



Faith in Business Geneva Declaration

We – the participants of the international conference, titled “Faith-based Entrepreneurs: Stronger Together”, held in Geneva, Switzerland at the Ecumenical Centre on 22-23 January 2018, from over 20 international and national associations of Christian entrepreneurs (acting in over 60 countries and representing thousands of business executives as members), academic research institutions, churches, and Christian development organisations, coming together upon the invitation of the Geneva Agape Foundation and the World Council of Churches – jointly declare and share twelve convictions:

1. **Credo:** Jesus Christ is God, Saviour and Lord of all creation according to the scriptures. We seek to fulfil together the common calling to the glory of the one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
2. **Love:** Love (agape) God and the others as yourself. This key Christian goal, as result of God’s abundant love, is the overarching guideline we want to follow as expression of faith at work (Luke 10:27).
3. **Faith in business:** Christian faith is relevant for and bears fruits in all parts of life and society. Therefore, we are committed to faith in business, and faith at work in general, which includes keeping families united (Hebrews 13:4), and to proclaim the gospel (Matthew 28:18-20) Work is worship and thus an important part to praise and glorify God.
4. **Service:** The business of business is service. All business activities should serve customers, employees, shareholders, society, states and all creation. We advocate business serving through creating dignified jobs and quality products, innovating, ensuring just working conditions, paying taxes, protecting the environment, investing in communities and in ecological sustainability, and supporting philanthropic and diaconal projects, among others. (Matthew 20:28)
5. **Stewardship:** We are in leadership positions as entrepreneurs, business executives, academics, heads of churches or non-governmental organisations. Many are owners of companies, of assets, of shares. In faith perspective, God alone is owner of all assets and the whole creation. God entrusted these to us to be God’s good stewards and to maintain, innovate and multiply Gods gifts. We are committed to act as good stewards of entrusted assets and talents. (Luke 12:42-48; Matthew 25:14-30)
6. **Human Rights/Responsibilities and Environment:** Stewardship includes recognising and promoting human rights and human responsibilities as well as caring for the whole creation. We are committed to integrating these in our activities in business and in society (Gen. 2:15).
7. **Faith in Finance:** We are committed to make business finances and especially investment policies and practice consistent with our faith-based values and virtues (Luke 16:13). We commit to divesting from activities that destroy the social and ecological fabric of life and to investing in activities that contribute to social and ecological wellbeing.
8. **Overcoming corruption:** Corruption as abuse of entrusted power for personal interests is sin as it violates justice (Ex 23:8). We are committed to contribute to overcome corruption and other unethical practices in business and society.
9. **Engagement with churches:** We are committed to serve the communities of believers in their diversity of denominations and fellowships to improve the services and to share resources (2Cor. 8:12-14) for the glory of God.
10. **Unity in diversity:** We represent a diversity of expressions of Christian faith in denominational, spiritual and ethical aspects. We respect diversity as God’s gifts and seek at the same time unity in our faith, mission and action for faith at work (Eph. 4:4-5).
11. **Cooperation:** We are committed to work together, to exchange good practices, to pray for each other and learn from each other. We are open for cooperation with other faiths and non-faith-based ethical business initiatives.
12. **Support of SDGs:** Through faith at work, we are committed to support the implementation of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). They concretise the works of love (Matthew 25:35-36).



**World Council
of Churches**

Annex: List of Organisations represented at the International Conference

“Faith-based Entrepreneurs: Stronger Together”, Geneva/Switzerland, 22-23 January 2018

The participants sign in their own name and invite the listed institutions to endorse this declaration.

ENELAMAH John, Apostles in the Market Place, Nigeria
NAEGELI Michael, Association of Christian Entrepreneurs (VCU), Switzerland
DOKMAN Frans, Basileia Business & Research, Portugal
ARDENTI Yvan Maillard, Bread for All, Switzerland
HOWE Helen, Christian Aid SALT Great Britain
HODGES Tony, City Vision, Great Britain
WOOLLARD Ben, City Vision, Great Britain
CUI Ning, Cutting Edge Education, China
POLGAR Balazs, ÉrMe Network, Hungary
TOTH Jozsef, ÉrMe Network, Hungary
WESTERHOF Arleen, European Economic Summit, Europe
HIGGINSON Richard, Faith in Business, Ridley Hall Cambridge, Great Britain
ROBERTSHAW Kina, Faith in Business, Ridley Hall Cambridge, Great Britain
WERHAHN Stephan, Federation of Catholic Entrepreneurs (BKU), Germany
RICONALLA Niels Patrick, Fellowship of Christians in Government, Philippines
RICONALLA Alma, Fellowship of Christians in Government, Philippines
MUWAWA MIYIMI Hubert, Full Gospel, DR Congo
CUI Wantian, Geneva Agape Foundation, Global
STUECKELBERGER Christoph, Geneva Agape Foundation, Global
KOEGLER Michel, International Christian Chamber of Commerce, Global
MUWAWA MIYIMI Hubert, International Christian Chamber of Commerce (ICCC), DR Congo
CHENG Wallace, International Council for Trade and Sustainable Development
DE LA CRUZ César, Indigenous Mining Equity Foundation, Switzerland
PESTALOZZI Dietrich, International Martin Luther Foundation, Germany
PESTALOZZI Jeanne, International Martin Luther Foundation, Germany
WANG Dan, Kingdom Business College, China
TAYLOR Guillaume, Quadia Impact Investment, Switzerland
MUWAWA MIYIMI Hubert, Réseau Famille RTIF, DR Congo
BANWAGEN Melody, International Marketing Group Philippines Swiss Representative, Philippines
HANSELMANN Magaly, Swiss Interchurch Aid HEKS/EPER, Switzerland
BANWAGEN Adeline, TRCI Church, Philippines
MEDEIROS Rolando, UNIAPAC International Christian Union of Business Executives, Global
WHITELAW Rodrigo, UNIAPAC International Christian Union of Business Executives, Global
BAMEULE Luis, UNIAPAC International Christian Union of Business Executives, Latin America
CALLEJA Mariano Roy, UNIAPAC International Christian Union of Business Executives, Philippines
SIGRIST Christoph, Urbane Diakonie Foundation, Switzerland
LORNE Nicolas, Waterpreneurs, Switzerland
PHIRI Isabel, World Council of Churches WCC, Global
PERALTA Athena, World Council of Churches WCC, Global
PLUTSCHINSKI Timo, World Evangelical Alliance WEA, Global

For a description of the organisations see the book *Faith at Work. Directory of Associations of Christian Entrepreneurs and Workers* (Christoph Stückelberger/ Vanessa Yuli Wang), Geneva 2017. Free download:
<http://gafoundation.world/en/programmes/programme-1/project-3-publications-on-entrepreneurship>