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Geneva Agape Foundation

Faith-Based Entrepreneurs Stronger Together

Report of the International Conference
Geneva 2018

**Faith-based Entrepreneurs:
Stronger Together**

*Report of the International Conference
Geneva 2018*

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Stronger Together**
*Report of the International Conference
Geneva 2018*

Globethics.net China Christian Series

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INTRODUCTION

Christoph Stückelberger

How can I live out my faith and values daily in my company and professional life? How can we learn from each other? How can we become stronger by connecting in associations and fellowships?

Such questions are raised by Christians, other faith-driven entrepreneurs and other persons in leadership positions in business. These questions have been the starting point for the first, worldwide international conference for Associations of Christian Entrepreneurs (and to some extent Christian Workers Associations and Christian investors). Not individuals, but representatives of such associations from all continents and backgrounds, who were invited to present their work in order to *learn* from each other, *connect* with each other and explore and plan how to *cooperate*.

A broad range of associations representing different Christian denominations were also present, including Protestant, Catholic, Orthodox, Evangelical, Pentecostal and Charismatic – a truly broad ecumenical forum of associations. Faith-based partners from other religions have not been envisaged at this early stage of mutual understanding among Christian Associations, but in a next step it will be certainly opened to associations of other religions.

One focus was on linking with Christian Entrepreneurs in China. There are tens of thousands of them, but this fact is often not known

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outside China as there is no official association, only many fellowships of Christian entrepreneurs in this dynamic country. At the conference, also research institutions on faith at work have given important inputs.

The conference was organized by the Geneva Agape Foundation (GAF) with the World Council of Churches (WCC) and supported by various sponsors. GAF has “Values-driven Entrepreneurship” as one of its three programmes¹ and the conference was part of it. The WCC has a long standing record in dealing with economic justice², currently called eco-justice programme, mainly on the macro-economic and political levels. The link to Christian entrepreneurs fits with this programme, but is rather new and to be renewed by WCC.

This report summarizes the keynote speeches (chapter 2) and manifold presentations of organisations and their activities in order to be inspired and to discover ways of cooperation (chapter 3). It includes results from intense and constructive discussions in workgroups (chapter 4) and of multi-stakeholder panel discussions across sectors and associations (chapter 5 and 7). During a social evening event, the participants listened with great interest to two testimonials (chapter 6). The conference also successfully adopted – after detailed discussion – the “Faith in Business Geneva Declaration” (chapter 8.1). The conference participants also gave inputs for “Tools of Future Cooperation” (chapter 8.2)

Most of the conference presentations can be downloaded for free here:

<https://gafoundation.world/en/conference/2018-conference-1/2018-presentations>

The conference was a very lively gathering of open-minded, committed and faith-driven leading business and religious actors. The partici-

¹ <http://gafoundation.world/en/programmes/programme-1>.

² <https://www.oikoumene.org/en/resources/documents/commissions/international-affairs/economic-justice>. - <https://www.oikoumene.org/en/what-we-do/eco-justice>.

pants were surprised and impressed by the diversity of associations while a common spirit of faithfulness to the Gospel and innovative creativity to impact business and society by this Gospel was experienced. *The next conference* will take place in Geneva at the Ecumenical Center on January 21 and 22, 2019.

The *Directory of Associations of Christian Entrepreneurs* has been substantially enlarged, also as a fruit of this conference. It now includes 127 institutions: 95 Christian Associations and 32 associations from eight other world religions! This directory with a one-page description per organisation and commenting articles is available as a book online for free and can be ordered at same place in print form.³

³ <http://gafoundation.world/en/programmes/programme-1/project-3-publications-on-entrepreneurship-1> and <https://www.globethics.net/china-christian-series>

1

OPENING

The Conference was opened by *Christoph Stückelberger, Professor of Ethics, Executive Director, Geneva Agape Foundation.*

The conference brings together Associations of Christian Entrepreneurs (and to some extent Christian Workers Associations and Christian investors) from all continents and backgrounds in order to *learn* from each other, *connect* to each other and explore and plan how to *cooperate*. Faith-based partners from other religions are invited even though the focus is on Christians. One focus is on linking with Christian Entrepreneurs in China and the academic research about them. All would be reviewed by answering these questions: How can I live my faith and values in daily decisions in my company and professional life? How can we learn from each other? How can we be stronger by connecting in associations and fellowships? The conference is organised by the Geneva Agape Foundation with the World Council of Churches. He expressed the thanks to all participants and speakers, the partners and the important support by sponsors.

The opening was continued by *Cui Wantian, Entrepreneur, Prof. of Economics, Founder of Kingdom Business College and Founder/President of Geneva Agape Foundation, Beijing, China.* He stated that it was possible to apply Faith in Business in any country, even in China where people often think about Buddhism or Daoism, but not Christianity. The love of God is not that far from Chinese culture as we

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thought. He gave an example of analysing the word blessing, in Chinese “Fu”. Surprisingly to most of us, it literally means “a family resides with God on farm land”.

Cui Wantian mentioned also his *ten dreams of love* and he strongly believes that they will come true:

1. Man and God reconcile, Emmanuel is achieved. The restoration of God-Man relationship is the source of happiness.
2. Men reconcile among themselves. Only when man and woman are reconciled, the children have hope. A harmonious and loving family is the right starting point.
3. Man reconciles with himself. Depression and mental diseases become more and more serious, “what is wrong with humans?” asked Cui Wantian and he believes that only God can help us to reconcile with ourselves.
4. Let us reconcile with all creatures including the environment. Thanks to the transformation, faith-based entrepreneurs and the environment will be reconciled.
5. Business and faith get along with each other. The church is not united with the entrepreneurs right now. However, when the transformation starts, the church will replant the seed of good faith into the soil of business and society, turn our workplace into God’s pasture.
6. Science returns to God. Nowadays, the new strong trend of artificial intelligence, blockchain, and the internet develop strongly and quickly. But thanks to our transformation, robots will neither replace man’s work nor attack us.
7. Our God rules over nations and brings peace to us. It is God First! God will listen to our pray and the transformation will make the business people be the peace makers.
8. Let money be the servant to God but not the master to human beings. The gap between wealthy and poor people is getting larger and

more critical. Money has an important effect on young people today more than God. That is not right. With the transformation of good stewards of money for God, we can get the wealth back to God's house and be able to help the poor.

9. Work is worship to God. At the workplace, we can apply 'love your neighbour' as to treat the employees like brothers and sisters!
10. Let the light of God illuminate our world and our society. We witness daily the injustices, sufferings, and difficulties, which have been negligent by churches for a long time. He believes that faith, love and action are main factors to change the situation.

Cui Wantian strongly stated that everyone seated in the conference was a part of the process to make these dreams come true.

KEYNOTES: FAITH IN BUSINESS

2.1 Faith in Business in China

You Bin, Professor and Director, Research Institute of Religions, Minzu University of China

How to Develop a Christian Entrepreneur Ethics in Chinese Multi-Scriptural Context?

China is known as a multi-religious country. Christianity presents a small part but we can enforce the love of God and develop a Christian Entrepreneur ethics in Chinese multi-scriptural context. The question is how? Professor You Bin gives us an answer, a complete approach to solve the problem.

First, we have to understand the multi-religious context in China. There are three “foreign religions”: Buddhism, Islam and Christianity (including Catholicism and Protestantism); and the two indigenous religions: Daoism and Confucianism which are very strong in China. The Christianity is quite weak. Besides, more than six-in-ten (62%) of all religion are comprised of unaffiliated people even though many of them hold some religious or spiritual beliefs (such as belief in God or a universal spirit).

Based on a full understanding of the situation, it is found a way for Christian value to be enforced. That is to root Christian Biblical tradition

and then slowly encounter into Chinese traditions. We can point out that the Bible is not only an inspiration of God, but also a source of ancient wisdom existing in parallel with Chinese traditions. For example, as Max Weber wrote, the rising of capitalism is closely related to the work ethics derived from Protestantism, especially its idea of calling; to work is to pray; workshop is the place to glorify God. This work ethics could be interpreted from the ancient wisdom of Yi Jing that “天行健，君子以自强不息；“The gentleman shall follow the way of Heaven that self-strengthen without end”. Or ethics of Sabbath, a spiritual encounter between our soul and God, a sense of spiritual freedom from the business works. In the ancient Chinese wisdom, to step back is to forward 进退, and to forsake in order to get 舍得, moving and silencing 动静. A business ethics will root in both the Bible and Chinese culture by respecting the rhythm of creating and observing the Sabbath, moving and silencing.

