

PROGRAM REPORT

January to June 2010



CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE OF ASIA
Chiang Mai, Thailand

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FOREWORD

The year 2010 began on a challenging note as CCA prepared for its 13th General Assembly. The assembly theme, “*Called to Prophesy, Reconcile and Heal*” challenged us to open our eyes and ears towards thinking creatively and evolving effective responses to the needs of our member churches and councils, and of society as a whole.

The Assembly brought together Asian church leaders and ecumenical friends to give thanks to God for the life and work of CCA, to assess the work of CCA, and define a new vision and mission for CCA in the next five years. We now have the future of the ecumenical movement in Asia in our hands. It is up to us how do we take on the challenge of being prophets, healers and reconcilers in the midst of conflicts and a conflicted world.

We are pleased to share with you the **Program Report of January to June 2010**. The Report shares where CCA is right now and to what direction it is heading. It not only highlights programs undertaken but also contains some critical reflections as well.

Your interest and concern for the ministry of CCA is a great source of strength and blessing for our members and the ecumenical movement in Asia. We hope you find this Report useful. We highly appreciate and welcome your comments and suggestions on how we can build our strengths and be more visible in response to emerging realities in Asia.

On behalf of the staff I sincerely thank you for your concern, care and support for CCA’s life and work. We look forward to a continued partnership with you.

Prawate Khid-arn
General Secretary

PROGRAM AND ACTIVITIES SCHEDULE

**Christian Conference of Asia
January to June 2010**

Date	Activity	Venue	Program Area
JANUARY			
05 – 09	Theological Workshop on Mission in Asia - Mission Conference in 2010		FMU
FEBRUARY			
24 - 26	KCC Gender Justice Training	Phnom Penh, CAMBODIA	EGY /MEPP
17 - 24	Exposure Program on Building HIV Competent Yunnan Churches	Chiang Mai, THAILAND	HIV & AIDS /MEPP
MARCH			
01 – 03	Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance Strategy Group on HIV and AIDS meeting	Geneva, SWITZERLAND	HIV & AIDS
APRIL			
09 - 12	Pre-Assemblies (Women, Youth, People's Forum, Forum of PLWHIV+)	Kuala Lumpur, MALAYSIA	All
09 – 22	2010 Asia Ecumenical Course	Kuala Lumpur, MALAYSIA	FMU
13	CCA General Committee Meeting	Kuala Lumpur, MALAYSIA	All
14 - 21	13 TH CCA General Assembly	Kuala Lumpur MALAYSIA	All
MAY			
06 – 07	International Seminar on “Theology and Music”	Seoul, KOREA	FMU
16-17	ASIA SUNDAY & courtesy visit to UCCJ, KCCJ & ACJ	Tokyo, JAPAN	JID
24 – 29	Workshop for Resource Books, and Planning on National AEC	Manila, PHILIPPINES	FMU
14 - 15	Theological Educators Seminar	Tak, THAILAND	MEPP
JUNE			
02 – 06	Edinburg 2010 Centennial Celebration	Edinburg, UK	FMU
17 – 20	Ecumenical Lectures on Contextual Education: Mekong Region	Yangon, MYANMAR	FMU

GENERAL SECRETARIAT (GS)

Dr. Prawate Khid-arn, General Secretary
Rev. Dr. Rienzie Perera, Associate General Secretary
Dr. Liza Lamis, Communications Consultant

A. The 13th CCA General Assembly

Venue: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Date: April 14-21, 2010

The General Assembly is the supreme decision-making body of the Christian Conference of Asia (CCA). The Assembly meets once in every five years to celebrate God's blessings, to share on God's mission in the life of member churches and councils, to envisage a new vision and direction in the midst of new challenges, and to elect its new leaders.

The 13th General Assembly themed "Called to Prophecy, Reconcile and Heal" was held in cooperation with the Council of Churches of Malaysia on April 14-21, 2010 at the Grand Seasons Hotel in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

A total of 387 participants attended the Assembly, with 163 voting delegates and 223 non-voting. Non-voting participants included members of the General Committee (25), staff (19), speakers (4), ecumenical partners (33), guests (10), observers and visitors (77), stewards (17), new member churches (10), media (9) and local committee members (18). Of the 163 voting delegates, there were 103 men, and 60 women; 76 clergy, 15 lay men, 37 lay women and 35 youth.

