

## **Learn for Peace!**

### **Initiation of Protestant Peacemaking Schools in Tanzania**

Field Report by Rev. Dr. Gerson Mgaya (GPENreformation Ambassador, Finland/Tanzania)

Facilitated by Dick den Bakker (GPENreformation Council, the Netherlands)

"Nobody is honest in our country: the taxi driver says what the ride costs and you just have to believe that what you pay corresponds to what it really costs; the tailor promises you every day that your suit is ready tomorrow; the hairdresser, who calls you because he is absent, says that he will be there within two minutes, while he has to travel for at least an hour and the doctor picks people from a queue of waiting people according to his preference instead of in order. Even the minister thinks he can receive more money for the church by saying that people are blessed even more by God; and the teacher? He thinks it is enough if students have heard what he has said. That they have to understand it is too much to ask, because then he'll be busy all day."

It is a negative image that Gerson, the Tanzanian workshop leader, presents in the workshop, which Dick den Bakker facilitates. "Is there nothing positive?" Dick asks him. Of course: solidarity is enormous in our country and many other African countries, but if we live under a blanket of corruption and abuse of power, it is suffocating. "If education is in the hands of a corrupt government, then society, education and students become corrupt". Let's talk about leadership.