



Official Guild:

PEACE FELLOWSHIP NETWORK INTERNATIONAL

as established by:

AFRICAN CENTRE FOR PEACE BUILDING

(AFCOPB)



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Presented to:

All Acting Leaders and Starters of Peace Fellowship Networks

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

African Centre for Peace Building (AFCOPB) is a non-governmental organization based in Ghana which seeks to develop and promote a sustainable peace in Ghana and Africa at large. The organization focuses on Conflict Analysis, Conflict Prevention, Conflict and Crisis Management, Conflict Resolution, Peace Education, Youth Development, Provision of Legal Aid to vulnerable, Research and Documentation of conflict situations, and combating of HIV/AIDS.

1.1 AFCOPB Departments

Peace and Conflicts, Programmes, Administration, Finance, Women Programme, Youth Development Fund, Justice, Legal And Human Right, Health and Research

1.2 The Peace Fellowship Network International-PFNI

PFNI is a youth wing of AFCOPB which aims at bringing together the young people's youthful energies to champion the course of peace building instead of front violence and destruction.

2.0 WHY PEACE FELLOWSHIP NETWORK INTERNATIONAL?

Young people around the world have often been the victims of war and conflicts. Their energies are sourced and often used to front violent acts and conflicts.

Recent studies have found a significant correlation between large youth cohorts and political instability and violence.

A large pool of young people does not need to be destabilizing, however if young people-particularly young men - are uprooted, intolerant, jobless, and have few opportunities for positive engagement, they represent a ready pool of recruits for ethnic, religious, and political extremists seeking to mobilize violence.

In many developing countries, young people are coming of age in societies that lack stable government, economic growth, or basic material and physical security. In such circumstances, youth often turn away from the authority and ideology of older generations and seek to mobilize their own generation in search of solutions.

In Ghana the youth have been directly involved in political, chieftaincy and ethnic conflicts in trouble spots like Bawku, Alavanyo-Nkunya, Kokomba-Nanumba, Buipe and Anloga.



This can be extremely positive. In many place young people have been a powerful force for constructive change. In Serbia, young people played a key role in toppling Milosevic, and were instrumental in producing democratic revolution in Slovakia, Georgia, and the Ukraine.

The youth are not the only key actors or initiators of violence but the aged play the vital role. Politician, religious and community leaders take advantage of lack of job and other opportunities, youthful energies of the hungry youth, offer them resource (money, ammunitions and promises of job opportunities) to front violence conflicts and wars just to help achieve their personal means at the detriment of nation and continental interest.

These acts of the youth and aged in our modern societies if not checked and properly addressed, the future of this nation and that of the rest of the world would be in catastrophe in years to come.

3.0 OUR INTERVENTION

The concept of Peace Fellowship Network International

The Peace Fellowship Network International is currently being established in all Tertiary Institutions and Senior High Schools across the country and other countries in Africa. The students will be involved in various programmes, training and projects that are developed on the ideology of peace. These programmes would help channel their youthful energies into peace building.

Some of the programs and projects to be embarked on include:

- Essay contests (local and international)
- UN Peace Day Celebrations
- International and National Peace and Leadership Conferences
- Workshops and seminars on the Climate Change
- Peace Awards
- Community Based Projects
- Peace, Health and Human Right Campaigns
- Week for Peace Making among others

Training will be offered periodically for members of the Peace Fellowship Network Int. Members and other students who will undergo the training would be awarded certificates and crowned as PEACE FELLOWS.

Below are some of the courses:

- ❖ Conflict Analysis
- ❖ Interfaith Conflict Analysis



- ❖ Crisis Management
- ❖ Mediation skills
- ❖ Conflict Resolution
- ❖ Good Governance
- ❖ Democracy
- ❖ Public Accountability and Service

3.1 Who becomes a member or a leader of PFN?

- ❖ **Member:** any person with sound mind toward peace building and also have the spirit of volunteerism can be a member. Be it in the tertiary, second cycle institution or a community in which the chapter is located. Members must cultivate an attitude devoid of any form of discrimination especially **tribal, religious, political, physical disability, race, and academic** among others. Members must also desist from any form of **oppression and exploitation especially economic, political, social and education** among others. *For discrimination, oppression and exploitation are foods for destruction, violence, crisis, conflict and war let's combat them.*
- ❖ **Leader:** some members would be appointed by the Directors of AFCOPB to be acting until a chapter's democratic constitution is promulgated to pave way for chapter elections of leaders to continue stirring the affairs of the chapter. Who qualifies to be elected as a leader would be determined by the chapter's constitution. **NB. The Directors of AFCOPB would guide every chapter to draw their own democratic constitution. Director of AFCOPB would appoint Regional Coordinators and a National Coordinator to assist Chapters in the activities.**
NB: Identification cards would also be given to you to authenticate your membership

