

**THE CONSTITUTION
OF THE
GRENADA ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION**

ARTICLE I

Name and Affiliation

The name of the Association shall be the **Grenada Athletic Association** (GAA), herein called “The Association” or “This Association” and shall have power to become affiliated to the **International Association of Athletics Federations** (IAAF), **North American, Central American and Caribbean Athletic Association** (NACAC), **Central American And Caribbean Athletics Confederation** (CACAC), **Grenada Olympic Committee** (GOC) and such organisations as the Association may from time to time determine.

ARTICLE II

Interpretation

In this Constitution,

“Grenada” means Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique.

“Clubs” means clubs, organisations, schools, colleges or other bodies by whatever named called. “Clubs” shall be construed accordingly.

“Officers” mean the officers elected by the members at the Quadrennial General Meeting with the expressed task of managing the affairs of the Association during their term of office.

“Executive” means the officers and persons nominated to the Executive by the respective bodies.

“Unattached Athlete” means an athlete who is not a member of a club, but who is registered member of the Association in accordance with this Constitution.

“A simple majority” is more than half the votes cast.

ARTICLE III

Objects

The objects for which the Association is established are:-

1. To promote the development of Sports in Grenada, in accordance with any declared National Sports Policy which acknowledges the special role of Sports in the

development process. This involves working closely with the Ministry of Sports, the Grenada Olympic Committee and any other relevant organization.

2. To encourage, regulate and control athletics in Grenada.
3. To improve the management and level of organisation of athletic meetings in Grenada through the establishment of uniform regulations.
4. To foster and promote international and regional Athletic meetings.
5. To promote Annual Championship meetings for local athletes in order to facilitate local rankings as well as objective criteria on which to base selection for regional and international competitions.
6. To promote local athletic meetings and assist local clubs in organising said meetings.
7. To facilitate adequate preparation of local athletes through the organising of regular keep-fit sessions held either singularly or in union with clubs.
8. To arrange either singularly or in union with others, seminars, clinics and workshops aimed at building a cadre of competent coaches in athletics.
9. To do all such things as may be necessary or proper for the development and maintenance of athletics in Grenada.
10. To promote the widest possible participation among Grenadian people in the activities of the Association.
11. To seek, through both singular and joint efforts, to obtain finances necessary to effect the annual programmes of the Association.
12. To abide by the regulations governing the International parent body of Athletics.
13. To do all such acts or things as are incidental, or as the Association may think conducive to these objects or any of them.

ARTICLE IV

Jurisdiction

The Association shall be responsible for the following classes of sports:-

1. Running, including hurdling, steeple chasing, obstacle racing, cross country running and road racing.
2. Walking.

3. Jumping and pole vaulting.
4. Shot putting and discus, javelin, hammer and weight throwing.
5. Tug of War.
6. Any other sport involving track and field competition.

ARTICLE V

1. Membership

- (i) The Association shall comprise the following categories of membership: Clubs (Clubs, Schools, and Tertiary Institutions), Organisations, Life Members, Honorary Members, Unattached Athletes, and other interested persons, all of whom have fulfilled the membership requirements as determined by this Constitution.
- (ii) Every category mentioned in Article V (i) except Honorary Members, must apply for membership of the Association.
- (iii) Each application for membership must be accompanied by the Constitution of the applicant, where necessary.
- (iv) All applications may be accepted and approved by the Executive until the Quarterly Council Meeting of the Association gives its approval.

2. Clubs

A club becomes eligible for membership if it comprises a minimum of seven (7) members, at least four (4) of whom participate in the classes of Sports outlined in Article IV.

3. Life Membership

- (i) Any individual shall be eligible for Life Membership of the Association once three fourths (3/4) of the General Membership present and voting, vote in favour of his/her acceptance, and upon subsequent payment of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) Life Membership fee.
- (ii) A Life Member of the Association shall not be expected to pay subscriptions of any sort so long as he/she remains in the Association.
- (iii) A Life Member shall be entitled to all the privileges of the Association. This includes voting privileges as well as the privilege of standing for office.

