Special GC-TED Edition #934a (10 July 2015)

Email Newsletter of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the United Kingdom and Ireland

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Editor’s Note: This special edition brings you the highlight presentation of the Thursday night TED report and the latest election results for our part of the world. Be sure to join the Sabbath worship services online or by viewing the Hope TV Church Channel on your Roku box.

BE ONE LIGHT

The audience erupted into a round of applause, waving torches to create a sparkling sea of light as the Trans-European Division's (TED) video report came to an end, on Thursday, 9 July, at General Conference Session.
The short film, created by Miroslav Pujić, tedMEDIA director, told the real-life stories of five individuals who came to know God through five different initiatives implemented across the Division. The video was underlined by a moving performance by the Croydon Choir, from London, England, who had also performed live on stage at the beginning of the evening.

"After seeing the other reports, which were brilliant, I didn't have very high hopes for the TED report tonight, but it was really good! The stories were inspiring and the way it was presented was excellent", commented 14-year-old Samara, from the TED.

After a full day of business sessions for the TED where internal roles were elected, Raafat Kamal, TED president, introduced the video that was based on the theme, 'Be One Light'.

"We're here this evening to celebrate God's goodness", began Pastor Kamal. "The TED is the smallest Division with 85,000 members and 200 million neighbours. Our members are committed to evangelism, being the feet and hands of Jesus in their communities. God moves; we only second the motion."

'Be One Light' is inspired by Acts 13:47, which reads, 'For this is what the Lord has commanded us: "I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth."

The five initiatives that the stories spring from are Messy Church, Relay (youth), Mission to the Cities, LIFEconnect and Creative Evangelism.

TED delegate Chris Burt, and her husband Ken, shared their comments on the report, via Facebook. 'That was so real, relevant and meaningful for me as a Trans-European Division Seventh-day Adventist. Creatively grabbed the challenges and issues we are daily confronted with in every one of the TED countries. We cannot show mass baptisms, but we can show what needs to be done to win an individual struggling heart. Proud of you all.'

Throughout the week, TED delegates and visitors to the Division's booth were given a mini torch and asked to bring it to the Alamodome for the report. Leading the rest of the auditorium, TED delegates shone and waved their lights as the video drew to a close with the song, 'One Light' by Linda
Marcus and Ruth Elaine Schram.

*It all begins with one light, one candle in the darkness
One hand that reaches out to feed a friend in need.
It all begins with one light, one candle in the window
One flame to say that love and light are home tonight.*

*When the world is cold and dark and hearts are full of fear
It only takes a spark to show us hope is near.
So if you have a spark of hope, then let it show.
The more we share the light, the stronger it will grow.
It will grow.

*It all begins with one light, one candle lights another
So let me be the first to care, the first to share
Let me be that one light,
Let me be that one light,
Let me be the one.*

To see more photos, please visit the [TED Facebook page](http://www.facebook.com/ted). Watch the video on [YouTube](http://www.youtube.com/ted).

[Katie Allen / tedNEWS Photos: Dejan Stojkovic / Victor Hulbert]

**TRANS-EUROPEAN DIVISION OFFICER TEAM NOW COMPLETED**

The election of officers to serve the Trans-European Division (TED) was completed on the morning of Thursday, 9 July, with Audrey Andersson and Nenad Jepuranović being asked to continue in their roles of Executive Secretary and Treasurer.

Pastor Andersson is experienced in both administration and ministry. Indeed she has ministry in her genes, born in Ireland to Pastor and Mrs Patrick Boyle. She trained for ministry but there were no openings so she worked in business as a legal editor and later ran her own business. She was called to the Swedish Union of Churches as
Executive Secretary in 2002 and eight years later was asked to serve in the same role with the Trans-European Division. She is married to Lars Eric Andersson from Sweden.

Following her re-election she said, "My vision is to serve the Lord to the best of my ability within the TED." She aims to "lift up Jesus so that He can draw people to Him." She will support and further develop the work of the Secretariat around the Division to support mission.

Nenad Jepuranović was born in Belgrade, Serbia. Like Pastor Andersson he is a graduate of Newbold College and worked in industry before joining the TED in 2005 as a Senior Management Accountant. He has gained a good understanding of Church finance having held the posts of Assistant and Associate Treasurer before becoming TED Treasurer in 2013.

Nenad is married to Tanya who is a registered nurse. "In addition to serving the Lord and the Church," he says, "my goal is to ensure that current resources are used to maximum efficiency. This would include sharing resources within our Division and beyond."

Together they join with Pastor Raafat Kamal, re-elected TED President, to progress the mission of the Church across the 22 countries of the TED following Pastor Kamal's mantra, "Everything we do should be seen through the lens of mission." [tedNEWS]

[Victor Hulbert / tedNEWS. Photos: Dejan Stojkovic]
from that, find those individuals best suited to fulfil those roles.

In explaining the rationale Raafat noted that the new vision and strategy has been developing since July 2014 and that the 'Focus meetings' in February this year had made 123 recommendations that Division leaders, and particularly the TED Spring meetings then carefully worked through.

As a result the TED will now focus on five specific topics, namely: Leadership development, Youth Family, Children, and Mission. The Spring meetings also suggested that the TED develop think tanks of the important areas of health, online resources, media and leadership.

