

# GENERAL CONFERENCE COMPENDIUM 2010

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<b>72.0 PLENARY SESSION – REV. COLBERT SESANKAR, SPEAKER</b>	Page 44
<b>72.1</b> Rev. Sesankar relinquished his prerogative to present his paper on “Dynamics of Church Leadership” in favour of allowing Rev. Alvin and Mrs. Lena Nicholson to give highlights of their presentation on “The Minister and his Family”. Rev. Nicholson left printed notes of his discourse with delegates.	
<b>73.0 CLOSING REMARKS</b>	
<b>73.1</b> The Chairman expressed appreciation to all conference speakers, participants and workers for their contributions to the success of the conference and delegates uttered their varied expressions of appreciation to the conference organizers, staff, speakers, chairmen, hotel hosts, et al for the wonderful experience of sharing in the Centennial Celebrations and 33 <sup>rd</sup> Biennial General Conference of Workers.	
<b>74.0 ADJOURNMENT</b>	
<b>74.1</b> The adjournment was taken at 3:45 pm with prayer by Rev. Dr. Irvin Smith.	
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September 15<sup>th</sup> 2010

**Re: General Conference Compendium 2010**

Dear Fellow Worker,

Greetings in that most precious of all names, Jesus in whom all things consist and hold together.

The centennial year is a significant milestone in the life of any organization. We, as workers together within PAWI, should be justly proud of the work of our forefathers who were motivated enough to preach the gospel in spite of necessities and adverse conditions. Today, while the culture in which we function may not be as physically obtrusive, it nonetheless still opposes the gospel of Jesus Christ. The redemption of sinners therefore still awaits those touched by the redeemer; those He loves still await the chosen whom He has sent; the fruit of the earth yet wait to be harvested.

The entire General Executive expresses its appreciation to you for your fervent prayers, your insightful thoughts and ideas, your generous encouragement, your sacrificial giving, and not least of all, your ardent support and involvement in the complicated business of planning and managing the affairs of your own personal lives, families, churches, districts and nations. But we know as workers together with God, He has qualified us to minister not only the word of God but also the Spirit of His power by which He transforms the most hardened or depraved of mankind, whether male or female adult, youth or child.

We are pleased therefore to offer you this compendium to apprise you of decision of the 33<sup>rd</sup> Biennial General Conference of PAWI which formed part of the Centennial Celebrations. The compendium consists of:

- a) Elected officials for the conference term 2010 – 2012;
- b) Minutes of the business sessions conducted on days two through four, May 17<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>;
- c) Decisions arrived at as a result of debate and discussion by delegates.

The Executive anticipates a renewed sense of unity, the deepening of relationships and commitment to the objectives and vision PAWI, the organization. The harmonizing of our plans, sharing of our resources, and cooperation with each other are all vital elements to our present and future sustainability. As we face the challenges of the next 100 years of organizational life together, the familiar words of the old gospel melody ring out our need for the continuing, genuine presence and anointing of God, the Holy Spirit:

‘Sons of God arise, sons of God arise... fire in your hands... mouth... feet.’  
Yours truly,

Errol Bartholomew  
General Administrator

## **SECTION 1 - ELECTED OFFICIALS OF PAWI (2010-2012)**

### **1. THE GENERAL EXECUTIVE**

(which comprise General Officers, District Presiding Bishops, and Other Executive Members).

#### **GENERAL OFFICERS:**

General Bishop	-	Rev. Dr. Pat Glasgow
Assistant General Bishop	-	Rev. Ophneil Forde
General Administrator	-	Rev. Errol Bartholomew
Ex. Dir. of Church Ministries	-	Rev. Cynthia Jack
Ex. Dir. of World Missions	-	Rev. Nigel Henry

#### **PRESIDING DISTRICT BISHOPS: (Elected at respective District Conferences)**

Antigua/Barbuda/St. Kitts/Nevis	-	Rev. Dr. Lester Emanuel
Montserrat	-	Rev. Abraham Riley
Dominica, Guadeloupe	-	Rev. Michael Daniel
St. Lucia	-	Rev. Emmanuel Mc Lorren
St. Vincent & the Grenadines	-	Rev. Sonny Williams
Grenada	-	Rev. Dave King
Barbados	-	Rev. Ophneil Forde
Central Trinidad	-	Rev. Dr. Alister Alexander
North East Trinidad	-	Rev. Dr. Raymond Boca
North West Trinidad	-	Rev. Derick Henry
South Trinidad	-	Rev. Satnarine Bahadoor
Tobago	-	Rev. Dr. Egbert Brebnor

#### **OTHER MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL EXECUTIVE:**

Chairman, PAWI-Trinidad & Tobago	-	Rev. Dr. Alister Alexander
Chairman, WIST Board of Directors	-	Professor Alvin Thompson
Member-at-Large	-	Mrs. Shirlene Pope
Member-at-Large	-	Rev. Dr. Pearl Rivers
Member-at-Large	-	Pastor Kevin Hunte

## **2. BOARD OF DIRECTORS, WEST INDIES SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY**

Prof. Alvin Thompson, Chairman

Rev. Dr. Pearl Rivers

Rev. George Frederick

Ms. Belinda Dillon

Rev. Nolan Warner

Rev. Dr. Ivan Broomes

Ms. Andrea Phillip

Rev. Dr. Pat Glasgow

## **3. CHURCH MINISTRIES DEPARTMENTAL LEADERS**

General Christian Education Director	-	Rev. Albert Cooper
International Crusaders Commissioner	-	Mrs. Pamela Dickson Stewart
General Women's Ministries Director	-	Mrs. Lucille Harris
General Youth Ministries Director	-	Pastor Kevin Hunte
General Men's Ministries Director	-	Rev. Ethelbert Charles

## SECTION 2 – CENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS

The Centennial Celebration and 33<sup>rd</sup> Biennial General Conference of Workers consisted of several events which were scheduled each evening of the conference. These were:

1. The opening ceremony on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> May which was hosted at the Arouca Revival Tabernacle, Forde Street, Arouca. Rev. Angela Williams led the centennial choir which provided both worship and special ministry, and General Bishop, Dr. Pat Glasgow brought the feature address to a packed auditorium. Visitors representing other Christian organizations and former credentialed workers who returned for the centennial were recognized by National Bishop, Rev. Dr. Alister Alexander and Rev. Errol Bartholomew.
2. On Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May, the Arouca Revival Tabernacle at Forde Street, Arouca pastored by Bishop Raymond Boca played host to the ordination service of several PAWI workers. In addition, the church's new building, completed especially for the hosting of the conference and centennial events was dedicated.
3. Two rallies were convened simultaneously on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> May at the Daybreak Assembly, Coconut Drive, Morvant and the Revival Time Assembly, King's Wharf, San Fernando. Featured speakers were Bishop Ophneil Forde and Rev. Dr. Dennis White respectively.
4. On Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> May, three items were on the itinerary at the evening's rally at the Arouca Revival Tabernacle – the West Indies School of Theology convened its 62<sup>nd</sup> annual graduation along with its conferment of an honorary doctorate on Mrs. Laurel Clarkson of Grenada, and Rev. Alvin Nicholson officiated at the installation of elected officers of the PAWI Fellowship. The graduants had completed bachelor, diploma and certificate programmes at WIST campuses across north, east and south Trinidad and Barbados. Rev. Dr. Dennis White brought the feature address and the centennial choir, led by Rev. Angela Williams melodiously rendered special music.
5. The Centennial Awards and Banquet was the featured event on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> May at the ballroom of the Hilton Trinidad and Conference Centre. Special awards were presented to workers from across the Fellowship in several categories including church pioneers, long service, achievement in sports, academia and civic pursuits, and winners of the logo and song writing competitions. Rev. Dr. Dennis White was the featured speaker and Ms. Denise Herbert-Valcin sang the specially-composed centennial theme song.

6. The Youth Award and Concert convened under the directorship of the PAWI General Youth Department led by Rev. Albert Gray on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2010. During the evening's programme, several persons were honoured for their contribution to youth work in the Fellowship. Youth ministers in song, dance and drama and enthusiasts from across the Fellowship converged at the D'Abadie Pentecostal Church, Ragoon Road, D'Abadie and brought the centennial celebrations and the 33<sup>rd</sup> Biennial General Conference of Workers to a fitting climax with their engaging renditions.

### **SECTION 3 – DECISIONS ON RESOLUTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

The conference accepted the following resolution:

#### **1. CLASSIFICATION OF DISTRICTS – ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW DISTRICTS**

Preamble:

Whereas any nation district may subdivide to form new districts for the purpose of expansion; and whereas no criteria have previously been made for the establishment of new districts;

#### **1. Resolution #1 – Classification of Districts:**

1.1 Be it resolved that there be two (2) classifications of districts, namely:

1. Pioneer District
2. Autonomous District

#### **1.2 DECISION:**

The resolution was passed by consensus without amendment.

CARRIED

#### **2. CRITERIA FOR CLASSIFICATION AS A PIONEER DISTRICT**

Be it resolved that:

2.1. The establishment of any new district shall have the potential to be self-governing, self-propagating and self-financing.

2.2. Any application for the establishment of a Pioneer District shall be made in writing to the General Executive by the District Executive following approval by the District Conference, and giving reasons for the establishment of such a District.

2.3. Where a nation has two or more districts (as in the case of Trinidad & Tobago), the application shall be made by the particular District Executive to the National Council and then to the General Executive as in clause 2.2 above.

2.4. A proposed Pioneer District shall consist of at least:

2.4.1. Eight (8) assemblies of which no fewer than four (4) shall be Autonomous.

2.4.2. Four (4) persons qualified to serve as District Presiding Bishop or Assistant Presiding Bishop.

2.4.3. Ten (10) other persons holding current credentials, who are qualified to serve as District Executive officers.

2.4.4. The Pioneer District shall normally be placed under the supervision of the District that made the application.

2.5. After five (5) years of continuous operations the Pioneer District shall be eligible for reclassification as an Autonomous District after approval by the District Conference/National Conference and the General Executive (as in clauses 2.2 and 2.3 above).

## **2.6 DECISION:**

The resolution was returned to the General Executive for the re-wording of Clause 2.4.

