

## Annex III – Affirmation of Welcome Signatories and Endorsements

### Formal Launch and Endorsement of the Affirmation of Welcome

- The formal launch and endorsement of the “Affirmations for Faith Leaders: Welcoming the Stranger” took place on 21 November in Vienna at the *Religions for Peace* 9<sup>th</sup> World Assembly, convened under the theme of “Welcoming the other”. At this event, the Affirmation of Welcome was read and signed by representatives of the world’s major religions. There are the following:
  1. H.E. John Onaiyekan, Cardinal (Catholic Christian)
  2. Chief Rabbi David Rosen (Jewish)
  3. H.E. Sheikh Shaban Mubaje (Muslim – Sunni)
  4. His Holiness Samdech Tep Vong (Buddhist)
  5. Dr. Ela Gandhi (Hindu)
  6. Rev. Dr. Olav Fykse Tveit (World Council of Churches – Christian)
  7. Representative of Chief Rabbi Paul Chaim Eisenberg (Jewish)
  8. H.E. Dr. Seyed Hassan Bahr Al-Uloom (Muslim – Shia)
  9. Reverend Kosho Niwano (Buddhist)
  10. Bishop Munib Younan (Christian Lutheran)
  11. Rev. Dr. Geoff Tunnicliffe (Christian Evangelical)
  12. Prof. Dr. M. Din Syamsuddin (Muslim)
- *Religions for Peace* Secretary General Dr. William Vendley sought the endorsement of the Affirmation of Welcome by acclamation at the end of the event. The 600-700 religious leaders present at the time of the signing formally endorsed the document.
- The World Council and affiliated regional and 91 national inter-religious councils, women of faith network and youth network also endorsed the document.

### Lead-up to the Formal Launch

- The Affirmation of Welcome was also signed on 31 October at the World Council of Churches (WCC) Assembly in Busan, South Korea, by the following people :
  1. Rev Dr Olav Fykse Tveit, General Secretary of the WCC
  2. Most Revd Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury
  3. Rt Rev Mounib Younan, President Lutheran World Federation
  4. His Grace Bishop Angaelos, Bishop of the Coptic Orthodox Church, UK
  5. Dr Idris Tawfiq, Al Azhar University
  6. Rev David Tatem, United Reformed Church, UK
  7. Mrs Catherine Welby, Lambeth Palace, London
  8. Rabbi Dr David Sandmel, International Jewish Committee on Interreligious Consultations
  9. Mr Dirk Hebecker, Representative for South Korea, UNHCR
  10. Bishop Philip Huggins, Australia
  11. Dr Thomas Schirrmacher, on behalf of the World Evangelical Alliance
  12. Dr Clare Amos, World Council of Churches
  13. Dr Peniel Rajkumar, World Council of Churches

### Endorsements to the Affirmations

- A 'soft launch' of the *Welcoming the Stranger: Affirmations for Faith Leaders* took place during a Side Event on Faith and Protection at the June 2013 UNHCR Annual Consultations with NGOs. The following organizations endorsed the document:

	<b>Agency</b>	<b>Represented by</b>
1.	Act for Peace - Australia	James Thomson
2.	Archbishop of Canterbury's Office	Helen Stawski
3.	Church World Service	Jason Knapp
4.	HIAS (Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society)	Rachel Levitan, Mark Hetfield
5.	Islamic Relief Worldwide	Atallah Fitzgibbon
6.	Jesuit Refugee Service	Michael Gallagher
7.	Lutheran World Federation	Ralston Deffenbaugh, Elizabeth Gano
8.	Rabbis for Human Rights - Israel	Rabbi Nava Hefetz
9.	World Council of Churches	Clare Amos, Sydia Nduna
10.	World Vision International	Beris Gwynne, Thaïs Ruegg