Before Dr John Baildam, secretary of the Nominating Committee stood up to announce the nominations, Raafat made clear that "the intention is not to fill the positions but to get the right focus – to get a core team to work with us in September on the strategy." His intention is then to bring talented people from across the region who can assist in coming up with a further four or five names for the TED Annual Council meetings this coming November.

When specifically looking at merging names and roles, he sought to make evangelism the focus of every single department. "We have actually abolished the Evangelism department", he said. "Everybody at the Division is an Evangelism department. Instead of one person we will have nine people. 75% of all the plans we develop have to be focused on mission." To that end the committee looked for people with experience, competency, academic experience, but primarily attitude.

As the smallest Division in the world, but with perhaps the hardest missional challenge reaching out to secularised Europe, Raafat stated that with such a team we can "Vision beyond our resources".

Election Results

The Officer positions of President, Executive Secretary and Treasurer are voted by all GC delegates. The following positions were then voted by the TED Caucus meeting.

President + Leadership Development. Raafat Kamal. He will also temporarily cover the roles of Public Affairs and Religious Liberty (PARL), ADRA, and Stewardship, at least until Annual Council.
Executive Secretary + Archive, Statistics and Research; Internal HR; Online E-learning and Adventist Volunteer Service (AVS). Audrey Andersson. Until November she will also care for Communication, Media, Publishing and the Bible Correspondence Schools.

Treasurer. In addition to being the Chief Financial Officer, Nenad Jepuranović will also oversee Planned Giving, IT and Trust Services. Certain departmental functions will also move to Treasury including Event Management, Global Mission Database Management, Educational Sponsorship Funds and Ingathering (ADRA Annual Appeal). Where needed, to oversee Treasury work for attached fields.

Associate Secretary: Dean Papaioannou.
Associate Treasurer: Wederly Aguiar.
Field Secretary, Education and Adventist Mission director (strategy): Daniel Duda.
Ministerial Secretary, Chaplaincy Ministries, Ministry to Clergy Families, Sabbath School, and Personal Ministries: Patrick Johnson.
Youth Ministries director: Janos Kovacs-Biro.
Public Campus Ministry director (part-time) – focused on public universities and campuses: Tihomir Lazić.
Teens & Community Services director: (part-time): Alastair Agbaje.
Family, Children's and Women's Ministries director: Clair Sanches-Schutte.

The positions of ADRA, Health Ministries, Media, Communication, BCS, Stewardship and a second person for the Family, Children's and Women's Ministries department will be made at Annual Council once the team and the strategy have been further developed. A further member of the youth services team may also be added at that time.

Change is always difficult, and Raafat found it both emotional and difficult to say thank you to four colleagues who ended their terms of service at the TED at this GC Session. Miroslav Pujic is almost 'part of the furniture' at the TED having given 20 years of creative and faithful service and developing programmes such as LIFEdevelopment, LIFEconnect, and a series of innovative media projects. "There is no question that he has exceptional qualities of creativity", Raafat commented. "I want to thank you for the areas that you have pioneered in our office. Together with Esi you have been a solid support in our office."

Paul Tompkins concludes 15 years of serving the youth within the TED. A well-loved leader he developed the 'church of refuge' programme and has been the motivating force behind a series of excellent congresses, camporees and other youth orientated events as well as providing excellent training. Raafat concluded, "He has a fantastic heart."

Stephen Cooper served eight years as ADRA director but with a change in focus on the development of ADRA across Europe the role at the TED is reduced. A man of experience his skills are already being sought elsewhere. He was also appreciated for his active role in Health Ministries.

Michael Hamilton has equally been a faithful leader with a passion for mission and particularly developing the Bible Correspondence School programme alongside Sabbath School and Personal
Ministries. He is again a man with a great heart. With the restructuring and new strategic focus on mission across all departments the focus of his past roles will be covered in the cross-linking of all departments. It is anticipated that Michael will return to service with the South England Conference.

Beverly Coysten, who has served as Assistant Executive Secretary for the past two years, requested to return to her former role as Executive PA to Secretariat. She will remain an important member of the team.

Two of the new positions are part-time. Alastair has made a significant difference to the spiritual life of the Newbold campus and will continue to be based on the campus for 75% of his time. Tihomir will also continue to be based at Newbold where he teaches systematic theology part-time while completing his PhD at Oxford University where he is already involved in public campus ministry.

In asking Janos to serve as Youth Ministries Director, the TED is sending a clear message that youth are a significant and important part of the mission power for our Church. Already well loved by youth across the Division he will work with them to empower them for mission.

"It is not what we do but what God does through our broken vessels that is important," Raafat concluded. "For us, the local church and the church member is the supreme focus."

[Victor Hulbert / tedNEWS. Photos: Dejan Stojkovic]
8NE. As previously notified, family flowers only. Money in lieu of flowers may be given for Cancer Research UK at the funeral service. Cheques should be made payable to Cancer Research UK, or donations may be forwarded to: The Co-operative Funeralcare, Main Street, Bulwell, Nottingham, NG6 8EQ.

[Paul Lockham]

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