## **3. RECOMMENDATIONS, GENERAL BISHOP'S CONFERENCE REPORT**

### **3.1. Recommendation # 1: The Way Forward - Name Change**

The recommendation to change of the name of PAWI to Pentecostal Assemblies International (PAI)

### **3.1.1 DECISION:**

The recommendation was withdrawn.

### 3.2. Recommendation # 2: Establishment of Elders

The conference ratified the recommendation that the following persons be asked to serve as elders of the PAWI Fellowship in an advisory and not legislative capacity, namely:

“Rev Dr. Irvin Smith, Sir Howard Fergus, Rev. Dr Jeremiah Prescod, Rev. Dr. Esther Baisden, Dr. Clara Emmanuel and Rev. Noel Clarke with the addition of Rev. Hasratt Ali”.

Their terms of reference shall be:

1. To act as intercessors for the Fellowship.
2. To advise the General Bishop/General Executive/General Officers as to trends, concerns and issues that are impacting the Fellowship.
3. To assist the General Executive where needed or possibly in advisory/mentoring/coaching and conflict resolution situations from time to time.
4. To assist in safe guarding the distinctives of the Fellowship.
5. To make themselves available, when invited, to sit with the General Executive at least once during the conference term to discuss the further development of the Fellowship.

CARRIED

### 3.3. Recommendation # 3: Mobilization of Our Youth

The conference referred that the recommendation to the Church Ministries Department for further deliberation. The recommendation required:

“That the conference appoints a youth commission which will embark on a study of the present trends and challenges of youth in our churches and develop a plan to address those needs within and outside the church. The plan should be submitted to the General Executive via the Church Ministries Director within three months of the completion of the said conference.”

### 3.4. Recommendation # 4: Succession Planning



The conference referred the recommendation to the Constitution Committee for its consideration. The recommendation read as follows:

“Examine the provisions in Bylaws 9.6.3.2 and 9.6.3.5, with the view of making it more consistent with effective succession planning procedures.”

### 3.5 Recommendation # 5: Ministers’ Development

The conference referred the recommendation to the General Executive with the amendment:

‘That the last sentence, *“Attendance to the program should also be tied to the renewal of credentials.”* be removed’. The recommendation required:

“That the conference approves a two-pronged approach to professional development, of ministers, namely:

- a) A structured orientation program for all new Credentialed workers which will ensure that our history, culture and practices be taught and adopted.
- b) A structured progressive developmental program for all ministers that cater for the dynamics of Christian ministry, understanding culture in its context, and the sharpening of interpretation and delivery of the scriptural truths, among other things. The West Indies School of Theology should be asked to research needs and trends and submit proposals to the General Executive by its October 2010 meeting for approval and implementation. It is hoped that the program could be administered on a District level to ensure affordability and cultural suitability. Attendance to the program should also be tied to the renewal of credentials.”

## 4. POSITION PAPERS

The General Executive-approved position papers on euthanasia, capital punishment, homosexuality and abortion were presented to and ratified by the convened 33<sup>rd</sup> Biennial General Conference of Workers, May 16<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> 2010.

### 4.1 POSITION PAPER ON EUTHANASIA

Euthanasia and assisted suicide are technically different, but in both cases homicide and the violation of the sanctity of life are involved. In one case, it is murder, and downright suicide in the other. In euthanasia, an agent who is usually a physician, whether voluntarily or requested,

brings about the death of the patient by administering some lethal treatment. In assisted suicide, the individual himself or herself carries out the act with guidance and means provided by the agent (In legal terms, the agent is accessory to the fact).

Suicide or self-slaughter is in fact murder and therefore a violation of God's law. Characters in the Bible who committed suicide did so in tragic situations and were all persons who had fallen away from God. This is true of Ahithophel, Abimelech, Saul, Judas and arguably Samson. (2 Samuel 17:23; Judges 9:54, 1 Samuel 31:4, Matthew 27:5, Judges 16:30). If suicide is morally wrong, so is assisted suicide. Assisted suicide like euthanasia is defended under the principle of the individual's 'right-to-die' which admittedly is a controversial concept. There is certainly no doubt that in addition to ownership by creation, the Christian is bought by God and is not his/her own (1 Corinthians 6:19-20). In any case, by making all mankind in his own image, God has not only made life sacred but exercises sovereignty over life and the right to give and take it. Like euthanasia, assisted suicide is an affront to divine authority and a violation of the sacredness of life which has a spiritual dimension. Assisted killing, however, should be distinguished from the patient's decision to refuse treatment which merely sustains life artificially. The right to be allowed to die is in order in that situation.

Arguments in favour of euthanasia seem appealing on the surface. Proponents base their case on humane feeling and a supposed basic human right – the right to die. It is directed at terminally ill persons especially those who are in unremitting pain. The term, 'terminally ill' is problematic since some persons who have been so diagnosed, continue to live long after the physician's prediction. Due to the vagueness and uncertainty associated with the concept 'terminally ill', further qualifying conditions such as suffering severe physical or psychological pain, physical or mental debilitation are added. These vague terms merely leave the helpless and hopeless patients open to abuse.

Indeed evidence of abuse has been documented. Euthanasia has been inflicted not only on the diagnosed terminally ill, but on the chronically ill, and those in acute physical and psychological distress. It is even suspected that euthanasia is used as a means of eliminating some infirmed

and disabled persons in order to relieve relatives and the State of the burden and cost of healthcare. As Dr. Ndigi Dagbue of the St. Lucia District asserts, this cost-containment matter “would mainly affect the poor who cannot afford private health insurance”.<sup>1</sup> The ‘right-to-die’ argument is baseless on both logical and biblical grounds. God who is the giver of life and has appointed our death and is the only one authorised to take life. (Hebrews 9:27; Ecclesiastes 3:1-2).

“Mercy-killing” which is an approval term for euthanasia raises serious ethical principles. This is why it is not universally endorsed and even in countries where it is legalised, the medical profession is divided on the propriety and morality of the act.

Based on these considerations, the Pentecostal Assemblies of the West Indies (PAWI) joins with those who condemn euthanasia, and applaud the several Medical Associations whose members predominantly oppose it. In this we are on good and godly grounds. It is contrary to God’s laws and the laws of many nations for persons to take their own lives or the lives of others. When man arrogates to himself the power to terminate life, he or she usurps the divine authority and comes under condemnation.

Euthanasia used as a means of relieving society of its obligation to care for the sick and infirm is a shameful dereliction of duty and a serious moral failure. Instead of euthanasia or assisted suicide, the emphasis should be placed on treatment and care which soothes, and alleviates pain and suffering to the greatest extent in the hopelessly ill. Miracles are still possible and this makes it dangerous to terminate a life before God’s appointed time.

PAWI recognises a difference between removal of artificial life-support and euthanasia. It endorses the position of the National Association of Evangelicals in their 1994 Resolution on the issue:

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<sup>1</sup> Article written by Dr. Ndigi Dagbue on ‘Euthanasia’ relative to the development of a position paper on the subject; submitted to the General Executive Constitution Committee, 2006.

Where patients are terminally ill, death appears imminent and treatment offers no hope of cure, it is morally appropriate to request the withdrawal of (artificial) life support, allowing natural death to occur.<sup>2</sup>

PAWI reaffirms the sanctity of life, which the Bible as the word of God, upholds. The taking of human life in any form is wrong except in the case of judicial punishment administered by the state and the abortion of a foetus to save the mother's life where the mother's life is in jeopardy in childbearing. We are not indifferent to human suffering and commend continuing investment in effective modes of palliative care along with Christian-based psychological counselling. To contribute further to patient well-being and the alleviation of suffering we recommend that Christians get involved in:

- The care of patients who are terminally ill or face an indefinite period of suffering.
- The provision of appropriate spiritual and psycho-social support for those with incurable illnesses.
- The education of patients on their condition and prospects, and the legitimate options open to them.

## **4.2 POSITION PAPER ON CAPITAL PUNISHMENT**

Rev. Ignatius J. K. Hood defines capital punishment as the inflicting of the death penalty, by the state, on persons convicted of a crime.<sup>3</sup> He points out that ideas about which crimes are punishable by death vary from society to society. Attitudes of various societies and cultures to crimes which attract the death penalty are based on some kind of moral code and set of values.

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<sup>2</sup> The National Association of Evangelicals website, [www.nae.net](http://www.nae.net) - The National Association of Evangelicals (NAE) is fellowship of over 40 denominations and thousands of individual churches, organizations, universities and individuals. Its goal is to unify, serve and represent the evangelical community in the United States. Today it works in four main areas: Church & Faith Partners, Government Affairs, Chaplains Commission, and World Relief. The NAE is a member of the World Evangelical Alliance (WEA). The NAE was founded in 1942.

<sup>3</sup> Article written by Rev. Ignatius J. K. Hood on 'Capital Punishment' relative to the development of a position paper on the subject; submitted to the General Executive Constitution Committee, 2006.

Without a single arbiter on the rightness or criminality of an act and the justification of specific punishment, some authoritative set of values of a universal nature is necessary. The values which best answer this description derive from the teachings of Scripture in which God has revealed his will for a humane order and righteous polity.

Justice serves a number of purposes. It is retributive in that it seeks to repay the victim or society for harm and loss sustained; it is a deterrent, intended to discourage potential offenders and repeated offences; it is rehabilitative, in that some forms of punishments allow for the reform of the felon which is one reason why convicts are sent to “houses of correction”; and justice can be purely punitive, that is meant to punish the guilty in a retaliatory act. Capital punishment is the ultimate act of justice.

While the Bible permits justice through capital punishment, it is not an unqualified sanction. “An eye for an eye” was applied under Moses and scriptures like “Whoever sheddeth man’s blood by man shall his blood be shed” (Genesis 9:6) confirm this. It is also endorsed under the New Testament (New Covenant) as Romans 13:4 with its reference to juridical use of the sword suggests. It is difficult, however, to replicate the Mosaic polity which the ‘an eye for an eye’ concept underpins. The problem is that one can be accused of applying the law selectively since we cannot now attach the death penalty to all cases which attracted it in the Mosaic dispensation. As Hood writes:

“It must be further understood that the many things requiring capital punishment in the Old Testament cannot be applied today”.<sup>4</sup>

Then there are those who regard killing as wrong, even when the State carries it out; and some hold that the ultimate penalty cancels the opportunity for rehabilitation and the second chance to be a valuable member of society. Indeed, the many known cases of erroneous guilty verdicts ending in death should give us pause.

