



UGANDA JOINT CHRISTIAN COUNCIL

Press Release

Resolutions of the Education Secretaries on National Sexuality Education Framework 2018 29th June 2018

Preamble

We the Education Secretaries of the Uganda Joint Christian Council (UJCC) under the Roman Catholic, Church of Uganda and Uganda Orthodox Church meeting at Jovine Hotel on 29th June 2018 under the theme “Walk in the Light as Witnesses” (1 John 1:5-8, Acts 1:8),

Considering that ecumenism is core and essential for fostering unity and harmony among the member churches of Uganda,

Concerned about the current challenges facing the nation,

Noting the need for the church to actively engage in addressing the matters of concern,

Do hereby note the following:

1. That the National Sexuality Education Framework 2018 as launched has provisions that do not reflect our religious, cultural and spiritual values. We do appreciate that under Section 5 (2) (b) & (d) of the Education Act as well as Section 5 (3) (b) & (c), foundation bodies are mandated to promote spiritual morals and cultural values including participation in policy formulation. In this respect, the policy does not reflect the said values that we hold.
2. That the framework opens children to concepts and teachings that are not spiritually, culturally, morally, age appropriate. No sane parent should open their children from 3 years to sexual concepts that do not help them in their growth.
3. That as Secretaries of Education we have the obligations to adhere to promote the Missions of our various institutions and to guide parents and other recognized stakeholders in the education processes towards a proper approach to the upbringing of children in the institutions of learning. Article 34 of the 1995 Constitution is also instructive in this respect. We strongly believe that the framework in its current form does not reflect the Mission we

hold and carry. Moreover from its initial stages throughout to its final stages, concerns of various religious institutions were not taken into consideration. For these reasons, we cannot be party to implement a policy that does not reflect our values including our aspirations as provided under the law.

4. That we reaffirm the Holy Bible as the key to our feeding and tending of the flock entrusted to our care in the faith based founded schools. The Holy Bible is the primary point of reference in any matters of life, sexual or otherwise. Lessons were drawn from but not limited to 2 Corinthians 11:21-33, 12:1-9, Mathew 16:13-19, John 21:14-25, Leviticus 18:5-25, Joshua 1:8-9, 1 John 1:5-8, Acts 1:8. Any framework that does not derive its motive from the Holy Bible is dangerous to the vision and mission of the Church. As witnesses to the Light of the Christ we can neither walk alone nor in disarray as this framework prompts us to do.

Do hereby resolve by consensus

1. To reject this framework for the dangers that it will create in our Church, families and nation. There are more questions this framework has raised than it seeks to answer.
2. We shall have a committee to review the and revive the teaching of Christian Religious Education in our school, strengthening schools inspections, Research, Parents Teachers Associations, as well as Catechism and marriage counseling in our communities.
3. We shall reach out to the other faiths on this matter to achieve a common ground not only on matters on sexuality but human growth, values, health and development.
4. The Technical Committee constituted by the Bishops during the Annual General Assembly of 1st June 2018 will continue to review the Framework and report to the Bishops.

Do recommend to our partners that

For future formulation or review, we would demand that our institutions are part and parcel of a document that affects our operations, children's growth and that affects the spirit of our learning institutions.

Signed:



Rt. Rev. Archmandrite Constantine Mbonabingi
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY