



ORDER OF FRIARS MINOR
OFFICE OF JUSTICE, PEACE AND INTEGRITY OF CREATION
JPIC AFRICA CONTINENTAL MEETING
RWANDA 2026

The JPIC animators of two conferences in Africa gathered at the JPIC Africa Continental Meeting at Kivumu, Muhanga district in Rwanda from 21st to 26th September 2026 to share about their experience of JPIC animation and to plan together in the context of the 800th anniversary of the Passover of Saint Francis and the theme of «St. Francis of Assisi, a beacon of peace and harmony among all creatures in Africa.»

After various reflections, presentations and reports, these animators appreciated the efforts made by so many brothers, sisters and other people of good will in animating the Franciscan Family about the transversal values of Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation. Considerable impact has been made through sensitization and formation, pastoral care for the poor and the most vulnerable, pastoral assistance to prisons, refugees, migrants as well as various initiatives for the care of our Common Home.

At the same time, JPIC Animators shared and discussed their common challenges which include:

1. Shortage of financial resources to implement JPIC initiatives and activities.
2. Poor collaboration and support from friars, communities, other JPIC animators as well as the Secretariat of Formation and Studies, and that of Mission and Evangelisation.
3. Failure to respond to the needs of vulnerable people, especially displaced persons, migrants and refugees.
4. Lack of clear and effective operational planning for JPIC animation.
5. Weak communication and networking at the level of Foundations/Custodies/Provinces, Conferences and the Order.
6. Long distances and geographical challenges, which make animation and participation difficult.
7. Lack of continuity and overload of responsibilities, with JPIC animators often having several other duties.
8. Socio-political conflicts, war, violence, corruption, unemployment and poverty.

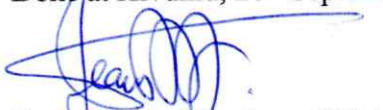
Following intensive reflection and discussion, the recommendations below were made to every African entity as a way of addressing those challenges:

1. Genuine and ongoing conversion of heart so as to convert fear into courage, indifference into compassion and individualism into communion
2. Introduction of JPIC courses into all stages of formation
3. Initiation of operational networks for mutual enrichment

4. Investing into social empowerment and community building especially with the youth
5. Intensifying programs and initiatives that promote environmental justice and equal sharing of resources.
6. Draw or update particular guidelines for JPIC animation at the level of entities

Above all, the JPIC Animators of Africa in the continental meeting unanimously resolved to focus on ***conflict resolution and the pastoral care of refugees, displaced people and migrants*** as their top priority for the entire continent in the next six years.

Done at Kivumu, 26th September 2026



Fr. Jean Eric Mutabazi, OFM
JPIC Coordinator for ESAC



Fr. Daniel Blanco, OFM
General Director for JPIC



Fr. Tiburce Agbohoutu, OFM
Delegate of the JPIC Coordinator for CAF



Br. Siphelile Gwanisheni, OFM
General Definitor for Africa