2.2 Faith in Business in Africa

Pastor John Enelama, Entrepreneur, Apostles in the Marketplace, Lagos, Nigeria

Pastor John Enelama reminded us that Jesus is a son of a carpenter and a renowned carpenter Himself. Jesus used common daily things to express nowadays life. He used, for example, aspirational images, fine clothes, treasure, and bags of gold; he also referred to working situations such as doctor, teacher, and farmer.

Jesus was a workplace Minister. Therefore, the idea of faith in business is seen clearly in the Bible. By applying Faith in Business, the society can definitely change. The people are the only ones capable of transforming society. God calls each of us for a purpose and gives us grace to accomplish the purpose. It is God who gives us the power to get wealth. According to Pastor John, there are 7 spheres to evaluate a

wealthy society. They are Family, Religion/Church, Education, Government, Media, Celebration, and Economics.

In order to give you a concrete example of Faith in Business, he shared his story about the AiMP Network, founded in 2003 with over 300 employees.

AiMP can achieve this success thanks to its philosophy: “Business is a call from God”. On God’s behalf we are doing business. But business is only one of the seven mountains and God’s glory will be reached when other mountains are attained.

Nowadays, there are many Apostles in the Market place: Wolver Hampton, a prophet to the Nations; Richard L. Kramer, Business Leader; Okechukwu E. Enelamah, Honourable Minister, Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investments.

AiMP believes that a transferred Africa is possible and only transformed men will make it happen.

2.3 Faith in Business Globally

Rolando Medeiros, President Uniapac International (International Christian Union of Business Executives), Chile

The President of UNIAPAC started by introducing his company’s situation. UNIAPAC has associated entities in 42 countries in Africa, America, Asia, and Europe. It gathers more than 35.000 business leaders and, indirectly, over 120.000 through its direct corporations to the national member associations. UNIAPAC’s Vision of the Future is to be recognized worldwide for its distinct promotion of business as a noble vocation.

“How can I live out my faith and values in my business endeavours?” By answering the question, President Uniapac Rolando Medeiros shared his experiences.

In his opinion, serving the common good has a very important role in the economy. When the economy functions properly and focuses on serving the common good, it contributes greatly to grow a well-being society. In contrast, when the world experiences the economic crises, there are many problems leading away from serving the common good. Many obstacles are identified while serving the common good but, most significantly, that is the separation between faith and daily business practice. This split leads to imbalances and misplaced devotion to the global success.

God has a plan for the business manager. In order to achieve the mission, first, we need to acknowledge that our business acumen is God's endowment. All stakeholders are seen as neighbours to be loved as one-self. Then, by being a servant leader and by building spiritual capital in the organization we lead, we return his gift to the society.

Making profit is one of the business targets, but it should not be considered more important than other human and moral factors. Thus, the great challenge for a Christian business leader is to demonstrate –in strategy and action—not only the traditional principles of social ethics (like transparency, honesty and responsibility), but also the principle of gratuitousness and the logic of gift. The preservation of human dignity and the common good have to be among the main aims of business.

The company can only be transformed when the business leader self-transforms with good will. This is an opportunity for Christian business leaders to play a major role. They can share their experience with the power of transformation, of unifying the professional lives and faith.

To conclude, he quoted the Chilean Jesuit saint St. Alberto Hurtado, “He tells us that our imitation of Christ consists in living the life of Christ, in having this inner and outer attitude that, in all things, we are conformed to Christ, doing what Christ would do if He were in our place. Undoubtedly business will be a noble vocation if we ask ourselves in any critical business decision what Jesus would have done -

and, at the same time, by transforming business into a noble vocation, we would feel the joy that comes from responsible freedom”.

CHRISTIAN ENTREPRENEURS' ASSOCIATIONS: PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE

In this section of the conference, leaders of associations of Christian entrepreneurs and business leaders presented their institutions and approach.

3.1 Faith in Business, Ridley Hall Cambridge, United Kingdom

Richard Higginson, Director and Pastor Kina Robertshaw

Richard Higginson discussed what Faith in Business⁴ means and how to strengthen it. From his point of view, Faith in Business means that we have to be faithful to disciples of Jesus in business by applying two dual approaches to business: support and challenge; by practicing a Christian perspective on any complex business topics.

Equipping future church leaders for ministry with business people is a necessary thing. Based on that, they can teach the faith in business to others and bring it to daily working life, which is applied by everyone in the society.

Faith in business is a power for good. Christian faith stimulates enterprises, reduces poverty, promotes integrity, ensures sustainability, and fosters discipleship.

⁴ <http://www.faith-in-business.org>.

The case of Kina Robertshaw will show us how credible the result is when we apply faith in business.

Kina Robertshaw, a wife and mother, worked as a fashion entrepreneur in Johannesburg and Lusaka as well as established a number of other media and creative industry start-ups. Kina then studies at Ridley Hall as an undergraduate. She read about theology. She didn't have any idea how she could write a dissertation on entrepreneurship and then she applied her faith in her work. She is now completing her MA in her curacy at St Peter's Bromyard in the diocese of Hereford; this includes the interviews with 500 Christian entrepreneurs.

Kina is a founding member of the charity Bookbuddies Africa which supports the development of a reading culture in Africa. She applied the disciples of Jesus in different business size, background, gender. There is a voice to be heard.

3.2 International Association of Christian Entrepreneurs IVCG/ VCU, Switzerland

Michael Nägeli, Past President, Switzerland

The International Association of Christian Entrepreneurs (Internationale Vereinigung Christlicher Geschäftsleute IVCG)⁵ works in the three german-speaking countries Germany, Switzerland and Austria. Christianity and the stabilizing values of today's Western society are increasingly forgotten, especially the actual core of Christianity, which contains concrete, responsive, responsive answers to the question of the meaning and management of life. IVCG is to strengthen the faith among the business people and business leaders.

Activities include lectures delivered by competent speakers from business, politics, science or culture against the background of their experience with the Christian faith; Meetings and events held in small

⁵ www.ivcg.org.

groups to share and discuss about questions of Christ; Peer counselling offered by fellow Christian executives who have faced the specific challenges in work, family, working place.

The publication “Go”⁶ as quarterly magazine offers challenging, unusual articles on faith in professional life.

3.3 Association of Catholic Entrepreneurs (BKU), Germany

Stephan Werhahn, President of the International Commission of BKU

Stephan Werhahn began his presentation by introducing about the Association of Catholic Entrepreneurs (BKU)⁷. BKU is a non-profit association in Germany with about 1200 Christian business executives, founded in 1949 in Cologne/Germany. Their mission is applying Christian ethics into the business community, bringing economic expertise into churches, both into society. They believe in the recipe: Christian Social Thought + Social Market Economy.

Main ideas of BKU are:

- Christian entrepreneur is responsible for own enterprise, its employees, for a free, democratic State, Social Market Economy, Human Rights, Fair Trade, Global Peace.
- Entrepreneurship is a noble vocation.
- Wealth for all persons, sustainability of the entire planet.
- Key is the Christian Subsidiarity Principle as in the catholic social doctrine: “lowest level first – bottom up approach“.

BKU realizes the new roles of faith-based entrepreneurs (FBE):

- FBE have an integral view of the local civil society as well as global ecology and prefer a sustainable business development.

⁶ <http://gomagazin.de>.

⁷ www.bku.de.

- FBE global resources + environment Common Good: the planet is our home, not a hotel.
- FBE ensure fair access to work for men and women.
- FBE know: technical progress may be a good solution.
- FBE help the churches to better understand the modern world.
- FBE ensure efficient market economic order.
- FBE respect regulatory frameworks for open markets, fair trade only with social responsibility, Christian Subsidiarity Principle in civil society: Persons are best self-motivated, best express their creativity, inventiveness in level of responsibility to serve their needs („practical wisdom“); ethics at individual and at institutional levels, i.e. citizen, community, regions, States, EU, UN; human ethics and faith are rooted in minds and hearts of people as well as in the structures and institutions of society, the States, the EU and international UN structures.

