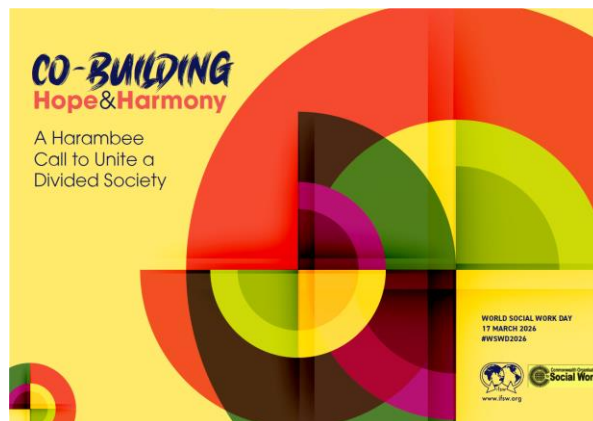


**WORLD SOCIAL WORK DAY GREETING  
PRESIDENT OF COMMONWEALTH ORGANISATION FOR SOCIAL WORK  
DR K. S. RAMESH**



“On behalf of the Commonwealth Organisation for Social Work, we share warm greetings and wishes to every social worker across the Commonwealth and around the globe on the occasion of World Social Work Day 2026”, said Dr K. S. Ramesh.

“This is a moment when we not only recognise the commitment and compassion of all social workers, but we can also thank all individuals, groups, organisations, governments, and Commonwealth and UN bodies for supporting social work practice and social workers.

“An initiative to create a social work day at UN, led by Jack A. Kamaiko in 1983, became an international social work day in 2007 with the theme “Social Work - Making a World of Difference”. It is always heartening to note that the themes chosen subsequently for World Social Work Day reflect the reality of the world and the relevance for social work practice (ie. Promoting Social and Economic Equality, Promoting the Dignity and Worth of Peoples, Promoting Community and Environmental Sustainability, and Promoting the Importance of Human Relationships).

“This year’s theme ‘Co-Building Hope and Harmony: A Harambee Call to Unite a Divided Society’, is even more relevant in the world of today. We are delighted to note that this is drawn from an African philosophy, especially valued in Kenya. This connects us to the 2026 Joint World Conference on Social Work and Social Development in Kenya when every one of us can experience ‘Harambee’ in real life.

“The theme reminds us that we often felt a more united society in the past, built with a lot of hope and harmony. We can invoke this in-built ‘Harambee’ again among every human being - and sustain it. ‘Harambee’ goes beyond time or context or need and is part of everyday life”, Dr Ramesh concluded.

“Harambee, Harambee, Harambee.....”

## PRESS RELEASE

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### NOTES For Editors

**COSW is an organisation for citizens of the Commonwealth who are interested in supporting social work and social development.** It is supported by social work associations in the Commonwealth. It aims to promote and support communication and collaboration between social workers and social work associations of Commonwealth countries, and to uphold and promote the code of ethics of the International Federation of Social Workers.

This statement can be found on the [COSW website](#).



**Dr K. S. Ramesh** became the new President of the Commonwealth Organisations for Social Work in late 2025. He is based in his home city of Chennai, India. He has 25 years of professional social work practice experience in physical and mental healthcare, and leadership of professional associations. Dr Ramesh is Director - Education, Social Action and Administration at Banyan Academy of Leadership in Mental Health. He has been a member of the COSW Board since 2010.

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