Prior to the main Assembly, there were five pre-assembly events held:

- Pre-assembly for Women, organized by the EGY Program Area
- Pre-assembly for Youth and Stewards Training, organized by the EGY Program Area
- Pre-assembly for People Living with HIV and AIDS organized by the HIV and AIDS Program
- People's Forum organized by the JID Program Area
- Asia Ecumenical Course organized by the FMU

The Assembly program included worship services with participatory Bible Studies, two D.T. Niles Memorial Lectures, discussions on emerging issues and challenges, workshops on Program Review and Program Directions, and activities fostering deeper ecumenical fellowship. Each day, a *Listening Team* reported to the Assembly highlights of their observations of the previous day's proceedings.

It was an honor and a blessing for the Assembly participants to have had the Rev. Dr. Olav Fykse Tveit, newly elected General Secretary of the World Council of Churches (WCC). He delivered a public lecture on “Called to **Prophesy, Reconcile and Heal: An Ecumenical Perspective**”. Briefly, let me cite from the lecture an impression of Dr Tveit:

“This (Assembly) theme expresses the ability to see the wholeness of life, holding quite different perspectives *together*. From your Asian tradition I believe you are enabled, maybe more than many others, to see different perspectives together as a whole, in a wider harmony. This is a significant contribution to our common, ecumenical and global reflection of what it means to be one.”

Two equally illustrious speakers and seasoned ecumenists delivered the D.T. Niles Memorial Lectures, namely: Dr Daniel Preman Niles, and Dr Ruth Manorama. Dr Niles is the son of D. T. Niles and a former general secretary of the Council for World Mission (CWM). Dr Ruth Manorama is a Dalit who heads the National Alliance for Women in India, and have been a Right Livelihood Awardee in 2006.

The Assembly approved the recommendation of the General Committee to appoint Rev. Dr. Henriette Hutabarat Lebang (Ery) from Toraja Church, Indonesia, as the new General Secretary. Dr Hutabarat Lebang is the first woman to assume the post of General Secretary of CCA. She has been well known in her ecumenical movement for many years, and had served CCA as its Associate General Secretary for Program Coordination for ten years when CCA was still in Hong Kong.

A new set of CCA Officers were also elected. They are:

Presidium: Rev. Rex R. B. Reyes, Jr. (Philippines)

Dr. Kali Bahadur Rokaya (Nepal)

Ms. Van Arun Rasmey (Cambodia)

Rev. Ms. Retno Ngapon (Indonesia)

Honorary Treasurer: Mr. Augustine Karmakar (Bangladesh)

The Assembly received five new member churches and council. They are the Lutheran Church in the Philippines (Philippines); The Armenian Apostolic Orthodox Church in Iran (Iran); The Synod of the Oikoumene Christian Church in Indonesia-GKO (Indonesia); the Coptic Orthodox Diocese of Sydney and Affiliated Regions (Australia) and the National Christian Council of Bhutan (Bhutan). CCA has now membership in 22 countries in Asia including Australia, Aotearoa New Zealand and Iran.

A daily Assembly news was also produced, the *Berita Terkini*, which means ‘daily news’ in English. The blogs, press conference and the *Berita Terkini* were managed by the Media Team composed of professional journalists. CCA cannot be thankful enough for the Media Team’s efforts and expertise contributed to the media projection of the Assembly. We thank the Uniting Church of Australia, Synod of New South Wales, Ecumenical News International, Council of Churches of Malaysia, and the National Christian Council in Japan, for sponsoring the travel expenses of four of the team

members. The six issues of *Berita Terkini*, links to blog sites and published news are all posted at the CCA website.

An evaluation by the Assembly participants was undertaken at the end of the assembly, with a summary presented below:

	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	%
Communication from the GS Office	6.52	31.52	30.43	23.91	7.60	100.00
Documents	12.50	31.25	40.62	16.66	1.04	100.00
Transportation	25.37	36.26	26.37	9.89	1.00	100.00
Accommodation	37.50	29.16	26.04	7.29	0.00	100.00
Venue	29.47	42.10	25.16	3.15	0.00	100.00
Opening Worship	37.11	37.11	21.64	4.12	0.00	100.00
Bible Studies	21.64	45.36	23.71	6.18	0.00	100.00
Bible Study Leaders	24.73	44.08	26.88	4.30	0.00	100.00
Speakers	21.73	43.47	28.26	6.52	0.00	100.00
Local Hospitality	46.23	32.25	18.27	3.22	0.00	100.00
Coffee/Tea Breaks	32.98	35.05	25.77	4.12	2.06	100.00
Meals	30.20	29.16	29.16	10.41	1.04	100.00
Stewards	35.05	43.29	16.49	4.12	1.03	100.00

