## SUPREME COUNCIL

KNIGHTS OF MARSHALL (Catholic Friendly Society)

Established 1926

Registered Head Office: Sekondi, Ghana UNITY KM CHARITY
FRATERNITY

Approved by the Ordinaries of the CATHOLIC CHURCH

P. O. Box 175 SEKONDI. GHANA-WEST AFRICA.

> Tel: 031-46681 Fax: 031-46681

Branches in: WEST AFRICA & U. K.

Our Ref: Your Ref:

www.marshallan.org

E-mail:supremecouncil@marshallan.org

30th July, 2018

Communiqué Issued By the Noble Order of the Knights and Ladies of Marshall at the End of Its 9<sup>th</sup> Re-Union Conference Held at the University Of Ghana, Legon from July 27-29, 2018

## **Preamble**

WE, members of the Noble Order of the Knights and Ladies of Marshall at our 9<sup>th</sup> Marshallan Re-Union Conference held at the University of Ghana from 27-29, 2018;

**Having** deliberated on the theme of the Conference; *Management and the Conservation of the Environment*, and the topic: *Laudato Si – and Implication for Human Development: The Role of the Marshallan* as presented by His Eminence Cardinal Peter Appiah Turkson, Prefect of the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development, at the **VATICAN** through Monsignor Bernard Munono;

**Looking** at the state of devastation of our environment, notably destruction of the forests and woodlands, and the adverse effects of Galamsey on our water bodies and other natural resources:

**Recognizing** that Mother Earth is at risk through wanton human activities;

**Taking** into consideration our determination to marshal all forces in West Africa for the Management and the Conservation of the Environment;

**DETERMINED** to protect God's creation, Mother Earth in the interest of humanity, DO HEREBY ADOPT THIS COMMUNIQUÉ;

**1.0:** We undertake to take necessary measures to contribute to the management and conservation of the environment based on an agreed plan of action. In this regard, we call on all our Local Branches (Councils and Courts) to formulate action plans in their areas that

will deal with issues relating to the degradation of the environment.

**2.0:** We endorse the Government's determination to continue the fight against Galamsey and environmental degradation. Accordingly, we call on the Government and all State Agencies to enforce the requisite laws on the environment. On our part, we pledge to work

with societies and groups in combating crimes against the environment.

**3.0:** We are further inspired by the message of **Laudato Si** to adopt a comprehensive approach to the challenges facing the sustainable use of the world's natural resources. In this regard, we call on the Church and our respective Governments to consider the social,

economic and environmental dimensions in our development efforts.

**4.0: APPRECIATION:** We express our greatest appreciation to the President, His Excellency **Nana Addo Dankwa** Akufo-Addo, His Eminence Peter Cardinal Appiah Turkson, Most Rev. Philip Naameh, President of the Ghana Catholic Bishops' Conference, Most Rev. Joseph Osei-Bonsu, Supreme Spiritual Director of the Noble Order of the Knights and Ladies of Marshall, Bro. Colin Walsh, President of the International Alliance of Catholic Knights and Monsignor

Bernard Munono for their insightful presentations at the Reunion.

Our profound gratitude also goes to the University of Ghana, Legon for hosting the 9<sup>th</sup> Re-Union Conference of the Noble Order of the Knights and Ladies of Marshall.

## Signed

Sir Kt. Bro. Ambrose Akyebe Yennah Supreme Knight, Knights of Marshall

Dated: July 30, 2018

MRL Sis. Grace Budu-Smith Grand Lady, Ladies of Marshall