

SACLA - Significant Commitments for Action

CHURCH LEADERS TRACK

Because we are one and committed to the practical unity of the Body of Christ we commit ourselves:

- ◆ To continue listening to the story of others with compassionate attention and to continue telling our story with vulnerability and faith, believing such interaction will lead us to a fuller repentance and experience of forgiveness and healing.
- ◆ To receiving, expressing and transmitting hope by our working together as local churches, building friendship outside of our denominational boundaries and across cultural and racial divides.
- ◆ To empowering and mentoring the youth in being real players in the decision making processes of our local churches.
- ◆ To become leaders who live with integrity, Godliness, who express accountability and accessibility to others, and who work for the eradication of the 'giants' identified at SACLA

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EDUCATION TRACK

We commit ourselves to ensure that we as Christians and our Christian organisations fulfil our servant-leadership role in education and training. To this end we will affirm, support and encourage:

- ▶ parents and families, especially in their learning endeavours;
- ▶ our churches in their teaching and nurturing role;
- ▶ teachers and the vocation of teaching;
- ▶ communities and individual Christians to participate in governing bodies, other committees and activities of education and training institutions;
- ▶ lifelong learning in a compassionate, caring and sharing environment where the issues of HIV/Aids, poverty, violence and separation are relevantly and effectively handled.

A plan of action to achieve this is available.

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SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT TRACK

Our hope is that, networking together, we impact the needs of our community and the environment with science and technology directed by God's love for us:

1. Through prayer, Bible study and the Spirit's guidance – challenge and renew our mission to be “wetlands: the source of clear living water”
2. Actively engage in promoting and displaying Christ-like stewardship of all creation in a responsible manner
3. Commit to raise awareness among Christians of the awesome responsibility for creation stewardship
4. Integrate our faith and disciplines and inspire, encourage and support each other in taking our faith to a needy world
5. Create in young people the desire to use science and technology to the benefit of all people in ways that are powerful and accessible

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CIVIL SOCIETY, SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, HEALTH & MEDICINE TRACK

We call the church:

- ▶ From its silence & privatized faith and from its materialism, arrogance & power play, that dehumanize the people we serve.
- ▶ To journey with the poor and all people, in relationship, discovering God together
- ▶ To partnerships & networks that will release the poor
- ▶ To a local audit of church-owned land & buildings
- ▶ To a land divestment programme, sharing our land and property with those who lack access
- ▶ To develop a theology of land and the built environment, celebrating land as God's gift
- ▶ To be a thorn in the flesh, asking uncomfortable questions about the church & its social responsibilities
- ▶ To conscientize the communities that we are a part of
- ▶ To speak out as individuals and to collectively work towards cooperation between organizations, providing a platform and resources for speaking on practical issues such as HIV and Aids, the sanctity of life, materialism & unjust practices in health care
- ▶ To servanthood, humility and brokenness in the Spirit in the incarnation of Jesus

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POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT TRACK

- ◆ Churches should capacitate members to comment on and influence legislation and policy decisions regarding gender and society
- ◆ Identify partner organisations already involved in advocacy and invite them to organise a training session about gender and sexism in order to empower Christians
- ◆ Promote media censorship to protect family values
- ◆ Lobby government to provide decent housing to sustain normal family life
- ◆ Influence school curriculum and promote guidance programmes in schools
- ◆ Ask government to open the prisons to church ministries so as to ensure effective rehabilitation

Poverty and Unemployment:

- ◆ Press for the introduction of a Basic Income Grant
- ◆ Access matching funds from local and national government for poverty alleviation and job creation programmes

Violence:

- ◆ Work with government to establish Human Upliftment Bridgeheads in local communities
- ◆ Press for decommissioning of weapons and the establishment of gun-free zones in all public buildings

HIV/AIDS:

- ◆ Advocate the roll-out of anti-retroviral drugs to those infected with HIV/AIDS, where clinically indicated.

Racism:

- ◆ Establish local forums on racism and invite political leaders to take part in these

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ARTS ENTERTAINMENT AND MEDIA TRACK

We the arts, media and entertainment track of Sacla acknowledge the power of the arts and media to shape our society. We commit ourselves to work with the spirit of excellence and in reliance on God to use the media and arts to tackle the giants that are devastating our nation and forge a Godly society. We will not be afraid to make ourselves heard and to say what God expects us to say.

- ◆ A Biblical worldview needs to be foundation and inculcated in to everything we do.
- ◆ We will our influence groups, on a community , town and city basis and begin to identify and develop networks in order to strengthen our position of influence through the communicative arts
- ◆ Identify and research the issues which we are facing and launch projects to impact the community and the nation etc.

- ◆ We will strive towards operating in the power of truth to transform our nation.
- ◆ Talk the Talk, walk the walk. Give it away!!!!

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TRANSFORMATION TRACK

COMMITMENTS.

