. Of great importance was FECCSLAHA’s focus on the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) and stronger participation in the Kenya Action Network on Small Arms (KANSA) Advisory group.

- **Focus on Sudan**: After decades of war and conflict, in 2010, Sudan held elections and moved towards Self-Determination Referenda for the People of Southern Sudan and Abyei. This called for special focus on Sudan from FECCLAHA constituency. To this end we stood in solidarity with the Sudan Council of Churches (SCC) through pastoral/ solidarity visits, workshops, prayers and elections observation missions. In 2011, FECCLAHA will continue to monitor the unfolding events in Sudan and accompany the post referendum transitional process.

The following pages present details of the key initiatives and a sampling of our activities undertaken by FECCLAHA under four thematic areas, namely:

a) **Peace building**;

b) **Governance and Public Accountability**;

c) **Human Security**;

d) **Institutional Strengthening**.

I wish to express my appreciation to our members, ecumenical partners and other stakeholders for their continued support, accompaniment, and collaboration as we strive towards a peace and reconciliation in the region.

Fred Nyabera
Executive Director.
PEACE BUILDING
To pursue social justice and sustainable peace in the Great Lakes region and Horn of Africa

1. ACCOMPANYMENT OF THE NORTHERN UGANDA PEACE PROCESS

FECCAHA remains committed to pursuing a just, peaceful and lasting solution to the violent conflict in the LRA affected areas. To this end, in 2010 FECCAHA engaged in negotiations towards the humanitarian rescue of women, children and some ex-combatants held by the Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA) and a political process towards the closure of the Northern Uganda peace process.

Additionally, FECCAHA engaged in shuttle diplomacy and consultations with His Excellency Joachim Chissano, the UN Special Envoy for LRA Affected Areas; His Excellency Dr. Riek Machar Teny, the Vice President of Government of Southern Sudan and Chief Mediator of the Juba Peace Talks; Dr. S.P. Kagoda, the Permanent Secretary Ministry of Internal Affairs, Government of Uganda; LRA High Command through their then Peace Emissary; MONUC; United Nations Mission in the Sudan (UNMIS) and International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). The process also involved close consultation and working with Uganda Joint Christian Council (UJCC) and Sudan Council of Churches (SCC) two of our member councils.

Though the main objectives of this process have not yet been achieved and are still being pursued, FECCAHA’s role as a strategic partner in peace building in the region has been endorsed and recognized by the above-mentioned actors among others.

2. CONSOLIDATION OF PEACE BUILDING IN POST-PEACE SETTLEMENT IN BURUNDI: PROMOTION OF LEGAL PROTECTION N MECANISMS FOR EXPO SED GROUPS

This marks the third year since FECCAHA, in partnership with Dan Church Aid, has engaged in the above-mentioned programme that was carried out in Burundi through the National Council of Churches of Burundi (CNEB). As the project is at the phasing out stage, FECCAHA’s Project Coordinator together with the staff of Dan Church Aid Great Lakes Region Office carried out a monitoring and evaluation visit to Burundi and FECCAHA secretariat in Nairobi. As far as the programming aspects are concerned the monitoring and evaluation carried out in Nairobi was aimed at presentation and discussion of project achievements, challenges, good practices, and lessons learnt for 2009; presentation and discussion of project plans for 2010; discussion of project phase out plans; and discussion of 2009 narrative and financial reports. The visit in Burundi was mainly to interact with different project activities to assess progress and relevance of the project. They also aimed at documenting some success stories on the project.

The programme has gone through various phases since its inception in 2008. The first phase was a research that sought to identify Burundian legislation’s strengths, weaknesses, and gaps in its implementation, mapping out organisations and relevant stakeholders to partner with in addressing Sexual Gender Based Violence (SGBV), and gather specific contextual information to give implementation of the project. The second phase involved hosting a stakeholder’s workshop where findings of the above-mentioned research were presented to Church leaders and various CSOs’ representatives. This platform also facilitated for discussions on the IC/GLR protocol and its relevance to the Burundian community. The third phase involved a conference that assisted in mapping out a national campaign strategy and a three-year work plan to end in 2012. In phasing out the project, a media strategy has been designed and is in the process of implementation.

The consultation drew participation from SCCF membership from Nairobi, Central, Eastern, Rift valley, and Nyanza provinces. Representatives from Hope for Kenya, Mennonite Central Committee (MCC), Compassion International, and All Africa Conference of Churches (AACC) and AACC Special Ecumenical Envoy to the Sudan, Rev. Dr. Sam Kobia were also present. After agreeing on the statement on plenary, it was signed by the SCCF Convener and Consultation Chair and read to the press at the conclusion of the consultation.

3. “CALLING TO REMEMBRANCE”: FECCAHA CO-HOSTS THE SENIOR CLERGY CONSULTATIVE FORUM (SCCF) CONSULTATION

FECCAHA co-hosted a one-day consultation of the Senior Clergy under the Senior Clergy Consultative Forum (SCCF). The SCCF is a fellowship comprised of retired and senior clergy with membership drawn from the Roman Catholic, Anglican, Baptist, Evangelical, Pentecostal, Methodist, Reformed and Presbyterian Churches. This forum was constituted in response to the post election crisis that hit Kenya at the beginning of the 2008. The aim of its constitution is to create a platform where the Church leaders would pray together for the nation, share experiences and concerns at the prevailing circumstances, ultimately uniting the Church. Therefore, SCCF remains ecumenical in character, national in representation with its role being purely supportive to the Church and Church leadership in Kenya as long as there is need.