With the efficient leadership of the CCA Associate General Secretary, Rev. Dr. Rienzie Perera as Assembly Coordinator, the Assembly culminated in success. It was a success in that we were able to achieve our set aim and objectives. We were able to theologically engage deeply and wrestle with each other in reflecting on the Assembly theme. We now have clear and fresh mandates for the next five years, a new set of officers to steer the ecumenical boat in Asia, and a stronger ecumenical bond to respond to God's call for us to be prophets, healers and reconcilers.

CCA will publish the Assembly Proceedings and make it widely available in August 2010. Documents related to the Assembly can be accessed from the CCA website, <http://www.cca.org.hk>

B. Ecumenical Relations

April 27

ICF Committee Meeting, Hong Kong

The General Secretary, in his capacity as ICF committee member, attended the Inter-religious Cooperation Forum (ICF) meeting held at APAYMCAs in Hong Kong. The ICF is a joint CCA-APAYMCAs and EED Project on inter-religious peace training. Updates on the ICF's activities and EED and future ICF activities were discussed.

May 11-14

Theological Education Seminar For Pastors in Refugee Camps
Mae Sod, Tak Province, Thailand

The Mekong Ecumenical Partnership Program (MEPP) and the Bible School at the Mae La Refugee Camp jointly organized this first Theological Education Seminar. Over forty participants from eight refugee camps took part in the program. The purpose of the seminar was to provide wider theological perspectives and understanding to church workers and leaders, and a time to share experiences in the pastoral ministry.

The General Secretary, Dr. Prawate Khid-arn, Ms. Janejinda Pawadee and Rev. Huh Chung Jung of MEPP participated in the above-mentioned seminar.

Dr. Prawate Khid-arn, in his presentation emphasized the significance of theological education and ecumenical formation in doing holistic mission in divided societies in Asia. “The challenge before us is to seek a “holistic mission” as being Church together, to appreciate our different ways of living out God’s mission in our midst and to make the Word of God visible in our daily life”, he said.

Rev. Huh Chung Jung shared about “Minjung Theology” which the Korean churches strive for in being the church of the people especially for the poor and marginalized.

Mae La Camp is the biggest and the oldest refugee camp along the Thai-Myanmar border. Currently, there are around 50,000 refugees living in small houses made from bamboo and roofs covered with dry leaves. Within the camp are a church, temple and mosque for spiritual service and practice. There are also schools for formal education, simple sport and recreation space and a sewing training center. Being resettled to a third country is one of the refugees’ earnest dreams.

May 19-24

CWS-DHA Committee Meeting, Washington D.C, USA

Dr. Prawate Khid-arn, Church World Service (CWS) - Development and Humanitarian Assistance (DHA) Committee member, attended the CWS-DHA Committee Meeting held at the Maritime Institute in Baltimore, USA.

Like many ecumenical organizations, CWS is in a changing process to adjust itself to new global realities. One of the discussed agenda was on the merging of the ERP (Emergency Response Program) and the SED (Social Economic Development) committees. This will help CWS focus and implement more sustainable and holistic approach to its relief and development programs.

June 1-3

EAA Board Meeting, Geneva, Switzerland

As member of the Board of the EAA (Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance), Dr. Prawate Khid-arn attended the EAA Board meeting held at the Ecumenical Building (WCC Building) in Geneva.

The Committee members welcomed Mr. Peter Nigel Prove as EAA new Executive Director, and thanked Ms. Jenny Borden, for taking care of the EAA during the recruitment period.

EAA was initiated by ecumenical partners with the main objective of assisting churches for more proactive response to emerging issues in new global contexts. It first focused on two issues, namely HIV and AIDS and Fair Trade. Since 2009, it has shifted focus on the fair trade issue to “Food Security”.

EAA is well-known and well respected by churches, NGOs and international organizations especially on its active campaign on HIV and AIDS. However, food security, the second campaign of EAA, has been taken over by many organizations at global, regional and national levels. EAA needs to know and cooperate more with those organizations.

EAA, like other ecumenical organizations, is gradually facing financial difficulty due to the reduction of support from funding organizations and also from membership fees.