4. Honorary Members

- (i) Honorary Membership of the Association shall be granted to an individual upon the recommendation of any member of the Association, once it has been accepted by the Executive, pending ratification by the General Meeting.
- (ii) Honorary Members shall:-
 - (a) be exempt from payment of Registration Fees, Annual Subscriptions and any other fees normally requested by the Association from its members.
 - (b) have no voting privileges, and hence cannot stand for office in the Association.
 - (c) be entitled to all other privileges of the Association.

5. Ordinary Members

Ordinary membership shall be granted to any person, interested in promoting the objects of the Association, as expressed in Article III, upon the recommendation of any member of the Association, once it has been accepted by the Executive, pending ratification by the General Meeting.

6. Unattached Athletes

- (i) An Unattached Athlete shall be eligible for membership, by virtue of having fulfilled the requirements of Article IV, and upon payment of the affiliation fee of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00).
- (ii) Unattached Athletes shall share in all the privileges of the Association.

ARTICLE VI

Participants of games organized by the Association or under its auspices must be:-

- 1. bona fide members of the Association, whether they are members of clubs or unattached and once they are financial.
- 2. An eligible athlete as defined by Rule 51 – 53 of the IAAF Handbook

ARTICLE VII

1.0 Affiliation Fees, Annual Subscriptions, and Fines

1.
 - (i) The Affiliation Fee for any Club, School, Tertiary Institution or Organisation desirous of becoming a member of the Association shall be one hundred and fifty dollars (\$150.00), which shall be forwarded with the application.
 - (ii) Honorary Members and Ordinary Members shall not pay Affiliation fees.
 - (iii) Affiliates shall be responsible for ensuring that the fees due are deposited with the Treasurer of the Association before the deadlines given.
 - (iv) Unattached Athletes and all other categories of members shall deposit their fees directly with the Treasurer.
2.
 - (i) The Annual Subscription shall be One Hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$150.00) for any Club, School, Tertiary Institution or Organisation., and \$10.00 for Unattached Athletes.
 - (ii) The Annual Subscriptions shall be payable on or before January 31 each year.
 - (iii) Affiliates of the Association which have not paid their Annual Subscriptions by February 1 of each year shall incur a fine of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) per month until the subscriptions shall have been paid.
 - (iv) Clubs and Unattached Athletes which are not financial are ineligible for participation in games organized by the Association or under its auspices.

ARTICLE VIII

Sports Meetings

1. Unless application is made to and approval is first obtained from the Executive of the Association, no member shall promote or participate, in any way in an open sports meeting whether local or international.
2. Applications under Paragraph 1 may be refused for any one or more of the following reasons:-
 - (a) where an application has already been granted by the Executive to another Member in respect of the same date.
 - (b) where the applicant is subject to disciplinary action or its athletic members are not financial.
3. Subject to Paragraph 5, no person who is not an athletic member of the Association shall be permitted to compete in any local or international meeting of the Association or of any member club of the Association.

4. Subject to Paragraph 5, any person or club who knowingly permits a person who is not an athletic member of the Association or who being such a member is not financial, to compete in any sports meeting, shall be liable to expulsion from the Association.
5. Paragraphs 3 and 4 do not apply to:-
 - (a) a person who is an accredited representative of a foreign country, or club formed outside Grenada.
 - (b) a person who is not an athletic member but who is competing in a class of sports over which the Association does not claim jurisdiction under Article IV.
6. All Track and Field competitions shall be conducted under the competition rules of the International Association of Athletics Federations and/or the rules of such athletic organization as the Executive may decide from time to time.

ARTICLE IX

Prizes and Awards

1. No single prize may exceed in value such sum as may be fixed from time to time by the International Association of Athletics Federations.
2. Special awards to eligible athletes in recognition of a performance shall not exceed in value the amount so fixed under Paragraph 1 above.

ARTICLE X

Patron

The officer administering the office of Governor General of Grenada shall be invited to be Patron.

