

# The Prophetic Witness

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*A memorial group photo of the Annual General Assembly (AGM), at ARU Secretariat Nsambya, Kampala on November 7, 2023.*

**Photo by ARU Reporter**

***By Sr. Specioza Kabahuma, DST***

4) About the implementation of Ant-human trafficking network:

a) Fiscal Agents (Holy Cross sisters and members of the Association of the Religious Uganda (ARU), will implement the project, which targets response to human rights abuse through human trafficking and modern slavery. It seeks to build synergies among the Religious Institutes that form the Association of Religious in Uganda.

b) The association brings together Institutes involved in combating the human rights abuses done through human trafficking, a worldwide issue! This project of combating the vice of human trafficking and

modern slavery requires concerted efforts from all members..

c) Religious Institutes have an added advantage of naturally being deeply imbedded in relationships and affairs of the communities they serve. This is seen in many parts of the country and their impact is well recognized in various fields of health, education, livelihoods among others.

d) The project will primarily focus on the activities that will build synergies among the Religious Institutes that will be selected to participate in this project.

e) In order to achieve the project objectives, a number of activities will be implemented notwithstanding the identification of the

potential religious institutes, recruitment of the religious Institutes, awareness creation, information sharing, and capacity building for the recruited institutes in monitoring, prevention, partnerships/collaboration and or protection among others on combating human trafficking and other forms of modern slavery.

f) The project will prepare the Religious Institutes to participate in the processes of combating human trafficking from informed perspective.

g) Dialogue will be engaged to learn best practices from religious congregations already working in this ministry including areas of security, protocols, how to support victims, and other critical areas.

h) At the end of this project, the mobilized religious institutes will be well equipped to deal with the crimes against humanity especially human trafficking and modern slavery in a more practical sense.

In conclusion, the Fiscal Agent, and ARU through the regional and/or diocesan representation will take lead in the implementation of the project activities.

*To be continued in the next issue*

# The Editorial



**Sr. Mary Lilly Driciru,  
MSMMC**

**W**e congratulate you for coming to the end of the year 2023! We appreciate the Annual General Assembly, the Executives, the Administrative, programme and support staff of ARU for all the milestone achievements of the year 2023, while praying as the year 2024 dawns upon us. Celebrating Christmas, end of year and welcoming the New Year cannot be taken for granted but say; To God be the glory! Your candle should keep burning and enlightening the world around you as our Lord takes you through Christmas tide and the year 2024.

Christmas being a family feast is widely celebrated. We take the opportunity to share Christmas Blessings with nuclear, extended, religious and the universal human family. We have come through huddles of hard work, paying school fees, hospital bills, stress of rent and the like. So, you are a hero for accomplishing all these! As the

saying goes; life is a challenge, face it. And when things get tough, only the tough ones get going...

Much as Christmas is a family feast, many families are far from the role - model

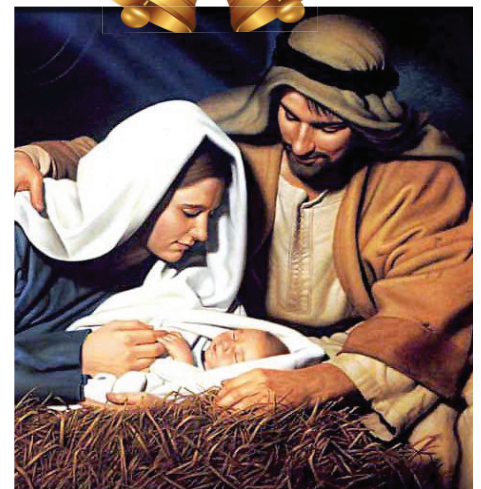
family of Nazareth with Jesus, Mary and Joseph. In the family of Nazareth, Jesus the son of Mary is the focal person. But today, families determine the destiny of children and decide on whom to keep alive and whom to kill through the industry of abortion! As we celebrate Christmas, invisible tears of unborn children cry out for justice. Taking us back to when Herod the Great ordered the massacre of the Holy Innocents, Mt. 2:16-18, we still bear this burden today. There is a universal 'coldness and gloom' in the family. The vibrant celebration has also gone from lukewarm to cold, signs of invisible mourning.

Many things are in the play: Today materialism is taking an upper hand of Christmas day. The advertising industry makes a big percentage of their income at Christmas season. People attribute Christmas to bulk purchases! The core values of love, family and spirituality is gradually eroding out, and family bonding is practically unattended. Thus, reducing family bonding into loose

and casual relationships with the consequences of vulnerability in the family this finds its way into a negative impact on the society.

The Good News is, our salvation is at hand, the night is over as we welcome the light of a new day, Jesus our Lord. We can start a new life, a new page with Baby Jesus as we take all to God in Prayer- Amen

**WISHING YOU A VERY  
HAPPY CHRISTMAS  
AND BLESSED  
NEW YEAR 2024!**



## Envisioning Synodal Church mission



*The Assembly of the Synod on Synodality gathered together in the Paul VI Hall. Photo by Vatican Media....October 28, 2023*

### Compiled by ARU Reporter

*The XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops; first Session; October 4-29, 2023*

The Church is still pursuing the synodal journey that commenced in October 2021-2024. The first session ended in October 2023. The Ordinary Council of the Synod has provided a structure that highlights steps to be taken after the first session in October this year. It will guide the team till the second session to be held in October 2024.

According to the Synod Synthesis Report, this First Session of the Synodal Assembly held from 4 to 29 October, 2023 was guided by the theme: "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, Mission." Despite diversity of backgrounds, languages and cultures, through the common grace of Baptism the delegates have been able to live these days together with one heart and spirit.

The meeting took place in Rome, gathered around the successor of Peter, who confirmed the delegates in faith and encouraged them to be brave in the mission. The the days begun with an ecumenical vigil, which saw the leaders and representatives of the other Churches and Christian communities praying together with the Pope at the tomb of Peter.

The bishops, united among themselves and with the Bishop of Rome, made manifest the Church as a communion of Churches. Lay people, those in consecrated life, deacons and priests were, together with the bishops, witnesses of a process that intends to involve the whole Church and everyone in the Church.

Their presence was a reminder that the Assembly is not an isolated event, but an integral part and a necessary step in the synodal process. The multiplicity of interventions and the plurality of positions voiced in the Assembly revealed a Church that is learning to embrace a syn-

odal style and is seeking the most suitable ways to make this happen. As the Church begins the journey for the second synodal phase, the three levels: national, regional, and continental), have been linked with that of the Church as a whole as the Holy Father insists that, "the Synod is about synodality and not about this or that theme.... The important thing is how the reflection is done, that is, in a synodal way."

