



#### SECAM-SCEAM

Symposium of Episcopal Conferences of Africa and Madagascar  
Symposium des Conférences Episcopales d'Afrique et de Madagascar  
Simpósio das Conferencias Episcopais de África e Madagáscar  
Simposio delle Conferenze Episcopali di Africa e Madagascar

4 Senchi Street, Airport Residential Area  
P.O. Box KA 9156 Airport - Accra, Ghana  
Tel: +223 302 77 88 67/8 Fax: +233 302 77 25 48  
E-mail: [secamsec@yahoo.com](mailto:secamsec@yahoo.com) / [secaminfo@yahoo.com](mailto:secaminfo@yahoo.com)  
Home-page: [www.sceam-secam.org](http://www.sceam-secam.org)



#### CCEE

Consilium Conferentiarum Episcoporum Europae  
Council of European Bishops' Conferences  
Rat der Europäischen Bischofskonferenzen  
Consiglio delle Conferenze Episcopali Europee

Gallusstrasse, 24  
CH - 9000 St. Gallen  
Tel: +41 71 227 6040 Fax: +41 71 227 6041  
E-mail: [ccee@ccee.ch](mailto:ccee@ccee.ch)  
Home-page: [www.ccee.ch](http://www.ccee.ch)

## BISHOPS OF AFRICA AND EUROPE HOLD SYMPOSIUM IN ROME

African and European Bishops will be having their Second Symposium from **February 13-17, 2012**. The Symposium is on the theme: ***Evangelisation today: communion and pastoral collaboration between Africa and Europe. The human person and God: the Church's mission to proclaim God's presence and love.*** It is being organised by the Symposium of Episcopal Conferences of Africa and Madagascar (**SECAM**) and the Council of European Bishops' Conferences (**CCEE**). The participants include about 70 bishop-delegates from the Bishops' Conferences in Africa and Europe, as well as representatives of Vatican dicasteries and partner agencies like **Aid to the Church in need** and **Missio**.

The Symposium is part of a **project of collaboration** between the two continental bodies which began following the First Symposium that took place in Rome in November 2004. This collaboration is aimed at deepening the common responsibility of the African and European bishops for evangelisation and the human development of their respective continents in particular and the world in general.

In recent past bishops of the two continents have held seminars on:

- a) ***Slavery and new slaveries*** in November 2007 in Elmina, Ghana;
- b) ***Migration as a new point of evangelisation and solidarity***, in November 2008 in Liverpool, United Kingdom;
- c) ***New situation of the ad Gentes mission*** in November 2010 in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire.

During the forthcoming Symposium in Rome, the bishops of the two continents will among others evaluate the **journey undertaken so far**; examine the current situation of pastoral communion between Europe and Africa and seek areas of future collaboration. They are also expected to discuss the next Synod of Bishops scheduled to take place in the Vatican in October 2012 on ***New Evangelisation for the Transmission of the Christian Faith***.

The Symposium will furthermore provide an opportunity for the participating bishops to **deepen their friendship** and their common pastoral and evangelising mission. The bishops are more than ever fully aware that there is a new inter-dependence between the two continents in tackling and finding together responses to common challenges.

The sessions of the Symposium will be marked by moments of prayer, sharing of ideas and experiences through a reflection introduced by European and African bishops, starting from the human person (who are the men and women in Africa and Europe) and the human person's relationship with God, to arrive at the proclamation of the Gospel which is the heart of the Church's mission (for details, please, refer to the programme of the Symposium).

On Thursday 16 February, after the celebration of the Eucharist in St Peter's Basilica, the participants will be received in audience by His Holiness **Pope Benedict XVI**; while on Friday 17 February they will go on **pilgrimage to the Shrine of the Holy Face at Manoppello**, Italy.

The meeting will be held behind closed doors, with the exception of part of the opening session on **Monday 13 February**.

The media is kindly invited to a **Press Conference** on Wednesday 15 February at 16:30 in the Sala Marconi of Radio Vaticana, Piazza Pia 3 – Rome.

The bishops will end the Symposium by issuing a joint message.

