

[View this email in your browser](#)

7th Edition

# IPA Justice Contact Update August 2020

## Listen to the Land...Listen to the Soul



**"Let tiny drops of stillness fall gently through your day."**

*Miriam-Rose Ungunmerr-Baumann*

The indigenous peoples of our world have been inviting us for years to listen to the land, to listen to soul. In Australia, the indigenous people speak of *dadirri* which means an inner, deep listening and a quiet, still awareness.

In the spirit of *dadirri* we invite you to take some time...slowly...

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

...to hear the ancient wisdom of the indigenous peoples  
 ...to be aware of Earth  
 ...to listen to your heart  
 ...to wait  
 ...to welcome  
 ...to come home

You may choose to be out in nature or in your own place of quiet and reflection. Let an image of creation come into your awareness...allow it to fill your soul...absorb you.

As you breathe in this space, breathe deeply and slowly...be open and receive...ask and hear...respect and care...hold and bless...yourself...our world

We invite you to journal your thoughts and / or share with a friend.

*From the IPA Spirituality & Charism Committee PBVM Srs. Terry Abraham, Maria Lazzaro, & Dorothy Scesny*

## Update from the Programme Action Leader



The IPA Justice Contacts, IPA Team, and IPA Board were present for our Zoom gathering on the 28th of July facilitated by Caplor Horizons and Judith King.

**“A true community is not just about being geographically close to someone or part of the same social web network. It’s about feeling connected and responsible for what happens.”**

*Yehuda Berg*

On the 28<sup>th</sup> of July, the IPA Justice Contacts, the IPA Team, and the IPA Board meet

Caplor Horizons and Judith King. This was the first time we were able to gathering as one within the new structure of IPA.

There was a spirit of true community, even though some people had never met. The passion for justice, for relationships, and for the continued mission of Nano Nagle guided us and brought a sense of oneness that was tangible by all.

Part of our meeting discussed the new advocacy focus of “elimination of violence against women and children” and the importance of every Presentation person seeing themselves in it. The collective of local stories put flesh on the bones of our IPA strategy, allowing it to come to life during our gathering. The spirit was leading us towards an energized future of IPA, where we can continue to bring forth a world where no one is left behind.

Needless to say, this meeting brought me great hope for our world. In this challenging time of a global pandemic, I was awed by the personal and communal responses to local issues. I felt connected to each story and have a deep desire continue to support each person in this sacred call.

I am incredibly grateful for this Presentation community, not only for what we do, but who we are. Thank you!

In peace and gratitude,

*Mary Therese Krueger, PBVM*  
*IPA Programme Action Leader*

---

## Update from the UN IPA NGO Representative



Dear friends,

Indigenous peoples are among the most discriminated against, socially and economically marginalized, and politically subordinated parts of the society in the countries where they live. The COVID-19 pandemic has generally exacerbated existing inequalities and current forms of discrimination faced by many indigenous peoples.

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

9th. It is celebrated around the world and marks the date of the inaugural session of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations at the United Nations in 1982. This year's theme is *COVID-19 and indigenous peoples' resilience*. As part of this year's commemoration, the UN will be organizing a **virtual event** bringing together indigenous peoples' organizations, UN agencies, Member States, civil society and relevant stakeholders. The aim is to highlight how the preservation and promotion of indigenous peoples' traditional knowledge and practices can be leveraged more fully during this pandemic and build back stronger. The event will take place on Monday, August 10th, 2020 (9:00am to 11:00 am EST). The UN will share information on how to join and where to view the virtual event soon. [Check here for updates.](#)

Globally, indigenous peoples face various patterns of discrimination, marginalization and human rights violations. Much remains to be done in order to mainstream indigenous rights into national policies. Insensitive and abusive official policies need to be overthrown by responsible and inclusive ones. Culture is a pillar of sustainable development. There is no genuine sustainable development without respect for the cultural diversity. Indigenous Peoples should participate in the design and implementation of all policies that may affect them directly or indirectly. They should be involved in decision-making processes at all levels in the countries in which they live. The protection, recognition and appreciation of indigenous peoples rights is a human rights imperative at all times, including in emergency situations like the COVID-19 pandemic.

In this regard and honoring the IPA mandate and priority action to advance the rights of indigenous peoples, I have submitted a report/input for the Report of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples to the General Assembly regarding the impact of COVID-19 on Indigenous Peoples. The IPA contribution will be posted online on the Special Rapporteur's website in due time. I will keep you updated! Many thanks to those of you who sent informative material and stories that helped me write the submitted report!!

Stay safe everyone!!

Respectfully,

*Dr. Despoina Afroditi Milaki*  
*IPA NGO Representative at the UN*

[Click here for the full report](#)



Watch this webinar for a review of the 2020 High Level Political Forum

---

## Update from the Grassroots

---

### **The Time is Now. Let Us Walk the Talk Reflection on the Victoria Falls Conference *Annatollia F. Muzata, PBVM***

The Justice Coalition of Religious in Africa which gathered in Victoria Falls from the 2<sup>th</sup> to the 27<sup>th</sup> of February 2020 for the 6<sup>th</sup> Session of the African Regional Forum on Sustainable Development affirmed that we as religious people have started the implementation of the agenda 2030 and Agenda 2063 in our different congregations through our charism and mission.