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<sup>4</sup> ibid

Even with some apparent biblical sanction, it is difficult to take a blanket position on capital punishment. Each case has to be judged on its own merit taking into account all the mitigating circumstances; and there may be capital cases where rehabilitative justice is in order. Ultimately, however, there is sufficient biblical support for making capital punishment available to the State in murder cases of a particularly heinous nature. Even then, the state should only execute the death sentence after ensuring that the verdict has been secured as far as possible on irrefragable evidence, and that the subject has exhausted all reasonable rights of appeal. This captures the spirit of scriptural insistence on two or more witnesses for the affirmation of guilt.

In cases of murder and capital punishment, the church's compassion and humanitarian outreach should be directed towards both the victim and perpetrator. God is always concerned about justice for the oppressed. Our love should not be selective. As needs for psychological, spiritual and material support are identified, the Christian community should respond with the resources at its command in the spirit of love.

### **4.3 POSITION PAPER ON HOMOSEXUALITY**

We regard homosexuality both as a romantic attraction to persons of the same sex as well as same-sex genital acts. In the light of strident advocacy for the legitimization of homosexuality in powerful political and religious circles, it is imperative that the Fellowship articulates its position unambiguously, based on authentic interpretation of biblical texts. It is our belief that there is an effort on behalf of persons in authority to pander to itching ears and those who reject sound doctrine, as Scripture states. Not only is homosexuality downright sin but it is contrary to God's divine social order.

#### **Based on Scripture, Homosexuality is Sin**

From the onset of human government, there were specific instructions against homosexual behaviour which was a violation of divine law. Leviticus made it clear that lying with someone

of the same sex was not only sinful but detestable (Leviticus 18:22; 20:13). It is evident that homosexuality and lesbianism incurred divine displeasure and was considered sin. God's treatment of communities such as Sodom amply demonstrates his attitude to this evil.

The word 'sodomy' is associated with divine judgment and is never used in a positive light. It is scarcely surprising therefore that Paul numbers homosexual activity with human depravity that calls forth divine judgment (Romans 1:26, 27). In both The Old and New Testament therefore homosexual practice is definitely denounced as sinful.

### **Homosexual Behaviour Violates God's pattern for human order**

In the Genesis creation account, the scriptures are clear that God addressed man's loneliness by creating for him a female companionship. A union of the two sexes was intended in the act of two becoming one flesh. It is difficult to ignore the emphasis on 'male and female' in Genesis. To go against this is to violate God's social order for the human family.

In addition to companionship, procreation for the perpetuation of the race was another reason for bringing man and woman together. A heterosexual relationship is clearly intended since physically, homosexual practice cannot apply given human physiology. Homosexual practice is contrary to the normal sexual pattern established by God, and this is reason enough for the PAWI to take its stand against it.

### **Hope for the Homosexual**

To conclude that homosexual practice is sinful and contrary to God's established social order and incurs divine judgment is not to condemn those who practice it to ultimate judgment. God loves homosexuals as he loves other transgressors, for that matter; they are part of His creation. We have the obligation to love them and assure them of the possibility of reconciliation to God through forgiveness and salvation which Jesus provided. Indeed, it is incumbent on us to assist, as best we can, those who are struggling with homosexual temptations, whether they are believers or unbelievers.

#### **4.4 POSITION PAPER ON ABORTION**

We subscribe to the view that life begins at conception in the womb as the Bible teaches and that humans are made in God's image, Genesis 1:26-27. Scriptures such as Genesis 29: 31-32, Genesis 44:2 and Psalms 139:13-16 point to divine involvement at the womb stage. Isaiah, David and others declared that God formed them in the womb and David articulated this in beautiful lyrical language:

For it was you who created my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb... My bones were not hidden from you when I was made in secret when I was formed in the depth of the earth. (HCSB)

If God is the giver and author of life and He made man in his own image, then life takes on a sanctity which we can only despise to great peril. As is evident from the Holy Scriptures, man is already a person in the womb.

Since God has planned a person's destiny, "all the days", to cut short that life is to fly in the face of divine purpose and to rebel against his divine agenda. Eternity alone will reveal, how many Jeremiahs, Zechariahs, contemporary heroes of faith and other potential secular icons that abortion may have stolen from society and how poor our society may be as a result.

Based on these considerations, the Pentecostal Assemblies of the West Indies (PAWI) regards abortion as morally unacceptable and spiritually reprehensible when used as a means of sex selection, birth and population control, and solving mental and physical problems. This position is strongly supported by Holy Scripture. When an exception is contemplated, such as an effort to spare the mother from likely death through child birth, counselling should precede the act. Our ultimate guide is the Bible and not super-power precedent such as the often-cited Roe



versus Wade (1972) in the United States of America, which defends a mother's right to have an abortion at will.<sup>5</sup>

Abortion as an application of the pro-choice doctrine comes at an enormous price. It is the slaughter of innocents, an act that not only violates God's moral law but ordinarily offends society as well. Murder at any stage of life is forbidden by the Bible and attracts retributive justice. (Exodus 20:13; Matthew 5:21, 19:18; Romans 13:9; James 19:18) In addition to which, pro-choice proponents exhibit a callousness which pays scant regard to the emotional and spiritual trauma which many patients undergo. Arguments which attempt to sustain an ungodly ideology becloud the depression, guilt, shame and even life-long regret that the women can and do experience. Seemingly harmless expedients, such as Intra-Uterine Devices (IUDs) and the morning-after pill, must also be condemned, since potentially they terminate rather than prevent pregnancy. Abortion therefore is an affront to the sanctity of human life of which God is author and creator.

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<sup>5</sup> 5 *Roe v. Wade*, From Wikipedia, the free internet encyclopedia

*Jane Roe, et al. v. Henry Wade, District Attorney of Dallas County*; argued December 13, 1971; reargued October 11, 1972; decided January 22, 1973. A [landmark case](#) on the issue of [abortion](#), is one of the most controversial and politically significant cases in U.S. Supreme Court history.

The Court held that a woman's right to an abortion is determined by her current [trimester](#) of pregnancy:

- In the first trimester, the state cannot restrict a woman's right to an abortion in any way. The court stated that this trimester begins at conception and ends at the "point at which the fetus becomes '[viable](#)'".
- In the second trimester, the state may only regulate the abortion procedure "in ways that are reasonably related to maternal health" (defined in the companion case of *Doe v. Bolton*).
- In the third trimester, the state can choose to restrict or proscribe abortion as it sees fit when the fetus is viable ("except where it is necessary, in appropriate medical judgment, for the preservation of the life or health of the mother").

The Court rested these conclusions on a [constitutional right](#) to privacy emanating from the [Due Process Clause](#) of the Fourteenth Amendment, also known as substantive due process.

In disallowing many state and federal restrictions on abortion in the United States, *Roe v. Wade* prompted a national debate that continues today, about issues including whether and to what extent abortion should be legal, who should decide the legality of abortion, what methods the Supreme Court should use in constitutional adjudication, and what the role should be of religious and moral views in the political sphere. *Roe v. Wade* reshaped national politics, dividing much of the nation into pro-*Roe* (mostly [pro-choice](#)) and anti-*Roe* (mostly [pro-life](#)) camps, while activating grassroots movements on both sides.

It is instructive that the felt need to seek abortion stems predominantly from some illicit sexual liaison. The aim usually is to destroy a foetus which resulted from pre-marital and extra-marital sex and consequently from selfish considerations. In these cases, abortion is doubly sinful and reminiscent of David's situation with Bathsheba when he compounded adultery with murder. The act is not always as simple as it seems on the surface. Ultimate hope lies only in God's guaranteed mercy to the repentant; and He does not necessarily absolve people from the consequences. As God's children made in His image, we must commit ourselves to eschew murder in all its forms and guises.

We are sympathetic to the argument for abortion to save the mother's life for social and humanitarian reasons, but recognise nevertheless, that it poses an ethical dilemma. Traditionally, the mother's life takes precedent. Yet this action should never be carried out without abundant evidence derived from a "multitude of counsellors", including godly persons. Rape victims are another unfortunate group requiring special counsel, love and guidance. They should be offered some humane societal alternative for dealing with the offspring rather than having an abortion.

On the whole, PAWI takes a stand against abortion on moral, biblical and emotional grounds and will seek as much as possible to propagate this position in the private and public domains. At the same time, we shall proclaim God's love for erring ones and His forgiveness for anyone taken in a fault. In addition to the proclamation, there should be provision for preventative and rehabilitative counselling.

## **SECTION 4 – MINUTES, GENERAL CONFERENCE BUSINESS SESSIONS**

DAY ONE – SUNDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2010

### **OPENING CEREMONY**

**THE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION AND 33<sup>RD</sup> BIENNIAL GENERAL CONFERENCE OF WORKERS**

The ceremony commenced at 5:00 pm at the Arouca Revival Tabernacle, Forde Street, Arouca. It was videotaped and hence reference is given in this compendium. Copies of the recording are available at cost upon request from the PAWI International Office.

## DAY TWO – MONDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2010

### **1.0 DEVOTIONAL SESSION**

**1.1** The devotional session commenced at 9:00 am. The Chairman for the devotional session, Rev. Ophniel Forde welcomed the delegates and led in praise. He invited Rev. Bernard Alleyne from Tobago district to lead in worship.

**1.2** The Chairman introduced the devotional speaker, Rev. Dr. Alister Alexander. He shared from the text Acts 2:12-16 on the theme: “This is That”.

