

April—June 2010

Volume 1 No 4

Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Consultation, Lusaka, Zambia 1st to 5th June 2010

AEA held a regional consultation for 28 General Secretaries and key leaders from thirteen (13) different countries for empowerment as trainers for the local church pastors/leaders in Muslim Evangelism and holistic approach to missions (Matt.28:19-20).

The consultation sought to:

- To reflect on AEA's objective with regard to Integral Mission
- To reflect on the impact of Islam on evangelism and mission in Africa
- To collectively develop a way forward

**Together, we can
Transform Africa by**



Raising A New Generation from the 4/14 Window

The 4/14 window initiative was launched in Africa under the auspices of AEA April 30 and May 1 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. This brought together about 50 church leaders from about 20 countries in Africa to this summit. The 4/14 Window refers to the demographic group ages four to fourteen years. God is calling us to a new missional focus: the 4/14 Window, a golden age of opportunity to transform the world. God is calling us to radically change the way we view children and to respond to their strategic importance and rightful place in His Kingdom. They can be transformed into a precious window of opportunity. In God's hands, this enormous and largely ignored people group can become agents of transformational mission under the headship of Jesus Christ. "Raising up a New Generation from the 4/14 Window to Transform the World"

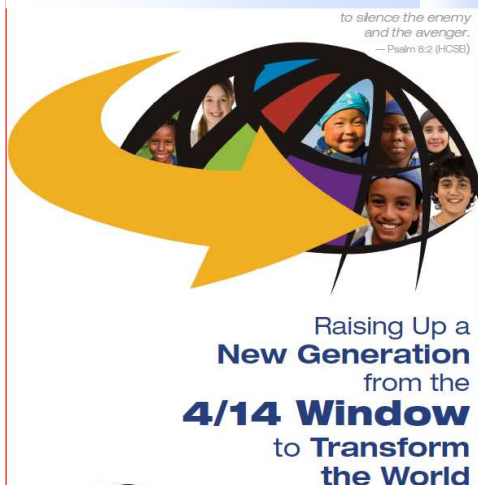
Association of Evangelicals of Africa - AEA

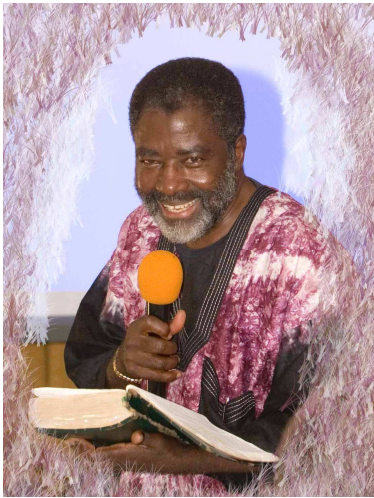
Highlights

- Upcoming General Assembly registration ongoing.
- Regional Missions Consultations Eastern Southern Africa (just concluded) and Central Western Africa (upcoming).
- Haiti Appeal—AEA set up an account to receive support for the Haiti people.

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Dr. Tokunboh Adeyemo

The Legend, Dr. Tokunboh Adeyemo—1st Oct 1944—17th Mar 2010

After struggling with cancer for three years, Dr. Tokunboh Adeyemo has been promoted to glory. Returning from his memorial service in Nairobi, I reflect on the life of this great man of Africa.

Born to a Nigerian Muslim family, Tokunboh set out to become a politician. As an avid scholar with a keen mind, he rose quickly among his peers. When he met the Lord at 22 years, his life radically

changed. Leaving politics he soon found himself at the ECWA seminary at Igbaja, Nigeria. He then went to the UK, and later the USA where he earned degrees at Talbot and Dallas and eventually his PhD from Aberdeen, Scotland.

The accomplishments of this man of God are many. Significant are his years as General Secretary of the Association of Evangelicals of Africa and Madagascar, AEAM (now AEA) from 1978 until 2002. Under

his tenure he was instrumental in starting Graduate Schools of Theology both in Bangui (BEST) and in Nairobi (NEGST). He eventually became the Chancellor of NEGST.

In the last ten years, he focused his attention on the Center for Biblical Transformation which was his effort to bring transformation to African political leaders.

Though he is no more his dream of transforming Africa lives on—Dr Tokunboh we salute you!

Perhaps he will be best remembered for being the general editor of the Africa Bible Commentary.

Besides these public accomplishments, it was touching to hear the family and friends of Tokunboh speak of Tokunboh the dad, Tokunboh the husband, Tokunboh the boss, Tokunboh the mentor and friend. He was a man of prayer – rising at 4:30 every morning for his personal devotion.

His son read some notes his father had scratched in his margin of his Bible from Habakkuk. His secretary told of the letters she was given to type being like letters from the Apostle Paul. His pastor told of how he used to be one of the most faithful at their all night vigils of prayer

where he would be seen pacing the floor, “vigorously punching the air” or “falling down and lying on his face on the floor” as he cried out to God in prayer.

There was story after story of a man who brought a needy student into his home when they had no place to live, of a man who arranged marriages, who got scholarships for people, who gave gifts of money at an appropriate moment.

He was also very human. His friends told how he used to speak in Yoruba when he got excited – or sometimes in prayer. They told of his long sermons and how he would run away over time then say, “Now in conclusion I have only seven more points.”

The two words which were repeated over and over at the memorial were “mentor” and “general.” The “mentor” referred to all the lives he had touched. The “general” referred to the fact that he was a great Christian statesman who served and led the evangelical movement in Africa in his lifetime.

The General is no more but his vision for a transformed Africa lives on. General Tokunboh – we salute you!

Report by Howie Brant. SIM Kenya.

His pastor told of how he used to be one of the most faithful at their all night vigils of prayer where he would be seen pacing the floor, “vigorously punching the air” or “falling down and lying on his face on the floor” as he cried out to God in prayer.

To God be All Glory!

**“The dead take to the grave clutched in their hands only what they have given away”
Dewitt Wallace**



One year Later..... First Anniversary

Mr. Aiah Foday-Khabenje tells of his first year in office

by Moses Olowaije

Q: Could you please tell us something about yourself sir?

A: You make me grin; thinking of my dear Kenyans when they introduce themselves: they go like this " My names are (sic): " John-Paul-Peter- Mary Kirogui, I am born again and love the Lord..."

How about that for me? I surely am born again and love the Lord. He has laid a hand on me to serve His church for the last seventeen years, first with my NEF in Sierra Leone and with AEA over the last one year. I am happily married to Almonda for twenty five years this September and have four children. *Bwana asifiwe!*

Q: Being at the helm of affairs at the AEA Office, could you briefly highlight some of your experiences?

A: My experiences includes excitement, anxiety, intrigue, drama, frustration, loneliness, resilience. The cast includes God Himself, men and women and organizations. Through it all I feel the awesome sense of God's sovereignty.

Q: What are some of the challenges that you met while assuming the leadership responsibility of AEA?

A: I felt a sense of inadequacy in light of the task before me; AEA badly needed a sense of direction, human & financial resources and enhanced relationships with stakeholders. NEFs and associate members had for a long time operated without AEA and cared less about the movement. In addition, I lived out of my suitcase in Kenya without my family and no salary!

Q: How have you been able to respond to these challenges?

A: I focused on bridging the communication gap, resuscitated the Afroscope, worked on having a strategic plan which is now in place (2010-2014) and now I can see where am going by God's grace

Q: What are your plans for the future of AEA and your strategies for achieving them?

A: This is the pledge I made to the church in my inception letter "May this be a covenant that we will all seek to uphold the glory of God and the transformation of Africa. And to this I pledge myself, so help me

God."

Q: In what way has your leadership added to the development of AEA since you have taken over a year ago?

A: I have committed to keeping in touch with the AEA family on a quarterly basis through the Afroscope and I have not failed them. Am building a culture of open communication and sharing information and would like to contribute towards a strong network of leaders of national alliances and around critical ministry initiatives for impact as a church in the society. By the time we meet at the General Assembly in August, 14 months in my tenure I would have met with nearly all the General Secretaries of all 34 plus national alliances in Africa! This was beyond what I could realistically dream about 14 months ago.

I see changed leaders changing Africa for

Key Church Leaders had this to say.....



Rev. Moss Ntha , GS S.A.

AEA is a centre of fellowship and is a vital of evangelistic impact on the continent. We have done injury to the cause of evangelism when we have not acted to provide the necessary leadership in AEA .

Aiah's arrival in this sense is a welcome step forward for the NEFs. We encouraged at the turning of the tide at AEA. As NEFs it is up to us to make AEA succeed. It is my prayer that NEFs around the continent will rally behind Aiah for the monumental task at hand. Together we must claim the 21st century not only as an African century, but as one in which African Evangelical Christianity will be a story; thoughtful and influential factors in shaping the emerging culture of Africa today.

"The church in Africa is cooperating with God to ensure His intentions for our nations, communities, and villages are being met. People are being released from material and spiritual deprivation to the glory of our Lord and Saviour Jesus" Christ".

Mr. Aiah Foday-Khabenje , General Secretary

Key Leaders.... Contd'



**Mr. Aynalem Haimnont,
GS, Ethiopia**

New Phase of AEA—I want to see AEA strengthened and united to bring Integral Mission transformation in Africa.

As Africans in a "Kairos" moment, it is for us to enlarge our territory in reaching out to the Western world.

Let us unite in response to the Great Commission and concentrate on discipleship among the youth and women.



**Rev. A. Muchechetere,
GS Zimbabwe**

The appointment of Aiah in June 2009 to lead AEA has created a new wave of structural impetus for NEFs. There have been strategic and systematic strides in an effort to effectively deal with challenges affecting the core mandate of evangelicals in Africa. There is hope for Africa; the AEA continental agenda that has been set will radically change the way of doing church and missions. It is time for all NEFs to purposefully participate in this

African conversation. God has given us a unique opportunity to usher in total change through an integrated approach.

Lessons from the FIFA 2010 Soccer World Cup in the Rainbow Country

Stars don't win trophies strong teams do. Cameroon's Indomitable Lions, one of the hopefuls in the contest on the African side are the



first to qualify to drop out. It appears this is going to be the fate of most if not all the African teams in the competition. The African teams are doing badly because of ill preparation. The teams are full of stars doing their trade in Europe, never in their countries and did not have enough time to play as a team. Teams with little known individual names but who are playing together as a team seem to be doing well.

We can achieve more together than going it alone. Little wonder then that Christ's prayer for the church was for unity. Not only is it necessary for us to partner in the gospel to reach out in evangelism but

also we need to stand together to contend for our faith (Jude v. 3 and 4). "Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their labour. But woe to him that is alone when he falls....Eccl. 4:9-12"

Throughout scripture we see God's revelation to individuals but also often as a community- the chosen people-Israel in Old Testament. In the New Testament the first evangelical group could be easily identified. It was composed of 120 people including the 11 Apostles, Mary the mother of Jesus and others. These were the eyewitnesses of the death, bodily resurrection and ascension of Jesus Christ.

These continued with one mind in prayer, fellowship and breaking of bread while waiting for the promised comforter. After Pentecost they were all transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit and launched out to the world as witnesses of Christ. Hence, unity of the body of Christ implies eagerness to break down walls of hostility in the household of faith, between church denominations and as service to the wider community (Col. 1:17).

No one organization can accomplish the task of evangelism, diversity and diversifications of tasks can only further the proclamation of the gospel if fraternal cooperation and mutual enrichment is practiced.

"Unity in the body of Christ implies eagerness to break down walls of hostility in the household of faith"
GS

Announcements

General Assembly

August 24-28, Jumuia Resort, Mombasa Kenya

Theme : "Redeeming the Time"

Topics;

- Understanding Islam and its impact on mission,
- Peace building and Conflict Resolution
- Christian Response to Climate Change.....

Have you registered? August 24-28 is only a few weeks away. Delegates will connect to Mombasa upon arrival in Nairobi - you can save money on this connection by booking early!



Welcome to Kenya!



Jumuia Resort: www.resortjumuia.com

Rev. Dr. Judy Mbugua Retires

With effect from June 30, 2010 Rev. Dr. Judy Mbugua the Head of AEA Women's Commission – Pan African Christian Women's Alliance (PACWA) will be retiring after two decades of faithful service to AEA. The entire AEA family will have an opportunity to say farewell to Sister Judy (fondly, Mama PACWA) at the upcoming General Assembly in Mombasa, Kenya. We encourage all PACWA branches to attend the GA and bid Sister Judy farewell in an appropriate manner.



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Central and Western Africa Regional Missions Consultation Winneba, Ghana

July 13–17, 2010

Don't miss this opportunity!

Prayer Corner

Botswana: Ongoing court case involving the Fellowship and a local King, God's wisdom, grace and favor.

Kenya: Ongoing petitions on the proposed constitution to the Government

Upcoming GA: Availability of funds...