

Congratulations



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**Most Rev. Dr. Josiah
Atkins Idowu-Fearon**

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PROCURA'S CHAIRMAN APPOINTED SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE ANGLICAN COMMUNION WORLDWIDE

The chairman of the Programme for Christian-Muslim Relations in Africa (PROCURA), Most Rev. Dr. Josiah Atkins Idowu-Fearon has been appointed Secretary General of the Anglican Communion Worldwide.

PROCURA received the news of his appointment with great joy that “Chairman” as all in the PROCURA family call him, has been accorded this great vocation to serve the Anglican Communion worldwide. Among the gifts required by the Communion for such a position, and which PROCURA has enjoyed in his twelve years of service as its chairman are: “a person engaged in God’s mission of reconciliation, a bridge builder, a creative and imaginative thinker, an inspirational leader”.

In his acceptance speech, the new Secretary General said: “I am excited to take up the post of Secretary General of the Anglican Communion, and to continue the fine work undertaken by my predecessors in this office. It is a privilege to be so honoured and recognised by the Communion for this leadership position. I look forward to serving the Anglican family with my future colleagues at the Anglican Communion Office and the office of the Archbishop of Canterbury.”

Bishop James Tengatenga, chair of the Anglican Consultative Council, acknowledged chairman’s expertise in Christian-Muslim relations when welcoming his appointment said: “I am delighted that Bishop Josiah has accepted the position. He will bring a vital new perspective on the Anglican Communion, its life and ministry. His experience and expertise in Christian-Muslim relations is particularly welcome at this time.”

Readers of PROCURA news will recall that on June 20th 2013, our chairman was given a distinguished service award, the “Cross of St Augustine” by the Archbishop of Canterbury, The Most Rev. Justin Welby, for his exceptional and extensive work in Christian-Muslim relations/dialogue within and outside the Worldwide Anglican Communion; indeed for his invaluable contribution to promoting peaceful co-existence between Christians and Muslims in Africa in general and the promotion of dialogue and reconciliation between Christians and Muslims in Nigeria in particular.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, in his brief remarks on chairman’s appointment said: “I warmly welcome the appointment of Bishop Josiah and look forward to working closely with him in the renewal of the Anglican Communion amidst the global challenges facing us today.”

The General Adviser of PROCMURA in his congratulatory message reiterated PROCMURA's delight on its chairman's appointment and assured him of PROCMURA's prayer for wisdom and insight as he assumes office, come July 2015. He prayed the new Secretary General to continue to uphold PROCMURA's vision of an African "Continent where Christian and Muslim communities in spite of their differences, work together for justice, peace and reconciliation towards the holistic development of the human family and the environment", and advocate for such a vision to be a worldwide vision and not just for the African continent since his new vocation covers the globe.

On behalf of Christians and Muslims of Africa and indeed the world who have had the opportunity to participate in PROCMURA's programmes and know his great contribution to the life of the organization, we congratulate him.

Rev. Dr. Johnson Mbillah
General Adviser



Bishop Josiah Idowu-Fearon (centre) with Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby and Bishop James Tengatenga.