



Pan African Christian AIDS Network

### Press Release

Pan African Christian AIDS Network (PACANet) has ended its delegates' conference with a call on the Church in Africa to work out strategies and means of constructively work together while at the same time engaging professionals within its congregation to help shape HIV and AIDS initiatives as well as other development programs.

The conference which takes place once every four years was held from 27<sup>th</sup> -29<sup>th</sup> September 2006 at Botanical Beach Hotel Entebbe –Uganda and was attended delegates from over 28 countries in Africa. Others came from North America and Europe.

The delegates reiterated the strategic role of PACANet in mobilizing the Church to play a pivotal role in the struggle against HIV and AIDS in Africa adding that PACANet must commit resources in research and documentation among others. Stakeholders also charged PACANet with the role of evolving a forum/platform on which Africans can articulate their alternative views and position on issues related to HIV and AIDS.

Quoting the example of the outcomes of the recently concluded Toronto AIDS Global Conference (Canada), participants regretted that Africans were not organized to have single voice and yet some of the western views and approaches toward the struggle against HIV and AIDS are not relevant to the Christian and/or local (African) context.

The delegates ended the conference with the election of the new leadership for the next four years (steering committee members) as indicated below:

<b>Region</b>	<b>Representative</b>	<b>Country of Origin</b>
Francophone	Rasoampamojy Josephine	Madagascar
Francophone West	Pastor Nikiema Michael	Burkina Faso
Francophone Central	Ms. Jeeannine Uwimana	Rwanda
Lusophone South	Dr. Ernesto Afonso	Angola
Anglophone West	Mr. Sam Udanyi	Nigeria
Anglophone East	Mr. David Kabiswa	Uganda
Anglophone South	Rev. Troy Lee Lewiss III	Zambia
Regional Organization	Mr. David Cunningham	Zimbabwe
Anglophone South	Ms. Hlobisile Nxumalo	Swaziland
	Rev. Dr. Peter Okaalet	Uganda



*Rev. Edward Balaremwa, PACANet Executive Director with Mr. David Cunningham, Chairman Steering Committee for the next 4 years*

**PACANet Communications Desk**