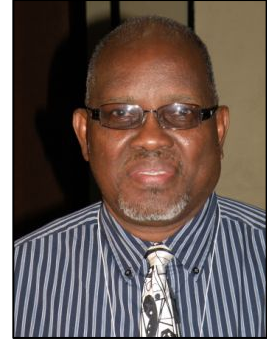


EAC Elects New President

At its General Assembly in Jamaica October 27-28 the Evangelical Association of the Caribbean elected Rev. John Smith of Guyana to serve as President for the next four years. Rev. Smith had served as 1st Vice President for the past six years and represents EAC on World Evangelical Alliance's International Council. He brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to his new post. He currently serves as General Superintendent of the Assemblies of God in Guyana and is a member of the Board of International Third World Leaders Association.



Other persons elected during the General Assembly are: Rev. Dr. Nigel Taylor (President of the Barbados Evangelical Association) to complete Rev. Smith's unexpired term as 1st Vice President, Rev. Desmond Austin (President of the Trinidad and Tobago Council of Evangelical Churches), and Rev. Sheila Proctor (Caribbean/Atlantic Assembly of the Church of God) as a member-at-large. Rev. Proctor was honoured for her service over the past eight years as 2nd Vice President and is the first woman elected to serve on EAC's Executive.



Rev. Dr. Kenneth Ragoonath, immediate past President, had served in the post for the past eight years and as a member of EAC's Executive for many years previously. In paying tribute to Dr. Ragoonath EAC's General Secretary, Bishop Gerry Seale, noted his years of committed service to the region through EAC, Hospital Christian Fellowship and Open Doors and thanked him for his continuing contribution to the region.

The General Assembly received two organisations into membership – the newly formed Alliance of Evangelical Churches Inc. Grenada and the Wesleyan Holiness Church. The Grenada alliance was formally launched in January 2009 after many years in formation. Members of the Wesleyan Holiness Church have played integral roles in the development of EAC including Rev. Dr. Wingrove Taylor who served as EAC's first president when the association was launched in 1977.

EAC's General Secretary has announced the appointment of Pastor Eworth Williams as Executive Director of EAC's new Caribbean Youth Network (EAC-CYNET). Pastor Williams will take up his post on January 01, 2010. EAC-CYNET came into being in the past biennium and is committed to mobilising and empowering Christian youth to transform society. In the closing plenary of the Congress of Evangelicals in the Caribbean on October 29, EAC's Executive laid hands on Pastor Williams consecrating him for his new role in building synergy among Evangelical Christian youth and young leaders throughout the Caribbean.



Bishop Gerry Seale noted that though the current global economic situation had impacted negatively on attendance at the General Assembly, most members were able to have at least one representative present. He noted that most of the English-speaking Caribbean is expected to begin economic recovery in late 2010 and expressed optimism about the future.

The next general Assembly is expected to be held in Guyana in 2011 in conjunction with the tenth Congress of Evangelicals in the Caribbean.