Under the theme “Calling to Remembrance” based on Lamentation 3:21-25, the one-day consultation offered a platform upon which the Senior clergy would fellowship and strengthen each other in prayer, share testimonies, worship, share in the Word of God, and work together in crafting a proclamation. The one-day Consultation had the objective of mapping how best the Church can ensure that there will be peace in the nation, before, during, and after the referendum. There were situation analysis sessions in which voices from Rift valley, Nyanza, and Kuria shared the effect of the post-election conflict and the role that the Church is playing in ensuring peace in the regions. The Church leaders reported that in preparation for the referendum they had held public prayer rallies but stated that they had concerns about the many security personnel that had been deployed in parts of Rift valley and Nyanza creating fear and anxiety among citizens’ minds.

In his remarks, Mr. Nyabera, the Executive Director said that peace, healing and reconciliation are a multiple engagement which must of necessity remain inclusive likening this with the Church of Jesus Christ whose cardinal principle is “one body, many parts”. As a way forward, the participants recommended that SCCF had to prevail above the Church politics to be able to address the Nation at the critical time of need. The forum then agreed upon a statement which was drafted and was to be broadcast to the Nation through the media and the Churches.
4. RELIGIOUS LEADERS PEACE INITIATIVE IN THE HORN OF AFRICA:

FECCLAHA continues to explore ways of intervening in the conflicts in Somalia and the wider Horn of Africa region through the Religious Leaders Peace Initiative in the Horn of Africa. Through this platform, FECCLAHA together with Africa Council for Religious Leaders (ACRL), All Africa Conference of Churches (AAACC) and the other members of the working group convened a religious leaders' meeting.

The participants, comprising mainly of religious leaders, were drawn from the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) countries. They deliberated upon a wide range of issues related to peace, security and stability in the Horn of Africa within the context of inter-faith relation. From the deliberations, it was evident that despite efforts by the religious leaders in conflict prevention and management, the pathway to sustainable peace in the Horn of Africa continues to be complex. The meeting therefore created an opportunity for the religious leaders to adopt various techniques in prevention and management of conflict. It was agreed that it was more relevant to advance good practice in the field of conflict management in the horn of Africa.

To affirm their role and commitment to pursue conflict transformation in the region, the religious leaders adopted a communiqué, where they also noted the adverse effects of conflict that continue to ravage IGAD members and the continent in general.

5. REGIONAL YOUTH PROGRAMME

I. Regional Youth Network

The youth remain an important component to FECCLAHA interventions. With the aim of promoting networking, synergy and information sharing among the young people in the region and beyond, FECCLAHA youth desk has established a regional youth network comprised of 20 youth focal points from the region (10 male and 10 female). This facilitates for updates on youth activities within the region; coordination and implementation of programmes; and conducting monitoring and evaluation.

Additionally, FECCLAHA supported the National Council of Churches of Burundi (CNEB) to hold a national training of trainers' workshop for a domestic ecumenical election observation. The participants, who were drawn from the 17 provinces in the country, comprised of 68 young people. Efforts to include the youth in the training were to encourage them to get involved in the election process. In most cases in the past, young people are secluded from the electoral process due to their lack of skill or the presumption that they are involved in chaos during elections.

The workshop focused on the rationale for elections; the socio-political situation in the country; the electoral cycle; procedures in domestic election observation (short-term observation of voting operations and vote counting); the code of conduct for election observers; indicators of a free and fair election; the electoral law; and women and elections. It was anticipated that the 68 young people who were trained would then train others on returning to their offices.

ii.) “Arms Down Campaign for Shared Security” Launch in Kigali-Rwanda

The youth from FECCLAHA constituency have been involved in collecting signatures for a petition on ‘Arms Down Campaign for Shared Security’ a petition that was to be presented to the UN General Secretary in October 2010 in USA. Organized by Africa Council of Religious Leaders (ACRL), the campaign launched facilitated for information sharing and awareness raising on small arms and light weapons. The campaign aimed at calling on religious leaders to unite and work towards a safer world in pursuit of global security. The goal for this is to campaign for the abolition of nuclear weapons; stop the proliferation and misuse of conventional weapons in particular small arms, landmines, and cluster bombs; reduce military expenditure; and advance the achievement of the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).
An elderly lady is assisted to cast her ballot during the elections in Khartoum, Sudan in April 2010

ii.) Accompaniment of the National Council of Churches of Burundi (CNEB)

FECCLAHA has supported the National Council of Churches of Burundi (CNEB) in the holding of a national training of trainers' workshop for a domestic ecumenical election observation team drawn from all the 17 provinces in the country. The workshop took place in Bujumbura, Burundi and covered the following: the rationale for elections; the socio-political situation obtaining in the country; the electoral cycle; procedures in domestic election observation (short-term observation of voting operations and vote counting); the code of conduct for election observers; indicators of a free and fair election; the electoral law; and women and elections.

