

# Bonner Querschnitte

## Bonn Profiles – Press Reports

Phone: +49 4106 804806 · Fax: +49 4106 804807

Email: [bq@bucer.de](mailto:bq@bucer.de) · <http://www.bucer.de/bq.html>

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## BQ 667 – No. 49/2020

# WEA International Council Appoints Dr Thomas Schirmmacher as Next Secretary General / CEO, Starting in March 2021

## Press release of the World Evangelical Alliance

(Bonn, 30.10.2020) The International Council (IC) of the World Evangelical Alliance (WEA) is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr Thomas Schirmmacher as the next Secretary General / CEO. Bringing many years of experience serving in various roles in the WEA, Dr Schirmmacher was recommended by the Search Committee from among more than a dozen candidates, and unanimously affirmed by the IC on a conference call on October 27. He will assume leadership of the WEA on March 1, 2021.

In a letter announcing the appointment to WEA's constituency, Dr Goodwill Shana, Chair of the International Council, said: "Thomas will be known to many of you, as he has served in the WEA for many years. He enjoys working with groups of diverse people and seeing people work together to advance the aims of the WEA. He is committed to building partnerships and seeing WEA contribute to the development of the global Christian community."

"He has a great deal of experience that we believe will benefit the WEA and we are very happy to appoint such a gifted person," Dr Shana continued and added: "We have every confidence that Thomas is able to lead WEA at this point in our life and history and with great vision for the future. We will continue to covet your prayers and support in ensuring



Thomas Schirmmacher in a plenary at the Global Christian Forum in Bogota, Columbia, 2019 © BQ/Martin Warnecke

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### Text & Technology:

Titus Vogt (ViSdP)  
Vorderer Kamp 52a, D-25479 Ellerau  
Phone: +49 4106 804806  
Fax: +49 4106 804807  
Email: [Titus.Vogt@bucer.de](mailto:Titus.Vogt@bucer.de)



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[www.worldevangelicals.org/pdf/TN-47-1-Jan-2018.pdf](http://www.worldevangelicals.org/pdf/TN-47-1-Jan-2018.pdf)

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that this very significant step proceeds smoothly and results in the strengthening of the WEA and the proclamation of the gospel around the world.”

Outgoing Secretary General Bp Efraim Tendero commented: “It is with great joy that I will be handing over the stewardship of the WEA to Dr. Thomas Schirmmacher early next year, the person who is best prepared to lead the global body of evangelicals into the future. As we have partnered together in the WEA Senior Leadership Team for several years, I saw in him the charisma, competence and capacity that is matched by the character, conviction and calling from God that are needed for such a global task. I have full confidence that he will lead the WEA as empowered by the Holy Spirit in advancing the Good news of the Lord Jesus Christ to all nations, and effecting personal, family and community transformation for the glory of God.”

Upon his appointment, Dr Schirmmacher said: “I am humbled that so many esteemed leaders are putting their trust in me. Having been part of the leadership for a long time, I already feel very much at home in the WEA. Beside all my academic and socio-political involvement, the center of my convictions has always been the transforming power of the gospel of Jesus Christ for each individual and the whole world. And I see WEA as the best place to serve the Church. I feel safe in the assurance that I am carried by the prayer of millions of believers and knowing that I am standing on the big shoulders of my predecessors.”

### Downloads and Links:

- **Photo:** Thomas Schirmmacher in a plenary at the Global Christian Forum in Bogota, Columbia, 2019 © BQ/Martin Warnecke

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