While in Geneva, Dr Khid-arn also met ecumenical colleagues in the World Council of Churches. He paid a courtesy visit to the new General Secretary, Rev. Dr. Olav Fykse Tveit to strengthen relationship and cooperation between WCC and CCA.

C. Communications and the CCA Library

The CCA News and the weekly e-news, *A Letter from CCA*, are regular published, and are all posted in CCA website. A recent good practice we had is the sharing of news from members for the weekly e-news. Member churches and councils are encouraged to send their urgent country and church concerns to CCA, so that brothers and sisters around the world can connect with you in solidarity and in prayers. And also, so that CCA can come out with timely and appropriate solidarity support.

The CCA Library is now online for easy access. You may check our website for the link. Archiving of CCA documents is on the process, and CCA is very happy to have received an offer from Yale University, for them to take care of the archiving for free.

We admit our website is antiquated, and we are looking forward to upgrades to make it more attractive and user friendly.

Ecumenical Formation, Gender Justice and Youth Empowerment (EGY)

*Ms. Moumita Biswas, Joint Executive Secretary
Mr Adam Anand Row, Consultant*

A. Gender Justice Workshop and Follow-up National Training

Venue: Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Date: 24- 26 February 2009

The Asian School of Ecumenical Formation for Gender Justice, Training the Trainers Capacity Enhancement Program for church leaders of Mekong countries and East Timor was held in September 2009 in Thailand. For a multiplying impact an emphasis was stressed on conducting follow up trainings by participants in collaboration with their sending church and national councils. One follow-up activity was supported by EGY which was conducted by the Kampuchea Christian Council on 24- 26 February 2010 at the Children Vision Center, Kraing Tey village, Phnom Penh.

Twenty-six men and women participated, in which Ms Prak Saravy, KCC Women's Desk Secretary of and Samnang Douk, KCC Youth Secretary played key roles in organizing and implementing the program jointly facilitated by EGY with Rev. Huh Chun Jung and Ms Janejinda Pawadee, both form the Mekong Ecumenical Partnership Program (MEPP).

Aim and objectives

- 1) Increase awareness among congregations regarding the need of promoting gender justice to overcome violence and build prophetic communities of peace
- 2) Enhance the capacity of local leaders regarding gender justice issues
- 3) Strengthen local ecumenical movements

Methodology: Bible Studies, group and panel discussions, exposure program

Resource persons were Keo Sovannary, Ms. Nou Kimsan, and Yub Sopheon from the Lutheran World Federation (LWF), Ms. VanArun Rasmey, KCC Acting General Secretary, Samnang Douk, and Rev. Sovy Oum, KCC president.

Outcomes

- 1) Twenty-six participants were trained
- 2) Visible multiplying effect of gender justice workshop in local communities
- 3) Strengthened the local ecumenical movement. KCC established networking relationship with LWF in Cambodia, with the Presbyterian Church of Korea (PCK) missionaries, and non-governmental organizations dealing with gender justice issues.

For the first time in Cambodia male church leaders took part in the discussion of gender justice issues and the workshop. This is a ground-breaking activity because in the Asian context gender justice programs organized by churches are mainly meant for women. In Asia there is a lack of understanding and little promotion of gender justice. There is therefore a need for dialogue and capacity enhancement for both women and men in the churches.

The very fact that the Cambodian participants of the Asian School of Ecumenical Formation for Gender Justice along with KCC organized the follow-up training showed that there is ownership of CCA programs by member churches. The young people showed an incredible leadership in this training.

Since the program was conducted in the local language and was facilitated by local resource persons there was greater involvement and participation by participants. Usually CCA programs are conducted in English where many participants and local church leaders are not able to participate. Therefore, this way of conducting follow-up programs promote, nurture and strengthen grassroots ecumenism.

B. Pre-Assembly Women's Forum

Venue: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Date: 10– 13 April 2010

In order to involve more women leaders in the decision making processes in the church, and to review how gender justice is being promoted by churches in Asia, a Women's Pre-Assembly Forum was organized in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on 10- 13 April 2010. The theme was *Celebration of life: Asian Women Prophets, Healers and Reconcilers*

The Context

Asian Church women play a crucial role in building prophetic communities of peace. They transform society and communities through their justpeace skills. However, their contributions are not always recognized by the church and society, or not documented. Asian women and children are worst victims of any form of violence which has increased in leaps and bounds in this post modern world of neo colonization and globalization. However, they are not passive recipients of violence. They practice peace through their daily dialogue of life. Women's bodies have become battlefields where wars are being fought. Despite limitations Asian women use their dauntless courage to be prophets of peace. In this world of violence, vengeance, hatred and struggle for power in Asian women play a crucial role as natural healers.