1. Peter was addressing the group of Jews that were gathered in Jerusalem. He spoke on Joel’s prophecy. The land was barren and Joel gave a message. “When there is devastation, there must be supplication”. God has promised there will be restoration.
2. Although the outpouring was “a new thing” it was practiced before – it had a foundation – it is the mind of God. He emphasized going back to the Word to find solutions to our problems.
3. We cannot exist without prayer. Peter understood and quoted Joel when he said “In the last days”. Reference was also made to Moses’ desire “Let me see thy glory”.
4. Paul who was given a thorn in the flesh because of divine revelations he received cried out “oh that I may know him in the power of his resurrection”.

**1.2.1** His emphasis was based on how God made us; we are specially endowed by his power. We can be connected to God and know him. There is a specific compartment in the brain that responds to the Holy Spirit. It makes a difference when we know God by experience and on a personal level.

“This was that” which was spoken of the Holy Spirit as mentioned in the book of Joel, and if “that” was great, then “this” has to be greater, and we need “this” that we might know him (God).

### **1.3 CONCLUSION**

He concluded by giving the delegates the opportunity to reach out for that which was given, which is the Holy Spirit, so that we can receive a greater outpouring and a fresh infilling of the Holy Spirit upon our lives.

- 1.4** Rev. Carlita Dennie was asked to pray for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at the end of the speaker's message.

## **2.0 REFRESHMENT BREAK**

- 2.1** A break was given 10:15 a.m.

## **3.0 DAY TWO – FIRST BUSINESS SESSION**

- 3.1** The Chairman, Rev. Dr. Pat Glasgow called the meeting to order at 10:38 am

### **3.2 MOTION - ESTABLISHMENT OF THE BAR**

That the first seven rows be established as the conference bar. Moved by Rev. Melch Pope and seconded by Rev. Hasratt Ali. CARRIED

### **3.3 MOTIONS TO INCLUDE GUESTS INTO THE BAR**

1. That the former General Superintendents of PAWI be included in the conference bar was moved by Rev. Melch Pope and seconded by Rev. Edward Lashley. CARRIED
2. That Mr. Juliano Souza, PAWI representative from Brazil be included into the conference bar without voting rights was moved by Rev. Rev. Eldon Paul and seconded by Mrs. Merle Ali. CARRIED
3. That Mr. Emanuel Victor Adjei- Wiredu be included into the conference bar without voting rights was moved by Rev. George Frederick and seconded by Rev. Desmond Ferrette. CARRIED
4. That Mr. Maurice Carnelio be included into the conference bar without voting rights was moved by Rev. Errol Bartholomew and seconded by Rev. Ophneil Forde. CARRIED
5. That Rev. Courtney Jones be included into the conference bar with voting rights was moved by Rev. Irvin Smith and seconded by Rev. Melch Pope. CARRIED

#### **4.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The Chairman acknowledged the following persons:

Rev. & Mrs. Alvin Nicholson, Rev. Wharton Nicholson, Rev. & Mrs. Dennis White, Rev. Joycelyn Nelson, Rev. Jeremiah Prescod.

#### **5.0 STANDING ORDERS**

##### **5.1 MOTION:**

That the standing orders be accepted was moved by Rev. Errol Bartholomew and seconded by Rev. Hasratt Ali. CARRIED

#### **6.0 CONFERENCE AGENDA**

##### **6.1 MOTION:**

That the conference agenda be accepted was moved by Rev. Errol Bartholomew and seconded by Rev. Abraham Riley. CARRIED

#### **7.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS**

##### **7.1 Rev. Michael Brathwaite announced:**

1. CD's and DVD's were available for purchase.
2. Apologies were expressed for the lateness of meals served at the opening ceremony
3. Transportation for the South Rally was available. Interested persons were asked to submit their names.
4. Tours from the Tourist Board are to be made known by the next day. This activity will take place on Friday;

#### **8.0 ESTABLISHMENT OF CONFERENCE COMMITTEES**

##### **8.1 MOTION:**

That Rev. Angela Gidarree be included into the Secretariat Committee. CARRIED

Absent: Rev. Ann Marie James;

Change "Rev. Kathleen Payne" to "Mrs. Kathleen Payne";

## **8.2 MOTION:**

That the conference committees be accepted was moved by Rev. Wayne Webster and seconded by Rev. Bernard Alleyne. CARRIED

## **9.0 GENERAL BISHOP'S REPORT**

**9.1** Rev. Ophneil Forde, Assistant General Bishop, took the chair as Rev. Dr. Pat Glasgow gave his report.

**9.2** Rev. Dr. Pat Glasgow highlighted in his report:

1. Recommendation was made to attach the workers' contributions to credential fees so that when workers renew their credentials, the amounts are collected.
2. Recommendation to examine the provisions in Bylaws 9.6.3.2 and 9.6.3.5 with the view of making it more consistent with effective succession planning procedures.
3. That a Youth commission be appointed which will embark on a study of the present trends and challenges of youth in our churches and develop a plan to address those needs within and outside the church.
4. Establishment of Elders: Rev. Dr. Irvin smith, Sir Howard Fergus, Rev. Dr. Jeremiah Prescod, Rev. Dr. Esther Baisden, Dr. Clara Emmanuel and Rev. Noel Clarke were recommended.
5. Name change: Proposal to change Pentecostal Assemblies of the West Indies (PAWI) to Pentecostal Assemblies International (PAI).

## **9.3 DISCUSSION ON THE REPORT:**

1. Rev. Butler noted that there were a lot of recommendations in the report and requested that more time be given to peruse the report;
2. The Chairman suggested that the recommendations be addressed at the rap session of the conference;
3. Workers contribution: Tobago District, Montserrat District and Grenada District noted that they have contributed towards the fund but their names were omitted from the report;
4. Correction to Page 51: Change "POAC" to "PAOC";

5. Name change: Bishop Glasgow noted that at the Executive meeting, it was decided that the PAWI's name would remain as is.

#### **9.4 MOTION:**

That the report be accepted was moved by Rev. Melch Pope and seconded by Rev. Peter Regis.

CARRIED

#### **10.0 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF WORLD MISSIONS REPORT**

**10.1** Rev. Nigel Henry highlighted in his report:

1. The Campbell's re-entry into the Caribbean;
2. The Pentecostal Assemblies of the West Indies Brazil is now a reality. The first official service was held in a newly rented building;
3. Fifty children were schooled in Haiti in 2009 through PAWIMA grants to Help for Haiti Foundation;
4. A total of fifteen (15) beds were donated to an orphanage in Chennai, India;
5. PAWIMA is working with the Malipayon children's foundation in General Santos City, Philippines to help with the feeding program of the New Society elementary school;
6. A team of nine (9) students from WIST was taken to St. Vincent to conduct evangelistic work. The team was led by Rev. Ricardo Joseph;

#### **10.2 MOTION:**

That the time be extended for completion of the report was moved by Rev. Melch Pope and seconded by Rev. Hasratt Ali

CARRIED

#### **10.3 EXECUTIVE WORLD MISSIONS DIRECTOR'S REPORT CONTINUED**

1. An Independent church in St. Maarten has been accepted as an Associate Assembly to the PAWI fellowship. It is deemed as our "Centenary baby" with a combination of both English and Spanish-speaking ministries operating from the same location.

#### **10.4 DISCUSSION ON THE REPORT:**

1. It was noted by Rev. Warren Harper that not enough evidence was given in the report;
2. Rev. Cynthia Jack queried the sponsors of the missionaries. Rev. Nigel Henry responded that PAWIMA together with the districts were sponsors of the missionaries;
3. Rev. Dr. Pearl Rivers extended commendations to PAWIWMA on its achievements.

#### **10.5 MOTION:**

That the report be accepted by Mr. Christopher Marshall and seconded by Mrs. Shirlene Pope.

CARRIED

#### **11.0 LUNCHEON ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment for lunch was taken at 12:55 pm with prayer by the Chairman, Rev. Dr. Pat Glasgow.

### DAY TWO – SECOND BUSINESS SESSION

#### **12.0 RESUMPTION**

**12.1** The Chairman, Rev. Dr. Pat Glasgow called the meeting to order at 1:55 pm. Rev. Jennifer Collymore led in a few choruses.

#### **13.0 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CHURCH MINISTRIES REPORT**

**13.1** Rev. Knowles McCall highlighted in his report:

1. Successful training conference was held at Grand View Inn Hotel, Grenada for all District Directors;
2. Commendations were given to the Women’s Ministries Department in addressing the needs of the women;
3. An urgent call was made for the Ministries to form an official First Response/Disaster Relief Response Team;
4. Professional journalists would be needed to assist in the publication of PAWI News.

#### **13.2 MOTION:**

**13.2.1** That the report be accepted was moved by Rev. Dr. Lester Emanuel and seconded by Rev. Victor Payne.

CARRIED

#### **14.0 ROSTER REPORT**

**14.1** Rev. Beverlie Haynes presented the roster report. The Chairman suggested that in future, a head count be taken instead of the roster report.



## **15.0 ELECTION FOR GENERAL BISHOP**

**15.1** Rev. Wharton Nicholson assumed the chair. He read the bylaw provision for election of the General Bishop and requested that all eligible workers identify themselves after which he prayed for the election.

## **16.0 WIST BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**16.1** Prof. Alvin Thompson highlighted in his report:

1. Resignation of Sis. Michelle Soodeen after sixteen years of service;
2. Recruitment of Rev. Dr. Errol Joseph;
3. WIST is registered with the Accreditation council of Trinidad and Tobago for a period of three years;
4. The school has undertaken major initiatives such as the launching of new diploma and bachelor programs;
5. Rev. Hazeline Mahabir willed her house and land to WIST, becoming the first person to do so.

## **17.0 ELECTION RESULTS FOR GENERAL BISHOP**

Rev. Dr. Pat Glasgow received 146 of 164 votes, which was more than a 2/3rds majority.

**17.1** Rev. Glasgow thanked the General Conference for allowing him the opportunity to serve for another period. He highlighted one of his concerns about the attendance of Conference due the cost and his aim is to reduce the cost of a credential worker to attend conference.

## **18.0 DISCUSSION ON WIST BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

1. Queries on Accreditation: The Chairman responded that WIST has been registered for three years and its programs are now being considered for accreditation. WIST is seeking accreditation with Caribbean Evangelical Theological Association and Accreditation Council of Trinidad and Tobago;

2. Rev. Hazeline Mahabir's property: Rev. Glenroy Frank queried the sale of the property when it was considered as real estate. The Chairman responded that Rev. Mahabir left a will which included the option of selling the property or retaining it for the school's use. The General Executive decided to sell the property to Rev. Cynthia Jack considering the fact that she resided there for a number of years.

