

## **REGIONAL AND NATIONAL MISSION STRUCTURES**

*Jon P. Lewis*

### **Basic structure:**

General framework for national and regional movements by Jon Lewis: 10 min.

Presentation on COMIBAM: David Ruiz: 10 min.

Presentation on IMA: K Rajendran: 10 min.

Global Connections: Martin Lee: 10 min.

Q&A: 20 minutes.

The purpose of this session is to encourage regional and national networks in their development. The session highlights some movements that are showing a measure of success. Presenters will highlight principles and practices that are helping them most in their success, challenges they have overcome, and those that they are currently facing.

### **Introduction to the Session**

- Historically the MC has tried to fulfill the vision of WEA and generate corresponding “replicable” structures in each region and nation. Our strap line for years was: “Starting and strengthening national and regional missions movements.”
- The goal has been to see an organized, recognizable “Regional Missions Movement” in Africa, Asia, Latin America, South Pacific, Europe and North America comprised of recognizable “National Mission Movements.”
- The strategy was to work through REGIONAL missions movements and as with the WEA, leadership was sought at the regional level. Relatively weak regional structures have hampered this strategy in some regions.
- The MC “success” story is COMIBAM. MC leadership was directly involved in the organization of this movement and admittedly invested more time and effort into it than any other regional movement.
- In 2004, there was a shift in this specific commitment to raising up national missions movements. The Global Leadership Council redefined the purpose of the MC as: “Catalyzing, Connecting and Strengthening Global Mission Movements and Networks.” This approach included the previous vision but the focus became much more inclusive with a strategy to nucleate “global” entities rather than regional and national ones.
- The MC has a task force in the area of national missions movements. It is unclear how strategy and commitments to national and regional missions movements will change under the new MC missions statement.