Due to the on-going COVID-19 pandemic, the PaRD in-person Annual Forum and General Assembly of Members 2020 have been postponed to August 31 – September 3, 2021 to be held in Cape Town, South Africa. Nevertheless, a virtual Annual Forum and General Assembly of Members will be held from **September 3 – 4, 2020**.

The forum aims to:

- Reflect on the different ways the COVID-19 pandemic is exacerbating existing disparities and inequalities in societies.
- Facilitate a dialogue between governmental entities, multilateral agencies and FBOs/FIOs on challenges and gaps in responding to the needs of the most disadvantaged and vulnerable groups during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Identify how partnerships and collaborations between governmental entities, multilateral agencies and FBOs/FIOs can contribute in addressing and overcoming inequalities and pave the way towards more just, inclusive and peaceful societies.

**Programme**

**Day 1 // Thursday, September 3**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>14:00 – 15:30 CEST</th>
<th>Introduction to PaRD ➔ click <a href="#">link</a> to join the session</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Prof. Mohammed Abu-Nimer, PaRD Co-chair/ King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz International Centre for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue (KAICIID) and Kirsten Evans, PaRD Co-Chair/ United States Agency for International Development (USAID)</td>
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**Opening Speech**

- Dr. Zweli Mkhize, Minister of Health, the Republic of South Africa

**Welcome Remarks**

- Prof. Dr. Wilhelm Gräb, Head of Research Programme on Religious Communities and Sustainable Development, Humboldt University of Berlin
- Bishop Sithembele Sipuka, Chair of CDDC Trust/NRASD, National Church Leaders’ Consultation (NCLC); President of Southern African Catholic Bishops’ Conference (SACBC)

**Keynote Addresses**

Together for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): A collaborative response to current global challenges - *insights on the roles of governmental entities/multilaterals/faith actors; regional/global leadership in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic* -

- Ms. Amanda Khozi Mukwashi, Chief Executive, Christian Aid  
  *Gender, race and COVID-19*
- Ms. Saskia Schellekens, Culture Adviser UNFPA / Coordinator Executive Secretariat UN Inter-Agency Task Force on Religion and Sustainable Development (UNIATF)
- Mr. Avril Botes, Deputy Minister of the Department of International Relations and Cooperation; Republic of South Africa  
  *Africa’s challenges with COVID 19, and why state – faith collaboration is important*

| 15:30 | Break |
### 16:00 – 17:30

Multi-stakeholder Roundtable Discussion: Strengthening Opportunities for Funding LFAs - a conversation between donors and recipients funding partners, implementing partners and analysts ➔ click [link](#) to join the session

*Moderation: Prof. Mohammed Abu-Nimer, PaRD Co-chair/KAICIID*

The objective of the roundtable is to facilitate an honest exchange between stakeholders i.e. governmental entities, intergovernmental organisations, academia and FBOs/FIOs on funding needs/gaps and invisibility of FBOs/FIOs, especially by local faith actors (LFA) and grassroots organisations as they respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Dr. Kenneth Staley, Executive Director of the USAID COVID-19 Task Force
- Ms. Mercy Niwe, Lead - Global Faith Engagement at the World Bank
- Sheikh Nuruddeen Lemu, Director of Research and Training, Da’wah Institute of Nigeria (tbc)
- Mr. Alwynn Javier, Head of Humanitarian Affairs, ACT Alliance (tbc)
- Dr. Katherine Marshall, Executive Director, World Faiths Development Dialogue, Georgetown University
- Dr. Olivia Wilkinson, Director of Research, Joint Learning Initiative on Faith and Local Communities

### 17:30 – 18:00

COVID-19 Responses by FBOs/FIOs/LFAs ➔ click [link](#) to join the session

- Religious Leaders’ Perspectives on COVID-19 - Results from Humboldt University COVID-19 Survey
- COVID-19 Faith Response by World Bank

## Day 2 // Friday, September 4

### 14:00 – 15:30

Thematic Parallel Sessions by the Respective PaRD work-streams

- Health (SDG 3) – Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) ➔ click [link](#) to join the session
- Gender Equality and Empowerment (SDG 5) ‘A Just World Post-COVID19: Critical Dialogues on Religion, Sustainable Development and Gender Justice’ ➔ click [link](#) to join the session
- Sustaining Peace (SDG 16) ➔ click [link](#) to join the session
- WECARE (SDG 6,13,14 & 15) ➔ click [link](#) to join the session

**On Tuesday, 1 September 2020 9 am – 1:30 pm**

- Water, Environment and Climate Action (WECARE, SDGs 6,13,14&15) ‘Religious Communities and Ecological Sustainability in Southern Africa’ ➔ click [link](#) to join the session

### 15:30

Break

### 16:00 – 18:00

PaRD General Assembly of Members: *Internal business meeting - PaRD members only*