The framework provides that "The local Churches and the groupings of Churches are firstly invited to contribute by deepening aspects of the Synthesis Report (from the first session) that are fundamental to the Synod's theme" of communion, participation and mission. This will be guided by the question "How can we be a synodal Church in mission?"

The statement elaborates that the intent of the new reflection question "is to identify the paths we can follow and the tools we might adopt in our different contexts and circumstances in order to enhance the unique contribution of each baptized person and of each Church in the one mission of proclaiming the Risen Lord and his Gospel to the world today."

For a better reflection on the question, the officials propose re-reading no. 27 of the Pope's Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium* "I dream of a 'missionary option', ... times and schedules, language, and structures can be suitably channeled for the evangelization of today's world rather than for her self-preservation..."

# AGM enriched with great ideas and opportunities



**Sr. Geneveive D'silver - SCSC posing a question to the Nuncio, Archbishop Luigi Bianco and Archbishop Emmanuel Obbo during the opening of AGM at ARU Secretariat, November 2023. Photo by ARU Reporter.**

**By Sr. Mary Lilly Driciru, MSMMC**

**T**his year's Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Superiors from November 6-11, 2023, was guided by the theme: "Enlarging the Space of the Tent of Consecrated Life, living the Evangelical Counsels through Charisms and Mission." The Assembly attracted about 65 participants.

The AGM which was initiated with Adoration and Holy Sacrifice of the Mass was punctuated by remarks, official opening and inputs like; reports, sharing of experiences from Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR)-USA, Action Matrix and Report of ARU administration and program staff, Presentation of the Policies (Human Resource, Finance and other policies, Financial Performance, Budget Projection, Pilgrims of

Hope on the Path of Peace Jubilee of the Consecrated Persons 2025, Consecrated life on the Road to the Jubilee, Strategic Plan (2024-2028), Addiction and Substance Abuse were among the shared items.

In his opening remarks, the Apostolic Nuncio to Uganda, His Excellency, Luigi Bianco appreciated the presence of His Grace, Emmanuel Obbo, the Liaison Bishop for the Religious in Uganda amongst his fellow consecrated persons as a Shepherd. His Excellency once again reminded the members about the Apostolic Exhortation *Evangeli Gaudium* (The Joy of the Gospel) and its values of delightful and comforting joy of evangelizing...

He also reminded members about Apostolic Exhortation *Laudate Deum* "Praise God for all his creatures." A message Saint Francis

of Assisi proclaimed by his life, his canticles and all his actions. "This comes after the *Laudato Si* of 2015. Be mindful of the suffering planet, our common home. We need to live in dignity yet we have climate crisis and ethical decadence," the Nuncio lamented.

The prelate also told members about being in communion with Conference of Parties (COP 28), (The UN conference on climate change that took place in Dubai). It calls for a journey of communion and commitment with a reviewed lifestyle in the common home. He also informed members about Pope Francis' Letter on the 150th Anniversary of Saint Thérèse's birth. This brings to our attention when, on October 15, 2023, Pope Francis released a letter titled "*C'est La Confiance*" to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the birth of St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus and the Holy Face. A faithful missionary and a saint of the Gospel of Love, mercy and humility.

The Papal Nuncio observed that generally, the synod on synodality went on very well as Uganda was represented by Bishop Sanctus Linus Wankok of Lira Diocese. He urged members to read the synod synthesis report, discussions and the synod of the Church about Christians walking together with Christ to the mission.



*Members of the General Assembly during the celebration of the Mass to mark the opening of the Annual General Assembly of November, 2023 at ARU Secretariat in Nsambya Kampala. Photo by ARU Reporter.*

“I’m suggesting that, ARU could have one Assembly and the second one can be online. Or even encourage regional meetings for sharing information and to avoid the stress of moving to and from Kampala. This could explain the challenge of low turn up for the General Assembly this time,” the Papal Nuncio observed. The Nuncio also introduced the new Secretary to the Nunciature in Uganda, Fr. Georges Kouwonu from Togo.

In the same vein, His Grace, Emmanuel Obbo, the Archbishop of Tororo Archdiocese and the Bishop Liaison for the Religious in Uganda, remarked how the consecrated persons have worked hard to transform the church and society through their charisms. “Option for the poor and the mission is your target. The church is calling for prophetic voices and actions. Discern the signs of the times, revise the structures and go back to the roots. Failure to renew, you become irrelevant.”

The prelate urged leaders to make communities fit for their members. He called parties to make Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), to challenge the issue of ‘land grabbing.’ He also emphasized the need for contracts to avoid unnecessary litigation and told members to make their presence known to the bishops and seek the help of canonists where necessary. Much as the consecrated persons are autonomous, they should, observe good relationship with the clergy and the bishops.



*The Apostolic Nuncio, H.E Archbishop Luigi Bianco during the homily at the Annual General Assembly, November 2023 at ARU Secretariat. Photo by ARU Reporter.*

His Grace, Emmanuel told the members to be conversant with their charisms and make their service appreciative to the diocese. Let the apostolate be consonant with the office of Consecrated life and Societies of Apostolic life. “Besides prayer, transform the society around you with good health, food, clothing knowledge and a good economic stand.” Meanwhile Mother Speranza Namusisi, IHMR, the president of ARU in her opening remarks appreciated the presence of the Apostolic Nuncio to Uganda, His Excellency, Luigi Bianco. “We feel fully connected to the Holy Father through you, his ambassador. Thank you for leading us to walk on the footsteps of Christ.” She also thanked His Grace, Emmanuel Obbo, for being a voice of the religious in Uganda Episcopal conference.



*The president of ARU, Mother Speranza Namusisi delivering a vote of thanks to the Apostolic Nuncio for gracing the event. Photo by ARU Reporter.*

ARU president took the opportunity to remind the august house about the synod on synodality which was scheduled from October 4-28, 2023. “The first step is to put Jesus in our life and

**Story continued to pg. 6**



The vice president, ARU, Fr. John Bosco Kamoga, reminding the august house about synod on synodality during the AGM at ARU Secretariat- Nsambya, Kampala. Photo by ARU Reporter.

Mother Speranza reminded the house about the Jubilee of Consecrated Life, due in 2025: On June 29, 2023, on the Solemnity of Sts. Peter and Paul, the Dicastery of the Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life, contacted the consecrated persons to prepare for the Jubilee to be held from October 8-9, 2025. More details were shared by Fr. John Bosco Kamoga C.S.Sp, the vice president of ARU and Fr. Cyprian Bina-ka, CSC, during the Assembly.