**18.1 MOTION:**

That the report be accepted was moved by Rev. Irvin Smith and seconded by Sis. Patricia Clarke.

CARRIED

**19.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman made the following announcements:

1. All reports were to be read overnight. Special attention should be paid to the General Administrator's report and the Finance report;
2. Persons attending North and South Rallies were asked to identify themselves;
3. Persons were encouraged to purchase the pins and brooches on sale;
4. Commendation was given to Pastor Lindon Mitchel for his design of the PAWI logo.

**20.0 ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment was taken at 3:10 pm with prayer by Rev. Cynthia Jack.

Confirmed the eighteenth day of May in the year of our Lord, two thousand and ten

Rev. Dr. Pat Glasgow  
General Bishop

Rev. Errol Bartholomew  
Conference Administrator

**DAY THREE – TUESDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2010**

## **21.0 DEVOTIONAL SESSION**

**21.1** The devotional session began at 8:31 am. The Chairperson, Sis. Shirlene Pope invited Rev. Bernard Alleyne to lead in the worship session.

**21.2** Sis. Shirlene Pope then introduced the devotional speaker, Rev. Dr. Alister Alexander. He revisited the text from the previous day – Acts 2:12-16 and spoke on the same theme “This is that”.

1. Pentecost is the greatest phenomenon of the 21<sup>st</sup> century;
2. It did not originate in the mind of man. It was the desire of God’s heart to dwell eternally in man: The prophets heralded the message;
3. Isaiah 44:3 – God will pour out of His Spirit; His volume is great. He is the God of the abundance. We are living in the days of that promise;
4. Pentecost was not made for one generation. This promise is unto you and your children. God is doing something more effective in this generation;
5. The Holy Spirit influences our will and situations do change;
6. Pentecost was God’s timing; They heard, they saw and their emotions were touched;
7. They did not think that what they had was theirs, but they displayed generosity;
8. The baptism of the Holy Spirit gives power for testimony and service; it brings us into unity.

## **21.3 CONCLUSION**

In conclusion Rev. Dr. Alister Alexander stated that the Holy Spirit is our “Paraclete”. He gives us power in the inner man for service; whatever one needs, the Spirit of God is good for it. He listed twelve names by which the Holy Spirit is called:

The Holy Spirit, The Spirit of Promise, The Spirit of Judgment, The Spirit of Truth, The Spirit of Wisdom, The Spirit of Life, The Spirit of Rhema, The Spirit of Grace, The Spirit of Glory, The Spirit of Might, The Spirit of Eternity and The Paraklete.

**21.4** Rev. Michael Brathwaite prayed for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit among the delegates. The General Bishop then urged the delegates to pray one for the other.

## **22.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The Chairman acknowledged the following persons and invited them to bring greetings:

1. Rev. John Smith, General Superintendent of Assemblies of God, Guyana

2. Rev. Dr. Audley James
3. Rev. Steve Boodram, Revival Time Assembly, USA
4. Rev. Dr. Jeremiah Prescod, Outreach Ministries, USA
5. Mr. Emanuel Victor Adjei-Wiredu, Ghana

## **23.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- 23.1** Rev. Angela Williams announced that CD's and DVD's of the devotional sessions by Rev. Alister Alexander were available for sale. They were specially packaged for the delegates.

Books written by Mrs. Lydia Glasgow, Mrs. Clara Emanuel, Rev. Alister Alexander, Mrs. Lula Alexander, Rev. Irvin Smith, Rev. Dr. Raymond Boca and Rev. Osbert Williams, and music CD's by Rev. Angela Williams, Rev. Bernard Alleyne and Mrs. Barbara Brebnor were also available.

## **24.0 REFRESHMENT BREAK**

- 24.1** A break was taken at 10:15 am.

## **25.0 DAY THREE – THIRD BUSINESS SESSION**

- 25.1** The Chairman, Rev. Dr. Pat Glasgow called the conference to order at 10:32 am.

## **26.0 MINUTES OF DAY TWO – MONDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> 2010**

### **26.1 MOTION:**

That the minutes be accepted as read, moved by Rev. Wayne Webster and seconded by Rev. George Frederick. CARRIED

## **27.0 AUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT**

27.1 The Chairman invited Miss Joanna Calliste to present the financial report of PAWI International Office.

1. The Chairman noted that WIST property is now included in the Balance sheets of PAWI International office in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws;
2. Sis. Vilma Ollivierre queried the “Other” payments in the Receipts and Payments account. Miss Calliste gave a breakdown of the figure provided.

**27.2 MOTION:**

That the finance report be accepted was moved by Rev. Albert Green and seconded by Rev. Irvin Smith. CARRIED

**28.0 ELECTION OF ASSISTANT GENERAL BISHOP**

28.1 The Chairman prayed for direction for the vote.

**29.0 RATIFICATION OF WIST BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

29.1 The following names were submitted for ratification:

Prof. Alvin Thompson – Chairman, Rev. Dr. Pearl Rivers, Rev. George Frederick, Ms. Belinda Dillon, Rev. Nolan Warner, Rev. Dr. Ivan Broomes and Ms. Andrea Phillip.

**29.2 MOTION:**

That the ratification of names be accepted, moved by Rev. Dr. Alister Alexander and seconded by Rev. Abraham Riley. CARRIED

**30.0 ELECTION RESULTS FOR ASSISTANT GENERAL BISHOP**

Rev. Ophniel Forde was elected as Assistant General Bishop with 114 votes out of 161, which was more than a 2/3rds majority.

**31.0 GENERAL ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT**

**31.1** The Chairman invited Rev. Errol Bartholomew to present his report. He highlighted:

1. WE PAWI Campaigns;
2. Position papers presented on contemporary ethical issues;
3. Capital expansion projects which included the opportunity to purchase 20 acres of land;
4. Proposal for churches to remit 5% of their tithes to the International office and districts to remit 5% of its annual actual income for capital projects.

**32.0 ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE WORLD MISSIONS DIRECTOR**

**32.1** Qualified persons (both men and women) were asked to identify themselves for nomination.

**33.0 DISCUSSION ON GENERAL ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

1. Names and addresses of workers to be corrected on the PAWI website;
2. It was suggested that conference books and materials be placed on the website for credential workers;
3. That the archives be revisited to determine whether a decision was made with reference to the tithing of 15% by the Districts offices.

**34.0 RESULTS OF ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE WORLD MISSIONS DIRECTOR**

Rev. Nigel Henry was elected to the position, with 141 votes.

**35.0 DISCUSSION ON GENERAL ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT CONTINUED**

1. Concerns were expressed that there were not enough evangelists in church planting.
2. The Chairman responded that at the last meeting with students of WIST, most of them expressed their desire to be involved in evangelism.

**36.0 ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE CHURCH MINISTRIES DIRECTOR**

**36.1** Rev. Knowles McCall informed the conference that he would not allow his name to stand for re-election.

**37.0 DISCUSSION ON GENERAL ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT CONTINUED**

Rev. Glasgow encouraged the delegates that PAWI should stop “beating ourselves” for not having done all to alleviate the social ills of society. Scripture must be fulfilled.

**37.1 MOTION:**

That the General Administrator’s report be accepted was moved by Rev. Norma Hart and seconded by Rev. Hasratt Ali. CARRIED

**38.0 RESOLUTIONS**

**38.1** The General Administrator was invited to present the resolutions brought forward from General Conference 2008.

**38.2. CLASSIFICATION OF DISTRICTS**

Resolution #1 – Classification of Districts

**38.2.1 MOTION:**

That Resolution #1 be accepted was moved by Rev. Dr. Alister Alexander and seconded by Prof. Alvin Thompson. CARRIED

**39.0 MOTION OF EXTENSION OF TIME:**

That there be an extension of time to complete the resolutions was moved by Rev. Roy Marshall and seconded by Rev. Melch Pope. CARRIED

**40.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Rev. Michael Brathwaite announced:

1. The availability of banquet tickets for sale.

2. The offer of a 10% discount to conference delegates at the Maranatha bookstall.

#### **41.0 LUNCHEON ADJOURNMENT**

- 41.1 The conference was adjourned at 12:40 pm with prayer by Sis. Marion Forde.

### **DAY THREE – FOURTH BUSINESS SESSION**

#### **42.0 RESUMPTION**

- 42.1 The Chairman reconvened the conference at 1:59 pm and invited Sis. Lena Nicholson to lead in a few choruses.

#### **43.0 ELECTION RESULTS FOR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CHURCH MINISTRIES**

Rev. Cynthia Jack was elected to the position with 114 votes, out of 172.

#### **44.0 CHURCH MINISTRIES DEPARTMENTAL LEADERS**

- 44.1 The Chairman stated that Church Ministries Directors should be trained for their respective positions. He then put forward the names recommended by the General Executive for ratification:

#### **44.2 MOTION:**

That Rev. Ethelbert Charles be appointed to the position of General Men's Ministries Director was moved by Rev. George Frederick and seconded by Rev. Jennifer Collymore.

CARRIED

#### **44.3 MOTION:**

That Rev. Albert Cooper be appointed to the position of Christian Education Director was moved by Rev. Irvin Smith and seconded by Rev. Ricardo Alleyne. CARRIED

#### **44.4 MOTION:**

That Mrs. Pamela Dickson-Stewart be appointed to the position of International Crusaders Commissioner was moved by Rev. Rudolph Harris and seconded by Rev. Melitus Jean. CARRIED



**44.5 MOTION:**

That Mrs. Lucille Harris be appointed to the position of General Women's Ministries Director was moved by Rev. Wayne Webster and seconded by Rev. Michael Butler.

CARRIED

**44.6 MOTION:**

That Pastor Kevin Hunte be appointed to the position of Youth Ministries Director was moved by Mrs. Shirlene Pope and seconded by Rev. Ricardo Alleyne. CARRIED

**44.7 COMMENDATION**

Commendations were given to Mrs. Eudine Banfield and Rev. Albert Gray for their service as General Departmental Directors in the areas of women and youth respectively.