ARTICLE XI

The Executive of the Association

1. The Executive of the Association shall consist of:-
 - (a) The Officers of the Association:
 - (i) The President
 - (ii) The First Vice President
 - (iii) The Second Vice President
 - (iv) The General Secretary
 - (v) The Assistant General Secretary
 - (vi) The Treasurer

- (vii) The Public Relations Officer
- (viii) Two (2) Trustees
- (ix) The Immediate Past President

and (b) A Representative nominated by each of the following:-

- i. The Coaches Association
- ii. The Officials Association
- iii. The Athletes Commission

2. Retiring Officers shall be eligible for re-election.
 3. Officers shall be elected at the Quadrennial General Meeting of the Association and shall hold office for four (4) years.
 4. An officer may be removed or suspended from office:-
 - (a) if he/she is absent from three (3) consecutive meeting of the Executive without tendering an excuse acceptable to the majority of the Executive.
 - (b) if he/she fails to perform his/her duties to the satisfaction of the majority of the Executive.
 - (c) for any breach of the Constitution, Byelaws, or Rules and Regulations of the Association.
- Provided that at least one half plus one of the members of the Executive vote in favour of his/her removal.
5. If any officer is removed from office he/she shall be debarred from holding any office in the Association.
 6. An officer removed or suspended from office may appeal to the Biennial General Meeting or Special General Meeting of the Association.
 7. The Executive shall meet at least once per month.
 8. One half plus one of the number of members of the Executive shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE XII

Duties of officers

1. The President

- (i) The President shall preside over the Biennial General Meeting of the Association.

- (ii) The President shall preside over all meetings of the Executive of the Association as well as preside over the quarterly meetings of the Association.
- (iii) At all meetings over which he presides, the President shall have a casting vote only.
- (iv) The President shall be an ex-officio member of all committees of the Association.

2. The Vice Presidents

- (i) The First Vice President and in his absence the Second Vice President shall preside over meetings of the Association in the absence of the President.
- (ii) The Vice Presidents are to assist the President in carrying out his duties as Chief Executive of the Association.
- (iii) The Vice Presidents shall take charge of the various committees of the Association in an effort to bring to these committees an executive presence and position relative to issues being dealt with.
- (iv) Whenever one of the Vice Presidents presides over a meeting he shall have a casting vote only.
- (v) The Vice Presidents shall take charge of any duties which may be trust upon them by the Association from time to time.

3. The General Secretary

- (i) The General Secretary shall perform such duties in relation to the Association as the General Meeting or the Executive may require of him or her.
- (ii) The General Secretary shall keep up to date minutes of the Executive, Council and General Meetings.
- (iii) The General Secretary shall submit up to date reports on the affairs of the Association to the Quarterly Council Meetings and a comprehensive report at the Biennial General Meeting.
- (iv) The General Secretary shall be an ex-officio member of all committees of the Association.
- (v) The General Secretary shall be responsible for the roll of members of the Association.
- (vi) The General Secretary shall be responsible for handling all the correspondence of the Association.

4. The Assistant General Secretary

- (i) The Assistant General Secretary shall be of general assistance to the General Secretary of the Association in the performance of his/her duties.
- (ii) The Assistant General Secretary shall act as recording Secretary at Executive, Council and General Meetings.
- (iii) The Assistant General Secretary shall perform all other duties as the Association may assign him/her from time to time.

5. The Treasurer

- (i) The Treasurer shall have full responsibility for the finances of the Association.
- (ii) The Treasurer shall head the Finance Committee of the Association.
- (iii) The Treasurer shall prepare a detailed financial report and audited statement at the Biennial General Meeting of the Association.
- (iv) The Treasurer shall perform other duties that may be trust upon him/her by the Association from time to time.

6. The Trustees

- (i) The two (2) Trustees of the Association shall be cosignatories with the Treasurer to the accounts of the Association.
- (ii) The Trustees shall, together with the Treasurer comprise the Finance Committee of the Association.
- (iii) The property and funds of the Association shall be vested in the Trustees in Trust for the Association, and the Trustees shall apply and dispose of the same for the benefit of the Association in such manner as the Executive may decide.
- (iv) The Trustees shall perform all other functions which may be trust upon them by the Association from time to time.

7. The Public Relations Officer (PRO)

- (i) The Public Relations Officer shall be the Chief Spokesperson for the Association. His/Her duties would include the promotion of the objectives of the organization and would be responsible for the fostering of good relations between the Association and the local and wider communities.

8. The Immediate Past President

The Immediate Past President automatically becomes a member of the Executive after his or her term of office comes to an end except in the case where he/she has been re-elected.