The meeting was also informed about the Golden Jubilee of Association of Consecrated Women of East and Central Africa, ACWE-CA, where the plenary will be held in August 2024, in Malawi.

As you were informed in the previous issue, the Board Members and Secretaries General from ACWE-CA, met in Uganda, to forge a theme for the upcoming Plenary Assembly scheduled to take place in Malawi.

service. In synodality, let us listen to the Holy Spirit, the protagonist of the entire meeting and in our journey to holiness. In so doing, we help build solidarity and move together as sons and daughters of God. Let us keep the momentum and participate in the renewal of the church," she urged.

### Pictorial



Consecrated men share a lighter moment with the Nuncio and His Grace E.Obbo shortly after the celebration of the Mass to commense the AGM.



Some members of ARU executive share a memorable moment with the Nuncio and Archbishop Obbo.



Members of AGM participating in the Holy Mass at ARU Secretariat, Nsambya Kampala.



A cross section of the members of AGM listening attentively listen to the ongoing deliberations.

# EXPLORING UGANDANS NEW LOWER SECONDARY LEVEL CURRICULUM



*Courtesy photo of students in class during lessons with their teacher*

***By Sr. Mary Milly Rose Piloya, LSMIG***

*Religious Education Coordinator (UCED)*

**I**n February 2020, the government of Uganda rolled out the new lower secondary level curriculum with the aim of equipping learners with skills that can help them to thrive in a competitive environment out of school. This curriculum imparts in the learners the 21 century skills such as critical thinking, collaboration, creativity, information literacy, communication, Information Communication Technology, (ICT), and flexibility which are critical to address challenges that are consistent with the times.

The absorption of this curriculum has been rather slow and it is important to understand the challenges that are impacting on its implementation. But first the curriculum ought to be explored for its goodness. This new curriculum has got fewer subjects in comparison to the old one.

While the old curriculum had forty-three teaching subjects, this has been reduced to twenty-one in the new curriculum. Students in senior three and four now offer a minimum of eight subjects and a maximum of nine, out of which seven are compulsory. This reduced subject load diminishes the weight of having more subjects on the students.

This new curriculum has compounded related subjects into singular entities which diversifies the skills learned by the students unlike when they have to offer different subjects to acquire the same skills. Music has taken on dance and drama to become performing arts; Technical Drawing adds on to elements of woodwork and metal work and is called Technology and Design; Fine Art plus elements of design is now called Art and design; History has combined with Political Education; Commerce and Accounts have been integrated to form Entrepreneurship Education.

More so, the orientation of the new curriculum is towards supporting the attainment of outcomes. Instead of waiting for the results at the end of the year, teachers are able to tailor their teaching and support students in acquiring these outcomes in a short term. The emphasis on project activities as a central part of the curriculum encourages students to be innovative as it brings them closer to real life experiences. While this can be viewed as a kind of simulation because of the presence of the teacher's support, students are challenged to draw from the environment solutions to existent challenges. Also, the new curriculum provides a platform for students to understand real life concepts and dynamics like poverty, gender issues and climate change among others. This makes them active contributors to their environment due to the knowledge gained. The new lower secondary level curriculum can be said to thrive on certain key assumptions; firstly, that the schools have the necessary resources such as well-equipped library, science and ICT laboratories; the government and parents have got the capacity to adequately fund education; teachers have got the necessary skills to implement the curriculum; and the stakeholders understand the curriculum and are able to support it adequately.

***Story continued to pg. 8***

Despite the prospects of the new curriculum, there exist several challenges which impact on the implementation of the new lower secondary level curriculum. To begin with is that there is limited ownership of the curriculum. This is because involvement of stakeholders right from the development of the curriculum has been inadequate with the result that due consideration was not made to cater for the diverse nature of education in the country; for example, the curriculum made it hard to teach Latin and Music in seminaries yet these are fundamental subjects. In-depth involvement of stakeholders would have addressed this right from the onset.



*Courtesy photo of students sharing in discussion group. This is what the new curriculum encourages.*

The rollout of the training was premised on the hope that all stakeholders were on board and understood the curriculum. Trainings were directed to teachers but little was done to access buy-in from other relevant stakeholders. Therefore, limited stakeholder engagement has a profound impact on the implementation and supervision of the curriculum.



*Courtesy photo of students during practical classes. The new curriculum is practical oriented unlike the old one that was more of theory based.*

The absence of text books to support the curriculum has been a major stumbling block. While text books for senior one and two were supplied, those for senior three and four were not and this left a big gap in the delivery of the subjects. This left many schools stranded on the implementation of the new curriculum especially those in Rural areas.

Finally, a large part of the public does not understand the new curriculum and as a results parents have found it very challenging to support students in school. A case in point is that many parents are unable to interpret the report cards of their children. They also feel the schools are demanding a lot of money in the name of supporting project work. This disconnect has got a bearing on the quality of the learning in the new curriculum.

In conclusion, the new lower secondary school curriculum is here to stay and yet the impact it will leave on students will be for a life time. Therefore, it is important for all relevant stakeholders to be sensitized continuously and the

teachers as key implementors be supported through continuous training on the implementation to ensure the curriculum is implemented in the best possible manner with clear methods of assessment.

### Difference between old and new curriculum at a glance

Unlike the old curriculum which was exam-oriented and encouraged academic competition between students and schools, the new curriculum encourages cooperation among students where learners across different subjects, classes, and even schools are encouraged to work together to solve societal problems.

Learners, irrespective of the subject must be able to interpret and interrogate accurately mathematical data to support decisions and also use technology (ICTs) to collaborate, communicate and refine their work. Other cross-cutting issues include environmental awareness, health awareness, life skills, citizenship, and patriotism.



# AAC: SS elect new leaders during Annual Planning Meeting



AACSS country Coordinators, Ecclesiastical provinces and Diocesan coordinators elected on 2nd/12/2023. In the middle the portrait of the late Sr. Cecilia Nibyobyonka, the Initiator of AACSS – Uganda as well as the First AACSS country coordinator.

**By Sr. Celestine Lindrio, MSMMC,**  
AAC: SS -Country Coordinator.

All Africa Conference Sister to Sister (AAC: SS) purposed to revive the sensitisation of the sisters in Uganda about AAC: SS. In their Annual Planning Meeting held from November 30-December 3, 2023. It was resolved that its activities among the consecrated religious women in Uganda be intensified. This planning meeting involved some of the beneficiaries and stakeholders of AAC: SS who were trained as psychological counsellors and theologians. ARU Branch Coordinators from the 19 Dioceses in Uganda participated in the meeting.