3.4 European Economic Summit, Netherlands

Arleen Westerhof, Director and Founder

“Bringing Hope to the Nations. Economic Summit. A new wineskin for transformation.”⁸

Arleen Westerhof started her presentation with some figures from Guinea Bissau: 2 million people with life expectancy of 49 years; Illiteracy: 41.9 % men, 72.6% women; Religion: 50% Animist, 45% Muslim, 5% Christian; No electricity or clean running water in homes. And based on Goldman Sachs, Euromonitor, low income people will increase from 4.5bn people today and 5.8bn by 2030.

What could we do to decrease this number?

Firstly, it is necessary to develop a sustainable prosperity for the economy based upon three basic factors: The *Planet* provides, The *Peo-*

⁸ <https://economicsummit.eu>.

ple transform; The *Capital* ensures liquidity in the system. Equally important but not equally remunerated.

Secondly, it is proved that the new business model mobilizing and creating 3 forms of capital can alleviate poverty and create prosperity: Human: 'life and job satisfaction, wellbeing at work, acquiring new skills'. Finance: 'the shared financial benefits with all players'. Social: 'The efficiency of social exchange in formal institutions are weak'.

Faith, Business, Faith in Business play very important roles in this transformation.

3.5 World Evangelical Alliance Business Coalition WEABC, Germany

Timo Plutschinski, Director

Timo Plutschinski brought to the conference a comprehensive introduction about The WEA Business Coalition.⁹ It is the business department of the World Evangelical Alliance and functions as an information and resource hub providing strategic and thought leadership for leaders of businesses, ministries and churches. The World Evangelical Alliance is the largest international organisation of evangelical churches and ministries, and gives a world-wide identity, voice, and platform to more than 600 million Christians in 129 countries. All the functions of the association are explained as following:

Three councils:

Council for Business and Theology: to provide a platform for the best global theological voices on business, economics and finance. *Project:* A Survey and correlative "Evangelical Business Monitoring Report 2020" from various authors (What do Evangelicals believe regarding business? How do they express their faith? How do they make a difference in and with their companies? Etc.)

⁹ <https://weabc.org>.

Council for Business and Ministry Finance: facilitates information and connecting hub for financing businesses and business ministries. *Goals:* Help businesses and business ministries raise more investments and funding; facilitate more efficient allocation and use of resources; develop new models of finance businesses and business ministries; network Christians involved in raising investment and money. *Project:* The development of a “web-based broker platform” to match donors/investors with Christian business initiatives and business ministries.

Council for Business and Global Strategies: is discussing questions on how to amplify the global impact of Christian values in the marketplace and how to counter against any kind of ‘Christophobia’ in business and society. *Project:* The development of an “Evangelical Strategic Roadmap” outlining the key issues and potential measures for a long-term transformation of business, finance and economy based on biblical values.

Speakers at events: the speakers who are entrepreneurial consultant, managing director, president, and founder come from around the world.

Ministries: There is a list of various ministries dedicated to the work place.

Funders: The firm, Christian microfinance bank, Not-for-profit industry, retirement fund and others are presented as the funders.

Resources: Websites, videos, articles listed by topics, can be easily accessed.

3.5 Association of Orthodox Business Leaders in Russia

Prof. Alexander Ageev, Prof. of Economics, Moscow, President

Due to short term inability to attend, the PowerPoint presentation was presented by Christoph Stückelberger and commented by Mikhail Gundiaev, Permanent Representative of the Russian Orthodox Church at the World Council of Churches WCC.

The Association was established on October 25, 1996 and today it brings together over 10,000 members (Russian Orthodox Business leaders).¹⁰ We believe that fair business and fair relations with business partners are a spiritual need.

The core tasks of the Association are:

- to revive of the spiritual and business traditions of Russian entrepreneurship;
- to maintain the cooperation with the state, consecrated by the Russian Orthodox Church;
- to restore the norms of Orthodox ethics and morality into the everyday life of a business person.

One of the main objectives of the Association is to consolidate the efforts of the entire Russian society, and the priority task is to strengthen the cooperation between the Russian Orthodox Church and the State authorities in terms of spiritual revival of our country.

Main Activities of the Association are research and development; implementation of the programs “Transfiguration of Russia” and “Orthodox Banking”; business education and ethics; independent examination (development of additions to the standard of socially responsible entrepreneurship ISO 26000, development of ratings and certification of enterprises, monitoring of the business environment); publishing activity; event organization (forums, round table conferences, etc.); social programs and charity; and educational activities.

The Association has participated in International Events:

Communication Projects (Conferences, forums and congresses, Debate clubs, Business meetings of managers, Round table conferences, Meetings of scientific councils); “Transfiguration of Russia” Program (The goal of the program is to develop a systematic approach to solve Russia's key problems; increasing the degree of trust in the Russian

¹⁰ <http://kpp-russia.ru/english>

business community, revival of the spiritual, moral and business traditions of Russian entrepreneurship;

Orthodox Banking and Financial Instruments (The task of the program is to create a new socially oriented model of the credit system with special institutions that would act in accordance with ethical norms in the business environment and religious values);

Integrated Reporting: a Challenge to Management (The study reveals the main principles and aspects of the instruments of integrated reporting and the leading practices of its application); Development of Additions to the International; Standard ISO 26000;

Publishing Projects (More than 70 books and brochures are published annually);

Social and Charity Programs; Projects in the field of ethics in collaboration with the Globethics.net Foundation (Switzerland);

Regions and Companies Rating Projects in terms of social responsibility together with the "Economic Strategies" journal;

Projects for the Construction and Restoration of Churches.

3.6 International Labour Organization, Geneva

Pierre Martino-Lagarde, Special Advisor for Socio Religious Affairs

Pierre Martino-Lagarde, ILO¹¹, underlined the main challenges in the world of work: There are still 1.5 Billion workers in precarious forms of work; 800 workers living in poverty; also Demographic challenges underway, and migration likely to be on the rise; A globalisation bringing more insecurity and fragilities; and 4th industrial revolution (Robotics and Artificial intelligence)

There are reports to help to understand and to respond effectively to these new challenges. The International Labour Organization has launched a "Future of Work initiative" in order to be able to advance its

¹¹ www.ilo.org

mandate for social justice. UN has SDGs Framework (A holistic approach to development); ILO has “The Centenary” (Realities, renewal and tripartite commitment; 1919. Foundation by the treaty of Versailles) and “The future of work” (Looking at the future, work and society conversation)

Once we understand wholly the global context, the opportunities to improve the situation are found. It is necessary:

- to engage dialogue and cooperation with Faith based organization such as: Develop cooperation (WCC, ACT-Alliance, others; Catholic Church and Catholic inspired organisations; other faiths)
- to define objectives: Building and supporting existing synergies and networks across FBOs to enhance knowledge sharing and cooperation; Stimulating reflexion and reinforcing reflexion on existing and new challenges; Opening dialogue and structuring bridges with other organisations involved in labour issues; Trade unions and employers organisations; NGOs; other faith denominations.
- to focus on future reflexions: Decent Jobs and environment; Decent Jobs, social justice, inequalities and peace; Decent Jobs, migration and demography; Decent Jobs, technology, fourth industrial revolution; The future of enterprises and entrepreneurship; New forms of social innovations.

WORKGROUPS: THE RESPONSIBILITY OF CHRISTIAN ENTREPRENEURS

RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 For the company

Moderator: Rodrigo Whitelaw, Director, Uniapac

- Seeking and implementing the Kingdom of God inside and outside the Company
- The basic principle that God created as a gift to be enjoyed by all: The Common Good
- Fostering and endangering the business contribution to the Common Good and Human Dignity
- Integrity: The character of God. Trust building way of being truth to yourself.
- Loving your neighbour
- Continuing formation process
- Mutuality: Sharing benefits of growth among stakeholders
- Stewardship: Responsible care of the wealth entrusted to God to us.
- Intrinsic value of Work.
- As a condition of human dignity, labour being an essential means of human fulfilment and contribution to the common good,
- Produce goods and services needed by man,
- Produce wealth to share it with others,
- Allow a lot more people access to what fulfils them,
- Helping the less fortunate, the work of the Church.

- Social and environmental responsibility: take care of our Common Home.
- Transparency in internal and external relations of the Company.

4.2 For the Family

Moderator: Niels Riconalla, CEO, FOCIG Philippines

- Family is first priority after God, before Work
- For entrepreneurs, time is gold. Spending quality time with family is vital:
 - Physically getting-together is ideal
 - Using technologies, social media, to stay connected
 - If possible, go on business travel with your spouse (Neils's case)
- Role as parent:
 - Set good example
 - Coaching and Teaching
 - Adapt to the young generation's mindset
 - Change the authoritative attitude and tone when talking to children
 - Know the 'love language' of children.