ARTICLE XIII

Powers of the Executive

1. The Executive shall manage the affairs of the Association between the Quadrennial General Meeting, especially with regard to the following:-
 - (i) To carry out the Objects of the Association.
 - (ii) To determine and control expenditure of the finances of the Association.
 - (iii) To deal with affiliations.
 - (iv) To transact loans and arrange for their repayment in instances which so demand.
 - (v) To generally manage, control and protect the affairs and property of the Association.
 - (vi) To facilitate the selection of representative teams whenever necessary.
 - (vii) To fill all vacancies within the Association.
 - (viii) To appoint any Committee deemed necessary for expediting the affairs of the Association.
 - (ix) To co-opt the services of any person or persons whose expertise may assist the Association in the achievement of its objectives or may be instrumental in the advancement of its objectives.

ARTICLE XIV

General/Council Meetings

1. The Biennial General Meeting of the Association shall be held not later than the fifteenth day of January in the year following the first four year period of the outgoing Executive.
2. There shall be quarterly Council Meetings of the Association.
3. A Special General or Council Meeting of the Association may be convened by the Council or by the Executive whenever it thinks fit.
4. It shall do so also upon written request of at least three of its affiliated clubs.
5. The General Secretary shall give at least fourteen (14) days notice to affiliated clubs and other members of the place, day and hour of a General or Council Meeting of the Association.

6. The agenda specifying the nature of the business to be transacted shall accompany the notice.
7. Ten (10) affiliate clubs shall form a quorum for any General, or Special General Meeting. If within half an hour from the time appointed for the General, Council or Executive Meeting of the Association a quorum is not present, such meeting shall be postponed to a day, time and place as fixed by those present, and if at the adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within half an hour of the appointed time, the members present shall form a quorum.
8. The Executive of the Association, the Ordinary Members, Life Members, Unattached Athletes and five representatives from each affiliated body shall have the right to be present and vote at General Meetings of the Association.
9. At all meetings of the Association and of the Council, the President, and in his absence one of the Vice Presidents in hierarchical order, or failing either, a person duly elected by those present shall take the chair, and such chairman shall have a casting vote only.
10. The Council shall comprise the Executive of the Association and one (1) representative of each affiliate Club.
11. The quorum for Council Meetings shall be Fifteen (15), of which ten (10) must be representatives of affiliated clubs

ARTICLE XV

Voting

Except where otherwise expressly stated, voting at any Committee, the Executive or General Meeting of the Association shall be by a simple majority of votes cast by a show of hands, unless a simple majority of members present demand a ballot.

ARTICLE XVI

Financial Year

The financial year of the Association shall run from the first day of January of one year to the thirty first day of December of the same year.

ARTICLE XVII

Auditors

The Association shall at its Biennial General Meeting appoint Auditors who would audit the books of the GAA in time for each Annual General Meeting.

ARTICLE XVIII

Sub-Committees

The following sub-committees are the standing committees of the Association.

- (i) Finance Committee
- (ii) Technical Committee
- (iii) Selection Committee
- (iv) Disciplinary Committee
- (v) Development Committee

(i) **The Finance Committee shall:-**

- 1. comprise the Treasurer and the two Trustees.
- 2. be responsible for handling all the financial affairs of the Association
- 3. be responsible for all the fund-raising ventures of the Association.
- 4. be ultimately responsible and accountable to the General Membership of the Association.
- 5. perform whatever duties which may be assigned it from time to time

(ii) **The Technical Committee shall:-**

- 1. be headed by the Second Vice-President and shall comprise, in addition to him/her, three other representatives selected from among the general membership.
- 2. be responsible for the planning (both long term and short term) of all programmes relating to the promotion and development of athletics in Grenada.
- 3. be responsible for organising all athletic games in the state.
- 4. be responsible for organising regular keep-fit sessions.
- 5. in conjunction with the Ministry of Sports, ensure that grounds are adequately prepared and equipment provided in an effort to make for the success of all meetings and keep-fits.
- 6. work closely with the Development Committee
- 7. perform whatever other duties may be assigned them from time to time.

(iii) The Selection Committee shall:-

1. be headed by the Second Vice-President and shall comprise four (4) other representatives nominated by and approved by the General Membership.
2. be responsible for the selection of all national teams both senior and junior.
3. coordinate the work of the coaches in the preparation of national teams.
4. perform whatever other duties may be assigned them from time to time.