Part of the meeting involved election of new leaders. AAC: SS Coordinators from 19 dioceses formed the Diocesan Coordinators. They will organize the sisters from the

respective dioceses and various communities to participate in the sensitisation programmes, skilling, trainings and workshops for the sisters in a particular diocese depending on the needs assessment of the sisters and the local community.

After the elections, the administrative structure was divided into three (3) categories.

### Category One: National Coordinators

1. Country coordinator: Sr. Celestine Lindrio, MSMMC.
2. Assistant Country Coordinator Sr. Anna Grace Alum, LSMIG.

### Category Two: Ecclesiastical Province Coordinators

1. GULU Ecclesiastical Province: Sr. Sarah Candiru, MSMMC
2. KAMPALA Ecclesiastical Province: Sr. Hellen Asiata Beatrix, OP
3. MBARARA Ecclesiastical Province: Sr. Beatrice Tushabomwe, OLG
4. TORORO Ecclesiastical Province: Sr. Mary Muyama, SMK

### Category Three: Diocesan Coordinators.

1. Arua Diocese: Sr. Linah Siabana, MSOLA
2. Gulu Archdiocese: Sr. Christine Ayenyo, SHS Moyo
3. Kampala Archdiocese: Sr. Rose Nanyonjo, IHMR
4. Kaseke Diocese: Sr. Juliet Kabugho, DST
5. Lira Diocese: Sr. Susan Akot Odong, LSMIG
6. Masaka Diocese: Sr. Stella Maria Namuli, DM, Bwanda.
7. Nebbi Catholic Diocese: Sr. Agnes Monu, LSMIG
8. Soroti Diocese: Sr. Imelda Ayenyo, LSOSF

The following Dioceses have not yet chosen their coordinators; Kasana Luwero Diocese, Hoima Diocese, Fort Portal Diocese, Kabale Diocese, Jinja Diocese, Lugazi Diocese, Moroto Diocese, Kotido Diocese, Kyinda Mityana Diocese and Tororo Archdiocese. The Ecclesiastical province leaders are to follow up the election together with ARU Branch coordinators so as to catch up with the rest of the team.



Sr. Margaret Farley in the black coat posed a photo with Sr. Elizabeth the AAC:SS Development Officer

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The Diocesan Coordinators report to the Ecclesiastical Province Coordinator whose role is to follow-up all the diocesan activities through the Diocesan Coordinators and support the implementation of the AAC: SS activities in all dioceses under the Ecclesiastical Province and report to the Country Coordinator.

With the portrait of the late Sr. Cecilia Nibyobonka, the initiator of AAC: SS – Uganda as well as the first AAC: SS Country Coordinator placed in middle of the participants, symbolising her ‘living’ presence, new AAC: SS Leaders were successfully elected on December 2, 2023. This helps to ease the coordination of activities as well as reaching out to the entire community of humanity.

Each diocesan AAC: SS team together with ARU branch committee ought to make work plan basing on the needs of the sisters in the particular diocese. However, priority is given to the sensitization of sisters on awareness creation about AAC: SS and other concerns will then follow.

We therefore, take this opportunity to congratulate the newly elected leadership team for accepting the responsibility of working with AAC: SS in the respective dioceses. You need to know that together we can achieve a great deal in a spirit of sister to sister. I would like to welcome the new leaders on board.

All Africa Conference Sister to Sister (AACSS) is a movement started by Religious Sisters of Mercy (RSM) in the USA to assist local women religious in Africa improve their levels of



*Sr. Celestine Lindrio AAC:SS Coordinator and her Assistant Sr. Anna Grace Alum in a photo with the Ecclesiastical Province coordinators elected on the 2nd/12/2023.*

education and formation. Their focus was to create an atmosphere of faith sharing and to give one another mutual support through the effort of pursuing renewal and updating their understanding of consecrated life as African women religious with a commitment to the Gospel values and evangelisation in the face of challenges of HIV/AIDS in this post-modern world.

The founders of AAC: SS realised that women religious in Africa are capable and when empowered can offer mutual support guided by the gospel values for sustainable evangelisation. The involvement of the sisters in Uganda with AAC: SS began at the plenary conference of the major superiors of national conferences of the Association of Consecrated Women of Eastern and Central Africa (ACWECA) in 2002.

This was followed by the first AAC: SS Conference in Nairobi 2003. At the closure of the Nairobi Conference, the representatives from each

national conference including Uganda met with Sisters Eileen Hogan, and Margaret Farley, RSM to discuss the prevalent issues and problems of HIV/AIDS in Africa, which the religious are facing in their specific communities and apostolates.

On-going sensitisation and exchange of information (networking) is top objective in the agenda of AAC: SS in Uganda. It later gave birth to the training of psychological counsellors. However, this was eventually forgotten as late Sr. Cecilia Nibyobonka embarked on professional programme of training psychological counsellors with the then Uganda Martyrs University a branch of Kisubi brothers' University, the current University of Kisubi.



*Sr. Cecilia Nibyobonka posted in a photo with Sr. Rosemary Jeffries the AACSS Executive Director and Sr. Mayon Sylvans the sisters of Mercy.*

# Strengthening the Capacity of Religious Women in Early Childhood Development (SCORE ECD) Project



*Ugandan formators in group photo after the successful completion of the workshop about strengthening capacity of religious women in early childhood development (SCORE ECD) workshop at ARU Secretariat . Photo by ARU Reporter.*

*By ARU Reporter*

**T**he Association of Consecrated Women in Eastern and Central Africa (ACWECA) in Collaboration with Catholic Relief Services (CRS) and Association of Religious in Uganda (ARU) organized a training to ascertain how the integration of SCORE Early Childhood Development (ECD) project in formation programs is functional in Uganda at ARU Secretariat.

This is because ACWECA intends to expand the project to Sisters Congregations' and other partners' service delivery of quality ECD intervention programs to children and their families, a reason that prompted the training of Ugandan Formators, earlier in 2022.

The topics discussed during the workshop included, Brain Development, Importance of ECD, Risk Factors that affect child development, Reasons for integrated ECD Services, ECD Development periods, Growth and Development, Guidance and Discipline, Spiritual and Moral Development and Parenting Styles.

ACWECA is aware that SCORE ECD achievement has transpired into aspirations and high demands among many Congregations and Associations like in Ethiopia, Eritrea, Uganda, Zimbabwe, South Sudan and Tanzania. ACWECA believes that responding to the needs of these countries means recognizing the nurture of the child since every child is a gift from God and needs to be cared for.