## **Accra/St Gallen, 3 February 2012**

---

### **PROGRAMME**

***Evangelisation today: communion and pastoral collaboration between Africa and Europe  
The human person and God: the Church's mission to proclaim the presence and love of God***

### **MONDAY, 13 FEBRUARY 2012**

---

16:30 PLENARY SESSION

#### **Opening prayer**

#### **Greetings**

H.Em. Cardinal Polycarp Pengo, President of SECAM

H.Em. Cardinal Angelo Bagnasco, Vice-President of CCEE

#### **Introductions**

*Presentation of the post-synodal apostolic exhortation "Africae Munus"*

H.Em. Cardinal Peter K.A. Turkson, President of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace

*Summary of the journey so far*

H.Em. Cardinal Théodore-Adrien Sarr, First SECAM Vice-President

*Presentation of the programme and expectations*

H.Em. Cardinal Josip Bozanić, Archbishop of Zagreb

18:00 **Vespers and Eucharistic celebration**

Presiding: H.Em. Cardinal Robert Sarah, President of the Pontifical Council "Cor Unum"

21:00 **Rosary in the Chapel**

### **TUESDAY, 14 FEBRUARY 2012**

---

<p><b>Who are the men and women in Africa and Europe whom the Church has been sent to evangelise? An anthropological and theological approach. The believer; the seeker; the person who says they do not believe.</b></p>
---

07:15 **Lauds and Eucharistic adoration**

Presiding: H.E. Mgr. Vincent Landel, Archbishop of Rabat, Morocco

09:00 PLENARY SESSION

**Evangelisation today – the men and women to whom we are sent.**

Chair:

H.Em. Cardinal Fernando Filoni, Prefect of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples

Moderator:

H.E. Mgr. Nicholas Djomo Lola, Bishop of Tshumbe, Congo

**Addresses**

H.E. Mgr. Lúcio Andrice Muandula, Bishop of Xai Xai, Mozambique

H.E. Mgr. Braulio Rodríguez Plaza, Archbishop of Toledo, Spain

10:00 WORKING GROUPS

11:00 Break

11:30 PLENARY SESSION

**The groups present the three main points from their reflections**

13:00 Lunch

**The Church's mission: to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ to the men and women of today in Africa and Europe. The personal encounter with Christ. Conversion.**

16:00 PLENARY SESSION

**The challenges and the areopagi of evangelisation today in Africa and Europe**

Chair:

H.Em. Gabriel Zubeir Card. Wako, Archbishop of Khartoum, Sudan

Moderator:

H.E. Mgr. Tom Burns, Bishop of Menevia, Great Britain

**Addresses**

H.E. Mgr. Jean-Gabriel Diarra, Bishop of San, Mali

H.E. Mgr. Józef Michalik, Archbishop of Przemyśl, Poland

17:00 WORKING GROUPS

18:30 **Vespers and Eucharistic celebration**

Presiding: H.Em. Cardinal Polycarp Pengo, President of SECAM

**WEDNESDAY, 15 FEBRUARY 2012**

07:15 **Lauds and Eucharistic adoration**

Presiding: H.Em. Cardinal Angelo Bagnasco, Vice-President of CCEE

09:00 PLENARY SESSION

**The groups present the three main points from their reflections**

10:30 Break

**Communion and pastoral collaboration between Africa and Europe – promoting concrete relations: between parishes and dioceses, young people, families, etc.**

11:00 PLENARY SESSION

**Pastoral collaboration between Africa and Europe (past and present)**

Chair:

H.Em. Cardinal Keith Patrick O'Brien, Archbishop of St. Andrews and Edinburgh, Scotland

Moderator:

H.E. Mgr. Juan Nsue Edjang Mayé, Bishop of Ebebiyin, Equatorial Guinea

**Addresses**

*The contributions of the Churches in Europe to the Churches in Africa*

H.E. Mgr. Buti Joseph Tlhagale Archbishop of Johannesburg, South Africa

*The contributions of the Churches in Africa to the Churches in Europe*

H.E. Mgr. Léon Lemmens, Auxiliary Bishop of Malines-Bruxelles, Belgium

Discussion with testimonies

13:00 Lunch

**What can CCEE and SECAM do together? How? With whom?**

15:30 PLENARY SESSION

Chair:

H.Em. Cardinal Théodore-Adrien Sarr, First SECAM Vice-President

Moderator:

