

Preparing for a Transition in the Leadership of WEA

May 5, 2020

Dear members of the World Evangelical Alliance:

As we prepare for a transition in WEA leadership, I want to thank our global community for this opportunity to serve you as Secretary General.

In 2014, the International Council invited me to consider this role. It was not one I had contemplated, and only after receiving clear guidance from God's Word, wise counsel from accountability partners, and strong support from my dear wife did I see this as the Lord's leading. It was a difficult moment in the history of this global alliance as it faced cancellation of its General Assembly and the challenges of uniting our worldwide network with a renewed vision and organization.

During this five-year term, as I have traveled the world, I have given my best efforts to strengthen the unity of our members, articulate a global vision, and recruit and build up a highly gifted team of leaders. Together we spearheaded effective advocacy for religious freedom and created new opportunities for Evangelicals to speak effectively to governments, civil society and global organizations, as well as to engage with other Christian communions. We initiated new programs such as the Global Institute of Leadership and put in place a plan for financial sustainability.

It has been an honor and joy to serve in this role. I thank my wife and family for their daily support. I want to pay tribute to those on our Senior Leadership Team who have been tireless in helping our network of alliances to better define their role, operate with vision and expertise, and become more engaged in national outreach. I also thank the leaders of our commissions and networks for their invaluable voluntary services that have enabled us to provide relevant ministries to our constituency.

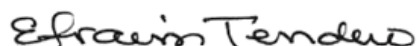
I am grateful to the Rev. Dr. Goodwill Shana, Chair of the International Council (IC) of the WEA, for his leadership and support. Together with the whole IC, we have reshaped our leadership model and established our six global offices. In addition, we are indebted to numerous partners who generously shared their resources and expertise to help us host our annual international leadership gatherings, expand our operations, and organize the 2019 General Assembly, which ended with a surplus to support follow-up programs.

I thank God for these years of serving. They have been the most challenging years of my life and also the most rewarding. The International Council and I agreed to extend my term as Secretary General for one year, so as to have ample time to search for a replacement following our General Assembly.

In the coming days, more information will be shared about the search process for a new Secretary General. Please join me in prayer that God would bring forward the person whom He has called and prepared to take on this role and lead the WEA into the future.

As I prepare to hand over this position in March 2021, I look forward to supporting my successor and serving in other capacities. My consuming vision will not change. It is to see the Evangelical community globally be alive and well, working together in unity, ever passionate in their love for Christ, and led by the Spirit of God in building the church of Jesus Christ.

Your fellow servant for Christ's sake,



Bishop Efraim Tendero

*Secretary General/CEO
World Evangelical Alliance*