According to ACWECA SCORE ECD Coordinator, Sr. Teresa Banda, the three-year partnership engagement with CRS, ACWECA SCORE ECD Project, Associations and Congregations in Kenya, Malawi, Ghana and Zambia in which this project was implemented, a vital growth of competencies and successes has been witnessed among sisters in holistic early childhood care and development programs.

“The project is in its third phase, covering 10 districts in Ghana, 16 counties in Kenya, 7 districts in Malawi and 8 districts in Zambia. 34 congregations are implementing SCORE ECD III.” Sr. Teresa, the project Coordinator revealed.



*The workshop on SCORE ECD in progress at ARU Secretariat. Photo by ARU Reporter.*

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The extension of SCORE ECD Project to other countries is to increase knowledge and skills to Sisters and beneficiaries, which will also be beneficial to their communities, congregation and the church in nurturing a child. This will enable the caregivers to be self-reliant and self-sustaining; capable of supporting their children and other social development works in the families.

Now the goal of the project is to ensure that children of 0-3 years live in nurturing environments by 2024 and therefore, based on the successes recorded in the four implementing countries, ACWECA had a vision to expand this project to other countries in the region. The Strengthening Capacity of Religious Women in (SCORE ECD) is funded by the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation (CNHF), a consortium project between CRS and the National Associations of Catholic Women Religious and Congregations in Kenya, Malawi, Zambia and Ghana.

**Take home of the participants**

“We are going back empowered and make an impact in our communities.” “We have been doing advocacy training on different messages concerning ECD but this training has helped us to see a lot of gaps that were missing when doing our different advocacies.” A participant said after the workshop.

“As SCORE ECD Coordinator, my role is not to fix all the community’s problems but rather to work together with the community members, to facilitate the problem-solving and decision-making processes, and innovate to benefit the community itself. I must put followers first, empower them, and help them develop their full personal capacities and nurture them.

All children need nurturing care to achieve their full potential.

Nurturing care is vital for their healthy growth and development. The formative stages of development from pre-conception, pregnancy to age three is most susceptible and crucial. “ACWECA envisions that the sisters will continue expanding their understanding of ECD by sharing their wisdom and putting into practice what they have learnt.” Sr. Teresa noted.

“The participants pledged to apply knowledge from the workshop to their communities, congregations and Associations at large, saying our duty after leaving this place is to go and share the skills what we have gained about ECD. Implementing the knowledge that the sisters acquired would help to build the African communities Religious communities to effectively witness the nurturing care of the child.” Sr. Teresa argued.



One of the participants making a presentation on how far she has progressed in her congregation with the SCORE ECD program. Photo by ARU Reporter.

**Pictorial**



SCORE ECD workshop in progress at ARU Secretariat. Photo by ARU Reporter.



Participants joyfully attending the workshop of SCORE ECD at ARU Secretariat. Photo by ARU Reporter.

## CONSECRATED PERSONS EMPOWERED WITH NEW EVANGELIZATION SKILLS



*Participants beaming with smiles shortly after the successful completion of the five-day workshop pertaining new evangelization skills in the contemporary world. Photo by ARU Reporter.*

*By Sr. LAURA KAREO & Sr SHALLON KARUNGI - MSMCC*

The Formation Ministry of Religious in Uganda, (FoMRU), a conduit through which the consecrated persons are formed and empowered organized a five-day workshop, October 24 – 28, 2023. With motive to empower consecrated persons with new approaches for effective socio-pastoral ministry and evangelization in the contemporary world, the workshop was hosted at the Association of Religious in Uganda, (ARU) Secretariat.

The workshop was guided by the theme “In the footsteps of the Master - Jesus.” “We said, His life is our life, His mission is our mission and so we need to do this mission of our master the exact way he wants us to do. So we need to know Him well, to love Him and be ready to serve Him faithfully to the end.” Fr. Frederick Tusingire, the facilitator of the workshop explained.

The facilitator noted that, the workshop is focused on the activities

of priests and religious because of the fact that, evangelizing mission is their work and their priority as well. “Our first job is to evangelize just like is the real mission of the Church that Jesus left with Church. We as religious are supposed to be on the frontline of this and whatever we do should be facilitating or contributing to the mission. So, whether we build schools, hospitals and teach, we are contributing to the work of evangelization.” Fr. Tusingire emphasized.

In the workshop, the participants assessed their performance and the various challenges faced in the course of their work and identify the best ways they can use to overcome challenges that come their way in their line of duty.

Therefore, the religious sisters and brothers came with all they received from the field so as to address them in order to make them effective in their mission. In this way, a lot was shared around what each one is doing.

“We also focused on reporting back, in the context that we have to report back to Jesus what we are going through. This is done in form of prayer especially through the Eucharist, reporting back to the superiors and account for all that we do.” Fr. Tusingire said.

The workshop was convened for the first time, a reason that prompted sisters wish to have more of such and on a regular basis. On the last day of the workshop participants shared on a topical discussion concerning signs of the time. They have looked at what is happening today and how best they can address those issues.

Sr. Mary Philda Adokoroch, LSMIG, shared, “The workshop has impacted me and I’m challenged by the roles and duties of consecrated persons. Especially on how they should minister and work with the people of God, follow the signs of time. What is on ground and dealing with it, is yet another challenge. However, I will not remain the same as I go back to my community.”



*In the picture is Fr. Frederick Tusingire facilitating the workshop of new evangelization skills in the contemporary world. Photo by ARU Reporter.*

The participants also affirmed that, they can address issues especially on marriage life in case a person approaches them as religious persons to seek advice in marriage challenges. Sr. Philda argues that some sacramentally married persons need deeper understanding of their faith while others may need counseling. “Any consecrated person in the church should see this as the greatest privilege. An occasion like this one which helps us to renew our zeal and approach to our mission should be appreciated and taken seriously. Sr. Philda vehemently remarked.

“This workshop widened my knowledge of evangelization in our Mother Church which says, the church exist in order to evangelize because it is the mission of Christ, her identity. This is extracted from

because it is the mission of Christ, her identity. This is extracted from the book of Pope Paul VI in his encyclical *Evangelii Nuntiandi*, 46. We exist to evangelize in order to make Christ known, loved and served on earth among his people.” Sr. Laura Kareo emphasized.

The participants learnt that evangelization is about re-awakening the baptized all the time. The non-baptized need to believe in Jesus and all need to hear the message of salvation. Sr. Laura Kareo professes that re-evangelization is needed to help people to love Christ and His mission more, that will be new evangelization because ultimately people may repent and believe in Him and follow Him (Mk 1:15).

