



# CASHFI Newsletter

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## Cashfi Elects New Chairman

Dr. Julio Escoto, *Director General, LIGA Dominicana* was elected new Chairman of CASHFI at the Association's 17<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting held on April 20, 2001. In his address to the AGM held in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, Dr. Escoto pledged support to a deepening of the work of the Association during his term of office. He added that, "I accept this office as a recognition of the work of the LIGA DOMINICANA DE ASOCIACIONES DE AHORRO Y PRESTAMOS (LIDAAPI), and the success achieved by the 18 members of our league that have been operating in the Dominican Republic for the last 39 years." He further noted that the election was a demonstration of the "full dynamic of CASHFI" and promised to work together, to understand each other, and to take the organization to another level.



*Dr. Julio Escoto graduated from the Law School Universidad Autonoma de Santo Domingo in 1954; and has been the Director General of LIDAAPI since 1980. He has also served as President of the judicial institute of the Inter-American Housing Union (UNIAPRAVI). Since 1980 Dr. Escoto has been the LIDAAPI representative to UNIPRAVI annual conference, and for several years, an alternate director, representing the private sector of the Dominican S&L industry.*

### Expanding Bridges Across Countries

Dr. Escoto said "we in the Caribbean are obliged to expand a bridge across countries so that we could be united in our effort to build a better future, and confront the enormous challenges we face. The establishment of CASHFI was an important step forward for the Caribbean and I expect that with the support of all members, we will achieve the goal of expanding CASHFI and resolving important housing finance shelter issues."

The new Chairman commended the creation of CASHFI and the possible union of all the Caribbean islands towards a single objective to give the Association a "great future."

Dr. Escoto recorded his gratitude to the outgoing administration, with particular thanks to Mr. Rupert Martyr, outgoing Chairman and Secretary General, Mr. Joseph Bailey, and enlisted their continued co-operation in the future development of the organisation.

### FIVE YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN FOR CASHFI Moves Into High Gear

During the Round Table discussion convened at the Annual General Meeting of April 6, 2000, in Montego Bay, Jamaica, the Executive Committee accepted a proposal for the formulation of a five-year development plan for the Association. The strategic plan is aimed at making the Association more responsive to the needs of its membership.

Outgoing Chairman Mr. Rupert Martyr said that initial comments on the Plan have been favourable, and commended Vice Chairman Nicholls and her Committee for the dedication in developing the Strategic Review Paper for 2001-2005.

Mr. Martyr in his report to the AGM, spoke on a number of other significant activities of the Association during the year.

#### Membership

Membership of the Association stood at 38 at the end of December 2000, representing an increase in membership of one, with the addition of CLICO Mortgage and Finance Corporation, Bridgetown, Barbados. Mr. Martyr noted that the Association welcomes CLICO as its newest member and looks forward to its "contribution to our efforts to improve housing, and housing finance solutions, for our varying populations."