As religious we should continue with our good practices in bringing justice and development to the people by living our evangelical councils which are poverty, obedience and chastity. Poverty helps the religious to bring our giftedness to work with people without looking for remuneration instead as religious we should be at the service of the people. Obedience helps us as religious to respond to the where the mission of Christ is calling us and chastity helps us to love and to walk humbly with Christ in mission.

In line with the Decade of Action that is for the Sustainable Development Goals Agenda 2030 and the African Union Agenda 2063 the focus of the developmental agenda was on People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace and Partnership. There was a call on all member states, UN agencies, the private sector, civil society and other stakeholders to drastically accelerate the development agenda and progress should be noticed in the African region through improved livelihoods of the people. Youth are the future, hence they should be given a chance to lead.

---

guns of poverty, war, corruption, hatred, unemployment and economic instability. This however, can only be achieved through the implementation of agenda 2030 and agenda 2063. “The future is ours”. The young people of Africa echoed. Nothing for us without us is for us. We need new wine in new wine skins. The governments need to create space for the young people in policymaking and provide an enabling environment that allows the young people to express themselves freely and allow them to explore new ideas in technology and innovation. African youths have great hope and are optimistic about the future, their future – our future – is now.

The question which was asked by many stakeholders at the conference was how possible can we say we are living no one behind in sustainable development agenda considering the inequalities in our African society. The rich are becoming richer and the poor are becoming poorer. The youth for example, were of the opinion that such gatherings as the African Summit on Sustainable development should take part where the marginalised groups of people are for example the elderly, children and women are. For example, go to the villages where people are and hear what they are to say on their own, listen to what they have to say and their real needs.

The challenge was for Africa to end poverty, bring together people from all walks of life and hear their issues. There is no need to bring ideas to people instead development should be brought to people. The human rights based approach should be used to accelerate progress for the most vulnerable groups of our society. There is need for governments to increase avenues for meaningful and inclusive participation of all stakeholders, including children, youth, older persons, people with disabilities, women, adolescents, girls, internally displaced people, refugees, indigenous peoples and other marginalized groups, in decision making processes for development to take place in Africa...

[Read more here...](#)

---



WORLD DAY AGAINST  
**TRAFFICKING  
IN PERSONS**  
30 JULY

**Our Theme:**  
May our prayer lead us to act against human trafficking

**SEE:**

Does human trafficking still exist in the world? Does it occur in our country?

The International Labour Organization (ILO) estimates that there are more than 40 million people in our world today who are victims of human trafficking.

- Some are women and men trafficked into forced labour in factories, agricultural fields, hospitality and domestic servitude;
- Some are children trafficked to pick our coffee or to work in dangerous mines for minerals to make our mobile phones, other electronic goods and cosmetics;
- Some are young girls, boys and women trafficked into sexual exploitation in brothels, dance bars and the pornography industry.
- The current Covid-19 crisis is impacting on people most vulnerable to trafficking because they often live in poverty and lack suitable housing and healthcare.

**Forced labour and human trafficking happens in every country including Australia.  
It is a billion dollar industry.  
Yet behind all the statistics is a human person and their story.**

**JUDGE:**

How might a good citizen, who is also a Christian, view issues of human trafficking?

**The United Nations** affirms that trafficking in persons is a serious crime and a grave violation of human rights, which threatens national security and undermines sustainable development and the rule of law.

No one shall be held in slavery or servitude; slavery and servitude shall be prohibited in all their forms.

Article 4 Universal Declaration of Human Rights  
<https://www.un.org/en/universal-declaration-human-rights>

**Pope Francis** says that human trafficking is without doubt, a crime against humanity for its violation of human dignity and freedom. Trafficking constitutes an unjustifiable violation of the freedom and dignity of the victims.. This is why it is considered a crime against humanity. Trafficking seriously damages humanity as a whole, tearing apart the human family and the Body of Christ.

ACRATH's work is inspired by Jesus who said: "I have come that all may have life and have it to the full." John 10:10.

**Our vision is of a world free of human trafficking**



**Wisdom from the Prophet Micah 6:8**

This is what the LORD requires, this is what is sought and longed for, only this – that you act justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with your God.

**In what ways do the views of these leaders who work to address present challenges speak to you on this 2020 World Day Against Trafficking in Persons?**

Download the full Prayer for 2020 World Day Against Trafficking in Persons from ACRATH

**Zambia Project**

*Antony Tompkin, Nottingham Presentation Associate*

I first became interested in Zambia ten years ago upon becoming a Presentation Associate. I had just retired from full time employment and the associated physical and mental pressures that came with the territory. I decided that I wanted my

...I usually work with a class of between 50-60 teenaged children [in Zambia]. I find poetry a great medium for teaching English language skills. I start by reciting a few poems and then encourage them to stand at the front and recite a poem in good clear English, this also gives them confidence and self esteem. We then break into several small groups and decide a title for a class poem, each title is written on the board and voted by the whole class. Usually they will choose sport, friendship etc. However, during my earlier visit this year, the class unanimously voted for a poem about child marriage.