An Asian prophetic *ekklesia* must also discern and unmask the unheard silenced voices of many Asian women by promoting gender justice. It is essential for us to understand that women's leadership development and ecumenical formation alone cannot transform society or eradicate violence against women and children. The Asian ecumenical movement therefore should shake the understanding of many Asian Church leaders that gender justice is an agenda 'for' and 'of' women only, and that women's empowerment is

for their liberation from patriarchal oppression which has permeated the various structures of society.

Objectives

- To strengthen Asian Women's Ecumenical Movement in building prophetic and inclusive communities of peace
- To acknowledge and recognize Asian Women's contributions of Justpeace skills as healers and reconcilers in building communities of peace
- To evolve Action plans and strategies in promoting Asian church women's involvement in the decision-making processes of church and society, and in leadership development in building sustainable, prophetic communities.
- To promote a theology of positive masculinity and spirituality and involvement of men as well as women and youth to promote gender justice.

Outcomes

- Seventy-five women and a few male church leaders participated in the Forum.
- The various deliberations and the statement issued by participants to the Forum contributed to the formulation of the vision and mission of CCA especially in promoting gender justice and overcoming violence against women and children.
- Increased visibility of Asian church women's involvement in decision-making process of Church and ecumenical organizations in building prophetic communities.
- Strengthened networking and solidarity among Asian church women in cross-cultural and prophetic missions as healers and reconcilers.
- Increased involvement of Asian church leaders in promoting gender justice

C. Strengthening of Ecumenical Women's Network: working together with the International Committee of the Fellowship of Least Coin (ICFLC)

One of the major aims of EGY is promoting the women's ecumenical movement and strengthening networks. CCA plays a crucial role in promoting the ICFLC – a movement of prayer, healing and reconciliation started by women, which is now a global prayer movement. The EGY Joint Executive Secretary is officially a member of the ICFLC.

The ICFLC works closely with women's regional ecumenical organizations and every year supports numerous concerns and initiatives, as well as small, sustainable projects by women. CCA, along with the Asian Church Women's Conference (ACWC) is responsible for distributing application forms in Asia every year, and in sorting out and endorsing them for support. The applications are reviewed in a participatory process in the annual meeting of ICFLC where the Executive Secretary participates. This year EGY was engaged in networking with women's organizations and churches in promoting the movement, and endorsed the following three applicants for ICFLC support from Asia:

- a. Indigenous women's Project on Garbage Management, submitted by the Church of Christ in Thailand
- b. A Project of the Asian Resource Women's Center for Culture and Theology (AWRC)
- c. A Project for Rehabilitation of Sex Workers, submitted by the United Church of Christ in the Philippines

Faith, Mission and Unity (FMU)

Dr. Hope S. Antone, Joint Executive Secretary
Rev. Dr. Sung Kook Park, Joint Executive Secretary

A. Planning Meeting for the 13th General Assembly of CCA

Venue: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Date: 10-13 January 2010

Objective: To finalize the planning for the 13th CCA General Assembly and the Asian Ecumenical Course to be held during the assembly.

All CCA executive staff held a final planning meeting with the host committee of the Council of Churches of Malaysia (CCM) in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia to update each other on plans and expectations, tasks and responsibilities. Since the worship committee had already held a workshop in November 2009 in Kuala Lumpur, the committee was represented in this final meeting by Hope S. Antone from CCA and Dennis Raj from CCM. The Rev. Dr. Joseph Komar, dean of the Asian Ecumenical Course 2010, also attended the meeting, making it possible to discuss with him the role of the AEC in the assembly, particularly in the worship.

B. CCA-FABC Joint Staff Meeting

Venue: Bangkok, Thailand

Date: 20 February 2010

Objective: For the staff of the CCA and FABC to meet, get acquainted, revisit and affirm their covenant of cooperation, and share programs and plans.

CCA executive staff met with the staff of the offices of the Federation of Asian Bishops Conferences (FABC) in Bangkok on 20 February. FABC had invited CCA for a joint staff meeting following their Plenary Assembly in 2009 but it was not possible for CCA

staff to travel to Manila for a one-day meeting. Hence, the joint staff meeting was postponed to February – following the meeting of FABC staff in Bangkok. The meeting included re-visiting the history of the partnership between CCA and FABC, re-affirming the vision, and sharing programs and plans for joint action or reciprocal invitation.

