



# **THE KENYA GAZETTE**

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GAZETTE NOTICE NO. 3976

## **INTER-FAITH COUNCIL ON THE NATIONAL RESPONSE TO THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC**

### **APPOINTMENT**

#### *Recitals*

ACKNOWLEDGING the Supremacy of the Almighty God of All Creation;

COGNISANT of the solemn place of Religion within our God-Fearing Nation;

AFFIRMING the contribution of Places of Worship to the common good of our nation—as places of solace, comfort, stability and dignity; and noting the greater need for them as Kenya combats the uncertainties of the COVID-19 Pandemic;

CONSCIOUS that our Nation and the whole World shall have to contend with COVID-19 until such time that a vaccine is developed;

HONOURING the sacrifices made by Kenyans of all faiths; and noting their enormous patience and forbearance in being unable to exercise their Religious Rights in the normal way; and

RECOGNIZING the need to develop protocols and that will guide the re-opening of Places of Worship for in-person congregational gatherings in a safe, secure and sustainable manner:

NOW THEREFORE, and pursuant to the Presidential Directive issued during the 8th State Address on the Coronavirus Pandemic delivered on 6th June, 2020; it is notified for the general information of the public that the Cabinet Secretary for Interior and Co-ordination of National Government and the Cabinet Secretary for Health do jointly appoint The Inter-Faith Council, consisting of:

#### *Chairperson*

Most (Rev.) Archbishop Anthony Muheria

#### *Members:*

Rt. (Rev.) Bishop John Obala  
Rt. (Rev.) Bishop Joseph Obanyi  
Rt. (Rev.) Moderator Julius Mwamba  
Rev. (Can.) Chris Kamau Kinyanjui  
Rev. (Can.) Rosemary Mbogo  
Pastor (Dr.) Samuel Makori  
Al Hajj Hassan Ole Naado

Sheikh Sukyan Hassan Omar  
Sheikh Abdulatif Abdulkarim  
Rev. (Fr.) Joseph Mutie  
Bishop (Dr.) David Oginde  
Rev. Connie Kivuti  
Sujata Kotamraju  
Rt. Rev. (Dr.) Samuel Thiong'o Mwangi  
Sheikh Ali Saidi Samojah

#### *Joint Secretaries:*

Kepha Ombacho (Dr.)  
Francis Kuria Kagema (Dr.)  
Paul Famba

#### **1. The Terms of Reference of the Inter-Faith Council are to—**

- (a) develop stringent protocols for the phased re-opening of the Places of Worship;
- (b) develop guidelines towards the gradual and progressive resumption of in-person congregational worship that adheres to physical and social distancing guidelines;
- (c) develop protocols for the celebration of weddings and other religious ceremonies in the Places of Worship in ways compliant with physical and social distancing guidelines;
- (d) develop protocols for religious funerals and gravesides/crematoria last rites and send-off;
- (e) develop a programme for Public Sensitization and Capacity-Building of all religious leaders and clergy on the protocols;
- (f) develop a prioritized implementation matrix, clearly stating the dates for re-opening and the numbers-capping applicable; and
- (g) conduct any other matter ancillary to or in furtherance of any of the foregoing Terms of Reference.

**2. The Council shall be answerable to His Excellency the President of the Republic of Kenya, through the National and County Governments Co-ordinating Summit.**

#### **3. The Council shall regulate its own procedure.**

#### **4. In performance of its functions, the Council may—**

- (a) solicit, receive and consider any written memoranda/information from the public; and

(b) conduct any other actions or activities required for the effective discharge of its mandate.

5. The Council may co-opt any other persons as may be required to assist it in the discharge of its functions.

6. The mandate of the Council shall lapse on 31st December, 2020; but may be extended at the discretion of His Excellency the President.

7. The Secretariat of the Council shall be located at the Ministry of Interior and Co-ordination of National Government.

Dated the 11th June, 2020.

FRED O. MATIANG'I,  
*Cabinet Secretary for Interior and  
Co-ordination of National  
Government.*

MUTAHI KAGWE,  
*Cabinet Secretary for Health.*