The training workshop decreed the limited number of women elected in the communal elections who eventually take decision making positions in the councils of communes given the enormous participation of women in voting. In discussing this, the role of women in prevention of conflict and relapse into war was underscored. Participants also called for the National Independent Electoral Commission of Burundi (CENI) to be well resourced to facilitate an efficient and timely management of the electoral process. The 68 trainees have trained other people in their respective provinces for the observation of elections. The National Council of Churches of Burundi has then coordinated the domestic ecumenical election observation team using its provincial and national structures and the GLEF Focal Point. The domestic ecumenical election observation team has observed the presidential and parliamentary elections and declared that they were free and fair.

iii.) FECCLAHA International Ecumenical Election Observation Mission to the Sudan

At the invitation of the Sudan Council of Churches (SCC), a FECCLAHA International Ecumenical Election Observation Mission was deployed to observe the 11th to 15th April 2010 general elections. A team of 4 Short Term Observers (STOs) were deployed to cover Khartoum and Gezira States in the North and Central Equatoria State in Southern Sudan. The mission's mandate was to observe the electoral process including the administration of the elections, the political environment, election campaigning, electoral preparations, the voting, counting and vote aggregation process, announcement of results and post-election developments. The elections marked a crucial step in the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) and were calm, peaceful and generally orderly in the North with a high voter turnout. Closely related, FECCLAHA in collaboration with the All Africa Conference of Churches (AACC) co-facilitated a one-day training for observers of the Self-Determination referendum for the people of Southern Sudan. This team comprised of participants to be deployed to various polling centres in Nairobi, Juba, and Khartoum. FECCLAHA continues its accompaniment and support of Sudan during this delicate transitional period.
iv) FECLAHA Facilitates Orientation of International Interfaith Observer Mission to the Self-Determination Referendum of the People of Southern Sudan

FECLAHA, in collaboration with the All Africa Conference of Churches (AACC) conceptualized and facilitated a two day orientation workshop for over 35 observers. This was for the international interfaith observer mission to the self-determination referendum of the people of Southern Sudan. The orientation workshop was held from 22nd to 23rd December 2010 and involved: 17 observers drawn from the Southern Sudanese community in Kenya; 11 observers from the National Council of Churches of Kenya (NCCK); 3 observers from the Kenya Episcopal Conference (KEC); 5 observers from the AACC; and 1 observer from the African Council of Religious Leaders (ACRL).

The orientation covered the following: a brief background on the Sudan and developments leading to the self-determination referendum for the people of Southern Sudan; the legal framework against which the self-determination referendum would be assessed; observation of the polling, counting and aggregation of vote's process; observation of post-referendum developments; and reporting. The observation team was deployed to observe out of country voting in Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda and in country voting in North and Southern Sudan.

2. ADVOCACY FOR POST-SELF DETERMINATION REFERENDA ARRANGEMENT IN SUDAN

FECLAHA made a pastoral/solidarity visit to the Sudan at a critical time in the country's history as the country prepared for key transformational events as envisaged in the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA): the national elections; the popular consultations in Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile; the referendum in Abyei; and the self-determination referendum of the people of South. In its pastoral letters to various actors in the Sudan it called on the Government of National Unity and the Government of Southern Sudan to:

- Agree on the requisite arrangements for the post-2011 referendum transition. This entails agreeing on post-referendum arrangements covering relevant issues on the two scenarios of unity or secession. These include: the interdependence of the North and South Sudan; the lives and livelihoods of people and communities in border area; issues of sovereign transfers, wealth transfers and sharing including the division and transfer of state assets; shared debts; citizenship; repatriation; property rights; the concerns of national institutions; and other transitional issues; and

- Advocate for an internationally coordinated management of the transition period. This could entail the appointment of a United Nations Secretary General's Special Envoy to oversee a three to five year transitional period (2011 to 2013/2015) in the Sudan. The envoy would oversee the referendum process, assist in resolving emerging disputes and engage the two governments in proper planning for the various possibilities and scenarios.

The pastoral letters were widely disseminated to the IC/GLR, the African Union, the United Nations, ecumenical partners and the guarantors of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA). FECLAHA’s advocacy for post-self determination referenda arrangements has borne fruit with the launch of the Post-Referendum negotiations in Khartoum, Sudan in July 2010 with the facilitation of the African Union High Level Implementation Panel on Sudan (AUHIP).

3. ONE DAY WORKSHOP ON THE SELF-DETERMINATION REFERENDA WITH THE SUDANESE CHURCH LEADERS:

FECLAHA moderated an AACC convened, one day workshop on the Self-Determination Referenda for the People of Southern Sudan and Abyei in Juba. The objectives of the workshop were:

- To sensitize the Sudanese Church leaders on their role before, during and after the referenda and on what they could do to sensitize their congregations on the importance of this momentous event;
- Learn from the Kenya referendum experience;
- Empower the church leaders to engage with their Government Officials on the discussion on the Referendum during the “Kajiko”.

The sessions were facilitated by Dr. Joel Mabonga the Director of Civic Education at the IIEC- Kenya, NCCK, and IEC-Sudan. Also present was Bishop John Rucyahana from Rwanda who conducted the Bible Study session.

