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Dr Natasha Klukach

Young Women Christian Association
Vacant

Date: 22 May 2025

His Holiness Pope Leo XIV
Apostolic Palace
00120 Vatican City

Your Holiness,

On behalf of the Global Christian Forum, I extend to you our heartfelt congratulations on your election as the 267th Bishop of Rome and Supreme Pontiff of the Roman Catholic Church.

We rejoice with our Catholic brothers and sisters all over the world in your election, as we all joined in prayer for a man of God's choosing to be selected. We believe God did answer our prayer in your education, ministry preparation, missionary service, and leadership roles before your election as Pope.

In the past few weeks since your election, we have listened with joy and hope to your public words. We are especially encouraged by the recurring themes in your message: the call to unity in a divided and wounded world, the need for missionary outreach in this era of uncertainty and conflict, and the importance of the Church serving as a bridge for dialogue and humanity. These resonate deeply with the raison d'être of the Global Christian Forum.

Our Forum was born in response to the high priestly prayer of our Lord Jesus Christ "that all may be one" (John 17:21), and we are particularly moved by your emphasis on unity not merely as an internal church goal, but as a witness to the world, "that the world may know" (John 17:23). These are the very convictions that inspired the theme of our Fourth Global Gathering held in Accra, Ghana, in April 2025: *"That the World May Know."*

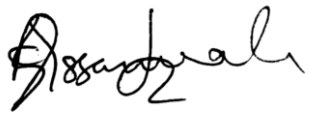
Your call to be a missionary Church- one that goes out, listens, serves, and stands with those who suffer- aligns with our own call to bear faithful witness across traditions, cultures, and contexts. In a time when faith and faithfulness often face cultural, political, and even spiritual challenges, your emphasis on simplicity, humility, and courage inspires us deeply.

Over the past twenty-six years, the Roman Catholic Church, especially through the Dicastery for Promoting Christian Unity, has played a vital and consistent role in the life of the Global Christian Forum. As one of our four foundational pillars, alongside the World Council of Churches, the World Evangelical Alliance, and the Pentecostal World Fellowship, the DPCU has walked with us as a committed partner in promoting Christian unity and witness. We look forward to the continuation of this fraternal collaboration under your pontificate.

Please be assured of our fervent prayers as you begin this sacred and historic service. May the Lord strengthen and sustain you for the path ahead. As Queen Esther was reminded in her hour of calling, so too we are reminded of you: *"And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?"* (Esther 4:14)

May the grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you always.

In Christ's service,



Revd Dr Casely Essamuah
Secretary
Global Christian Forum