4.3 For the Churches

Moderator: Peralta Athena, Programme Executive, WCC

- Mobilise business leaders and entrepreneurs to offer their time, skills and services to help churches run their businesses (e.g. hospitals, schools, etc.) in service to the 'kingdom' of God
- Gather and disseminate good practices
- Develop and offer combined theology and MBA studies: for churches, need more management training; for young entrepreneurs, more theology.
- Develop mentoring models.

4.4 For Politics/Advocacy

Moderator: Yvan Maillard Ardenti, Program Officer, Bread for All

- Should Christian business take a political role?
- Legitimacy? Yes, they are active members of society
- Participate in politics (not party politics)
- They should be encouraged (not compelled)
- Principle of subsidiarity (me, company, community, region, country, planet)
- Shared responsibility of business for societal problems?
- Yes, and sometimes business solutions are more quickly implemented and more efficient than state's solutions (e.g. integration of migrants, kindergarden, etc.)
- Responsibility to respect human rights?
- Yes, act of faith / personal decision of the leader
- Shared responsibility (business and state)
- States should ensure a level playing field
- Lobbying?
- Transparency
- Political donations?
- Transparency/disclosure
- Donate to all parties
- Improve the quality of the parties.

4.5 For Impact Investments

Moderator: Nicolas Lorne, CEO Waterpreneurs

- A Western definition (Rockefeller Foundation)
- Deployment of capital for receiving financial and moral return. Moral return being the return expected from values (vision and mission) in context.
- Context for Faith-Based Entrepreneurs
- Trillions are managed by Faith-Based Organisations (FBO)
- FBO are by far the largest global/local impact organisations
- FBO have all the capacity to scale-up impact investment

36 *Christian Entrepreneurs' Associations*

- Consistency («practice what you preach») is now at stake.
- Questions to be addressed (next steps):
- Recognising the context and agreeing on a plan of action?
- Supporting collaboration between entrepreneurs and investors?
- Getting stronger, together in the Market Place?

MULTI-STAKEHOLDER PANEL: CHRISTIAN FAITH IN WORKPLACE

5.1 Christian Aid SALT Business Network, UK: Entrepreneurs and Workers in Christian Development Organisations

Helen Howe, SALT Manager, London

*What is Salt?*¹² This network is open to anyone who owns a business or is in a senior management position within a commercial organisation. It is for leaders who want to join a movement of like-minded people to learn more about business and sustainable development through the lens of faith. Not a traditional network – not just about meeting people and learning, but about action.

At Christian Aid we believe that tackling poverty and creating a sustainable world can be achieved by uniting the strengths of faith and business. In practical terms, our work is focussed in three main areas: Long-term development projects; Humanitarian assistance; Advocacy and campaigning. And the programs are implemented in 37 different countries across the world with 100M Euros expenditure on charitable activities.

Our vision at Christian Aid is to end poverty – we can't do it alone. We can't achieve a world without poverty without the support of national and international businesses committed to responsible business and

¹² <https://www.christianaid.org.uk/business-network>.

investment practices. Business plays an essential role in job creation, technological innovation and economic development. When done in a sustainable way, business can be a ladder out of poverty for the developing world. This is why the private sector is at the heart of the partnerships that Christian Aid seeks to build.

We've always worked with the private sector but Salt looks at a new way to engage: How can we support all businesses, big or small, to improve their business practice and talk to others about the importance of running a business that has a positive impact on the wider world? Takes a faith lens to that – how can we in particular support Christians to be a voice for ethical and sustainable business (Business as a force for good)?

The call to businesses and business leaders is to be salt and light. Matthew 5:13-16 commissions us all to enhance and lead in a way that advances the purposes of God in the earth. Business is a part of God's plan. The Salt network aims to support business leaders to be: a) 'Salt' within their business – operate business in a distinctive way and 'stop the rot' and how; b) 'Light' – showing others the difference that can be made.

It's for all businesses – big and small as we can all make a difference [Biggest business in Salt is 1200 employees £300M turnover, smallest 'my business is just me'] [from the 'Most ethical' – Divine Chocolate, to those who have never really thought how their business might impact others].

So what do we do? The Salt Business Network will bring members together to:

- lead change in their own business– enabling members to learn, develop and implement responsible business practices.
- provoke a community of change across faith and business networks– giving members a united voice to speak out to the wider

business community, church community and policy makers on issues that affect the world's poor.

- change resource – maximising members' charitable giving through crowdfunding for innovative enterprise projects in the poorest countries in the world.

5.2 Fellowship of Christians in Government FOCIG, Philippines: Christians in Public Administration

Niels Riconalla, President/CEO FOCIG, Manila

FOCIG¹³ is a network of Christians in various government offices who are committed to share the good news of the Lord Jesus Christ; support and encourage each other in living out God's values in our government institutions; promote justice and righteousness in their workplaces; assist the public in their transactions with the government; prevent and fight graft and corruption.

Its *mission*: Mentor and empower strategic public servants to advance; righteousness, peace and joy. Its *vision*: God-loving people united in advancing a righteous and transformative government. Our *faith* approach (Luke 10:5-9): Prayer, blessings, fellowship, serve needs, connect to God, and mentor to multiply. We see the challenges "Harvest is plentiful but workers are few". There are about 1.53 million government employees in the Philippines, nationwide, covering national agencies, legislative and judicial entities, local government units, public schools and state universities and colleges.

Our future planned activities: Pray for more Champions in Government; challenge the Church and Business to support missionaries to Government; train more volunteers, Intentional Networking and Partnering, and pray for more resources.

¹³ www.focig.org.

Our interest and offers with other Institutions: Networking and Collaboration, Curriculum Sharing, Resource Sharing, and Prayer Network.

For the current challenging context, Christian high-ranking officials (and Christians in other spheres of influence) can be channels of God's transforming power in our country and globally. Once it is successful: strategic public servants will be mentored; more government offices will be righteous and transformed; corruption, drug problems, gambling, and other crimes will be minimized; public service will be more efficient; more investments will come in; more employment; poverty will be substantially reduced.

And then people's faith will be strengthened; peace and development will reign in our land.

5.3 Alliance for Religions and Conservation, UK: Faith-consistent Investments

*Martin Palmer, Executive Director, replaced by
Christoph Stückelberger*

The Alliance for Religions and Conservation (ARC)¹⁴ is a secular body that helps the major religions of the world to develop their own environmental programmes, based on their own core teachings, beliefs and practices. It helps the religions link with key environmental organisations – creating powerful alliances between faith communities and conservation. ARC was founded in 1995 by HRH Prince Philip and now works with eleven major faiths through the key traditions within each faith.

In Sept 2017, ARC organised a global conference on Faith in Finance in Zug/Switzerland with representatives of eleven faith traditions. The goal was to explore ways of faith-consistent investments, which

¹⁴ www.arcworld.org.

means how to align investments with the faith values of the different religious traditions. Over 100 personalities met and agreed to build a follow up network and if possible structure for further cooperation. The Geneva Agape Foundation, co-organiser of this Geneva conference “Stronger Together”, actively participated in Zug and was represented by its President and Director.

Update after the conference: in September 2018, a follow up conference will happen in Zug where the “*FaithInvest Alliance*” is planned to be launched, where the participating institutions of the Stronger Together conference are invited to join. The secretariat is planned to be in Geneva.

5.4 Princeton University, Faith and Work Initiative, US

Dr. Nicoleta Acatrinei, Researcher at Princeton University

The “*Faith and Work Initiative*“ *FWI*¹⁵ has the purpose to generate intellectual frameworks and practical resources for the issues and opportunities surrounding faith/religion/spirituality and work. FWI accomplishes its mission through a mixture of research, teaching, lectures, and conferences, and other programs geared toward students, academics, and leaders in the marketplace.