4. FIFTH GREAT LAKES ECUMENICAL FORUM (GLEF) CORE GROUP MEETING

FECLAHA was represented in the Fifth GLEF Core Group meeting that was held in Kigali, Rwanda in November 2010. During the meeting, the members gave a deep analysis of the prevailing political, economic and social situation in the region.

Participants representing national councils of churches in the region during the solidarity visit in Juba, Sudan.
**1. INTER-FaITH PlATFO RM FO R COmBATTING GENDER B ASED VIOLENCE (G BV)**

FECCCLAHA was commissioned to lead a process towards developing an Inter-Faith Forum for combating Gender Based Violence (G BV) through advocacy and women empowerment in Eastern DRC.

The Forum, whose geographic focus is South and North Kivu, is a platform in response to the Gender Based Violence issues faced in the provinces. It is also aimed at providing an advocacy platform and to harmonise faith based Gender Based Violence activities in the Eastern part of DRC for greater impact. FECCCLAHA has been tasked with the responsibility of providing technical and international advocacy support to the Forum. This will involve the development of a Gender Based Violence advocacy strategy and development of a plan for fighting Gender Based Violence within and through Churches.

Mr. Fred Nyabera, the Executive Director of FECCCLAHA, facilitates one of the training sessions during the Inter-Faith Platform of Eastern DRC workshop held in Bukavu.

Two board meetings and a conference have taken place in Eastern DRC in which deliberations on the forum's structure was deliberated and agreed upon. The forum therefore comprises of two boards; one from South and other from North Kivu and a conference comprising of forum members. The purpose of the inter-faith Forum is to:

a.) To heighten awareness on the gravity of G BV in Eastern DRC, in a bid to lobby and advocate for G BV-related policies and interventions within Eastern DRC;

b.) To promote dialogue between various key stakeholders, through instructive presentations, meetings, and other events;

c.) To share an analysis of all developments related to G BV and advocacy in the region;

d.) To disseminate information about actions and activities being carried out by members;

e.) To reach a common understanding of priority issues related to G BV in Eastern DRC and how to respond to them effectively;

f.) To provide space for discussing complimentary faith-based approaches and options towards combating G BV.

Membership of this platform will be drawn from: Eglise du Christ au Congo, Eglise de Réveil au Congo (ERC), Union des Eglises Indépendantes au Congo (UEIC), Communauté Islamique au Congo (CO MICO), Eglise Kimbanguiste, Eglise Catholique, Orthodoxe, Neo- Apostolique, Eglise Adventiste, Nazaréen Laissez l’Afrique Vivre- L’Association des Femmes des Media’s (AFEM) among others.

In addition to forming a structure, the conference was engaged in a mapping exercise with the aim of determining what was already being done on the ground by the faith communities. This did not only point out entry points but also sets a foundation upon which initiatives by the Forum can be pegged upon. Lastly, the conference agreed upon major themes that should be addressed in the platform. These include: Tammar Campaign; advocacy and lobbying techniques; gender mainstreaming; transformative leadership; women in leadership; the nexus between G BV and HIV & AIDS; and Sexual Violence in Armed Conflict.

This is a grassroots driven process and which FECCCLAHA continues to engage in collaboration with the Norwegian Church Aid which shall offer technical and international support and assist in mobilizing resources.

**2. SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS (SALW’s)**

1.) Women Only Training on the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) - Week of Action on Small Arms:

One factor that is fueling gun violence in many countries in this region is the irresponsible international arms trade of small arms and light weapons as well as other conventional arms. Tragically, there are no global standards controlling the international trade in conventional arms to help protect human rights. Most governments continue to permit the irresponsible trade in weapons, ammunition, and other military and policing equipment, inflicting misery and carnage on people in many countries. However there is a glimmer of hope with the UN having passed a resolution setting out a timetable for member states to negotiate an Arms Trade Treaty by 2012.

In commemoration of the Week of Action on Small Arms, FECCCLAHA held a one day Women only training on the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT). The aim of this workshop was to recognize and reinforce the role of women as actors in the process of conflict resolution and peace building. FECCCLAHA singles out the gender dimension because it is a subject that has been gravely neglected by the international community in the past. Not in terms of acknowledgment and high political promises but in terms of action. This workshop is therefore aimed at pushing for concrete legal framework within the ATT draft that is gender sensitive.

“*He has sent me to bind up the broken-hearted*”

Isaiah 61:1

The training therefore was aimed at going beyond looking at women as victims of armed violence and illegal use of arms but will also recognize and reinforce the role of women as actors in the process of conflict resolution and peace building. These efforts will ensure that women are seen as actors who ensure that their experience and their perspectives are brought to bear in national, regional, or international negotiations.

Mrs. Celine Siro, Regional Human Security Coordinator, facilitates a session on a One Day Women Only Training on the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) during the Week of Action.
There were six presentations on different aspects of small arms which included the role of women in ATT; international instruments; the scope of a future ATT; small arms among local communities, the case of Southern Sudan; Mifugo project, the protocol on the Prevention, Combating, and Eradication of Cattle Rustling in Eastern Africa. The facilitators were drawn from different organizations including Saferworld, IKV/PAX Christi, and Institute of Security Studies (ISS).

