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Global compact on education : the principle of human dignity as the foundation of ethical leadership for a prosperous future

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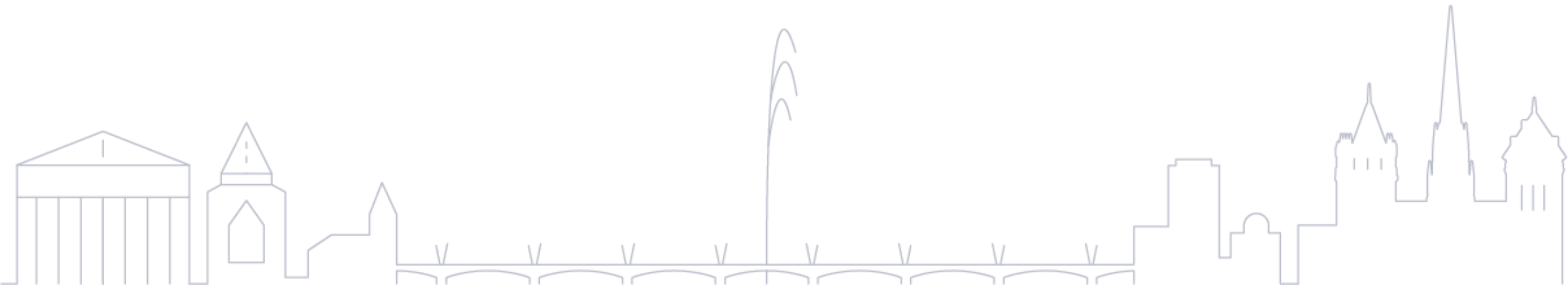
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#BNBT2022
Ethics and Values at the Heart of Quality Education

Global Compact on Education: The Principle of Human Dignity as the Foundation of Ethical Leadership for a Prosperous Future

International Conference 17the - 19th Oct. 2022

Fr. Peter Mbaro, The Catholic University of Eastern Africa, Kenyan



Introduction: Finding the Links

- First we find that the Theme for this International Conference: Building New Bridges Together: Ethics and Values at the Heart of Quality Education, resonates well with the topic on Day 3, Workshop 2, Global Compact on Education: Which Leadership for the Future?
- This topic revolves around **THREE variables**, namely:
- **Quality education**;
- **Leadership**; and
- **Prosperous future**.

Introduction: Finding the Links

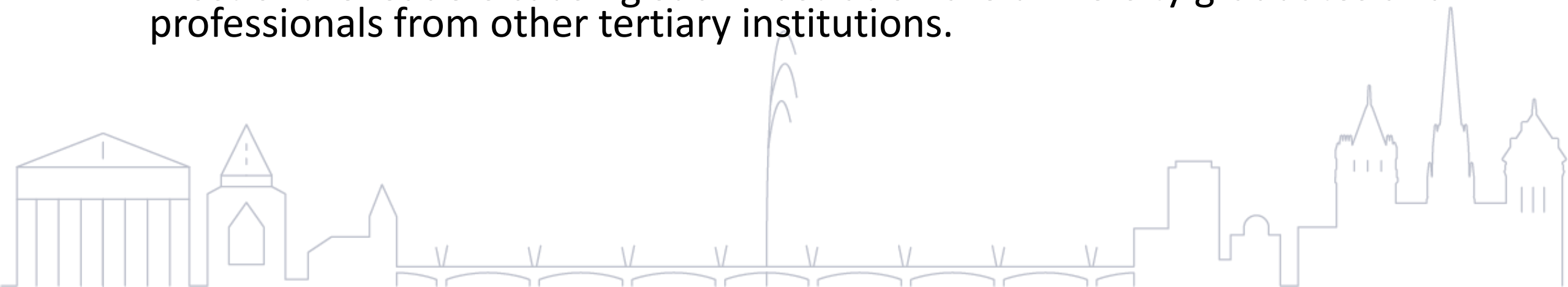
- In Oct 2020, Pope Francis made a passionate call for a Global Compact on Education. In this invitation, the call was and still is “to ensure that everyone has access to a **quality education** consonant with the **dignity** of the **human person** and our **common vocation** to **fraternity**.”
- **THREE** key components stand out:
- **Quality education**;
- **Dignity** of the **human person**; and,
- **Common vocation to fraternity**, whereby the latter implies service to fellow human beings through responsible or servant leadership.

Introduction: Finding the Links

- Here we find **THREE** important dimensions of education, namely:
- First, **putting the person at the centre of every educational process;**
- second, **investing the best energy for an education of quality for all;** and**,**
- third**, training people willing to put themselves at the service of the community**.

ii) Gaps and Challenges

- The Question that seeks an answer today is: Is our **education system** shaping **leadership** that can guarantee a promising **future**?
- There are **social**, **cultural**, **economic**, **political**, **religious** and **environmental concerns**, that are causing different **forms** of **human suffering,** hence, frustrating desire for prosperous future.
- Most of the leaders causing such frustration are university graduates and professionals from other tertiary institutions.



iii) Need for Transformative Leadership

- We need leadership that would guarantee a prosperous future.
- However, the major question that should comes in our mind is: What is required in order to meet this standard of a leadership that brings the desired prosperous future?
- The answer is, we need leaders who exercise ethical leadership.
- In other words, it is only ethical leadership will guarantee the future of a nation.

v) The Principle of the Dignity of the Human Person

- Leadership is offered by different professionals, who are products of our educational processes.
- Education has to be personalistic in nature and approach, in order to respond to the need for ethical leadership.
- Education that is personalistic in nature and approach has to have a clear understanding of who the human person is.
- It has to mainstream the principle of the dignity of the human person.
- This to be the true foundation of ethical leadership.

v) Human Dignity and Ethical Leadership

- Ethical leadership is one that basis its decision-making process on ethical reasoning, theories and values, that are inspired by the centrality of the human person in society.
- In other words, ethical leadership is a leadership that is person centred.
- This is a leadership that puts the other in perspective in all its decisions and actions.
- According to Global Compact Education call, a leadership that guarantees a leadership for the future, requires an education process that is other oriented: i.e., training people who are willing to put themselves at the service of the community.

vi) Relationship between Ethical Leadership and Prosperous Future

- Leadership is everything for a prosperous future, or otherwise, of any human community and its various projects and programmes.
- The *Agĩkũyũ* community have the proverb that says: “irĩ gũthua ndongoria itikinyagĩra nyeki” and if transliterated, it means that when the leading sheep or cow in a flock or a herd suffers and it limps, the entire flock or herd cannot reach the green pasture (prosperous pasture).
- In other words, if the first or leading goat becomes lame, the lest of the flock suffers and all fail to reach their destination (pasture).

Conclusion

- We have affirmed that, as proposed by Global Compact on Education, education has to underscore the centrality of the human person in its nature and approach.
- Eventually this education will produce, as its product, an ethical leadership which will guarantee a prosperous future.
- This has to be firmly based on the true and solid foundation, namely: the principle of the dignity of the human person.
- Ethical leadership that is inspired always by seeking the good of the human person: the human person understood as possessing an intrinsic and endowed dignity.
- Only ethical leadership is the sure way to guarantee the prosperous future for humanity.

- T H A N K S
- H
- A
- N
- K
- S

- Merci
- Asanteni sana
- Shukrani
- Grazie mille



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Thank you