Four main FWI projects are:

Project 1: TIP - “The Integration Profile (TIP): Faith and Work Integration Scale” is a valid and reliable instrument to enable individuals to discover their faith and work integration preferences and patterns. The four manifestations are:

[Ethics](#) (ET); [Experience](#) (EX); [Enrichment](#) (EN); and [Expression](#) (ES)

Project 2: Faith-Friendly Company: a) Business executives, HR professionals, and employees lack a constructive language and frame-

¹⁵ <https://faithandwork.princeton.edu>.

work to engage this subject; b) Handled appropriately, creating the right kind of language and framework to facilitate healthy manifestations of faith/religion/spirituality at work might be socially progressive and bring benefits to employer and employee alike; c) *Friendly Companies: Pitfalls and Possibilities* will involve substantial corporate benchmarking, surveys, ethnographic analysis, religious study, and interdisciplinary insights into the practicalities of being a faith-friendly company.

Project 3: Sunday-Monday Gap Research Project: a) This project focuses on the Christian community to explore this faith-work bifurcation, its causes, and recommendations to overcome the Sunday-Monday gap; b) Drawing on ethnographic research, narrative, and stories, it will consider the four primary ways in which most people manifest their spiritual instincts and practices (The Four E's).

Project 4: Workplace Chaplaincy: a) In hospitals and on battlefields, during times of illness and death, patients and families often seek spiritual comfort; b) If the concept of chaplaincy can be managed appropriately and with benefit to people in other settings, why not have workplace chaplains?

5.5 Bread for All, Switzerland: Responsible Business

Yvan Maillard Ardent, Programme Officer Business and Human Rights

Bread for all¹⁶ is a development NGO founded by the Swiss protestant churches. Its main office in Bern has 35 employees. We focus on: Right to food, and Business and human rights.

We mainly provide the method to answer the question: How companies and NGOs work together for more sustainable supply chains?

Looking at the history of the cooperation between companies and NGOs, there are *three phases*:

¹⁶ <https://breadforall.ch>.

- Phase I (1970-2000): Fair Trade
- Phase II (1990-2010): Codes and Best Practices
- Phase III (since 2010): Political Advocacy

After actively working on *the first two phases*, we realized that: Labels and standards allow to reach only a few percent of the companies in a sector (exception: Fair-trade-Label for bananas and coffee); Only the most responsible companies tend to work with labels and standards; The majority of companies are not doing enough for sustainable supply chains and some of them still encounter problems (child labour, environmental damage).

And from *the third phase* we concluded that: Without regulation, we will not achieve a wide progress in sustainable supply chains; International trends go towards more regulations (cf. French due diligence law, UK Modern Slavery Act, due diligence on child labour in the Netherlands). We need regulation in Switzerland too.

5.6 International Council for Trade and Sustainable Development ICTSD, Switzerland: Working in an International Organisation

Wallace Cheng, Managing Director ICTSD China

Founded in 1996, the International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD)¹⁷ is an independent non-profit organisation based in Geneva, Switzerland. The goal of the organisation is to advance sustainable development through trade-related policymaking. Trade-related policy frameworks can serve as powerful drivers of sustainable development in global policymaking and global inclusion if those engaged in negotiations incorporate emerging knowledge on economic, environmental, and social issues. In doing so, they are empowered to better

¹⁷ www.ictsd.org.

understand their own interests, build bridges to others, and advance mutually acceptable solutions. ICTSD's vision is a sustainable world, supported by national, regional, and international trade policy and frameworks that support inter-generational equity.

Dr. Shuaihua 'Wallace' CHENG is the Managing Director of ICTSD China. Currently, he co-manages WTO Post-Nairobi Programme and China, G20 and Global Economic Governance, New Industrial Policy Group, the E15 Initiative in partnership with the World Economic Forum. Dr Cheng is also Adjunct Professor at the University of International Business and Economics (Beijing).

How to live faith in such an international environment of policy makers? Wallace Cheng described in a personal way how values and faith play an important role especially in recruitment process and interviews with applicants.

5.7 City Vision, UK: Faith in Professional Life

Tony Hodges, Founder

Cities are God's bridge between individuals and nations. CityVision UK¹⁸ aims at building such bridges since 1996. National transformation goes through city transformation and there from business leaders and Church leaders to units of transformation in the city and a revelation-based vision up to policies and practical work.

Cityvision organises conversations between business leaders, church leaders and parachurch leaders on the future of the city and steps to be done. City Vision introduces processes and resources to Christian leaders in business, government, church and para-church organisations who wish to see God's Kingdom come to their city.

¹⁸ www.cityvision.life

A national network of City Hubs is envisaged. These will consist of Christians in business working alongside ministry leaders and Christians in public life, to facilitate citywide change.

The City Vision approach includes a core process, a growing range of resources and a series of workshops.

TESTIMONIALS OF FAITH IN BUSINESS

Both testimonials were expressed by persons who sponsored the conference.

6.1 Dieter Pestalozzi, Entrepreneur, and Jeanne Pestalozzi, President of Bread for all

Dieter Pestalozzi was CEO and is now President of the Board of the Pestalozzi Company. He was a committee member and President of the local church for many years. His wife Jeanne Pestalozzi was a member of the Church Council (leadership) of the «Landeskirche», the church of the Canton (Province) of Zurich for many years, responsible for the department of diakonia and social institutions of the church. Today she is the President of Bread for All, Switzerland, the protestant development organisation of the Federation of Protestant Churches of Switzerland. They have four children and six grandchildren. Both are members of the Reformed Church.

It has been almost forty years that he has worked for the family business, a company which was founded in the 18th century in Zurich and is more than 250 years old now with roughly 300 employees. Three years ago one of his sons took over the business, continuing the family tradition.

Dieter was brought up in Christian faith. « When I went to college and to university, reading the Bible alone and with others were important to me. I know that God loves me. This makes me grateful. He

wants to help me to live meaningfully. I want to serve him and people living with me. Thus, the Christian spirit influences my professional life. »

He discovered that it is possible to apply these principles of Galatians 5, 22 to business: «The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance.». Love e.g. means interest and empathy for the person in front of you; joy means fun at work, enthusiasm, excitement; peace means to enable collaboration, to handle conflicts decently; longsuffering means the ability to manage economic setbacks appropriately and with sense of proportion.

Another saying of Paul can be read in 1 Timothy 6: «We brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out.» This gives him a certain distance to money. It was helpful when discussing the succession for the family company. He handed over all the shares to his son Matthias without scruples.

In 2014 the International Martin Luther Foundation awarded Dieter the «Luther Rose», a prize for entrepreneurial courage and leadership on the basis of Christian values. The foundation wants to encourage leaders and executives to manage their organisations diligently and to support public welfare. Their purpose is to discuss the ideas of Martin Luther outside the church, especially his book « Of the freedom of a Christian », where Luther wrote: «A Christian is a free man and subject to nobody. A Christian is a servant and subject to everybody.»

6.2 Urban Diakonia Foundation, Zurich, Switzerland

Prof. Dr. Christoph Sigrist, President and Founder of the Urban Diakonia Foundation¹⁹, pastor of the Grossmünster in Zurich and Professor of Diakonia at the University of Berne/Switzerland. His presentation in full text:

¹⁹ www.urbanediakonie.ch.

500 years ago Ulrich Zwingli, the reformer at the Grossmünster (“Great Minster”) in Zurich, initiated the first Alms Ordinance in the 13 independent states which made up the Old Swiss Confederation, together with the political and economic powers of the city. This Ordinance was founded on three fundamental pillars and one condition.

1. Fundamental pillar number one: as set out in the Bible, poverty is no longer a completely economic problem, but rather a theological one. God did not create poverty to make the rich pay for charity: may God reward you for it! In contrast to the political position of Switzerland, God is not neutral, he is partisan: Deuteronomy 15:4 states “But there will be no poor among you.”

2. Fundamental pillar number two: poverty is no longer a problem for religious institutions such as monasteries to combat, but a challenge which must be tackled by society using political and economic means. Politically, the first lines of a societal structure based on solidarity were drawn up by interconnecting self-reliance (liberalism) with solidarity (sense of community).

3. Fundamental pillar number three: businesses and trades such as the guild system in Zurich or the textile industry in Geneva were brought together in this network to combat poverty by Zwingli and his successor, Heinrich Bullinger, in Zurich and 20 years later by Jean Calvin here in Geneva. Fighting poverty through education and work! This was the reformist slogan. Churches which were no longer needed for religious services were repurposed to serve diaconal needs (the Predigerkloster monastery in Zurich was transformed into the city’s first hospital).

4. This diaconal-political fundamental transition was conditional on money. The coffers for the poor were filled by nationalising monasteries on the initiative of the last abbess of the Fraumünster abbey, Katharina von Zimmern, a close friend of Ulrich Zwingli, as well as by melting down gold and silver religious artefacts used in worship.