Conclusively, since Jesus is the greatest missionary, our job is to collaborate in the work of this great missionary to walk in His footsteps. This applies to every Christians but in a special way the religious.

As evangelizers, there is need to make sacrifices in order to evangelize effectively. There is also need to keep our daily personal communal and liturgical prayers to remain connected with Him.

Cultivation of the virtue of prudence, humility, simplicity and care about those around us to live a good community life. It enhances bearing fruit in the field by reaching to others to deepen their faith. Participants have also agreed, to sensitize parents to care for their children with love and inculcate Christian faith in them.

## *Pictorial*



**Workshop in progress at ARU Secretariat**



**Workshop in session at ARU Secretariat**



**Participants attentively listening to the facilitator**



**Participants share a lighter moment with the facilitator.**

## Anti-human trafficking reunion, a ray of hope in the community



*Anti-human trafficking club members of Bp. Sisto Mazzoldi SS in a group photo on their reunion day. Courtesy photo.*

**By Bro. Aurelius Ssali,**

Director and Clubs Patron Bishop Sisto Mazzoldi S.S

**A**nti-human trafficking school club of Bishop Sisto Mazzoldi organized a reunion day on November 11, 2023. Sr. Mary Lilly Driciru, MS-MMC, from ARU Secretariat graced the day as Guest of Honor, other guests included Omuti Creative partnership, students from neighboring schools and teachers and students from host school.

Sr. Lilly, who doubles as Talitha Kum (Anti-human trafficking Network) Coordinator for Eastern Africa, appreciated the arrangements of the club. "You have surprised me with your talents and ability to create awareness through Music, Drama and Dance (MDD). This is a powerful tool for creating awareness by means of edutainment.

Your partnership with Omuti Creative is an added advantage, because some of the members are survivors of the vice of Human Trafficking or Trafficking in Persons (TIP). They can testify in truth what they go through as victims of this evil. I will be pleased if this anti-human trafficking club is rolled out to other schools to intensify awareness to clear ignorance about TIP. The perpetrators of TIP prey on students and out of school youth seeking job opportunities so, take great care!"

As Director of the host School, it was a pleasure to welcome guests who impacted on awareness creation on the vice of human trafficking. The definition of the vice by the UN includes recruitment, transportation, transfer of persons by means threat or force with intention of exploitation of persons for sex, labor exploitation or slavery.

The School is appreciative to you Sr. Lilly and those involved in this honorable task for the rehabilitation of the victims and or survivors of TIP. Thanks for empowering some of them. There is need create constant awareness among potential victims especially the youth. This vice is opposed to the principles of human rights. Therefore, we need to counter it through such programs, massive awareness creation on human trafficking and information about the risks and consequences of externalization of labor and human rights abuse.

We also appreciate Mr. Dick Ntwatwa Patron of anti-human trafficking club, for time spent and leadership exhibited to make this club move forward and sustainable. Bishop Sisto Mazzoldi SSS is passionate about training the students to combat TIP through awareness creation among groups and communities. Probing access to justice for victims for human trafficking and all forms of modern slavery would be an added advantage.



*Sr. Mary Lilly (second left) in a group photo with stakeholders of the club.*

The sole objective of educating the youth about human trafficking is to create awareness in the society and encourage students to work hard in order to be better students, become job creators, to purport peace and harmony in the school and build talents through guidance and counseling.

Awareness campaigns can be directed towards the youth and to educate them about the risk of exploitation, good healthcare professionals or law enforcement officers to educate them about the indicators of human trafficking.

In line with the goal of Talitha Kum, the students aim at taking immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms. It is important to do this in schools at early stages life.

Activities of Anti-human trafficking Club at Bishop Sisto Mazzoldi include; the students partnership with “End Child Trafficking Campaign Uganda” and use survivors and testify the ordeal of human trafficking to students. Educate young people through co-curriculum activities like Music Drama and Dance. Thus channeling information and communication to the people about human trafficking. The club is also involved in projects like cake baking and making burgers in order to make students busy when they



*Club members dramatize human trafficking process.*

communication to the people about human trafficking. The club is also involved in projects like cake baking and making burgers in order to make students busy when they

go home to avoid idleness as a way of preventing human trafficking. The school carries out debate with other schools on the same theme.

On this note, we request Sister Lilly and her team facilitate more anti-trafficking clubs in other schools in the Archdiocese of Kampala and elsewhere in this country-Uganda. Therefore, projects and networking are needed in this regard. To create more impact on this subject of ongoing social evil of human trafficking, there is need for lobbying and advocating for policy formulation in favor of the vulnerable group.

## Pictorial



*Some of the club members presenting an awareness creation song on human trafficking.*



*Some of the club members from a neighbouring school presenting an awareness creation poem on human trafficking.*

# ARU'S FISCAL AGENT, SISTERS OF THE HOLY CROSS STRATEGISE TO MITIGATE HUMAN TRAFFICKING



*A cross section of the participants from the ecclesiastical province of Kampala during the workshop on the sensitization of human trafficking at Ulrika guest house, Kisubi. Photo by ARU Reporter.*

*By ARU Reporter*

**S**isters of the Holy Cross, ARU'S Fiscal Agents for Talitha Kum anti-human trafficking network are combating trafficking in persons – TIP or human trafficking. Under the newly registered ministry of Saint Bakhita Anti-Human trafficking Network Uganda Limited, a four-day workshop was organized to bring together religious men and women to build synergies in combating the vice of human trafficking at URLIKA Hotel, Kisubi in Kampala Ecclesiastical Province from November 26 – 29, 2023.

The workshop was also intended to equip participants with more information about the manifestation of human trafficking in their own Dioceses, Uganda and beyond.

The convocation attracted 87 participants who included religious men

and women representing their specific religious institutes in Kampala Ecclesiastical Province; Kampala (28) Kasana-Luwero (38), Masaka (06), Kiyinda-Mityana (02) and Lugazi (02) Dioceses. Among the participants were also some Diocesan priests from the four dioceses. Other participants included; 4 sisters of the Holy Cross, 2 facilitators and 5 survivors as lay persons who were visibly eager to understand the prevalence and manifestation of the vice of human trafficking.

The workshop exhibited lively participation and sharing of personal and local experiences about the problem of human trafficking in Kampala Ecclesiastical Province. It was interactive and allowed participants to ask questions. They were later grouped according to their dioceses for action planning on how they were to work towards

combating human trafficking using their existing platforms in the specific dioceses where they serve.

