

Statement of Lament for Evangelicals and the Legacy of Apartheid

This Lausanne Congress 2010 in Cape Town gathered in a land which 16 years ago stood in the grip of one of the greatest evils of our time—apartheid.

We regret that this was not named or confessed at the opening of the Congress.

As participants at the Congress we gathered for dialogue sessions and biblical reflection on peacemaking and reconciliation with careful listening to the stories of Christian involvement and resistance to apartheid. We were also encouraged by stories of hope for the future taking place through local reconciliation ministry.

This leads us, with others, to lament our failure in much of the evangelical church both in South Africa and throughout the world who remained silent about or complicit in apartheid.

Yet we also rejoice that there were Christian witnesses who spoke out prophetically and lived faithfully, at great sacrifice.

This invites us into repentance before our Lord Jesus Christ. We reject the theological heresies which undergirded apartheid. We lament the socioeconomic suffering which is apartheid's on-going legacy.

This calls the evangelical church to not only lament apartheid's legacy but opens our eyes to see the pain and wounds of the current realities and injustices which the church fails to protest and engage in our own contexts today. We are called to deeds of repentance and to resist injustices.

Wherever there is suffering in our world today, we rejoice where the church lives the alternative, and lament where the church remains silent.

We call upon this Congress to join in this spirit of lament and confession.

Lausanne Special Interest Group on Reconciliation Members

Sam Barkat, U.S.

Paula Fuller, U.S.

Lisa Loden, Israel

Bill Lowrey, U.S.

Grace Morillo, Columbia

Celestin Musekura, Rwanda

Moss Nthla, South Africa

Chris Rice, U.S.

Steve Tollestrup, New Zealand

Members of Dialogue Sessions on Reconciliation and Others who Request to Be Added

Jungin Ahn	SeongHan Kim
Martha Bernal	Rene E August
Billy Bishioka	Corneliu Constantineanu
Dan Brose	Craig Stewart
Eddie Broussard	Trevor Davies
Yomaida Cardona	Laura Saa, Ecuador
Peter Cha	Henry Lu, UK
Haami Chapman	Alexandru Mioun, Moldova
Carolyn Custis James	Rafat Piekarski, Poland
Kennedy Dhanabalan	Philip Jenkins, UK
Jack B. Gaines	Atola Subong, India
Knut Hallen	Jacob Samuel, India
Chris Heuertz	Darbana Tumwine, Uganda
Knut Hoyland	J. Derek McNeil, U.S.
Byung Goo Hwang	Ruth Padilla DeBorst, Costa Rica
Fisseha Itanna	Rene Padilla, Argentina
Michelle Lloyd-Paige	Richard Twiss, U.S.
Rick Love	Santiago Benavides, Columbia
Danut Manastireanu	Martha Bernal, Columbia
Diane Marcelo Munoz	Diomisio Orjvela, Columbia
Michael McGill	Leonardo Ramirez, Columbia
Joy Moore	Hector Pardo, Columbia
Salim Munayer	Isabel Orozco Alvarez, Columbia
Angeja Narvae	Noe Luis Paz Garcia, Columbia
Emmanuel Ndikumana	Yojen Herrera Segura, Columbia
Patson Netha	Yomaido Cardona Pajaro, Columbia
Isabel Oronzro	Ayuba Matthew, Nigeria
Mercedes Quinten	Federica Grammiccia, Italy
Peggy Rayman	Waltlyn James, Wales UK
Ken Sande	David Norbury, Wales
Mossai T. Sanguma	Menna Machretta, Wales
Frieder Schaefer	Chloe Roberts, Wales
Michelle Sessoms	Tudor Griffiths, Wales
Stefan Stankovic	Marc Owen, Wales
Elizabeth Sung	Jamie Grant, Scotland
Annabel Torrealba	Iwan Russell Jones, Wales
Beatriz Vasquez Lopez	Marc Nelson, Estonia
Homfray Vines	Rick Sessoms, U.S.
Rolf Zwick	Norberto Saracco, Argentina
Al Tizon	Chris Wright, UK
David Chronic	Lyndon De Desuijo Santos, Brazil
	Carols Viega Feitoza, Brazil

Louise Kretgsuhman, South Africa
Wilson Costa dos Santos, Brazil
Edwin David Arthur, UK
Evi Rodemann, Germany
Dewi Hughes, Wales
John Beckett, Australia
Ghada, Jordan/Cyprus
Eliphaz Maari, Uganda
Augusta Paul, India
Allen Yeh, U.S.
Cecil Pearley, South Africa
Alexis Medina, Uruguay
Jenny Brown, UK
David Westlake, UK
Sean Callaghan, UK/U.S.
Jussi Miettiner, Finland
Raja, Middle East
Trevor Ntlhola, South Africa
Craig Stewith, South Africa
Midaline Barangreka, Burundi
Gladys Nasuiti, Kenya
Gremia Maweo, Ethiopia