The fiery passion that made the protestant ethos glow some 500 years ago burns on strongly in my work as a teacher, minister and businessman of the reformist heritage and Christian culture. What does theological, political and economic diaconal work in the 21st century entail?

Teacher: as a lecturer in diaconal studies within the theological course catalogue, he found the current challenges and topics include: “health policy: people who care for aged relatives, using church spaces for diaconal purposes, missiology and deaconry, pastoral care for soldiers traumatised by war, Switzerland’s relatively young diaconal history with a particular focus on the last hundred years”.

Minister: He has been a minister for thirty years. He spent fifteen years at the Grossmünster in Zurich, the mother church of Zurich’s transformation of society and the church. He has seen the politico-practical responsibility involved in trying to find a new approach to reform identity massively and transform into a pluralist society. It is necessary to create an ecumenical unity for Christianity as a minority and as a part of other religious and ideological views.

Businessman: He has been working for urban diaconia for five years. He recognised: the economic challenge is partly to acquire sufficient funds through the “Urbain Diakonia” foundation. The fund will be used to support the Christian based projects such as those in the reformed parish of Witikon in Zurich or the “Espace Solidaire Pâquis” in Geneva or GAF’s commitment to cities in China.

In his point of view, reformed (protestant) faith means using all three: diaconal activities, teaching, and spreading the word, and business in order to form a strong network and establish an ecological, ecumenical and economic global domestic economy. We should continue the history of Zwingli who said “For God’s sake do something brave!”

**KEYNOTES:
VALUES-DRIVEN ENTREPRENEURSHIP
IN DIFFERENT WORLD VIEWS
AND CONTINENTS**

**7.1 Hubert Miyimi Muwawa, Director General, SNH,
DR Congo**

The Société National de Hydrocarbure (Sonahydroc), the National Oil and Gas Company is one of the biggest companies of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). Only 100 days after the new Director General *Hubert Miyimi Muwawa* took over the leadership, Sonahydroc is reawakened. Its businesses are completely activated after a deep crisis before.

After being trained by the university bible groups (Groupe Biblique Universitaire GBU) studying the Bible, by the International Christian Chamber of Commerce ICCC on how to do the business with Christ's principles, by RTIF with family for 30 years and becoming a business man, a political man and media leader, Mr. Hubert Miyimi Muwawa shared his successful principles:

- Bring the base of Christian in DRC and the world through the training of International Christian Chamber of commerce (ICCC) and EQUIP Leadership.
- Train how to do business based on the Kingdom's principles.

- Make leaders become leaders of others « who will be able to teach others » according to 2 Tim 2:2.
- Support others to become a good Christian, ,good parent good manager. Priority order: God-Family-Business.

He applies the principles of the Bible to the enterprises:

At SSM: $C = C + C$

At Sonahydroc: $C = C + C$

Result: Both enterprises are saved by the grace and favour of God. All the employees have the confidence to work independently. They become creative and active. The ones dont take it seriously are fired and some – e.g. if they accept or pay bribes – are even put in prison to show the example. His *conclusions* are:

It is possible to practice Faith in Business at this difficult time and even in his very challenging environment; The problem still exists for the managers who don't practice Faith in Business and that is a big challenge; When the employees apply well the principle, it should be recognised and encouraged; It is necessary to apply a serious suspension as an example to whom failed to follow.

7.2 Cui Wantian, Prof. of Economics, Entrepreneur, President of GAF, China

Values Create Value is a core statement of combining ethics and business. Professor Cui Wantian stated that Jesus invented the workplace fellowship. He believes that the twelve disciples have been professionals. It needs a green sustainable development theology and an entrepreneurship theology.

He explained the difference between businessmen and entrepreneurs. It is the innovation. A businessman makes transactions, but an entrepreneur creates more value. To him, God is an entrepreneur. Entrepreneurs are not the rich people in the Bible, but good stewards of loyalty.

Today's business model returns to its core, how to get more values meaning to meet people's needs in a sustainable manner and to solve social problems. For example, Amazon.com is not the most profitable company but the most valuable one.

In order to create more value, it is important to solve cultural conflicts by localizations, to combine Kingdom Culture, Business Culture and Contemporary culture. For example, product of KFC is introduced with rice in China to adapt the rice culture instead of providing only fried potatoes.

Nowadays, the world faces many problems, such as: United States: insufficient green economy, America First; Developing countries: commercial bribery, unfair trade; Europe: refugee crisis. There is a solution. That is Love. By applying a new business mode of 'Love +': Love + business, Love + economy, Love + ..., more value will be created. Enterprises should consider profit not to be the number one priority, but instead increasing the value and benefits. This is agape economy (love economy).

7.3 Cui Ning, Entrepreneur, Kingdom Business College, China

Kingdom Business College (KBC) is founded by Christian entrepreneurs and scholars in early 2009. Our courses target entrepreneurs and professionals who have a strong sense of mission and values, to provide them with faith education, and cultivate business leaders with vision of heavenly kingdom, business ethics, and sense of social responsibilities.

KBC has integrated education resources of famous universities and research institutions all over the world. KBC also focuses on the cross-study on faith and public disciplines. In cooperation with both international and domestic well-known research institutions, experts and scholars, KBC has developed four research fields: Faith and Economy; Faith and Management; Faith and Investment, Faith and Chinese Culture.

Through such work as publishing, translating, case studies, conferences and seminars, and academic exchanges, KBC promotes cross-field researches in religion and public domains which also contributes to KBC education.

Funded by KBC, a Centre for Study of Religion and Business Ethics of Remin University of China is founded. Many scholars and researchers participate to study different religions and expert those religions' influential power to make more contributions for economic and social development. A Research Centre of Faith and Entrepreneurship of Minzu University of China are also set up to enable entrepreneurs to bring their faith to business, management and social responsibility.

For a long time, we apply faith in research, daily work and life through doing charity, social work, showing God's love by helping people in poverty and those in other dire need.

Following are *some of our implemented projects*, in cooperation of KBC with partners like the Liaoning Agape Foundation LAF in Liaoning province, initiated by KBC and accompanied with knowhow by the Geneva Agape Foundation (GAF).

Caring for leprosy sufferers: In 2009, Mr Feng Kai, the elder of Northeast Theological Seminary, led his team to join the activity of caring for 300 people with leprosy in a village around Hanzhong city in Northwest Shaanxi Province. They donated money to help improve housing conditions for the 300 people with leprosy, they also made GIK (gifts in kind) donation.

Graceland for the disabled children: Mr. Su Hui, an entrepreneur of Beijing Zhonglong Xingya International Sports Culture Media Co. Ltd, led his company to cooperate with the Mental Health Committee and China Assn. of Social Workers. In 2013, they established the Equestrian Sports and Behavioral Psychology Department to explore the rehabilitation training for autistic children and children with cerebral palsy.

Last, but not least, although we can graduate from KBC after three years, we will never graduate in our faith journey of following Jesus. As KBC entrepreneurs, we are glad to join hands with overseas counterparts to work for God's Kingdom, and shine the light of Jesus Christ.

THE WAY FORWARD

8.1 Faith in Business Geneva Declaration

Christoph Stückelberger, Executive Director of the Geneva Agape Foundation, presented a draft joint declaration during the last part of the conference. After intense plenary discussion and a number of amendments from participants, the following declaration was unanimously adopted by the plenary.

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 God's 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 effort 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).

Annex 1: 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 and 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

8.2 Tools for Future Cooperation

Communication

1.1 Prayer: include the participants/partners of this conference in our prayers.

1.2 Conference Documents: PowerPoint presentations and Word docs of speeches to be made available to all participants via email and/or space on Website. Adaptations by authors to be sent as PowerPoint or Word documents to wang@gafoundation.world until 27 Jan. The documents are available at GAF website from 4 Feb.

1.3 Conference Report: as booklet in book series. Short summary of presentations, workgroups, list of participants etc, online available by 30 April.

1.4 WhatsApp Conference Group for all conference participants, open 4 Feb, with short guidelines for rules.

1.5 Online documentation space for sharing books, documents, flyers, as on online collection “Faith in Business”. Open 15 March. Docs can be sent earlier to wang@gafoundation.world.