**45.0 RESOLUTION #2 – CRITERIA FOR CLASSIFICATION AS PIONEER DISTRICTS**

**45.1 MOTION:**

That Resolution # 2.4 be sent back to the General Executive for re-wording was moved by Rev. Wharton Nicholson and seconded by Rev. Lew Thomson. CARRIED

**46.0 RESOLUTION # 1.2 – DIVORCE AND REMARRIAGE**

**46.1** Questions of clarification arose on this resolution and the conference accepted the Chairman's suggestion that the discussion be tabled for the following day.

**47.0 ELECTION RESULTS FOR GENERAL ADMINISTRATOR**

Rev. Errol Bartholomew was elected as General Administrator on receiving 116 votes out of 156. He thanked the conference for the opportunity to serve for another term.

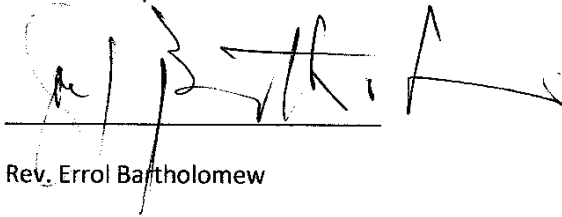
**48.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

1. Rev. Ricardo Joseph announced that delegates who were scheduled to leave Trinidad would be required to submit their time of departure to facilitate proper travel arrangements.
2. The Chairman acknowledged Rev. Peter D'Abreau from Tortola.

#### **49.0 ADJOURNMENT**

The Conference was adjourned at 3:05 pm with prayer by Rev. Peter D'Abreau.

Submitted by

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Errol Bartholomew', written over a horizontal line.

Rev. Errol Bartholomew

General Administrator

### **DAY FOUR – WEDNESDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2010**

#### **50.0 DEVOTIONAL SESSION**

- 50.1** Chairman for the devotional session, Rev. Emanuel Mc Lorren commenced proceedings at 8:30 am. He invited Rev. Donaldson Figaro to lead in worship.
- 50.2** Rev. Emanuel Mc Lorren introduced the devotional speaker, Rev. Dr. Alister Alexander. His text was Acts 10: 34-35, 45-46, namely “Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons: But in every nation he that feareth him and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him.”
- 50.3** The Speaker spoke on the theme “Heaven’s administration gives everybody and equal chance” and highlighted the following points:
  1. God does not always look you over for the medals you wear, but God looks you over for the scars you carry;
  2. Heaven’s administration does not always call the qualified, but qualifies the called;

3. Think about what God can make out of you. In every dispensation God never leaves himself without a witness;
4. The day of the visitation of the Holy Spirit has come. This was not the work of a man, but of God. God was doing his own thing without respecter of persons;
5. Walk with God; He has made provision for you to fulfill your course with joy; nothing on the outside can quench the flames of God;
6. When memory becomes more important than vision, we are losing it;
7. We need to recapture the passion that Pentecostalism brought about; the passion for God and compassion for the souls of men;

#### **50.4 CONCLUSION**

He concluded by reiterating that God is no respecter of persons. We need the anointing of God; another shaking for the beginning of another century; another visitation for the compassion for the souls of men.

- 50.5** Rev. Michael Brathwaite led in the hymn "Pass me not O gentle Saviour" after which Rev. Audley James led in prayer.

#### **51.0 ANNOUNCEMENT**

Conference Chairman, Rev. Dr. Pat Glasgow stated that the next day's proceedings would begin at 8:00 am with an anointing service.

#### **52.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The Chairman acknowledged former General Executive officers and spouses present, namely Rev. & Mrs. Colbert Sesankar, Rev. O'Neal Douglin and Rev. & Mrs. John Delice.

He also recognized Rev. & Mrs. Kemple, Assemblies of God missionaries to PAWI.

#### **53.0 ELECTIONS FOR MEMBERS AT LARGE**

The Chairman presented five names that were nominated by the General Executive to serve as members at large on the General Executive. They were: Rev. Dr. Pearl Rivers, Mrs. Shirlene Pope, Pastor Kevin Hunte, Sir Howard Fergus and Mr. Emanuel Edwards.

## **54.0 GREETINGS**

The Chairman invited Rev. Audley James from Canada and Rev. Peter D'Arbreau from Virgin Gorda to greet the conference which they did.

## **55.0 OFFERING**

A special offering was received for conference speakers, Rev. Dr. Dennis White and Rev. Dr. Alister Alexander.

## **56.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. A head count was taken of delegates who were to collect banquet tickets.
2. Delegates attending that night's rally were asked to identify themselves.
3. Books were still on sale at the book table.

## **57.0 PAWI HISTORY PUBLICATION**

- 57.1** A first draft of the PAWI History book was presented to the conference: "Ablaze, The Pentecostal Assemblies of the West Indies". The Chairman stated that Prof. Alvin Thompson had offered his services to complete the editing of the book. The book would be pre-sold at a price of \$35.00 USD at the conference, a discount off the original pre-publication price of \$40.00 USD. The official launch was set for November 2010.

## **58.0 ELECTION RESULTS FOR MEMBERS AT LARGE**

The following persons were elected as Members-at-large – Rev. Dr. Pearl Rivers, Mrs. Shirlene Pope and Pastor Kevin Hunte.

## **59.0 REFRESHMENT BREAK**

A break was taken at 10:45 am.

## DAY FOUR – FIFTH BUSINESS SESSION

### **60.0 RESUMPTION**

The conference resumed at 10:50 am.

### **61.0 RE: GENERAL ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – PAWI USA**

**61.1** The Chairman noted that at this time PAWI USA is not considered as a district and credential workers are related directly to the International Office. The district of PAWI USA is a vision.

**61.2** The General Executive had appointed Rev. Wharton Nicholson and Rev. Jeremiah Prescod as representatives of PAWI in North America. Their function was to interview persons who were seeking credentials with the PAWI fellowship and to forward their recommendations for credentials to the General Executive together with the supporting data and fees.

### **62.0 GENERAL BISHOP'S CONFERENCE REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS**

**62.1** Recommendation # 1: The Way Forward - Name Change

The recommendation to change of the name of PAWI was withdrawn.

**62.2** Recommendation # 2: Establishment of Elders

**62.2.1** That the following persons be asked to serve as elders of the PAWI Fellowship, namely – Rev. Dr. Irvin Smith, Sir Howard Fergus, Rev. Dr Jeremiah Prescod, Rev. Dr. Esther Baisden, Dr. Clara Emmanuel, Rev. Noel Clarke and Rev. Hasratt Ali.

**62.2.2** Their role is to be advisory and not legislative. Their terms of reference were as follows:

1. To act as intercessors for the Fellowship.
2. To advise the General Bishop/General Executive/General Officers as to trends, concerns and issues that are impacting the Fellowship.

3. To assist the General Executive where needed or possibly in advisory/mentoring/coaching and conflict resolution situations from time to time.
4. To assist in safe guarding the distinctives of the Fellowship.
5. To make themselves available, when invited, to sit with the General Executive at least once during the conference term to discuss the further development of the Fellowship.

**62.2.2 MOTION:**

That the names submitted for the establishment of elders was accepted with the inclusion of Rev. Hasratt Ali; moved by Rev. Albert Gray and seconded by Rev. Errol Bartholomew. CARRIED

**62.3 Recommendation # 3: Mobilization of Our Youth**

**62.3.1** That this conference appoints a youth commission which will embark on a study of the present trends and challenges of youth in our churches and develop a plan to address those needs within and outside the church. The plan should be submitted to the General Executive via the Church Ministries Director within three months of the completion of the said conference.

**62.3.2 MOTION:**

That these recommendations be forwarded to the church ministries department for discussion was moved by Rev. Antoine Charles and seconded by Rev. Errol Bartholomew. CARRIED

**62.4 Recommendation # 4: Succession Planning**

The recommendation was to *'examine the provisions in Bylaws 9.6.3.2 and 9.6.3.5, with the view of making it more consistent with effective succession planning procedures'*.

**62.4. DECISION:**

**62.4.1** Decision was taken by consensus to forward the recommendation to the Constitution Committee for its consideration.

## **62.5 Recommendation # 5: Ministers' Development**

**62.5.1** That the conference approves a two-pronged approach to professional development, of ministers, namely:

- a) A structured orientation program for all new Credentialed workers which will ensure that our history, culture and practices be taught and adopted.
- b) A structured progressive developmental program for all ministers that cater for the dynamics of Christian ministry, understanding culture in its context, and the sharpening of interpretation and delivery of the scriptural truths, among other things. The West Indies School of Theology should be asked to research needs and trends and submit proposals to the General Executive by its October 2010 meeting for approval and implementation. It is hoped that the program could be administered on a District level to ensure affordability and cultural suitability. Attendance to the program should also be tied to the renewal of credentials.

### **62.5.2 AMENDMENT AND DECISION:**

Decision was taken by consensus that the recommendation be forwarded to the General Executive with the amendment: 'That the last sentence, "*Attendance to the program should also be tied to the renewal of credentials.*" be removed'.

## **63.0 WORKSHOP**

**63.1** The Chairman invited delegates to divide themselves in groups of ten to discuss the following questions:

1. What can we do to advance as a fellowship?
2. How best can we fund the International office

**63.2** Delegates' responses to both questions are listed below.

### 63.2.1 Re Question # 1 - What Can We Do To Advance as a Fellowship?

- i. Accountability, co-operation, discipline at every level of leadership.
- ii. Electing of visionary leaders through a nominating system.
- iii. A database on all credential workers.
- iv. Re-defining and strengthening of Church Ministries.
- v. Communication Office in each District.
- vi. A greater sense of unity.

