

# **PENTECOSTAL ASSEMBLIES OF THE WEST INDIES (PAWI) INTERNATIONAL**

## **CONSTITUTION**

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

The Pentecostal Assemblies of the West Indies International exists to fulfill the purpose of God by transforming people and communities everywhere, by the gospel of Jesus Christ and through the power and manifestation of the Holy Spirit, for the glory of God.

### **PREAMBLE**

#### **WHEREAS WE BELIEVE THAT:**

1. God's purpose concerning man is to seek and to save the lost, to be worshipped by man, and to build a body of believers in the image of His Son; that these believers, saved and called out of the world, constitute the body or church of Jesus Christ built and established upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone (*Ephesians 4:11-13*);
2. The members of the body, the Church (*Ecclesia*) of Jesus Christ, are enjoined to assemble for worship, fellowship, counsel and instruction in the Word of God, the work of the ministry and the exercise of those spiritual gifts and offices provided for New Testament church order (*Hebrews 10:25*);

3. The early apostolic churches came together in fellowship as a representative body of saved, spirit-filled believers who, under the supervision of the Holy Spirit, set over the Church the five-fold ministry which is set forth as the pattern for the leadership of PAWI (*Ephesians 4:11*);
4. The purpose of PAWI is to be an agency of God for evangelizing the world, a Fellowship in which people may worship God, and a channel of God's purpose to build a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son (*Ephesians 4:12*);
5. PAWI exists expressly to give continued emphasis to the above-mentioned as indicated in the New Testament apostolic pattern, by teaching and encouraging the baptism of the Holy Spirit with signs following, thereby bringing a new dimension to worship and the demonstration of the fruit and gifts of the Spirit for the edification of the body of Christ (*Acts 1:8*);
6. PAWI is a fellowship of Pentecostal believers from Assemblies or other bodies of like faith throughout the Caribbean and elsewhere, whose purpose is to recognize and promote scriptural methods and order for worship, unity, fellowship, the work and business for God, and endeavour to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, "till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ". (*Ephesians 4:13*);

**BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:**

## **ARTICLE 1 – INTERPRETATION**

In this Constitution:

1. “Assembly” means a local church congregation of the Pentecostal Assemblies of the West Indies members.
2. “Bylaws” mean the part of this document comprising the laws adopted by the General Conference. (The Bylaws put into effect the principles of the Constitution and are subordinate to the Constitution.)
3. “Constitution” means the part of this document recording the fundamental laws and principles of the Fellowship.
4. “Credential holder” means a person holding a credential, that is, a licence from the Fellowship for Ministry.
5. “District Conference” means the District Conference referred to in Article XI.
6. “District” means any geographical district established under Article XI.
7. “Fellowship” means the Pentecostal Assemblies of the West Indies.
8. “General Conference” means the highest and ultimate governing body of the Fellowship.
9. “National Conference” means the geographical districts established under Article X with specific reference to Trinidad and Tobago.
10. “Other bodies” mean fellowships, ministries, and para-church organizations (see Article VI, clause 2 below).
11. Words denoting the masculine gender shall include the feminine gender except in the case of the General Bishop and the Assistant General Bishop.

## **ARTICLE II – NAME**

The name of the Fellowship shall be The Pentecostal Assemblies of the West Indies International (PAWI), with registered offices at Fourth Bridge, Maracas Royal Road, St. Joseph, Trinidad, Trinidad and Tobago.

## **ARTICLE III – INTENT**

PAWI is a Fellowship which is based upon mutual agreements voluntarily entered into by its membership comprising legally incorporated, autonomous and other organizations, whose Articles and Bylaws shall be subject to, or at least consistent with, the Constitution and Bylaws of the Pentecostal Assemblies of the West Indies.

## **ARTICLE IV – OBJECTIVES, FUNCTIONS AND POWERS**

1. The objectives of PAWI are to:
  - i. Encourage and promote the worship of God as revealed in the Bible.
  - ii. Encourage and promote the evangelization of the world.
  - iii. Encourage and promote the discipling and edification of believers.
  - iv. Establish places of worship for the propagating of the Christian faith.
  - v. Provide a basis of fellowship among Christians of like faith.
  - vi. Engage in home and foreign missionary work for the spread of the Christian faith.