- ◆ Establish a Transformation network in Africa to facilitate the process of Transformation.
- ◆ Participate in a National day of prayer on 2 May 2004.
- ◆ Provide prayer focus areas.
- ◆ Provide delivery channels for:
 - ◆ 24/7 prayer watches
 - ◆ Discipleship and teaching in and through the local Church
 - ◆ Saturation church planting
 - ◆ Prayer information
- ◆ Be an agent of unity within the Body of Christ
- ◆ Live and teach a lifestyle of prayer and worship
- ◆ Live a lifestyle free from all forms of immorality
- ◆ Live a lifestyle free from all forms of idolatry
- ◆ Be an agent of racial and tribal reconciliation
- ◆ Influence all spheres of civil society according to Biblical principles and standards

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YOUTH LEADERS IN HIGH SCHOOLS AND CHURCHES TRACK

- ◆ The youth are committed to personally tackling the giants in their own lives and in the community around them?
- ◆ This starts with personal repentance and a commitment to living out the message and challenge of SACLA themselves.
- ◆ The youth are committed to going back to their homes, churches and community and to communicate the message and challenge of SACLA to tackle the "giants".
- ◆ The youth are committed to mobilize others to be involved with them in tackling the "giants".
- ◆ They are especially committed to loving and caring for those living with HIV/AIDS and to find practical ways to address this issue in their spheres of influence.
- ◆ They are committed to playing a positive role in the life and worship of their own local churches and to taking over the baton that was handed over to them by the church leaders at SACLA

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BUSINESS AND LABOUR TRACK

We commit to go back into our workplaces and set up forums where we will encourage honest debate about the best way to address the 'giants' we have identified. This morning's plenary session indicated that the big giant would appear to be poverty and unemployment and we as BLA feel we are uniquely placed to impact this area by:

- ◆ Changing our attitude by engaging poor communities, inviting them to be our teachers, learning from them.
- ◆ Changing our procurement methods in ways that would develop and empower the poor.
- ◆ Engaging theologians to help us to clarify our theology (understanding of God) in the workplace.
- ◆ Compassionately responding to those of our employees who live with HIV- Aids by visiting them in their homes to listen and offer them practical help, that will meet their real needs.

- ◆ Remaining committed and accountable to each other.
- ◆ Resisting apathy and spectatorship.

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JUSTICE, SAFETY & SECURITY TRACK

To establish efficient and coordinated Christian structures on denominational, regional and congregational level to enhance Christian values in society. These structures should serve to:

- ◆ Alleviate pressure on the criminal and civil justice systems by providing appropriate restorative justice alternatives to punishment and Biblical dispute resolution mechanisms as an alternative to civil litigation between Christians;
- ◆ Evaluate legislative measures and provide official structures with comment and other input to enhance the moral quality of legislation; and,
- ◆ Promote the prevention and investigation of crime by inspiring Christians to commit themselves to render full support to the relevant official structures and processes.

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CHILDRENS MINISTRY & FAMILY ISSUES TRACK

We join together to combat the giants facing the family today.

We commit ourselves to:

On an individual level -

- ◆ restoring the sanctity of marriage and strengthening Biblical family values.
- ◆ empowering parents, and the church community as a supporting role, to teach children Biblical values by being positive role-models.

On a church/corporate level -

- ◆ empowering church leaders in the local church to equip families to restore the Biblical mandate for families.
- ◆ challenge and engage with national church leadership structures on this issue.

On a social / government level -

- ◆ engage with government using Biblical principles, at meaningful levels, in speaking out against and offering workable solutions to the breakdown of society that has contributed to moral degeneration and the undermining of family values.

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TERTIARY STUDENTS AND YOUNG ADULT TRACK

◆ **HIV/ AIDS:**

To network with leaders of regions with common vision and work together across all barriers.

◆ **CRIME:**

Form cell groups to integrate the criminal back into society. Develop alternative activities for example : sport, christian discos and Gospel Gatherings

- ◆ **POVERTY:**
SACLA forums to be created locally on which representatives from every local church should sit across socio-economic, racial and class divides
- ◆ **SEXISM:**
Both men and women are equally qualified to lead and head the way. The church must practice this in every way possible.
- ◆ **RACISM:**
Build relationships across the racial, denominational lines. To learn about culture, lifestyle etc.
- ◆ **FAMILY IN CRISIS:**
Encourage families to help each other when faced with difficulties such as finances, truant children, and relationships

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SEVEN
A poem by the
Skew-pole Buzz Group

7 giants that challenge us all,
7 degrees under in the plenary hall.

70 bodyguards and a president,
setting for Tuesday a security precedent.

7 different queues in the dining hall,
But its still not fast enough to feed them all.

7 odd noises from Landa Cope,
7 reasons to give us hope.

Joining our hands across the nation,
Will bring about our true transformation.