(iv) The Disciplinary Committee

1. There shall be a Disciplinary Committee of the Association which shall be nominated by the Executive pending ratification by the General Meeting.
2. The Disciplinary Committee shall be headed by the First Vice-President of the Association, and shall comprise four other members of the Association who are nominated and accepted by the General Meeting.
3. The Disciplinary Committee shall deliberate over all matters brought before it with respect to any member deemed to have breached the Constitution, Byelaws, Rules and Regulations of the Association.
4. The Disciplinary Committee shall be responsible for dealing with all cases of ill discipline which are brought before it; and to ensure that they are dealt with speedily.
5. Disciplinary proceeding against an individual or club may be set in motion either by the lodging of complaints by the Executive or by an individual member or Club of the Association through the Executive. The complaints must be in accordance with Article XIX.
6. The Disciplinary Committee shall submit its report on cases dealt with to the Executive of the Association.
7. The Disciplinary Committee shall perform whatever other duties may be assigned them from time to time.

(v) The Development Committee shall:-

1. be headed by the First Vice-President and shall comprise two (2) representatives from each parishes who have been nominated and approved by the General Membership.
2. be responsible for the organising of activities of the Association in different parishes.
3. be responsible for promoting and coordinating the activities in different parishes.

4. seek to promote the general development of, and increased participation in, the activities of the Association throughout the State.
5. perform whatever other duties may be assigned them from time to time.

ARTICLE XIX

Complaints and Claims

1. Any protest, complaint or claim by an affiliated club shall be in writing.
2. Duplicate copies should be sent to the General Secretary of this Association accompanied by a deposit of fifty dollars (\$50.00). The complaints shall then be passed on to the Disciplinary Committee.
3. Should the claim be successful such deposit fee would be returned to the affiliated club making such protest, complaint or claim.
4. Should the complaint be unsuccessful such deposit fee would be forfeited.
5. When an objection, complaint, or claim has been lodged with the Executive, neither objection, complaint nor claim shall be withdrawn except by leave of the Executive.
6. Any protest, complaint or claim must be made within two (2) days of the incident to which it refers.

ARTICLE XX

Suspension and Expulsion

1. In the event of any club or member proved to the satisfaction of the Disciplinary Committee to be guilty of any violation of this Constitution, Byelaws or the Association Rules or of any misconduct, the Disciplinary Committee shall recommend to the Association that the offending club, member or official be removed from the Association, suspended for a stated period or dealt with in such manner as the Council may think fit.
2. No member or official from any club so suspended or removed from the Association shall be eligible for membership in any other club affiliated with this Association, without the special permission of the Executive.
3. Any club, member or official charged with a violation of this Constitution, Byelaws or the Association Rules or any misconduct shall be furnished by the Association with a copy of such charge of alleged misconduct and shall be summoned to attend when the case is being dealt with.

4. The club, member or official shall have the right to hear all the evidence given in support of such a charge of misconduct and shall have the right to cross examine all the witnesses in support of such a charge and to call all evidence to rebut such charge.
5. The Association may order the offending club, member or official to pay all expenses incurred in hearing the case should the charge be proved or sustained.

ARTICLE XXI

Appeals

1. Appeals from the decisions of the Executive shall be made to a Special Appeals Committee of three to be appointed by the Council.
2. The decision of the Appeals Committee shall be final.
3. The implementation of the decision of the Executive shall not be suspended pending the hearing of the appeal unless the Executive so orders.
4. Every appeal shall be accompanied by a deposit of fifty dollars (\$50.00) and shall not be withdrawn except by leave of the Executive.
5. On the hearing of the appeal, the decision of the Executive may be upheld, varied or reversed, and it shall be determined by whom the expenses of the appeal shall be borne.
6. Should the appeal be successful, the deposit fee shall be returned to the applicant and should the appeal be successful, the deposit shall be forfeited and deposited to the funds of the Association.
7. Every appeal made under this rule must be lodged within seven (7) days of the decision of the Executive.

ARTICLE XXII

Publications of Proceedings

The Association shall be entitled to publish in the press, or in any other manner it shall think fit reports of its proceedings, acts, and resolutions, whether the same shall or shall not reflect on the character or conduct of any club, member, or official and every club, member, or official shall deem to have assented to such publications.

