

**Wayne Chen elected President of the
Caribbean Employers' Confederation**



At the 51st Annual General Meeting of the Caribbean Employers' Confederation (CEC) held in Barbados on May 19th 2011, Mr. Wayne Chen, President of the Jamaica Employers Federation was elected as its new President to succeed Marcel Meyer of Surinam.

In his acceptance speech, Mr. Chen vowed to deepen the role of the CEC as an important non-state actor within CARICOM, CARIFORUM and the Caribbean Region overall. He emphasized the important role that regional associations of employers, trades unions, civil society groups, academia and others had to play, alongside the governments of Caribbean countries and territories.

“Governments come and go and think in five-year spans so it is important that regional non-state actors ensure the focus and continuity of policy initiatives that enhance the development of the Caribbean for the long-term benefit of its people,” said Mr. Chen.

“It is in this context, and the promotion of Tripartism and social dialogue, and the expansion of decent work, that the CEC has an important role to play”, concluded Mr. Chen.

The new Executive and Board of the Caribbean Employers' Confederation are as follows:

President: Wayne Chen (President, Jamaica Employers' Federation)

1st Vice President: Ferdinand Welzijn (President of the Suriname Trade and Industries Association)

2nd Vice President: Vern Gill (President of the St. Lucia Employers' Association)

Director: Clement Carty (President of the the Dominica Employers' Federation)

Director: Raymond Eytile (Executive Council Member of the Jamaica Employers' Federation)

Director: Acres Stowe (President of Antigua/Barbuda Employers' Federation)

Director: Gwendoline McLaren (Member of the Board of the Employers' Consultative Association of Trinidad and Tobago)

The Caribbean Employers' Confederation is a 14 member grouping of employers' organizations from the Caribbean Region dedicated to the development and promotion of good industrial relations practices, productive and competitive labour markets, and the expansion of decent work.