The one-day training is essential as it filled an existing gap with few organizations focussing on women. It was then decided that to keep the momentum going, the group would formulate a network that would focus on Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALWs) and Gender.

ii.) FECLLAHA at the European Union (EU) Project Regional Meeting in Entebbe, Uganda

FECLLAHA chaired the Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) caucus at a European Union (EU) Project Regional Meeting hosted by the Regional Centre on Small Arms in the Great Lakes and Horn of Africa Region (RECSA). The objectives of the meeting were to present the project to the stakeholders of the RECSA region and to discuss the project and identify priority areas of interventions.

Present in the meeting was RECSA Secretariat, the Uganda NFP Coordinator, the Amani Forum, Eastern Africa Action Network on Small Arms (EAANSA), the Eastern Africa Legislative Assembly (EALA), the Eastern Africa Community (EAC) among others partners.

As this is a regional meeting, the meeting offered a valuable platform upon which to influence the decisions regarding implementation of the project activities.

iii.) FECLLAHA Joins Kenya Action Network on Small Arms (KANSA) Board:

FECLLAHA through the selection of its Human Security Coordinator by the Kenya Action Network on Small Arms (KANSA) has been appointed a member of the KANSA Advisory Group. This enhances FECLLAHA’s role in advocacy and lobbying concerning small arms in Kenya and the region. Additionally, FECLLAHA joined the KANSA Regional workshops that are tailored to deepen and broaden the knowledge base of KANSA affiliate organizations, which includes FECLLAHA, in matters related to SALWs. KANSA anticipates that the beneficiary partner organizations will utilize the knowledge and skills acquired to move forward KANSA’s strategic agenda.

The network also proposes to update members on new approaches and paradigms in concerted efforts to combat the illicit use of SALWs in the country in light of the new constitutional dispensation in Kenya and what it portends to human security. The platform will also be a place where new members will be recruited to form the regional focal points. In line with FECLLAHA’s objectives of sharing best practices and information among members, FECLLAHA joins KANSA as a resource organization that will be offering facilitation and expertise in SALWs.

3. Tamar Campaign


The involvement of women and their contribution towards conflict resolution and sustainable peace is essential. Tragically, they remain voiceless with little efforts made to involve them in conflict resolution and peace building. The United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (UNSCR 1325) on Women, Peace, and Security, addresses concerns on the involvement of women in conflict resolution and decision making towards sustainable peace in a country. The resolution argues that equal participation and recognition of women’s role in prevention and resolution of conflicts, peace negotiations, peace building, peace keeping, humanitarian response, and in post-conflict reconstruction is essential.

FECLLAHA in conjunction with the Sudan Council of Churches (SCC) hosted a workshop under the title “UNSCR 1325: Enhancing Women’s Participation in Conflict Resolution and Peace Building” that took place in Juba, Sudan. The aim of the workshop was to create a platform which women in the region would stand in solidarity with the women in Sudan as they awaited the elections which were to take place in a few weeks, after forty years of war and conflict in their country. This platform created a safe place to not only build the capacity of women regarding the UN SCR 1325 and its importance to the women but also created a safe space for experience sharing which helped in affirming and accompanying the Sudanese women as they shaped the destiny of their country.

The following were recommendations drawn from the reflections:

- The development of active and official global rosters of women which can and should systemize women’s engagement in formal peace negotiations by officially placing them on the map;
- Mediation teams should invest more in identifying both individuals and powerful women political actors and the networks and women groups;
- There is need to reinforce women’s participation in peace negotiations through awareness raising, identification of senior women who can do the job and further more training and technical resources to enlarge the pool of women to draw on as mediators and negotiators for future processes.

In addition to participation of women from Sudan, participants were drawn from Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, and Burundi. Alongside the workshop, some women joined a team from the Executive Committee of FECLLAHA and several top Church leaders in Sudan in a pastoral solidarity visit. This team presented pastoral letters to various offices: The Offices of the Vice President of Government of Southern Sudan; the Secretary General, National Election Commission in Sudan; the Central Equatoria State, Government of Southern Sudan; and the Sudan Council of Churches. The workshop marks the beginning of the organization’s focus in Sudan as more changes are anticipated in the country and therefore the region.

A group of women representatives exchange ideas during the workshop on the UNSCR 1325 that was held in Juba, Sudan.
Rev. Canon Gideon Byamugisha, the Christian Aid Goodwill Ambassador on HIV and AIDS, for Eastern Africa, Sudan and the Horn gives a presentation during a joint initiative with WCC-EHAIA in Nairobi, Kenya. (From the right: Prof. Esther Mombo, the DVC Academic of St. Paul's University and Ms. Pauline Wanjiru Njiru, the Regional Coordinator of WCC-EHAIA-Eastern Africa Regional Office)

Perceptions of these aspects are significantly contributing to the growing culture of gender inequality, violence, and deaths in the region. FECCLAHA jointly with World Council of Churches – Ecumenical HIV and AIDS initiative for Africa (WCC-EHAIA) hosted a workshop that sought to create a safe space and platform for senior Church leaders to not only pray, but also fellowship and reflect on the links between the three aspects. This was also a platform upon which the Church leaders had capacity building around the theme of the workshop: “The Church in Action: Exploring the links between perception of masculinity, gender based violence and the spread of HIV/AIDS in Kenya”.