ARTICLE XXIII

Athletes Representatives

No athlete will be granted consent to use an Athlete's Representative, and no Athlete's Representative shall be authorized, unless a written contract exists between the athlete and his Representative which contains the minimum terms set out in the IAAF Guidance Notes for the Regulation of Federation/ Athletes' Representatives.

ARTICLE XXIV

Doping Control

1. Athletes competing in International, Regional and National Championships or any similar meeting shall be subject to Out-of-Competition Testing by the Grenada Athletic Association and/or the International Association of Athletics Federations, a report of such tests must be submitted to the IAAF annually.
2. No athlete shall be allowed to compete in his/her National Championships, nor shall a member grant permission under IAAF Rule 12.4, unless and until such athlete agrees to subject himself to doping control at that meeting.
3. At the request of the Grenada Athletic Association, an athlete shall be required to keep a current address on file with the GAA or the IAAF, if so requested. The athlete shall immediately inform the GAA, or the IAAF, as the case may be, of any change in that address for more than three days for any reason other than participation in international competitions in athletics, in which event he shall inform the GAA or the IAAF, as the case may be, of his temporary address at which he may be contacted. The athlete may also be required to keep on file a training schedule, showing the times and places when he may routinely be found training.
4. The failure by an athlete to keep an address (including a temporary address) or, if required, a training schedule on file, or the filing of false information, will be considered a doping offence.

ARTICLE XXV

International Relationships

The Grenada Athletic Association is affiliated to the IAAF (and through the IAAF to the North American, Central American and Caribbean Athletic Association). The Grenada Athletic Association recognises, accepts, applies, observes and abides by the current Constitution, Rules and Regulations of the IAAF and the North American, Central American and Caribbean Athletic Association, as well as any future amendments. This applies especially to the Anti-Doping rules, the handling of disputes, and relations with Athletes' Representatives.

Any citizen of Grenada elected to the IAAF Council is *de jure* a member of the Council and/or Executive Body of the Grenada Athletic Association with full voting rights.

ARTICLE XXVI

Rules, Regulations, and Bye-laws of the Association

1. The Executive is authorized to make such rules, regulations, and bye laws as it may deem expedient for the operation and conduct of all competitions and for the guidance of all members of the Association and such rules, regulations and bye-laws shall be called the “Association Rules”.
2. The Executive may repeal, amend or add to the Association Rules provided that such repeal, amendment or addition:-
 - (a) is not inconsistent with this Constitution or the rules of the International Association of Athletics Federations or any organization to which the Association is affiliated, and
 - (b) is passed by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting.
3. The Executive shall have power to deal with any other matter not provided for in this Constitution and in the Association Rules, and all affiliated Clubs and their members, Ordinary members, Life members, Honorary members, Unattached athletes, shall be subject to the Constitution and the Association Rules of the Grenada Athletic Association and the rules, regulations, and bye laws of the International Association of Athletics Federations where no provision is made under this Constitution and the Rules of the Association.

ARTICLE XXVII

Amendments to the Constitution

1. This Constitution shall not be amended except at the Biennial General Meeting or a Special General Meeting convened for this purpose, by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting.
2. All motions for the amendment of the Constitution must:-
 - (a) be in writing
 - (b) be addressed to the General Secretary of the Association, and
 - (c) be delivered to the General Secretary at least twenty-one (21) days before the date fixed for the General Meeting.
3. All motions for the amendment of the Constitution must be specific and where necessary:-
 - (a) refer to the particular article, section, paragraph and line

- (b) in the case of a deletion and replacement or deletion alone specify the words which it is proposed should be deleted and the new word (if any)
- (c) in the case of a completely new provision quote the new provision.

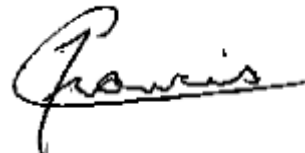
ARTICLE XXVIII

Operative Date and Execution

1. This Constitution shall take effect from the date on which it is approved by the General Meeting of the Association.
2. Amendments to the Constitution of the Grenada Athletic Association were approved at the Special General Meeting of the Association held at St. George's, Grenada on the **First day of March, 2003.**
3. The last Amendments to the Constitution of the Grenada Athletic Association were unanimously approved at the Special General Meeting of the Association held at St. George's, Grenada on Saturday the **Sixth day of June 2009.**



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President



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General Secretary