We discussed the surrounding issues over a few hours, how the young victim would feel, the reasons behind it, the social implications etc. I was shocked to hear that most of the children knew of someone who had been sold into a child marriage, some even had siblings who after being orphaned were sold into marriage.

This poem is the joint result of our deliberations which we discussed line by line as we developed the story. We wrote it from the perspective of one of their friends trapped in a marriage and writing an imaginary letter to them.

### **CHILD MARRIAGE: NO!!** 🙏 🙏

1. I am thirteen years old, innocent, and young.

My school, my friends, education, and fun.  
These things brought me pleasure.  
And memories that I now treasure.

2. One day a darkness upon me descended.

And my dreams and my future ended.  
A wicked nightmare life of shame.  
Where nothing will ever be the same.

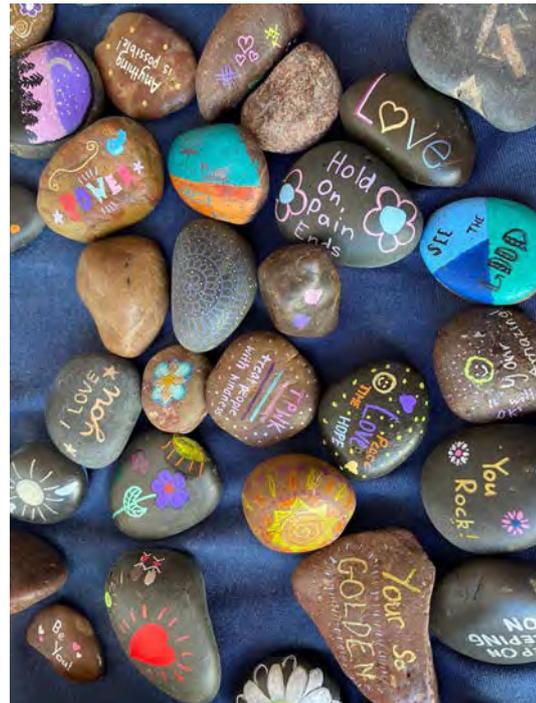
3. My life is now harsh and cruel.

I miss my friends and my school.  
My friends hear my plea.  
And in your prayers remember me.

### **CHILD MARRIAGE NO!!** 🙏 🙏

[Read more here](#)

[Click here for a reading of the poem "Child Marriage No"](#)



## Iona Cares for Cana Communities

*Gemma Thomson, IPA Justice Contact for Western Australia*

*Dean of Mission and Catholic Identity at Iona Presentation College*

In Term 2, the College has worked with Cana Communities on a number of different initiatives, evidencing our commitment to the International Presentation Association's priority justice areas of Women and Children and Aboriginal People.

Our students who attended Community Cookup prepared a variety of tasty savoury muffins, quiches and frittatas in one of their cooking sessions. Students as part of

---

weekday lunches in Fremantle.

To commemorate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday (5 July), Cana held a ceremony and gathering at Anstead House where the “Kindness Pebbles” prepared by our Young Pressies students were distributed to those in attendance. The adults loved the messages and the intricate, detailed art on the pebbles.

Additionally, students made fleece blankets as part of Iona Care which have been distributed amongst those in need at Cana.

Thank you to all students who have contributed in some way to ‘making a difference’ to Cana Communities in Term 2; the recipients of your service are so very grateful.

We look forward to continuing our cherished partnership with Cana Communities again this Term and into the future.

---

**IPA was featured in Caplor Horizon's Update! [Read about it here!](#)**



This video from UN Women describes how you can address domestic violence against women and children during COVID-19.

---

## Upcoming Webinars

---

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate](#) ▼

**(ERI):** The aim of the course is to raise awareness about more effective global action for justice - [Learn more](#)

---

## Upcoming Dates

---

**9 August** - International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples - [Learn more](#)

**12 August** - International Youth Day - [Learn more](#)

**19 August** - World Humanitarian Day - [Learn more](#)

**21 August** - International Day of Remembrance and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism - [Learn more](#)

**22 August** - International Day Commemorating the Victims of Acts of Violence Based on Religion or Belief - [Learn more](#)

**23 August** - International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and Its Abolition - [Learn more](#)

**29 August** - International Day against Nuclear Tests - [Learn more](#)

**30 August** - International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances - [Learn more](#)

---

[Click here to subscribe to the monthly IPA Justice Contact Update](#)

---



This email was sent to [adminipa@pbvm.org](mailto:adminipa@pbvm.org)

[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

International Presentation Association · 1011 1st Ave # 1313 · New York, NY 10022-4112 · USA