Saint Bakhita Anti-Human trafficking network Uganda Limited, aims at building synergies of Religious Institutes against human trafficking and modern slavery in Uganda. Holy Cross Sisters are also working towards network creation among the Religious Institutes in Uganda. The Headquarters for the network are not yet established however, preliminary activities for the network are under way by the Sisters who are working hard to create and strengthen its foundation.



*Group discussions to forge ways of mitigating trafficking in person in progress. This was Kasana-Luwero diocese who registered the biggest turn up among the four. Photo by ARU.*

In the spirit of strengthening the network, sisters of the Holy Cross are already conducting workshops that are intended to create awareness among the religious men and women on the vice of human trafficking. The planned workshops are designed according to the Ecclesiastical provinces in Uganda.

Through the workshops participants are able to understand the dimensions and magnitude of the vice of human trafficking manifested in the communities where they live and serve.

Responding to the implementation of the planned activities to combat the vice of human trafficking, the workshop of its kind was conducted within the central region of Uganda that make Kampala Ecclesiastical Province. Earlier on, similar workshops were conducted in Mbarara, Tororo and Gulu Ecclesiastical Provinces.

The objectives under which the workshop was convoked among others include; creating awareness about human trafficking among the religious in Kampala Ecclesiastical Province, strengthening the St. Bakhita anti-human trafficking in various dioceses in Kampala Ecclesiastical Province, identify potential religious men and women from diverse institutes among ARU members to participate in intervention of combating human trafficking in Uganda.

The network aims at establishing the future work plans for the continuation of St. Bakhita Network Uganda Ltd and the justice and peace activities in the dioceses of Kampala and Uganda in general and to build the capacity of Religious Institutes in combating human trafficking and modern slavery in Uganda.

The Coordinator St. Bakhita Anti-Human Trafficking Uganda Network LTD, Sr. Semerita Mbambu,

CSC, said that building the capacity of the religious institutes to participant in the interventions geared towards the combating of human trafficking is key. "We need to recruit potential religious institutes to work together in the process of combating the vice of human trafficking among the communities in Uganda and beyond."



Facilitators guiding participants on the methodology to come up with best solutions to mitigate the vice. Photo by ARU Reporter.

### Participant's experiences at the workshop

The Pastoral Coordinator of Kasana-Luwero, Fr. Dennis Ssebugwawo who represented all other pastoral coordinators in Kampala Ecclesiastical Province urged participants to be proactive towards combating the vice of human trafficking using the several platforms and the ministries they are all engaged in. He also encouraged them to share information about human trafficking as much as possible in their respective dioceses such that the same information would reach to the grass root communities.

"I wish to pass a vote of thanks to the Bishops of the dioceses that make Kampala Ecclesiastical Province for their efforts and encouragement of the religious and the clergy towards combating the vice of human trafficking." Fr. Ssebugwawo noted.

Representatives from Kampala encouraged participants to open their minds and hearts to learn and get new experiences towards the interventions and processes geared towards combating the vice of human trafficking in the dioceses where each individual religious is called to participate in a number of activities that are geared towards combating the vice of human trafficking.

Survivors of human trafficking shared their personal experiences on how they were trafficked to different countries of servitude. They shared their ordeals on how they were affected while in those countries and how they suffered after returning home. The session, brought reality to the topic that participants were able to express their emotions towards the vice of human trafficking. This triggered practical discussions about the topic.

Participants however, suggested the need to advocate for improved standards of working conditions in communities and the respect for human dignity. They added that career guidance in the youth ministries in different programs where the religious work need to be revitalized.

"We are grateful to God who granted us time, energy and people of good will who supported the workshop to take place. Much appreciation goes to the Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Cross for guidance and tremendous support towards the workshop, we are grateful to the Development office of the Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Cross and Conrad Hilton Foundation for funding the formation of St. Bakhita Network Uganda Ltd." Sr. Semerita noted.

## NEW CHAPTER FACILITATORS UNDERGO TRAINING



*Participants pose with the Secretary General, ARU, Sr. Lydia Apili Bwor to share a memorial picture shortly after the last session of the training at ARU Secretariat Nsambya, Kampala. Photo by ARU Reporter.*

***By Sr. Lillian Opinia, MSMMC***

The General Chapter is the supreme authority of the Institute, composed of members who have been legitimately chosen by the members (Canon 631). Its principal function is to protect the Patrimony of an institute (Canon 578).

Looking at the Canon, the Association of Religious in Uganda (ARU) has seen the need for more chapter facilitators to be trained so that General Chapter is done in a more creative and effective way in all Religious Institutes. From the evolution of General Chapters, Chapters have been rare and secretive to some extent. As we live in a changing world, there is need to be more innovative, current and realistic in approaching chapter issues (need assessment by ARU).

***The people to benefit from this training are;***

The very consecrated persons who have come to be trained are the first beneficiaries. This is because they will be empowered, given more knowledge, skills and develop positive attitudes towards Chapter issues.

ARU, being the umbrella organization under which all institutes of consecrated life and societies of apostolic life in Uganda gather will greatly benefit because the need assessment would be met. Therefore, this means that there will be many facilitators when the need for Chapter facilitation arises.

The respective institutes will benefit since their members who are being trained will be of greater help to the institute. Above all, when trained, one becomes a potential member to participate in chapter preparations of the institute. Accordingly, other religious institutes will benefit from the knowledge, skills and the positive attitude that has been imparted in the trainees.

Above all, the entire church will benefit since we work collaboratively in the mission of the church.

On the other hand, time factor is a challenge because the trainees are fully involved in various ministries. This requires an insight and oversight in coming for the training so that their existing ministries do not lag behind.

There are fears, anxieties and dilemma from individual trainees, but as the training goes on, trainees are feeling relaxed and embracing the training with confidence, all thanks to the trainers who are so creative.

Besides, trainees asked themselves; 'Will there be opportunity to facilitate general chapters after this training?' However, from what is taught in the training, the knowledge can be applied in any setting within the mission.

In conclusion, this training has come very timely to open the eyes of many religious to remain focused to the mission of the church and the mission of their respective institutes within the church.



*Chapter facilitators receiving training at ARU Secretariat. Photo by ARU Reporter.*

# NEW TRENTS IN CHAPTER FACILITATION



A group of participants undergoing chapter facilitation training at ARU Secretariat sharing what they have learnt at the break-off time. Photo by ARU Reporter.