- vii. Aligning ourselves with churches of evangelical persuasion.
- viii. PAWI integrating with other fellowships within the territory.
- ix. Form strategic partnership with other organizations.
- x. National Day of Prayer.
- xi. Improvement of communication e.g. cross-cultural.
- xii. Micro mentorship.
- xiii. Compile a list of best practice instead of re-inventing the wheel.
- xiv. Plant more Churches.
- xv. Unity amongst our leadership.
- xvi. Recognition of purpose alleviates petty squabbles.
- xvii. Work with the Community we are in.
- xviii. Strengthen small churches.
- xix. Every Pastor tithe to the International Office.
- xx. Identify the budget to determine the cost of each category.
- xxi. Consistent giving on a timely basis.
- xxii. Make a specific amount that would be raised by each church through its departments.
- xxiii. Accountability and transparency amongst our ministers.
- xxiv. Perception of the constituents of PAWI.
- xxv. Contributing towards commitment.
- xxvi. Presiding Bishops are to provide necessary information to the constituents.
- xxvii. Research and development to be appointed to assist in collecting data to keep us on the cutting edge.
- xxviii. Specialist to ensure information reaches the current sources and implemented.

**63.2.1 Re Question # 2 - How Can We Best Fund the International Office?**

- i. Prepare a budget every two years.
- ii. Have an annual Fellowship Day.
- iii. Make payments online to the International Office.
- iv. Annual seed-planting.
- v. Districts and Churches give 10% tithes; National Office gives 5% tithes.
- vi. Maximizing PAWI website.
- vii. Credential workers should support by the purchasing of publications of the International Office.
- viii. Financial investments and management
- ix. Pastors divide tithe between the District and International Offices



- x. Appoint a finance committee: invite business people- outline PAWI's goals, activities, encourage people to buy into it
- xi. Develop a comprehensive plan – place business people to handle such financial matters
- xii. Have each PAWI constituent give \$1.00
- xiii. Examine the policy – Is it consistent? Pursue the delinquent churches; Penalty or motivation.
- xiv. Encourage members to give; encourage the pastors to lead by example.
- xv. Encourage members to get into business.
- xvi. International Office needs an annual budget. Seek expertise on how to deal with any short falls.
- xvii. One time sacrificial gift offering from all churches to the Head Office to be prudently
- xviii. Investigate best practices in other organizations and see those we can implement
- xix. Have someone to call when monies are due.
- xx. Continuation of \$50 per month – re credential workers mandatory, Paid in full on or before renewal of credential
- xxi. Every District commit monthly subscription to the International Office
- xxii. Cut cost of rental of stages, etc.
- xxiii. Fellowship Marketing – once per year having a corporate thrust in the honour of the International Office.

#### **64.0 ADJOURNMENT**

The day's adjournment was taken at 1:15 pm.

#### **DAY FIVE – THURSDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2010**

#### **64.0 DEVOTIONAL SESSION**

- 64.1** The Chairman, Rev. Dr. Lester Emanuel commenced the session at 8:10 am with praise. He invited Rev. Abraham Riley to open in prayer and Rev. Donaldson Figaro to lead in worship.
- 64.2** The Chairman introduced the devotional speaker, Rev. Dr. Alister Alexander who spoke on the theme, "God is no respecter of persons" using the text Acts 10: 34-35. He highlighted the following points:

1. An institution is the lightning shadow of a man.
2. We cannot credit the legacy to any one man. The church of Jesus Christ is His - “upon this rock, I will build my church”;
3. He is the Chief Shepherd, we are the under-shepherds;
4. Jesus is the baptizer in the Holy Spirit;
5. The fire is in us and we are in His fire; the Holy Spirit is getting the church ready and we are heading towards a greater glory;
6. The Shekinah glory of God is meant to be upon God’s people;
7. In the last days he is giving the latter rain and the former rain;
8. God has no “Waterloo”, nothing can stop God’s progress;
9. If no Spirit is poured out upon the church, it is dead; when the Spirit comes in, He directs the church.

### **64.3 CONCLUSION**

We need the unction of God that sticks to us. We need the Holy Spirit and those in leadership need that unction.

- 64.4** Rev. Knowles McCall led in prayer. Rev. Dr. Pat Glasgow led in the anointing service that followed.

### **65.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The Chairman acknowledged the following persons:

1. Rev. David Wells, General Superintendent, Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada (PAOC). He brought greetings on behalf of PAOC.
2. Rev. Martin McDowell, PAWI’s missionary to Brazil together with his guest, Pastor Juliano of Brazil brought greetings.
3. Dr. Spencer, Registrar of Oasis Institute of Higher Learning gave a PowerPoint presentation on the programs offered at the school.

### **66.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- 66.1** The Chairman announced:

1. That the Bachelors programmes available at WIST were GATE approved for citizens of Trinidad and Tobago;

2. Persons who ordered packages of CD's and DVD's should check the registration desk for collection;
3. Delegates should check with registration desk to inform them of their departure times;
4. Lunch will be provided on Friday for delegates staying at the hotel; dinner will be served at the centennial rally.

## **67.0 REFRESHMENT BREAK**

A break was taken at 10:55 am.

## **68.0 PLENARY SESSION – REV. TORRANCE BOBB, SPEAKER**

**68.1** The conference resumed at 11:10 am. The chairman introduced the speaker, Rev. Torrance Bobb to speak on the topic, "Church Planting". Rev. Bobb highlighted the following points:

1. ***The need of the local church:*** The apostle Paul spoke of the church as the body of Christ. The parts of the human body are interdependent, all contributing to the efficient working of the body.
2. ***Church planting in practice:*** Church history both early and contemporary is filled with examples of faithful and courageous individuals who toiled in church planting and did not always see the desired results in their lifetime. Some areas require much sowing and watering before the harvest can be reaped.
3. ***Church Planting – an organizational priority:*** Church planting should be uppermost in the minds of those in leadership, because it is uppermost in the mind of God.
4. ***Practical points for church planting:***
  - The element of sacrifice and inconvenience
  - Test of character
  - The place of meeting

## **68.2 CONCLUSION**

The importance of church planting can be seen by the fact that much of the book of Acts deals with the matter, while many of the Pauline epistles deal with church related issues. Jesus Himself in the great commission charged His disciples to disciple others. Church planting is spiritual warfare at its highest.

## **69.0 PLENARY SESSION – REV. O’NEAL DOUGLIN, SPEAKER**

**69.1** Rev. O’Neal Douglin spoke on the topic “Apostleship in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century”. He highlighted the following points:

1. The word “Apostle” means delegate, envoy, messenger or agent.
2. From the study of the New Testament there were three distinct groups called Apostles:
  - Apostles of Christ
  - Apostles of the Churches
  - False Apostles
3. Some denominations advocate the recognition of present-day apostles and use the term apostolic. For instance, the Roman Catholics attempt to trace succession of their clergy back to Peter or the original twelve.
4. Three questions we need to ask:
  - a) What are the marks of an apostle? A true apostle’s call had to be confirmed by the presbytery; a true apostle was supernaturally equipped.
  - b) What was the authority of the Apostles? The authority of the apostles was modeled by Jesus Christ Himself, who taught them that the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve.
  - c) Was there apostolic succession? The crucial issue here is whether the apostolic office is to be passed on as an institution of the church.

## **69.2 CONCLUSION**

1. That the Apostolic nature of the church is to be found in adherence to the Word of God.
2. That the New Testament does not provide sufficient guidance.
3. That while we do not understand it to be necessary, some church bodies may in good faith choose to name certain leaders as apostles.
4. That the title of apostle should not be lightly granted or assumed.
5. That the function of an apostle occurs whenever the church of Jesus Christ is being established among the un-evangelized.

## **70.0 LUNCHEON ADJOURNMENT**

**70.1** The Chairman adjourned the conference for lunch at 12:48 p.m. to facilitate preparation of the conference room for the centennial banquet later that evening.

**71.0 RESUMPTION**

**71.1** The conference resumed in the adjoining dining room at 2:00 pm.

**72.0 PLENARY SESSION – REV. COLBERT SESANKAR, SPEAKER**

**72.1** Rev. Sesankar relinquished his prerogative to present his paper on “Dynamics of Church Leadership” in favour of allowing Rev. Alvin and Mrs. Lena Nicholson to give highlights of his presentation on “The Minister and his Family”. Rev. Nicholson left printed notes of his discourse with delegates.

**73.0 CLOSING REMARKS**

**73.1** The Chairman expressed appreciation to all conference speakers, participants and workers for their contributions to the success of the conference and delegates uttered their varied expressions of appreciation to the conference organizers, staff, speakers, hotel hosts, et al for the wonderful experience of attending the Centennial Celebrations and 33<sup>rd</sup> Biennial General Conference of Workers.

**74.0 ADJOURNMENT**

**74.1** The adjournment was taken at 3:45 pm with prayer by Rev. Dr. Irvin Smith.

Respectfully submitted,

Errol Bartholomew  
General Administrator

Confirmed this day                      of                      in the year of our Lord, two thousand and ten

## **SECTION 5 - TABLED CONSTITUTION AND BYLAW AMENDMENTS**

The following resolutions were tabled for discussion at the 34<sup>th</sup> Biennial General Conference, in 2012.

### **1. RESOLUTIONS TABLED FROM THE 32ND BIENNIAL GENERAL CONFERENCE, BARBADOS, MAY 25TH – 29TH 2008**

#### **1.1. *DIVORCE AND REMARRIAGE***

Insert a new clause #9.9.6.5:

“Persons divorced and remarried shall not hold positions at the District, National or General Executive level.”

#### **1.2. PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO BYLAW 9, SECTION 9.6.3, AND #3 – SELECTION OF ASSISTANT PASTOR /ASSISTANT TO THE PASTOR:**

1. Delete clauses #3, ii and iii.
2. Insert a new clause as #3, ii:

“Where the position of Senior Pastor becomes vacant, the other pastors shall be deemed eligible for succession to the office along with any other applicants outside of the church in keeping with the provisions of Bylaw 9.6.3.2., Election of the Pastor, # i-v.”

- 2.1. Rationale for the new clause #3, ii:

Neither the Assistant Pastor nor Assistant to the Pastor would be disadvantaged (as the existing clause provides) by having their positions terminated through no fault of their own, but they would have the prerogative to allow their names to stand for election to the position of Pastor.