C. Asian Ecumenical Course 2010

Venue: Seremban, Negeri Sembilan and Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Date: 9-22 April 2010

Objective:

To equip younger generation of leaders with a wider ecumenical perspective so they can help create a more conscientized constituency that is fully grounded in their own faith but committed to work for the wider unity of people and with the rest of creation; and to equip this AEC batch to be worship animators at the CCA 13th General Assembly.

A total of 21 participants (11 women, 10 men) completed the Asian Ecumenical Course. They came from 12 countries – Aotearoa New Zealand, India, Indonesia, Korea, Malaysia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Thailand, and Vietnam. Participants included theology students, pastors, and workers with NGOs and ecumenical organizations.

Resource persons were: Rev. Dr. Joseph Komar of the Seminari Theoloji Malaysia, AEC dean, who shared on Malaysian and Asian realities; Dr. Hope S. Antone of CCA-FMU who facilitated the community building and leadership exercises and presented the CCA perspective on wider ecumenism; Fr. Rex Reyes Jr. of the National Council of Churches in the Philippines who shared the challenges to ecumenism in Asia; Rev. Dr. Albert Sundararaj Walters of Malaysia who shared on Christian-Muslim relations in Malaysia; Mr. Jeffrey Phang of Malaysia who shared some ecological concerns; Dr. Farouk Musa who spoke on Islam and Minorities in Malaysia; Dr. Rommel Linatoc of NCCP who facilitated the workshops on the use of arts in prophesying, reconciling and healing ministry. Ms. Christina Mandang, Rev. Dennis Raj and Rev. Vuluk Lai Chao-Tsai (members of the CCA General Assembly worship committee) also helped in preparing the AEC participants to animate worship at the assembly. Some special guests who shared their experiences and gave words of encouragement to the AEC were Rev. Dr. H. S. Wilson of FTE-SEA, Rev. Dr. Dietrich Werner of WCC-ETE, Rev. Dr. A. Wati Longchar of BTE-SSC, and Dr. Lim Swee Hong from Trinity Theological College in Singapore.

During the closing act, incoming CCA General Secretary Rev. Dr. Henriette Hutabarat Lebang shared some words of encouragement; CCA Associate General Secretary Rev. Dr. Rienzie Perera shared a word of challenge; while outgoing CCA General Secretary Dr. Prawate Khid-arn gave some words of inspiration and handed the certificates of completion.

The AEC program consisted of (a) community building, (b) Asian reality, (c) ecumenical vision and (d) leadership training. Community building activities included sharing of faith journeys and group dynamics exercises. Workshops on the use of arts in prophesying, reconciling and healing ministry involved exercises in street theater, singing, and movements using various cultural elements from the participants' own countries and cultures.

Following are some of the evaluation comments from the participants:

* I realized that ecumenism is not only about the movement to unity of the different denominations within Christianity, but also of the many religions, cultures, nations and all of creation. I also learned that being ecumenical includes the ministry of prophesying, reconciling and healing of all of God's creation. – *Mariska Lauterboom* (Indonesia)

* The whole AEC experience allowed me to look into and appreciate the Asian within me. I also came to know the commonalities I have with other young people in the AEC and in the assembly. – *Ariel Siagan* (Philippines)

* The richness and diversity of cultures and languages, and feeling the hearts of all participants worshipping God their way were an experience to remember. At Seremban, I loved our working together as a team to accomplish something that was meaningful and powerful. At Kuala Lumpur, I loved seeing the fruits of our hard work. It was purposeful and carried a powerful message. – *Poulima Salima* (New Zealand)

* I've learned and experienced an Asian way of worshipping God ecumenically, using arts, music and dance, and which brings out the message of God in Asia. – *Charles Choy* (Malaysia)

* In this age, churches should no longer debate about dogma or which denomination is the best. Churches should work together to keep peace, maintain justice, help the weak and oppressed, heal the suffering, and care for the environment. To bring this ecumenical vision is not easy because many churches are only thinking about themselves. – *Margaritifera Listyakusumadewi* (Indonesia)

* The ecumenical experience from AEC is really unforgettable. I hope to help my congregation understand the benefit of using culture and tradition in worship so God will be praised and glorified in a very Vietnamese way. – *Le Ngoc Bich Ly* (Vietnam)

* Understanding our faith demands understanding our own context. Knowing my context puts my feet on the ground and my perspective on the right way in dealing with the realities. The Malaysian realities helped me to understand realities that other countries struggle with and the commonalities that we share. – *Jesusa Zena Caytap* (Philippines)

Many participants have continued to be in touch with each other after the program and some have mentioned what they have done so far to share what they learned from AEC – e.g. through the chapel service at the seminary; with their classmates and colleagues, etc.