3.2 Who qualifies to be a PEACE FELLOW?

The individual might have been awarded at least one of the above certificates and participated in at least one our voluntary programmes.

3.3 How are the members and the leadership advised? An Advisory Board will be constituted with a membership drawn from elders (e.g. Dean of Students, Lecturers, Chiefs in your community, Headmasters, Teaches) in your institution, to offer support and advice to the Fellowship. Directors of AFCOPB are also overseers and advisors of PFN.

NB. Peace Fellowship Networks are the chapters in the various schools and Peace Fellowship Network International country chapter like Liberia, Togo etc.

If you complete school you can apply for international membership.

3.4 How does PFNs fund its programmes?



Most funds would be external provided and or channeled through AFCOPB. A chapter can also generate funds internally through membership semester/term or annual dues. Any chapter of PFN that wishes to embark on a programme would submit the **programme details** and **budget** to the Directors of AFCOPB for **review** and **recommendations**.

3.5 What do I benefit from being a member of PFNI?

- You would be one of the major contributors towards peace building in the world. Consider this as one of your greatest achievements for it is said that *peace builders are children of God*.
- Through the periodic trainings and conferences, you would get a lot of leadership experience even if you are not a leader of any of the chapters. This would prepare you to meet the challenges of corporate and the social world.
- You can also work with many International Organizations like the UN, UNICEF, USAID, ECOWAS etc.
- You would get a lot of local, national, and international links.
- You will get a lot of certificates of being a member and a leader.
- You can get scholarship to study at universities both first and master degree programmes in Ghana or outside Ghana in related field.

4.0 PROJECTS

4.1 On-going

- Rural Peace Project, Eastern Region, Upper East, Upper West, Northern Region, Volta Region, Brong Ahafo Region
- Games for Peace, Senior High Schools
- Peace Walks, Denu
- Community Peace Education, Ashanti And Volta
- Formations of Peace Fellowships- Ghana, Togo, Benin and Nigeria
- Peace Worships and Training, KNUST