The objectives of the workshop were:

- To facilitate conversations regarding the cyclical interplay between perceptions of masculinity, the prevalence of Gender Based Violence, and the increase of HIV/AIDS;
- To investigate practical ways in which the church can play a better role in addressing HIV/AIDS, GBV and masculinity;
- To introduce and develop ways in which the Tamar Campaign's Contextual Bible Study Manual can better address the above societal and church dilemma;
- To facilitate theological reflection on redemptive masculinity.

Right Rev. Benjamin Nzimbi, Archbishop Emeritus of the Anglican Church of Kenya (ACK) and the outgoing Chair of EHAIA, opened the consultation and delivered the keynote address. Papers addressing different aspects of the theme were presented by facilitators drawn from Kenya and Uganda and sessions of Contextual Bible Studies held. The participants made the following recommendations:

a.) The need for regular study of the word of God and prayer are therefore critical to the work of the Church in combating negative masculinity, GBV and HIV and AIDS;

b.) In the fight against HIV and AIDS, the Church in Africa must take her rightful role as the uniting, healing, prophetic voice and agent of holistic transformation;

c.) The Church’s approach to HIV and AIDS must be holistic, all inclusive and culturally relevant;

d.) In the fight against HIV and AIDS the Church must put in place strategies that will enable her to engage the political space intelligently and strategically in order to influence allocation of resources to the cause;

e.) The youth must be mainstreamed into Church programs and projects, especially those that address masculinity, GBV, and HIV/AIDS recognizing their unique talents and gifts;

f.) In the fight against HIV and AIDS the clergy as shepherds of the flock must lead from the front especially in matters of voluntary testing and counseling;

g.) The Church must show her commitment to the fight against distorted masculinity, GBV and HIV and AIDS by investing in spiritual, intellectual, financial, human, and structural resources into plans and programmes that enhance this fight.

ii.) Exploring the links between Masculinity, Gender Based Violence (GBV), and HIV/AIDS Workshop in Kenya

Masculinity, Gender Based Violence (GBV), and HIV/AIDS are aspects within society with a dynamic relationship often contributing covertly to the larger disharmony in our region.

4. PROJECT ON DDRRR1 OF FOREIGN ARMED GROUPS AND REFUGEES LIVING IN EASTERN DRC:

FECCLAHA has continued to accompany the Church of Christ in Congo (ECC)-South Kivu initiated project. This project works towards voluntary disarmament, demobilization, and repatriation of all foreign armed groups and refugees living in Eastern DRC. The Fifth Steering Committee meeting reflected upon the security situation in the Great Lakes Region.

The following are the resolutions made during the Steering Committee meeting:

a.) Formed a task force to work on the content of the message to be shared with the Office of the UN Special Envoy to the Great Lakes Region: In engaging this office, the Steering Committee aims at understanding the office’s mandate, introducing the project on Voluntary Repatriation of Refugees and Armed Groups Living in Eastern DRC, and seeking collaboration and support for the project.

b.) To meet with the leaders of PAREC to reflect on a harmonized coordinated and most effective strategy for DDRR in Eastern DRC;

c.) Called on the stakeholders to intensify their advocacy on the magnitude and horror of sexual gender based violence (SG BV) in Eastern DRC including its nexus to the illegal exploitation of natural resources and further resolved to appoint a team to engage in international advocacy regarding the same;

d.) Called for pastoral accompaniment to the survivors of the SG BV and SG BV service providers. This will entail capacity building of the church leaders, teaching of positive cultural values, the introduction of a relevant SG BV curriculum in theological colleges and destigmatization of SG BV survivors;

e.) Called for a follow up visit to the AACC led ecumenical delegation visit to Burundi! The objective of the visit would be to appeal for political inclusivity, peaceful coexistence and tolerance in the aftermath of the national elections in Burundi;

f.) Urged for an ongoing properly planned, well documented civic education in the member countries as a preventive measure to conflicts that coalesce around the national elections;

g.) Urged the Church of Christ in Congo (ECC) to put in place preventive measures regarding the possible Mbororo conflict;

h.) Meeting raised concern regarding the ongoing atrocities by Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA) in the region and called for sustained advocacy and action for durable solutions to the LRA problem;

i.) The meeting resolved to write a congratulatory letter to the governments of DRC and Rwanda due to the reinstatement of formal diplomatic relations between these countries. Consequently, the steering committee resolved to introduce the project to the missions seeking his support and collaboration on the same;

j.) Called for an aggressive socialisation of Tamar Campaign in the region and further recommended that a regional conference on SG BV be organised;

k.) Underscored the need for a harmonized and coordinated strategy in responding to Demobilization, Disarmament, Repatriation, and Reintegration (DDR) in DRC.