**1.3. PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO BYLAW 9, SECTION 9.6.3:**

1. Insert a new Section, # 10, entitled: "Political Involvement of Pastors", consisting of clauses #1 - #4 below:

1.1. "The Fellowship does not endorse active engagement or participation in partisan politics by a Pastor, Presiding Bishop or General Bishop."

1.2. "A Pastor, Presiding Bishop or General Bishop who wishes to contest for a seat in the parliament of their respective country or to campaign in any form whatsoever on behalf of a particular political party, must be given leave of absence without pay to do so. Such leave of absence should normally be no more than three (3) months."

1.3. "A Pastor, Presiding Bishop or General Bishop who is elected or appointed to a seat in parliament must relinquish his credential and vacate any office or post held in the Fellowship forthwith upon such election or appointment."

1.4. "A Pastor, Presiding Bishop or General Bishop may continue to hold his credential and office in the Fellowship if he is appointed by the Head of State, i.e. President, Governor General, as the case may be, to a parliamentary position on a non-partisan basis."

**1.4. PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO BYLAW 9.10, #2 - REFERENCE TO 'NOMINAL MEMBERS'**

Proposal: Delete the clause since it is inconsistent with provisions of membership.

**1.5. PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE VII – ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE**

1. Number the existing clause as #1:

"The organizational structure of the Fellowship shall consist of the: #1 - #7"

2. Insert a new clause as #2:

“In the case of Trinidad and Tobago or any nation which contains more than one (1) district, each district’s conference and executive shall be subject to the National Conference/Executive.”

## **2. RESOLUTIONS TABLED FROM THE 33<sup>RD</sup> BIENNIAL GENERAL CONFERENCE, TRINIDAD, MAY 16<sup>TH</sup> – 21<sup>ST</sup> 2010**

### **2.1. AMENDMENT TO BYLAW 9, SECTION 9.2**

#### **2.1.1 Issue of credentials to extra-regional ministers and former credential holders:**

1. The Bylaw amendment approved at General Conference 2008 required that a new clause # 9.2.8, be inserted. That clause read:

“Credentials shall be issued to affiliate ministers who function extra-regionally or are former credential holders. The following regulations shall obtain:

1. The International Office shall authorize a person or persons in that locality to certify the applicant’s fitness to be granted credentials, through interviews, examination of documents, qualifications, experience, credentials currently held, affiliation to any Christian organization, ministerial conduct, and any other considerations as the International Office may deem appropriate.
2. Persons not affiliated to a PAWI District or to the International Office, shall apply to the International Office.
3. The International Office shall determine the terms and conditions under which credentials may be granted.”

#### **2.1.2 Proposed Amendments to Preceding Clause:**

1. Recommend to delete the word ‘affiliate’ in opening paragraph for clarity.
2. Recommend to change ‘shall’ to ‘may’ in paragraph # 1;
3. Remove paragraph # 2 above.



4. Insert as paragraph # 2:

- “In each case, the International Office shall determine whether the person shall be under the supervision of a district or the International Office directly.”

2.1.3 Original clause # 9.2.7 shall become # 9.2.9.

## **2.2 RETIREMENT BENEFITS TO WORKERS IN GENERAL**

### 2.2.1 Consideration – Pension Fund:

This comes out of the concern for a policy statement on how to reward workers when they demit office or retire. The compulsory nature of the pension fund for all workers when they are hired was stressed.

Secondly, it was felt that gratuitous payments were not mandatory but a gracious expression. As such, no statement should be made relative to what should be given since it would bind one to meet those terms, even if only a minimal schedule was identified. Gratuitous payments should be considered just that; be paid as or where there is ability to do so; on a per case basis as the (arms of the) Fellowship so desire; and not become a policy, binding on anyone.

### 2.2.2 Pension Fund Proposal:

1. Each district shall set up a pension fund for all credentialled workers;
2. All credential workers shall normally be required to join the district pension scheme;
3. Where there is evidence the credential worker is already a member of a pension fund, the requirement in #2 above may be waived.
4. Credentialled workers shall give evidence that they are members of a pension fund as a condition for renewal of credentials.

### 2.2.3 Gratuitous Payments:

Gratuitous payments may be made to credentialled workers from time to time as the individual units of the Fellowship so desire.

### **2.3 ELECTIONS AT GENERAL CONFERENCES**

#### **2.3.1 Consideration:**

Process to ascertain eligible persons for election at General Conferences; how General Officers are elected at General Conference vis-a-vis current Bylaw provisions.

#### **2.3.2 Proposal:**

Compile a list of eligible persons based on current criteria that shall be distributed to Districts' Bishops and posted at each General Conference.

Respectfully submitted,

[On behalf of the Constitution Committee comprising Sir Howard Fergus (Montserrat), Prof Alvin Thompson (Barbados), Pastor Kevin Hunte (Barbados) and Bishop Errol Bartholomew (Trinidad and Tobago)]

Errol Bartholomew  
Chairman, Constitution Committee  
General Administrator

## **SECTION 6 – GENERAL CONFERENCE STANDING ORDERS**

### **STANDING ORDERS**

The standing orders of District Conferences should be amenable to that of General Conferences. The Standing Orders of General Conference are stated below.

1. These Standing Orders are intended to promote the smooth running of General Conference business and shall become operative following their approval by General Conference by simple majority.

2. General Conference shall be composed of:
  - a. The General Bishop, The Assistant General Bishop, The General Administrator, The Executive Director of Church Ministries and The Executive Director of Missions.
  - b. All Credentialed Ministers and delegates representing member assemblies in accordance with Article IX (4) of Constitution and Bylaw 1, Section 1.
  - c. Invited guests from non-affiliated organizations at the invitation of the General Executive. These will not exercise voting rights.
  - d. Invited guests from affiliated organizations who may address the Conference at the invitation of the General Bishop. The Conference shall decide their right to vote.
  - e. A Secretariat, a Parliamentary Committee and other committees and personnel necessary for the conduct of conference business.
3. The General Bishop shall be the Chairman of the Conference. He shall be assisted by a person or persons agreed upon by the General Executive prior the convening of the General Conference; one of whom shall deputize for the chairman at his discretion, and during the election of the General Bishop.
4. The General Administrator shall be the administrator of the conference, and shall nominate members of the Secretariat, Parliamentarians, an Elections Officer and such staff members as are necessary for the conduct of Conference. General Conference shall ratify the composition of such committees and necessary staff.
5. The General Executive shall appoint a Registration/Roster Committee from Conference delegates, which shall consist of a Convener, and such members as are deemed necessary. The Administrator of the Conference shall appoint the convener of the Committee. The Committee shall examine and report to Conference on the Credentialed Ministers and voting strength of all delegations. General Conference shall be invited to ratify the composition of the committee.
6. The General Executive shall appoint a Resolution Committee. The Administrator of the Conference shall appoint the convener of the Committee. The committee shall examine and report to Conference on the validity of all resolutions, amendments to resolutions proposed by the General Executive, a member district and/or a delegate. General Conference shall be invited to ratify the composition of the committee.

7. Conference shall be invited during the first working session to adopt the final agenda prepared in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws by the General Administrator, and also the first report of the Roster Committee. All resolutions and amendments shall be deemed to have been duly moved and seconded, and will therefore not require formal moving and seconding. Such resolutions or amendments shall be passed in accordance with the Bylaws.
8. The Conference shall admit additional resolutions, amendments or any other business that may be added to the Agenda or admitted during Conference and which shall be in accordance with the Bylaws. Matters which have arisen after the closing date for the receipt of resolutions shall in the first instance be referred to the Resolution Committee. The General Conference shall possess power to make Bylaws from time to time for the conduct and management of the Fellowship according to Bylaw 2.2.2.
9. All changes to the Constitution and Bylaws shall require a two thirds majority vote unless otherwise stated in the respective Bylaw. (See Bylaw 2.4.3 and Bylaw 13)
10. The Administrator of the Conference shall appoint Tellers and the convenor of the Committee from among delegates, to ascertain the number of votes cast in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws. General Conference shall be invited to ratify the composition of the committee.
11. Voting at Conference shall normally be by secret ballot by delegates with the right to vote, in accordance with Bylaw 2.4.1. Ballots shall be placed in the container provided by the Tellers. The ballots shall be counted by the tellers under the Supervision of the Election Officer. When the count has been confirmed, the Election Officer shall communicate the result to the Chairman, and arrange for the destruction of the ballot papers.
12. Votes cast shall only be considered valid by the tellers if the official voting papers issued by the General Administrator are used, and clearly marked. Tellers shall report on the number of spoiled votes.
13. On any Agenda item, only registered delegates may address the conference, unless permission is given by simple majority for any person not registered as a delegate to address the Conference.
14. Delegates may address Conference only after they have been recognized for the purpose by the Chairman.
15. For the purpose of clarification on any matter, the General Officers shall have the right to speak at anytime at the discretion of the Chairman.

16. Questions of adjournment of discussion, adjournment of session, suspension of Standing Orders, motions to take a vote, or appeal to the Conference on the Chairman's ruling must be moved and seconded by delegates where necessary.
17. The Chairman shall limit the number of persons speaking for or against a motion, before putting said motion to a vote. The Chairman may fix a time limit on speeches.
18. When the Chairman intends to close the list of speakers, he shall inform the Conference of those delegates who remain on the list to speak. The Chairman may propose at any time that discussion be terminated. At the close of discussion the mover of the motion or rapporteur of a subject under discussion shall have the right to reply to the debate.
19. The Chairman shall, subject to the provision of the Constitution and these Standing Orders, direct the proceedings of Conference. His ruling shall be final unless an appeal is made to the Conference and such appeal is upheld by a two-thirds majority of votes cast.
20. When any word in the masculine gender is used in any language version of these Standing Orders, it shall be deemed to apply equally to both masculine and feminine gender according to Article I, Clause # 11.
21. The General Conference shall designate criteria for parliamentary procedure for itself according to Article VIII, Clause # 6.

## **SECTION 7 – CONCLUSION**

This Compendium of the Centennial Celebrations and 33<sup>rd</sup> Biennial General Conference of workers is presented to all PAWI credentialed workers and conference delegates.

Yours in His service,

*Errol Bartholomew*

Errol Bartholomew  
General Administrator