## Sr. Florence Kajoina DST

ARU Facilitators (ARUF) Secretary

Praise be to God, gone are the days when Institutes of Religious life and Societies of Apostolic Life celebrated General, Provincial, or Regional Chapters in a “parliamentary” way. We appreciate the members of the Association of Religious in Uganda (ARU) who strived to look for means of training Chapter Facilitators.

In Uganda, the first batch of Chapter Facilitators was trained in 2011. The workshop was carried out in three phases of 3:2:3 weeks giving a total of eight. Fortunately, a few facilitators had already been trained in Kenya. Both of these two groups received training from the Sisters who came from Ireland by the names of Sr. Mary Harrington - SUSC, Sr. Gabrielle Stuart - RSM, and Sr. Diarne McHenry - RSCJ. The celebration of Chapters under the guidance of Chapter facilitators has transformed the “parliamentary” method to one of discernment under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

In order to increase the number of Chapter facilitators, ARU has endeavored to train more facilitators. In 2022, five chapter facilitators were trained in Kenya and in Uganda a 3:2:3 weeks Chapter facilitators training workshop. The first session was carried out from August 28-September 15, 2023. The second one is from December 4-10, 2023. The third and last session will be in May 2024.

Thirty five participants were expected to attend but only twenty reported and for some reasons two of these dropped out. Currently they are only eighteen members and it is our hope that these will be able to complete. Missing a session or being absent for a good number of days within the duration of the workshop, disqualifies the participant. We appreciate the Superiors of religious institutes who made an effort to send members to this workshop. Another appreciation goes to the participants, who amidst the busy schedules of apostolate have persisted up to this moment.

The Chapter Facilitators of the Association of Religious in Uganda wish all members a good ending of the year 2023, a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2024.

## Pictorial Discussion Groups during the Training



## Talitha Kum Expands on Networking through regional Hubs in Africa



Members of Talitha Kum East Africa (TAKEA), Uganda branch demonstrating anti-trafficking symbol after the border interventions at the borders of Uganda-Kenya and Uganda DR Congo. *Photo by ARU Reporter.*

*Sr. Mary Lilly Driciru, MSMMC*

**T**alitha Kum, a global anti-trafficking network of consecrated persons have further strengthening their network through the creation of regional hubs. The journey of Talitha Kum East Africa (TAKEA) Hub was born in November, 2022, in Nairobi during Talitha Kum Africa Regional Conference. The East African region has grown to include: Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, South Sudan and Ethiopia. During the conference all the African Hubs (English Speaking West Africa, French Speaking West Africa, East Africa and Southern).

Among others, the TAKEA Hub came up with an action plan to include prayer through the intercession of St. Josephine Bakhita, communication platform for the members, training of trainers (ToT) for congregations and Ministries, Symposium, awareness creation at border hotspots,

identify contact persons and nearest congregations for enhancement, identification and strengthening partnerships with stakeholders (collaboration), Government, NGOs, IOM (International Organization for Migration), Ministry of labour, Kituo cha sheria, International Labour Organization - ILO, Ongoing Advocacy and Policy Draft.

East Africa Hub observes the prayer on Trafficking in persons generally and specific events. In Uganda, there is an annual national prayer on Human trafficking and there is a prayer being designed to be used in communities pending approval from higher ecclesial authorities. The members of TAKEA Hub have carried out most of the activities on the action plan. Other activities like advocacy, identification and strengthening of partnerships are ongoing.

The most recent achievement is that, through the power of networking, some leaders of survivors of

Trafficking in Persons went to Nepal for an international survivor's conference. They have come back much more empowered and ready to collaborate with us in Talitha Kum Network (TAKEA). "We are now becoming stress-free. Sharing with fellow survivors at international level was a great exposure and opportunity! At a point, we shared the magnitude of stigma and the need to support one another as we heal," a survivor remarked.

The border hotspots intervention is yet another land mark TAKEA made. This has been done by three countries in the region (Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda). It is being rolled out to the rest of TAKEA region including South Sudan, Sudan, Ethiopia, Eritrea and DR Congo.



Participants of awareness creation workshop at Busia border. *Photo by ARU Reporter.*

*Story continued to pg. 22*

Kenya carried out interventions at Moyale-Kenya-Ethiopia boarder, and Sirare, Tanzania-Kenya border. Uganda did Aru-Lia, Uganda-DR Congo border and Busia, Uganda -Kenya border. While Tanzania did in Sirari-Tarime, Tanzania -Kenya border and Namanga also on Tanzania-Kenya border. The team was enthusiastic about achievements and therefore, motivated to move forward.

The three Countries confirmed that truly the border points are porous and very difficult to manage. “Sr. you say there are 22 illegal routes? No, but there are over 2000 illegal routes to Kenya from Busia-Uganda side, remarked a boda boda rider.

To justify his statement, the boda boda rider offered to give a ride to the interviewer and crossed to Kenya without being noticed by the emigration and immigration authorities. He showed a forest of *panya* (rat ways) routes and moved back to Uganda without being noticed!

Testimonies of unsafe migration, crime scenes, sexual abuse, pornography, labour exploitation, immorality, murder/human sacrifice, drug abuse, child marriage were overwhelming. “We have limited man power to man the porous borders. You find foreigners like Asians entering a country without following official procedure of work permit.

They go directly into the local community to take up a citizen’s job! It is a general problem in Africa today, one migration officer remarked.

The meetings attracted a cross-section stakeholder; the Interpol, migration officers, the youth, parents, teachers, local government representatives and different walks of life. Some of the meetings were accompanied by Radio Talk-shows. The impact sisters created changed the talk of the town surprisingly. “Sisters, we confess our ignorance,” “Can you continue with this awareness creation?” “Need for personal and social responsibility,” were some of the observations made.”

## Anti-trafficking pictorials: Mazzoldi, Lia and Busia



# Pictorial Highlights of the Major Events



Some members of the exccutive share a light moment with the Nuncio and His Grace Emmanuel Obbo.



ARU Susters demonstrating Anti-human trafficking gesture



A cross section of members who turned up for the Anti-human trafficking workshop organised by Holy Cross sisters at Kisubi.



Anti-human trafficking awareness campaign at Uganda D.R Congo border.



Sisters being hosted at radio Jogoo in Busia on anti-human trafficking talkshow.



AACSS country Coordinators, Ecclesiastical provinces and Diocesan coordinators elected on 2nd/12/2023. In the middle the portrait of the late Sr. Cecilia Nibyonyonka, the Initiator of AACSS – Uganda as well as the First AACSS country coordinator.



Participants who had just completed their workshop about new evangelization skills in the contemporary world pose for a group otho



In the photo is a group of participants who had completed a renewal course at USFCN on their commissioning day.