Cooperation

All cooperation can be bilateral or multilateral:

2.1 Invitations: invite each other where appropriate for conferences, as speakers etc.

2.2 Research Projects: bilateral or multilateral research on faith in business, e.g.

2.3 Publications projects: e.g. translations, training manuals, ecumenical declaration on faith in business.

2.4 Training/education projects: e.g. theol. Modules on faith in business for students of theology across denominations.

2.5 Prayer projects: e.g. common prayer day.

2.6 Conference projects: 21-22 Jan 2019, next conference “Stronger Together” in Geneva.

2.7 Advocacy projects: with Governments, UN etc.

2.8 Development/charity projects: multiple possibilities.

2.9 Investment projects: e.g. via Faith Invest Alliance.

8.3 A Global Forum of Faith-based Entrepreneurs Associations?

The successful conference stronger together leads to the question, if participating and not-yet participating associations would be prepared and interested to build a “Faith in Business Alliance” (FIBA) as a forum of diverse associations, a light alliance as platform for future cooperation for synergies, greater outreach and mutual support, for the Glory of God.

Like airline alliances “Star Alliance”, “Sky Team”: e.g. “Uniapac, member of Faith in Business Alliance”.

As a Christian Alliance, but name would be open enough to include later – if we want – faith-based entrepreneurs from other religions.

“Faith Invest Alliance” (draft name, Zug Declaration) is in preparation, will be multi-faith from beginning, can be complimentary as it is focused on investments.

Formulation of common values, motto (e.g. work is worship, stronger together...) and declaration as common basis.

The plenary took note but had no time to discuss the proposal.

In concluding the successful conference, *Prof. Cui Wantian*, President of Geneva Agape Foundation GAF) and *Isabel Phiri*, Prof. of Ethics and Deputy General Secretary of the World Council of Churches WCC on behalf of the two organizing institutions thanked all participants for their curiosity in exploring ways of cooperation, the well rooted presentations and inputs in discussions and their spirit of openness. They also thanked the sponsors and the team.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Conference Programme



Faith-based Entrepreneurs: Stronger Together International Networking Conference



**22 (Mon) to 23 (Tue) January 2018 in Geneva, Switzerland
(Ecumenical Centre)**

- **Topic** **Faith in business:** How can I live my faith and values in daily decisions in my company and professional life? How can we learn from each other? How can we be stronger by connecting in associations and fellowships?
The conference brings together Associations of Christian Entrepreneurs (and to some extent Christian Workers Associations and Christian investors) from all continents and backgrounds in order to *learn* from each other, *connect* to each other and explore and plan how to *cooperate*. Faith-based partners from other religions are invited even though the focus is on Christians. One focus is on linking with Christian Entrepreneurs in China and the academic research about them.
The conference is organized by the Geneva Agape Foundation with the World Council of Churches and supported by sponsors.
- **Market** The organisations can have a stand for their material and presentation. Conditions on conference page www.gafoundation.world
- **Moderator** *Christoph Stückelberger*, Professor of Ethics, Executive Director Geneva Agape Foundation, Geneva, Switzerland

<i>*confirmed speakers; **to be confirmed</i>		
Date	Time	Topic
21 Jan – Sunday	Anytime	Arrival in Geneva
Day 1 22 Jan Monday Learn and Connect	08.00 – 08.30	Arrival at the venue, registration
	08.30 – 09.00	Worship with the Ecumenical Centre in the Ecumenical Chapel
	09.10 – 09.30	Opening Session: Programme, Participants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Cui Wantian*</i>, Entrepreneur, Prof. of Economics, Founder of Kingdom Business College and Founder/President of Geneva Agape Foundation, Beijing, China • <i>Isabel Phiri*</i>, Prof. of Ethics, Deputy General Secretary, World Council of Churches, Geneva, Switzerland
	09.30 – 10.30	Faith in Business in China <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keynote: <i>Prof. You Bin*</i>, Director Religious Research Institute, Minzu University of China, Beijing Faith in Business in Africa <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keynote: <i>Pastor John Enelama*</i>, Entrepreneur, Apostles in the Marketplace, Lagos, Nigeria Faith in Business Globally <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keynote: <i>Mr. Rolando Medeiros*</i>, President Uniapac International (International Christian Union of Business Executives), Chile
	10.30-11.00	<i>Networking Tea Break / getting to know each other</i>
	11.00-12.45	Christian Entrepreneurs' Associations: Past, Present, Future. Presentation (10' each) and Panel/Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faith in Business, Cambridge, UK: <i>Dr. Richard Higginson*</i>, Director, and <i>Kina Robertshaw*</i> • International Association of Christian Entrepreneurs IVCG and VCU, Switzerland: <i>Michael Nägeli*</i>, past President • Association of Catholic Entrepreneurs in Germany (Bund Kath. Unternehmer BKU): <i>Stephan Werhahn*</i>, President of Internat. Commission • European Economic Summit, Netherlands: <i>Dr. Arleen Westerhof*</i>, Director/Founder • World Evangelical Alliance Business Coalition WEABC, Germany: <i>Timo Plutschinski*</i>, Director • Association of Orthodox Business Leaders in Russia: <i>Prof. Alexander Ageev*</i>, Prof. of Economics, President • International Labor Organization, Geneva: <i>Pierre Martino-Lagarde*</i>, Special Advisor for Socio Religious Affairs • Les Entrepreneurs et Dirigeants Chrétiens, France : <i>Philippe Royer**</i>
	12.45 – 14.15	<i>Networking Lunch / getting to know each other</i>
	14.15 – 15.30	Workgroups: The Responsibility of Christian Entrepreneurs <i>Moderators</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ For the company <i>Rodrigo Whitelaw, Director, Uniapac*</i> ➢ For Environment <i>Martin Palmer, Director, ARC*</i> ➢ For the Family <i>Niels Riconalla, CEO, FOCIG Philippines*</i> ➢ For the Churches <i>Peralta Athena, Programme Executive, WCC*</i> ➢ For Politics/Advocacy <i>Yvan Maillard Ardenti, Program Officer, Bread for All*</i> ➢ For Impact Investments <i>Nicolas Lorne, CEO Waterpreneurs *</i> (Moderators will present the results on Day 2)

	15.30 – 16.00	tea break / getting to know each other more
	16.00 – 17.30	<p>Panel: Christian Faith in Workplace. Multi-Stakeholder Moderator: <i>Athena Peralta*</i>, Program Executive Economic Justice, World Council of Churches, Geneva, Switzerland</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christian Aid SALT Business Network, UK: Entrepreneurs and Workers in Christian Development Organisations (<i>Helen Howe*</i>, SALT Manager) • Fellowship of Christians in Government FOCIG, Philippines: Christians in Public Administration (<i>Niels Riconalla*</i>, President/CEO) • Alliance for Religions and Conservation, UK: Faith-consistent Investments (<i>Martin Palmer*</i>, Executive Director) • Princeton University, Faith & Work Initiative, US (<i>Dr. Nicoleta Acatrinei*</i>, Researcher) • Bread for All, Switzerland: Responsible Business (<i>Yvan Maillard Ardenti*</i>, Programme Officer Business & Human Rights) • Internat. Council for Trade and Sustainable Development ICTSD, Switzerland: Working in an international organisation (<i>Wallace Cheng*</i>, Managing Director) • City Vision, UK: Faith in professional life (<i>Tony Hodges*</i>, Founder)
	17.30	Travel to Old Town (Take bus 5 and drop at Place Neuve, walk via Place de Neuve and Rue de la Tertasse)
	18.15 - 21.00	<p>Cases: Stories of Christian Entrepreneurs Christian Entrepreneurs/Sponsors tell about their companies, faith in business and foundations, with buffet-dinner at the Societe-de-lecture (Grand Rue 11, 1204 Genève); Host is <i>Guillaume Taylor*</i>, Banker/Investor, Board member of GAF, Geneva, Switzerland. Further Contributors: <i>Dieter and Jeanne Pestalozzi*</i>, Entrepreneur and President of Bread for All, Zurich, Switzerland; Prof. Dr. <i>Christoph Sigrist*</i>, Urbain Diakonia Foundation, Zurich, Switzerland</p>
	21.00	back to hotel
<p>Day 2 23 Jan Tuesday</p> <p>Connect and Cooperate</p>	08.30	Arrival at the venue
	08.40 - 09.10	Prayer in the chapel, Summary of Day 1
	09.15- 10.30	<p>Plenary: Values-Driven Entrepreneurship in different World Views and Continents. Keynotes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr. Hubert Miyimi Muwawa*</i>, Director General, Société National des Hydrocarbures du Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo DRC • <i>Prof. Cui Wantian*</i>, President of GAF, Prof. of Economics, Beijing, China • <i>Ms. Cui Ning*</i>, Kingdom Business College, Beijing, China • <i>Prof. Li Xiangping*</i>, Director Religion and Social Research Centre, East China Normal University, Shanghai, China
	10.30-11.00	tea break
	11.00 – 12.15	Plenary: Presentation of Workgroups
	12.15 - 13.00	<p>Promotional Market: Book launches, presentation of Journals, events; Visit of tables/exhibition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Globethics.net "China Christian" Book Series, Book Launch - Other presentations from participating institutions - Unveiling ceremony of new Chinese partners
	13.00 - 14.30	Networking Lunch/ getting to know each other more
	14.30 - 15.30	Networking: Build interest groups or bilateral contacts on e.g. publications, events, spiritual leadership, advocacy etc.

