

7<sup>th</sup> of March 2011

## **Political dialogue: Delegation visits Kenya and Tanzania**

In the context of a political visit by Dr. Hermann Kues (Parliamentary State Secretary of the Ministry of Family, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth Affairs), the Kenya and Tanzania office of Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung organised a programme about the "Importance of the Social Doctrine of the church for Africa's development". From the 12<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup> of February, Dr. Kues, a member of the board of KAS, attended meetings with high-level officials from politics and church, as well as local partner organisations in Kenya and Tanzania. Besides round-table discussions with representatives from political foundations and the church, a courtesy visit to the office of Prime Minister Raila Odinga as well as a meeting with NARC-Kenya party leader Martha Karua were held in Nairobi.

The main focus of the Kenyan part of the journey was the Social Doctrine of the Church which was discussed in meetings with the Benedictines, Bishops of the Kenya Episcopal Conference and Canon Rev. Peter Karanja of NCKK. Furthermore, a public lecture on the role of the Social Doctrine of the Church was realised at the Catholic University of Eastern Africa. During the visit, special emphasis was placed on current political issues in Kenya, notably the implementation of the new constitution, accountability and the fight against corruption. The Kenyan part was concluded with a reception at the residence of German Ambassador Margit Hellwig-Bötte.

During the 4-day visit in Tanzania, the delegation devoted special attention to social market economy as a basis for future cooperation of KAS Tanzania and its partner organisations. Questions on development cooperation as well as crucial political problems were discussed during meetings with KAS partners Chadema (Chama cha Demokrasia na Maendeleo – Party of Democracy and Development), CETA (Civic Education Teachers Association) and Christian Professionals. In the course of the delegation visit, Anke Lerch officially transferred the responsibility of the country programme Tanzania to the new Country Representative Stefan Reith.

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