



CNI SBSS in ACT Alliance General Assembly

"We have a duty to be brave in standing up against oppression," ACT Alliance General Secretary John Nduna declared on the final day of ACT Alliance's four-yearly assembly in Arusha, Tanzania.

ACT Alliance, one of the largest faith-based humanitarian and development networks in the world, had chosen Arusha, as the venue for its very first General Assembly this October. Two hundred of ACT Alliance's representatives & leadership from all over the world gathered together from October 19th to 22nd, 2010 to witness a major international conference and set the alliance's strategy for the next four years, emphasizing the importance of improving the lives of the world's poor.



John Nduna - General Secretary, ACT Alliance, **Rev. Dr Olav Fykse Tveit** - General Secretary, World Council of Churches, Honourable **Frederick Sumaye**, former Prime Minister of Tanzania were the few among the host of dignitaries who

graced the occasion. India saw its presentation through representatives from CNI SBSS, CASA, CARD & UELCI.

Synodical Board of Social Services (SBSS) the development & justice wing of CNI is one of the five members of **actalliance** from India. Her work and engagement with the communities has not gone unnoticed at the international forum with ACT Alliance recognising and commending CNI SBSS for her work. CNI SBSS' strategy and contribution towards the development and empowerment of the communities as a faith based organization has always been appreciated & encouraged by the ACT Secretariat.

CNI SBSS was represented by *Monijinjir Byapari* and *Ritu Tiru*. *Monijinjir* is the Programme Accompanier and *Ritu* looks after the Development Communications & Research of CNI SBSS. They have also been part of ACT Alliance through their contributions at various levels, *Monijinjir* is involved with EAA and Impact Assessment while *Ritu* is actively involved with the ACT Alliance



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Communicators' Working Group. Dr Shailendra Awale was invited being a member of the Membership and Nomination Committee. ACT Assembly saw CNI SBSS' contribution & participation in the ongoing activities during the four days of the Assembly. The Strategic Planning Process saw the participation of *Monijnjir & Ritu* as members of the facilitation team for Advocacy and Communications. *Dr. Shailendra Awale*, as member of the ACT Global Working Group briefed and informed the Assembly on Development Effectiveness and their working group. CNI SBSS along with the other member organizations from Asia conducted the morning devotion on the third



day of the Assembly. The African forum conducted the concluding devotion praying for all the continents; *Ritu* participated in the devotion by praying for Latin America.

Election of the Governing body was one of the most awaited and important event during the agenda for the

Alliance. Governing body comprises of a Moderator, Vice Moderator, 23 members for the Governing Board and 13 Executive Committee members. *Rev. Cornelia Fullkerug-Weitzel* from BftW was elected as the Moderator and *Rev. Francisco de Assis da Silva* from FE Brasil as the Vice Moderator. *Sushant Agarwal* from CASA, *Monijnjir Byapari* from CNI SBSS *Arshinta* from Yakkum Indonesia and *He Wen* from Amity Foundation China were elected from Asia to be members of the Governing Board. The Assembly not just accepted *Monijnjir's* selection as a member of the Governing Board but also appointed her as member of the Executive Committee. *Dr. Shailendra Awale* was elected again to be a part of the Membership & Nomination Committee of the ACT Alliance.

ACT (Action by Churches Together) Alliance's 105 church and church-related members employ 33,000 staff and volunteers in 140 countries and have an income of US \$1.6 billion a year. With decades of experience, most ACT Alliance members are from globally poor countries, working at grass roots level and immersed in the culture of the places they are based.



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