



World Council of Churches

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To the World Council of Churches
member churches in Austria, Belgium,
Germany and the Netherlands

« Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God.»

2 Corinthians 1:3-4

Dear sisters and brothers,

It is with great sorrow that we are following the news of the casualties, suffering, and devastation caused by the floods in your region in the last days.

On behalf of the global ecumenical fellowship represented by the World Council of Churches we want to express our deepest condolences to you for all the lives lost in this terrible context.

We pray to the God of life to give you strength as you work to succor the thousands who lost their homes and are evacuated in your midst.

In this time when a heavy burden lies upon your people, we remember with thankfulness your tireless efforts to assist peoples and nations worldwide, not lastly through the committed diaconal work of your churches and specialized ministries. Be assured that you are held by our prayers and solidarity in this challenging time.

We echo His Excellency German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier's concerns about the root causes of this disaster as well as his affirmation that only an effective fight against climate change can prevent natural disasters like the ones that are devastating Europe at this time.

We extend our sympathies, most especially to the families who mourn, and we pray for peace and comfort at this difficult time.

Yours in our common Lord,

Rev. Prof. Dr Ioan Saucă
Acting General Secretary
World Council of Churches

Dr Agnes Abuom
Moderator of the World Council of Churches
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