

MAY 2022

# COMBONI JPIC NETWORK NEWSLETTER

Justice and peace-related news, actions, and resources from the  
Comboni Missionaries, North American Province

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## SELECTED GLOBAL TOPICS



### IPCC Report: Urgent Action required to Mitigate effects of Climate Change

The latest IPCC report – authored by 270 scientists from 67 countries and approved by 195 governments – shows the earth is warming at an alarming rate, faster than previously predicted. As the global temperature rises, the world increasingly intense weather events such as catastrophic floods and forest fires. The world will also experience a loss of ground, air, and underwater habitats, and that animals that live within them.

The effects of global warming disproportionately affect the poor and vulnerable. The report is a strong warning that bold action is needed to cut greenhouse gas emissions. “Any further delay in concerted anticipatory global action,” the report says, “will miss a brief and rapidly closing window of opportunity to secure a livable and sustainable future for all.”

Read a news story [here](#).

Read the full report [here](#).

Read the IPCC fact sheet [here](#).

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*Image courtesy of the World Health Organization.*

## More than 1 Million African Children Protected by First Malaria Vaccine

More than 1 million children in Ghana, Kenya and Malawi have received one or more doses of the world's first malaria vaccine, thanks to a pilot program coordinated by the World Health Organization. The malaria vaccine pilots, first launched by the Government of Malawi in April 2019, have shown that the RTS,S/AS01 (RTS,S) vaccine is safe and feasible to deliver, and that it substantially reduces deadly severe malaria.

Read more [here](#).

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## Africa Food Crisis Looms as War in Ukraine continues

Russia's invasion of Ukraine has worsened the **food security crisis** in many African countries, Human Rights Watch said today. Many countries in East, West, Middle, and Southern Africa rely on Russia and Ukraine for a significant percentage of their wheat, fertilizer, or vegetable oils imports, but the war disrupts global **commodity markets** and trade flows to **Africa**, **increasing** already high food prices in the region. Even countries that **import little** from the two countries are indirectly impacted by higher world prices for key commodities. Governments and donors should ensure affordable **food access** in Africa by scaling up economic and emergency assistance and social protection efforts. Otherwise, millions of people across the African continent may experience hunger.

Read more [here](#).

### More Topics to Explore

[Cotton Campaign Ends its Call for a Global Boycott of Cotton from Uzbekistan](#)

## CALL TO ACTION



## ActNow - UN Campaign for Individual Actions

To preserve a livable climate, greenhouse-gas emissions must be reduced to net zero by 2050. Bold, fast, and wide-ranging action needs to be taken by governments and businesses. But the transition to a low-carbon world also requires the participation of citizens – especially in advanced economies.

ActNow is the United Nations campaign for individual action on climate change and sustainability.

Every one of us can help limit global warming and take care of our planet. By making choices that have less harmful effects on the environment, we can be part of the solution and influence change.

Use the app to log your actions and contribute to the global count.

Learn more [here](#).

## GLOBAL GOALS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT Goal 16: Peace Justice & Strong Institutions

Conflict, insecurity, weak institutions and limited access to justice remain a great threat to sustainable development. The number of people fleeing war, persecution and conflict exceeded 70 million in 2018, the highest level recorded by the UN refugee agency (UNHCR) in almost 70 years. In 2019, the United Nations tracked 357

## 16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



killings and 30 enforced disappearances of human rights defenders, journalists and trade unionists in 47 countries. And the births of around one in four children under age 5 worldwide are never officially recorded, depriving them of a proof of legal identity crucial for the protection of their rights and for access to justice and social services.

*Learn more about SDG 16 [here](#).*

### Facts and Figures

- Among the institutions most affected by corruption are the judiciary and police.
- **Birth registration** has occurred for 73 per cent of children under 5, but only 46 per cent of Sub-Saharan Africa have had their births registered.
- Approximately 28.5 million primary school age who are out of school live in conflict-affected areas.
- The proportion of prisoners held in detention without sentencing has remained almost constant in the last decade, at **31 percent of all prisoners**.
- Every 7 minutes, somewhere in the world, a child is killed by violence

## U.N. INTERNATIONAL DAYS

2022

May 3

### World Press Freedom Day

This year's World Press Freedom Day theme "**Journalism under digital siege**," spotlights the multiple ways in which journalism is endangered by surveillance and digitally-mediated attacks on journalists, and the consequences of all this on public trust in digital communications. Organized annually since 1993, the Global Conference provides an opportunity to journalists, civil society representatives, national authorities, academics and the broader public to discuss emerging challenges to press freedom and journalists' safety, and to work together on identifying solutions. [Learn more.](#)

May 15

### International Day of Families

Urbanization is one of the most important mega-trends shaping our world and the life and well-being of families worldwide. **Sustainable urbanization** is related to the achievement of several Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and targets, such as **SDG-1** (Poverty eradication); **SDG-3** (Good health and well-being); **SDG-11** (Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable); and **SDG-10** (Reduce inequality within and among countries). These SDGs and their targets depend on how well urbanization is managed towards benefiting families and enhancing the well-being of all generations living in cities. This year's theme, "Families and Urbanization", aims to raise awareness on the importance of sustainable, family-friendly urban policies. [Learn more.](#)

**May 16**

## **International Day of Living in Peace Together**

Living together in peace is all about accepting differences and having the ability to listen to, recognize, respect and appreciate others, as well as living in a peaceful and united way. The UN General-Assembly, in its **resolution 72/130**, declared 16 May the International Day of Living Together in Peace, as a means of regularly mobilizing the efforts of the international community to promote peace, tolerance, inclusion, understanding and solidarity. The Day aims to uphold the desire to live and act together, united in differences and diversity, in order to build a sustainable world of peace, solidarity and harmony. [Learn more.](#)

**May 20**

## **World Bee Day**

Bees and other pollinators, such as butterflies, bats and hummingbirds, are increasingly under threat from human activities. Pollination is, however, a fundamental process for the survival of our ecosystems. Nearly 90% of the world's wild flowering plant species depend, entirely, or at least in part, on animal pollination, along with more than 75% of the world's food crops and 35% of global agricultural land. Not only do pollinators contribute directly to food security, but they are key to conserving biodiversity. [Learn more.](#)

**May 21**

## **World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialog and Development**

Cultural events cancelled, cultural institutions closed, community cultural practices suspended, empty UNESCO World Heritage sites, heightened risk of looting of cultural sites and poaching at natural sites, artists unable to make ends meet and the cultural tourism sector greatly affected... The impact of COVID-19 on the cultural sector is being felt around the world. This impact is social, economic and political – it affects the fundamental right of access to culture, the social rights of artists and creative professionals, and the protection of a diversity of cultural expressions. [Learn more.](#)



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