H.E. Mgr. Ambrogio Spreafico, Bishop of Frosinone-Veroli-Ferentino, Italy

**Address**

H.Em. Cardinal Théodore-Adrien Sarr, First SECAM Vice-President

16:00 WORKING GROUPS

16:30 PRESS CONFERENCE (at the Sala Marconi of the Vatican Radio)

17:30 PLENARY SESSION

**The groups present the fruits of their reflections**

18:30 **Vespers and Eucharistic celebration** in the chapel of the Pontifical Urban College  
"De Propaganda Fide"

Presiding: H.Em. Cardinal Péter Erdő, CCEE President

19:30 Festive dinner hosted by the Congregation for the Evangelisation of Peoples

**THURSDAY, 16 FEBRUARY 2012**

07:15 **Lauds**

Presiding: H.E. Mgr. Petru Gherghel, Bishop of Iasi, Romania

09:30 **Eucharistic celebration in St Peter's Basilica**

Presiding: H.Em. Cardinal. Marc Ouellet, Prefect of the Congregation for Bishops

The liturgical animation will be performed by a choir from Africa and a choir of Romania

12:00 **Audience of His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI**

13:15 Lunch

16:00 PLENARY SESSION

Chair:

H.Em. Cardinal Josip Bozanić, Archbishop of Zagreb, Croatia

Moderator:

H.E. Mgr. Frank Nubuasah, Bishop of Francistown, Botswana

**Reading and approval of the Symposium's final message**

18:30 **Vespers**

Presiding: H.E. Mgr. Simon Ntamwana, Archbishop of Gitega, Burundi

**FRIDAY, 17 FEBRUARY 2012**

---

### **Pilgrimage to the Shrine of the Holy Face of Manoppello**

Participants will be accompanied by Paul Badde and welcomed by H.E. Mgr. Bruno Forte, Archbishop of Chieti-Vasto, Italy

09:00 Via Crucis

11:30 Eucharistic celebration

Presiding: H.E. Mgr. Bruno Forte, Archbishop of Chieti-Vasto, Italy

16:00 Vespers

### **Members of the preparatory Commission for the Symposium:**

**CCEE:** His Eminence Cardinal Josip Bozanic, Archbishop of Zagreb (Croatia); His Lordship Mgr Gérard Defois, Emeritus Bishop of Lille (France); His Lordship Mgr Tom Burns, Bishop of Menevia (Wales) and Mgr Duarte da Cunha, CCEE General Secretary

**SECAM:** His Eminence Cardinal Theodore-Adrien Sarr, Archbishop of Dakar (Republic of Senegal), SECAM Vice-president; His Grace Mgr Gabriel Mbiligi, Archbishop of Lubango (Angola), Second SECAM Vice-president; His Grace Mgr Gabriel Charles Palmer-Buckle, Archbishop of Accra (Ghana), SECAM Treasurer, and Fr. François-Xavier Damiba, Secretary General of SECAM.

**To the Council of the Bishops' Conferences of Europe (CCEE)** belong, as members, the current 33 European Bishops' Conferences of this Continent, represented by right by their Presidents, and the Archbishops of Luxembourg, of the Principality of Monaco, the Maronite Archbishop of Cyprus and the Bishop of Chişinău (Moldova Rep.) and the Eparchial Bishop of Mukachevo. The President is Cardinal Péter Erdő, Archbishop of Esztergom-Budapest, Primate of Hungary; the Vice-Presidents are Cardinal Angelo Bagnasco, Archbishop of Genoa, and Mgr Józef Michalik, Archbishop of Przemyśl. The General Secretary is Mgr Duarte da Cunha. The Secretariat is based at St Gallen (Switzerland).

**The Symposium of Episcopal Conferences of Africa and Madagascar (SECAM)** comprises the 37 National Episcopal Conferences and the eight (8) Regional Episcopal Conferences. The President of SECAM is Cardinal Polycarp Pengo, Archbishop of Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania. The First Vice-President is Cardinal Theodor Adrien Sarr, Archbishop of Dakar, Senegal; the second Vice-President is Archbishop Gabriel Mbiligi of the Archdiocese of Lubango, Angola; the Secretary General is Rev. Fr. François-Xavier Damiba. The Secretariat is based in Accra, Ghana. [www.sceam-secam.org](http://www.sceam-secam.org)