D. Networking: 9th General Assembly of UCCP

Venue: Dumaguete City, Philippines

Dates: 24-29 May 2010

CCA-FMU joint executive secretary Hope S. Antone attended the 9th General Assembly of the United Church of Christ in the Philippines in Dumaguete City on 24-29 May with the theme, “Discerning and Obeying God’s Will in These Critical Times.” She filled in for CCA Associate General Secretary Rev. Dr. Rienzie Perera who was scheduled to attend the GA (but was unable to leave Sri Lanka due to floods) and shared the Asian reality on a panel on the global situation.

E. Networking: Consultation on Contextual Theological Education in Mekong (networking with Mekong Mission Forum)

Venue: Myanmar Institute of Theology, Yangon, Myanmar

Dates: 17-20 June 2010

Upon the invitation by the Mekong Mission Forum through its assistant coordinator Rev. Hanns Hoerschelmann, CCA-FMU joint executive secretary Hope S. Antone gave the keynote address at the consultation on Contextual Theological Education in Mekong Region. This was the 5th joint consultation organized by MMF, Association of Theological Education in Myanmar (ATEM) and Judson Research Center of Myanmar Institute of Theology (JRC-MIT). Previous joint consultations had tackled the topics of Ethnic Minority (2006); Dialogue (2007); Identity (2008); Mission and Development (2009). She challenged the participants to seriously consider the vision, mission and goals of their theological education (both in Bible schools or seminaries and the theological lay formation by the churches). Do they follow the *conquest approach* inherited from early missionaries who came with the colonizers whose slogan was “To conquer the world for Christ” or with the *solidarity approach* which is to “participate with God in God’s mission of being in solidarity with the marginalized and suffering people of the region”? Using Christ Jesus as model [based on Luke 4:16-30], she spoke of the need for contextual theological education to be grounded in the Mekong context, rooted in the scriptures which must be rightly read and interpreted, oriented to God’s kin-dom or reign, and meant for all people regardless.

Participants included representatives from Lao Evangelical Church, a missionary from DanMission to Cambodia and a Cambodian pastor for Tree of Life Church, a Vietnamese pastor, a missionary from Finland to Thailand, and several MTh students and faculty members from various seminaries and Bible schools in Myanmar.

Other resource persons were: Dr. Dieter Mitternacht, a Swedish missionary at Lutheran Theological Seminary who led a Bible study; Dr. Saw Hlaing Bwa, director of Judson Research Center of Myanmar Institute of Theology who gave a paper on Buddhist-Christian dialogue; Rev. Smith N. Za Thawng, former General Secretary of the Myanmar Council of Churches who led a morning devotion; Rev. Hanns Hoerschelmann who gave a presentation on Transformative Education. There were short presentations on examples of theological education in Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam and Thailand.

Although CCA is not part of the MMF structure, cooperation between CCA and MMF is valuable for the work in the Mekong region. MMF support basically comes from the Lutheran World Federation.

F. Publications

CCA-FMU staffs were able to put out three publications in connection with the 13th CCA General Assembly. Hope Antone edited the special edition of *CTC Bulletin* featuring Bible studies in preparation for the General Assembly and *Life Together: Memories and Dreams*, a collection of stories in commemoration of CCA's 50th anniversary. Sungkook Park coordinated the production of *Asia Sunday 2010* liturgy booklet.

G. Mission Forum at the General Assembly 2010

Venue: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Date: 14-21 April 2010

Theme: "Mission and Missionaries in Asia"

A forum on "Mission and Missionaries in Asia" was organised by Rev. Dr. Sungkook Park during the General Assembly, with the following objectives:

- Sharing perspectives of mission in Asia; assessments and future directions.
- Providing a discussion platform for different perspectives on mission in the Asian context of plurality.
- Discussing plans for the "Code of Conduct of Mission".