1Demobilization, Disarmament, Repatriation, Resettlement and Reintegration
NETW O RK IN G

1. Regional Youth Desk:
   I.) Participation in Forums to operationalize the IC / GLR Regional Plan of Action for the Youth
   FECCAHA participated in the third joint meeting of the Multifunctional Youth Forum (MYF) and the IC / GLR National Coordination Mechanism of Kenya in July, 2010. The meeting aimed at introducing the new National Coordinator and a briefing on youth involvement in the IC / GLR based on the report of the Dar-es-Salaam Youth Summit. The operationalization of the IC / GLR Regional Multifunctional Youth Forum (RMYF) aimed at enabling youth to identify common needs and challenges in the region. It is envisaged that the regional youth forum will enable sharing of good practices in addressing youth needs and challenges in the countries of the region. National work plans will also be developed based on the IC / GLR regional plan of action for the youth.

   ii.) Youth for Peace Conference
   FECCAHA participated in a Youth for Peace Conference in which 20 youth from West Africa, Central Africa, and East Africa discussed the role of youth in conflict resolution and peace building. This conference created a safe space in which the youth shared experiences on engagement with peace building in their countries. From the discussions, it is evident that the youth regardless of their region face the similar challenges. There is therefore the need to facilitate for equipping and supporting their efforts towards dealing with the challenges. The youth are not to be ignored rather they are to be given spaces to explore their talents and use them to sustain and develop themselves as well as their countries. The participants felt that if the youth are given entrepreneurship skills, they will be able to deal with their socio-economic problems and create jobs for themselves, reducing their vulnerability to being involved in chaos or destructive activities. This meeting was hosted by the All Africa Conference of Churches (AACC) in Nairobi, Kenya.

2. Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW s):
   i.) The Fourth UN Biennial Meeting of States on Small Arms
   FECCAHA participated in the fourth UN Biennial meeting of states on small arms that was held in New York. This meeting is part of the follow-up process to the UN 2001 Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons and all its aspects when the member states adopted the Programme of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons (PoA). This political instrument laid a foundation for action at the national, regional, and global levels and therefore is a valuable tool for States, international organizations, and civil society. The Fourth Biennial Meeting of States was therefore designed to consider the implementation of the PoA.

   Since the 2001 Conference, three biennial meetings have been held. NGO participation has been encouraged especially because of their efforts in bringing continuing as well as newly emerging challenges regarding small arms to the attention of Member States and other participants. FECCAHA held mini workshops during this meeting that looked into the nexus between political elections and violence caused by proliferation of SALWs. Additionally, FECCAHA participated in the launch of the Small Arms Manual designed for religious leaders which was published by the Council of Religions for Peace of which FECCAHA is a member. This manual is a valuable tool as it ensure church leaders are adequately equipped to lobby and advocate against the proliferation of SALWs among other issues related to the same. This platform therefore gave space for FECCAHA to not only interact with partners, but also learn and share best practices and information with them.

   ii.) The Second Annual East African Network on Small Arms (EANSA)
   FECCAHA, as a member of the EANSA, took part in the second annual meeting. This was a meeting during which Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and national chapters on small arms developed an action plan in order to participate in the East African Community (EAC) Secretariat Project supported by GTZ within the EAC member states, of which part of the FECCAHA membership entails.

3. Tamar Campaign: Conference on the UN SCR 1325 by the Eastern African Sub-regional Support Initiative for Advancement of Women (EASSI)
   This year marked the 10th anniversary since the ratification of the UNSCR 1325 in October, 2000. FECCAHA, invited other participants from Eastern Africa and the Horn of Africa to mark this day. The UN SCR 1325 remains an important tool which FECCAHA has continued to use to reaffirm the role that women have played in peace building in the region and also encouraged the women to take up leadership positions in their countries. The UN SCR 1325 marks the first time the Security Council has addressed the disproportionate and unique impact of armed conflict on women. It recognizes the undervalued and under-utilized contributions women make to conflict prevention, peacekeeping, conflict resolution, and peace-building. The organization, in collaboration with other partners, continues to address UN SCR 1325. In addition to marking the 10th anniversary, the conference offered a platform upon which reflections on lobbying for the adoption of the East Africa Community Protocol on Gender Equality (EACG E) and the Horn of Africa Declaration on Gender Equality (HADGE).

4. All Africa Bishops Conference (AABCl)
   FECCAHA participated in the All Africa Bishops Conference (AABCII) that took place in Uganda. Organized by the Council of Anglican Provinces of Africa (CAPA), the one week conference was guided by the theme of “Securing the Future: Unlocking our Potential (Hebrew 12:1-2). Mr. Nyabera, was invited to share his reflections on the topic “Nurturing Harmonious and Dignified Communities”, where he was to address aspects of managing diversity and mechanism for conflict management-looking at faith, politics, and ethnic groupings.

5. Sixth Annual United Nations Advocacy Week (UNAW)
   Bishop Mbaya Tshikany, the Chairperson of FECCAHA joined other church and ecumenical leaders from various parts of the world, in the United Nations Advocacy Week (UNAW) in Geneva, Switzerland. The UNAW was started in 2003 by the World Council of Churches (WCC) is a model of ecumenical collaboration that is aimed at providing opportunities for capacity building in the area of advocacy within the UN System. This year’s focus was ‘Palestine – Israel Conflict and the situation in Nigeria’.
1. REGIONAL ECUMENICAL FORUM (REF)

A statement on ‘The Self-Determination Referenda for the People of Southern Sudan and Abyei’ to show solidarity with the people of Sudan was presented during the Regional Ecumenical Forum (REF). The Regional Ecumenical Forum is an important platform which brings together member national councils of churches and churches in the Great Lakes and Horn of Africa region to pray and reflect on urgent concerns in the region. This year’s theme was “From Reaction to Prevention of Conflict: The Role of the Church”*, with the objective:

- To stimulate churches increased involvement in conflict prevention and nurturing and consolidating sustainable peace in the Great Lakes Region and the Horn of Africa;
- To examine possible synergistic relations between ecumenical partners in operationalizing an effective ecumenical conflict early warning and early response mechanism in the Great Lake and Horn of Africa;
- To investigate religious health assets that can be used in stemming the silent HIV & AIDS epidemic linked to the culture of sexual violence and negative masculinity in conflict and post conflict societies in the Great Lakes and Horn of Africa; and
- To stimulate action for peace and justice in the Great Lakes and Horn of Africa through timely advocacy during and after the Regional Ecumenical Forum (REF).

Sheik Abdullahi Abdi, the Chair of National Muslim Leaders Forum (NAMLEF) responds to a presentation during the Regional Ecumenical Forum (REF), 2010.

*... your light will rise in the darkness*  
Isaiah 58:9-11

There were expert presentations on: the Urgency of Conflict Prevention in the Great Lakes Region and the Horn of Africa; Conflict Early Warning and Early Response: The Role of the Church; Intra- and Inter-Faith Dialogue and Collaboration for Conflict Prevention; Stemming the Silent HIV/AIDS Epidemic Linked to the Culture of Sexual Violence and Negative Masculinity in Conflict and Post Conflict Societies in the Great Lakes and Horn of Africa; and Focus on the Sudan: The Self-Determination Referenda for the People of Southern Sudan and Abyei. In addition to a statement, a communiqué was drawn and distributed to members and participants.

2. EXCHANGE PROGRAMME 2009-2010: PEACE AND GENDER IN THE HORN OF AFRICA

With the aim of strengthening the capacity of the organization to effectively meet its mandate, FECCLAHA has for two years participated in the Just World Exchange programme which is spearheaded by the Norwegian Church Aid (NCA). FECCLAHA had the opportunity to host Ms. Nardos Chuta from Ethiopia Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus (ECCMY) and Ms. Ingunn Smørgrav from Norwegian Church Aid - Norway who worked and lived in Kenya for twelve months. FECCLAHA then sent Mrs. Rosa Kihara to Ethiopia Orthodox Church - Development Inter-Church Action Commission (EOC-DICAC) and Ms. Nkatha Kagendo to Ethiopia Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus (ECCMY).

The guiding theme for the second round of exchange was Peace and Gender in the Horn of Africa. The NCA Just World Exchange Programme creates a platform upon which FECCLAHA and her partners can exchange lessons learned and network with other organizations. This year’s exchange programme focused on the Tamar Campaign in which participants, especially those from FECCLAHA introduced the Tamar Campaign as a tool that the Churches can use to address the issues of Gender Based Violence and the United Nations Security Council 1325 in Sudan. The objective of the exchange programme is to build the capacity of both the hosting organization and the participant ultimately creating a pool of resource with competence on gender and peace in the region.
3. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS
To facilitate for effective governance, FECCLAHA holds Executive Committee Meetings through the year. This year the first Executive Committee Meeting was held in Juba, Sudan which was followed by a consultation with some programme staff. The meeting deliberations and results were that they reviewed work of the secretariat; adopted the 2009 Financial and Annual Narrative report; and reviewed individual staff expectations vis-a-vis year 2010 programme plans and the general work of FECCLAHA.

4. PROGRAMME ADVISORY COMMITTEE
The Programme Advisory Committee is an important component in the structure of FECCLAHA especially in supporting relevant and effective execution of the programme work. During the reporting period a review of 2009 activities were done and the report compiled and published.

5. RESOURCE CENTRE
In a bid to improve informational, educational, and research needs of FECCLAHA, efforts have been made to organize the resource centre in preparation to upgrading the same. This effort has gone a long way in easing accessibility to the valuable literature within the organization.

6. STAFF TRAINING
For the organization to effectively deliver on the strategic plan, FECCLAHA will require adequate capacity building. It is upon this background that three members of staff continued with their studies at the Daystar University, African International University, and Kenya Institute of Management, on Community Development, Organizational Development, and Human Resources respectively. Additionally, one more staff has enrolled to Nairobi University to study Public Administration and Political Science whereas another attended a Natural Resource Management and Governance course at the MS Training Centre for Development Co-operation in Arusha, Tanzania.

FECLLAHA family and Friends: A group picture representing the FECCLAHA family and Friends during the Regional Ecumenical Forum (REF), 2010.
FINANCIAL REPORT

FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN COUNCILS AND CHURCHES IN THE GREAT LAKES AND HORN OF AFRICA

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2010

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<tr>
<th></th>
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Email: gs@ncck.org
Keeping the promise: Rev. Ramadan Chan, the General Secretary of the Sudan Council of Churches (SCC) with Ms. Siyama Deng (right) assists Ms. Specioze Mukagahima of Protestant Council of Churches of Rwanda (CPR) assemble a traditional artifact. This was a gift given to CPR by the SCC.

A group session during the Regional Ecumenical Forum whose theme was 'From Reaction to Prevention of Conflict: The Role of the Church'.