



# World Council of Churches

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Federation of Swiss Protestant Churches  
Rev. Dr. Theol. Dr. H.C. Gottfried Locher  
President of the Council

Geneva, 6 August 2018

Sent by e-mail to: [office.locher@sek.ch](mailto:office.locher@sek.ch)

Dear Dr Locher,

*"If we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord."*

Romans 14:8

I write on behalf of the World Council of Churches and our many member churches around the world to offer our heartfelt sympathies over the recent crash in the Alps of the JU-52 HB-HOT aircraft, on 4 August.

From our headquarters in Geneva, the World Council of Churches has been cherishing its relationship with the Swiss people over the last 70 years. Therefore, it was with great sadness that we received the news of this tragic accident. Please accept our deepest condolences on the passing of the 20 people on board the aircraft.

In this time of grief, we join the Swiss churches in praying for the families of the victims.

May God strengthen you and your people in this time of sorrow. We hope that the ministry of the Swiss churches can also be instrumental in comforting the families and all those who mourn the sudden death of this group of people.

We take comfort in knowing that the victims are now resting in the arms of our Lord.

Yours in Christ,

Prof. Dr Isabel Apawo Phiri  
Acting General Secretary  
World Council of Churches