	15.30 - 16.00	tea break / getting to know each other more
	16.00 - 17.30	Plenary: The Way Forward (Moderator: Christoph Stükelberger, GAF) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Joint Declaration ➢ Tools of future cooperation ➢ A Global Forum of Faith-based Entrepreneurs Associations? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responses from Geneva Agape Foundation (<i>Prof. Cui Wantian*</i>, President of GAF) and • World Council of Churches (<i>Isabel Phiri*</i>, Prof. of Ethics, Deputy General Secretary, World Council of Churches)
	17.30 - 18.00	Celebrate Life: Closing Worship in the chapel
	18.00 – 19.00	Farewell Apéro
	19.00 - 21.00	Special Event: Impact Investments for Water and Health, with Waterpreneurs, Ecumenical Water Network and others See separate programme
Day 3 24 Jan Wed	Whole day	Departure Options for Exposure/Holiday, WEF : For information: 24-27 January, the World Economic Forum WEF will be held in Davos/ Switzerland (5 hours by train from Geneva).

■ **Partners**



■ **Sponsors**



Also thanks to contributions of Individual Entrepreneurs

■ **Practical Information**

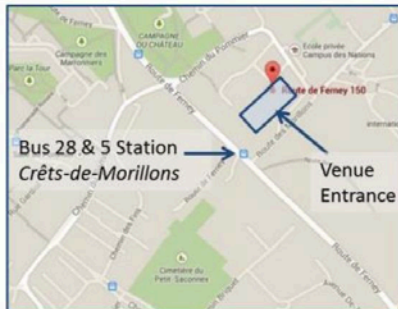
Address:

The venue is in the neighbourhood of the United Nations Geneva:

Ecumenical Centre
150 Route de Ferney
1211 Geneva 2
Switzerland

Public Transportation:

From Geneva Airport/SBB Train station take bus 5 or 28 and drop at Station Crêts-de-Morillons



Appendix 2: List of Speakers and Participants

	Surname	First Name	Organisation
Ms	ACATRINEI	Nicoleta	Princeton University Faith and Work Initiative
Mr	AGEEV	Alexander	Globethics.net
Mr	ARDENTI	Yvan Maillard	Bread for All
Ms	BALGOBIN	Nadia	Globethics.net
Mr	BAMEULE	Luis	UNIAPAC Latin America
Ms	BANWAGEN	Adeline	TRCI Church
Ms	BANWAGEN	Melody	Student in Business
Mr	BJERTNES	Carl Gustav	Social Entrepreneurship Development and Strategies
Ms	BUI	Hong	Geneva Agape Foundation
Ms	CADANGEN	Joy	Geneva Agape Foundation
Mr	CALLEJA	Mariano Roy	UNIAPAC Philippines
Mr	CHENG	Wallace	Internat. Council for Trade and Sustainable Development ICTSD
Ms	CUI	Ning	Cutting Edge Education
Mr	CUI	Wantian	Geneva Agape Foundation

70 *Christian Entrepreneurs' Associations*

	Surname	First Name	Organisation
Mr	DE LA CRUZ	César	Indigenous Mining Equity Foundation
Mr	DOKMAN	Frans	Basileia Business and Research
Mr	ENELAMA	John	Apostle in the Market Place
Mr	GOUNDIAEV	Mikhael	Permanent Representative of the Russian Orthodox Church at the WCC
MR	HANSELMANN	Magaly	Swiss Interchurch Aid (HEKS/EPER)
Mr	HIGGINSON	Richard	Faith in Business, Cambridge Univeristy
Mr	HODGES	Tony	City Vision
Ms	HOWE	Helen	Christian Aid SALT
Mr	HUANG	Suying	China and Russia Cultural Exchange Assoc. in Heilongjiang Province
Mr	KOEGLER	Michel	International Christian Chamber of Commerce
Mr	LI	Xiangping	Center for Religion and Society, East China Normal University
Mr	LORNE	Nicolas	Waterpreneurs

	Surname	First Name	Organisation
Mr	MARTINOT-LAGARDE	Pierre	International Labour Organization (ILO)
Mr	MEDEIROS	Rolando	UNIAPAC Global
Mr	MUWAWA MIYIMI	Hubert	International Christian Chamber of Commerce
Mr	NAGELI	Michael	Assoc. of Christian Entrepreneur (VCU)
Mr	PALMER	Martin	Alliance for Religions and Conservation (ARC)
Ms	PERALTA	Athena	World Council of Churches
Mr	PESTALOZZI	Dieter	International Martin Luther Foundation
Ms	PESTALOZZI	Jeanne	International Martin Luther Foundation
Ms	PHIRI	Isabel	World Council of Churches
Mr	PLUTSCHINSKI	Timo	World Evangelical Alliance
Mr	POLGAR	Balazs	ÉRMe Network
Ms	RICONALLIA	Alma	Fellowship of Christians in Government
Mr	RICONALLIA	Niels Patrick	Fellowship of Christians in Government
Ms	ROBERTSHAW	Kina	Faith in Business, Cambridge

	Surname	First Name	Organisation
			Univeristy
Mr	SIGRIST	Christoph	Urbain Diakonia Foundation
Mr	STUECKEL- BERGER	Christoph	Geneva Agape Foundation
Mr	SUN	Susan	Basel University
Mr	SUNA	Dinesh	World Council of Churches
Mr	TAYLOR	Guillaume	Quadia Impact Investment
Mr	TOTH	Jozsef	ÉRMe Network
Mr	WANG	Dan	Kingdom Business College
Ms	WANG	Yuli Vanessa	Geneva Agape Foundation
Mr	WERHAHN	Stephan	Federation of Catholic Entrepreneurs (BKU)
Ms	WESTERHOF	Arleen	European Economic Summit
Mr	WHITELAW	Rodrigo	UNIAPAC Global
Mr	WOOLLARD	Ben	City Vision, Great Britain
Mr	XIAO	Xiong	Internat. Council for Trade and Sustainable Development ICTSD, Geneva
Mr	YOU	Bin	Academy of Religion, Minzu University, China

	Surname	First Name	Organisation
Mr	ZHANG	Xuekui	China and Russia Cultural Exchange Assoc. in Heilongjiang Province, China
Mr	ZHOU	Jianzhong	Wenzhou Lianqiang Tech. Co., Ltd, China
Mr	ZHU	Youke	Kingdom Business College, Beijing, China

Appendix 3: Photo Gallery





Arleen Westerhof, Netherlands



Cui Ning, China



P. Martinot-Lagarde, Switzerland



Hubert Muwawa Miyimi, DR Congo



Isabel Phiri, Zambia/Switzerland



You Bin, China



Richard Higginson, UK



Kina Robertshaw, UK

76 *Christian Entrepreneurs' Associations*



Enelama John, Nigeria



Timo Plutschinki, Germany



Rolando Medeiros, Chile



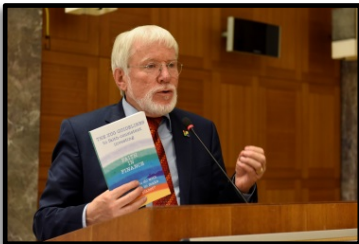
Stephan Werhahn, Germany



Nicoleta Acatrinei, USA



Cui Wantian, China



Christoph Stückelberger, Switzerland



Dieter and Jeanne Pestalozzi, Switzerland





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Report of the International Conference Geneva 2018

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