4.2 Completed

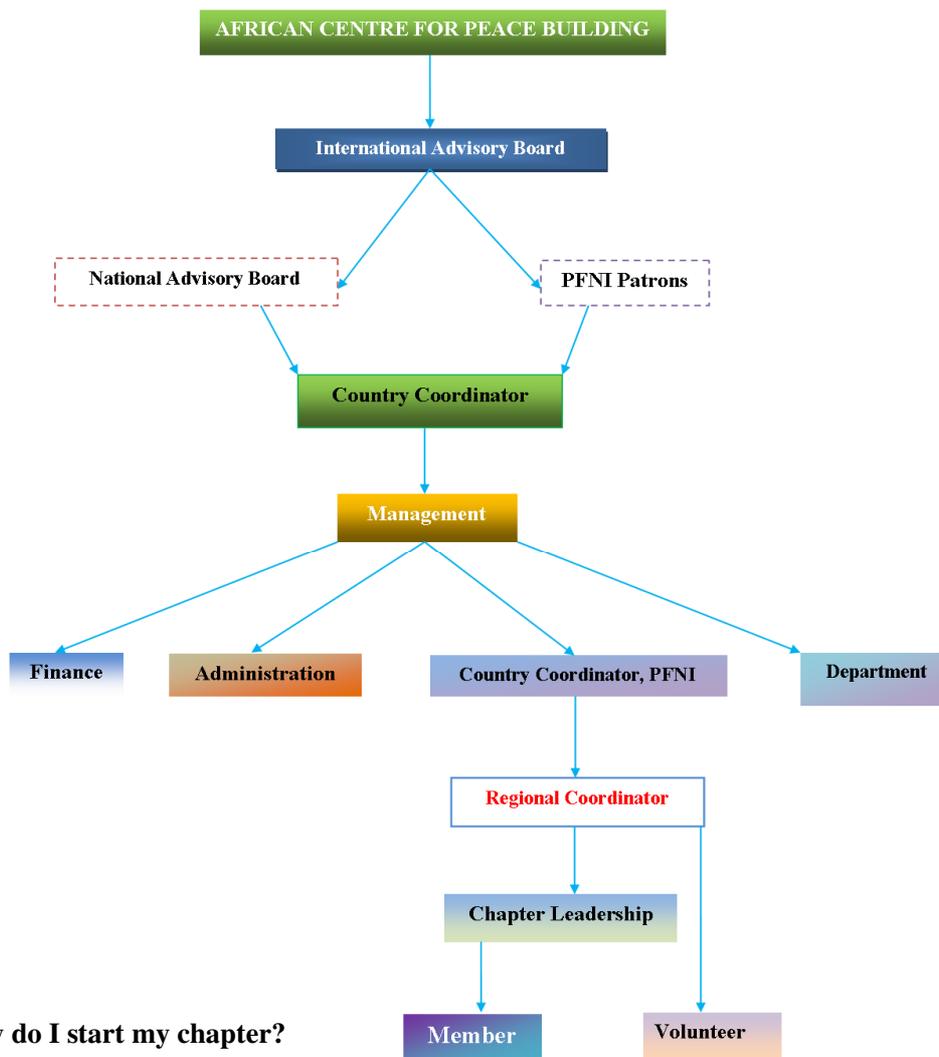
- Youth Leadership Workshop/Capacity Building, Ho and Tamale
- Rural Folks Peace Education, Mampong Municipal and Ejura-Sekyedumase District, Ashanti Region
- Prevention Through Education (HIV/AIDS Awareness Project), Agona District, Central Region
- Environmental Awareness Campaign-Kumasi, 2009



4.3 Up-coming Programmes/Projects

- Launching of Rural Peace Project, Accra
- August 17-22, 2010, Fresher Peace Projects on KNUST campus
- September, Celebration of UN International Day of Peace in Accra, Legon campus.
- October 12, 2010, launching of Peace Fellowship Network Int. Ashanti Regional Chapter
- December, Peace Festival 2010, University of Ghana-Legon, Accra-Ghana
- December, Best Volunteer Award-BVA 2010
- Volunteers Award for Students (SHS & JHS)

5.0 ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



6.0 How do I start my chapter?



Chapters are the backbone of PFNI, and a great way to have fun while promoting global culture of peace at your school! Chapters represent and promote the PFNI within their respective schools, and encourage student members to engage in dialogue on various peace issues and programmes within the structured processes established by the AFCOPB.

.... PROMOTE CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP

Most groups have 3-5 members coordinating the work and organizing meetings and events. It is a good idea to involve as many students as possible in building a solid foundation for your group so that members stay active and the work is shared. Getting students involved can happen in a variety of ways depending on your targeted institution (university, Poly, training collage, SHS)

Getting Started

1. Inform the Head of the school and convince him/her to believe in the idea of forming the PFN and its significance to the school and the students (academic and social).
2. Lobby the Head to be the Patron and ask him/her to recommend some of teachers that could serve as advisors.
3. Get a student(s) friend(s) and explain the concept to him/her or them and appoint him/her or them as Acting Executive(s).
4. Start making announcement for interested students to write down their names with any of the acting leaders. 5. Schedule a first meeting...
6. At the first meeting, chair the meeting together with the acting President and the acting General Secretary.

Sample Agenda for the First Informational Meeting

- i. Opening prayer
- ii. Introduction members present
- iii. What is the Peace Fellowship Network
- iv. Why PFIN as established by AFCOPB
- v. What is AFCOPB and the link between AFCOPB and PFNI
- vi. How doe one become a member
- vii. What does one benefit from being a member



- viii. Possible programmes PFNI can undertake at the chapter.
- ix. Open forum-solicit ideas from member present on who to grow and sustain the group
- x. Take attendance and ask the members to propose another time for the second meeting
- xi. Closing prayer

After this get in touch with AFCOPB Director if you have any problem.

7. 0 CONCLUSION

AFCOPB cherishes any partnership of collaboration to support young people make something good out of their lives. It is our expectation that you and your outfit will be part of the realization of this great dream.