Two of the former FMU-Program Area Committee members were invited to facilitate and moderate the forum. Dr Park first gave an input and general directions on the discussion that followed. Assessment of missionary engagements and concepts of mission were the main topics. In light of the centenary celebration of the Edinburgh Missionary Conference 1910, which was going to happen in the following month of June, the participants focused on the Asian responses to the centenary celebration of Edinburgh.

An Asian response to the Edinburgh celebration shall be a "Code of Conduct of Mission", which should be done involving a broader participation of the churches and mission boards/organisations in Asia, the participants commented.

Whatever relates to theology and church, training, education, missionary engagement and all other elements of the life and work of the church shall begin with careful and critical theological reflection. The participants agreed unanimously that without a sound and profound theological concept, which is grounded in contemporary context and leading the way of 'reading the signs of time', all practical implementations and actions taken by church or faith based/related bodies will not have 'something' to look back to in order to reflect, assess and if necessary, re-route their actions.

The forum closed with the agreement that CCA should do more theological reflections on mission carried out by the churches and various mission bodies as partners to God's Mission (Missio Dei). The participants recommended and emphasized that a meeting shall be called to start the process for drawing up the "Code of Conduct of Mission". This process will serve as ground work and complementary but critical voice to the process launched by the World Council of Churches (WCC) to work on a new mission document since 1982 ("Mission and Evangelism", WCC, Central Committee, 1982).

H. Networking: International Seminar on Theology and Music

Venue: Hanshin Graduate School of Theology, Seoul, Korea

Date: 6-7 May 2010

Rev. Dr. Sungkook Park was invited to, the International Seminar on Theology and Music, the first of its kind and was very well attended. As a part of the celebration of the 70th anniversary of Hanshin University, this seminar hosted the opening and inauguration of the new pipe-organ and chapel of the University's Graduate School. Greetings were given by the University President, Prof. Dr. Soo-Il Chai, and the Ambassador of Germany to the Republic of Korea, Dr. Hans-Ulrich Seidt. A worship led by the members of the faculty of theology commenced the seminar.

Pastor Christian Wolf, Senior Pastor of the St. Thomas Cathedral and director of the Thomas Choir in Leipzig, Germany; Prof. Christoph Bossert, from the University of Wuerzburg Germany; Dr. Karen Westerfield Tucker, from Boston University, USA, were the resource speakers. They emphasized the significance of the elements of music in theology and vice versa.

Dr. Park was invited to join the seminar's coordinating team and also served as one of its main interpreters. The presentations delivered by the resource persons and responses from participants will be valuable resource materials for future theological workshops on ecumenical liturgy.

I. Networking: Edinburgh 2010: Centenary Celebration of the Edinburgh Missionary Conference 1910

Venue: University of Edinburgh, Pollock Halls, Edinburgh, UK

Date: 3- 6 June 2010

The centenary celebration of the historic event of 1910 took place at the University of Edinburgh. Rev. Dr. Sungkook Park served as a resource person for Track No. 2, Theme 5, "Forms of Missionary Engagement". The tracks (three tracks) were organized according to the study process, which has been an ongoing process several years back before the actual conference. His presentation was on "Migration and Mission and the Role of Trans-Cultural Churches in Mission".

Three plenary sessions and three parallel sessions were organized to provide in-depth reflections towards meeting the aims of the conference, as follows:

- Make clear the changes in mission thinking since 1910;
- Create a new vision and spirituality of mission to inspire Christians in churches and mission bodies;
- Encourage networks and alliances across regions (especially the North-South divide) and confessions for common witness;
- Give guidelines on mission practice and identify priorities for church and mission leaders;
- Highlight issues for further research and reflection; (6) Result in commitment to continue the spirit of cooperation.

Although the gathering could not be realized with the desired number of delegates, it did accommodate most of the different denominations, as well as the Roman Catholics and quite a big number of missionary organizations. While commemorating the Missionary Conference in 1910, the delegates expressed their huge excitement and great expectations.

Critical voices were not totally missing. The first speaker on the plenary gave a quite ambivalent comment: “100 Years ago, the delegates deeply regretted that only 30% of the world’s population has been Christianized. 100 years after, delegates celebrate and rejoice that 30% of the world’s population has been Christianized”. That comment opened ways for other critical comments to come.

Some significant comments beside the many positive ones were that the delegates supposedly from the global south are mostly residing in the global north. The presence of women and youth was not of a satisfying level.

The conference was attended with great interest by the delegates despite the fact that there were sessions until late in the evening. Media and press people were present to follow the event. The Rev. Dr. Park was interviewed by the Christian Broadcasting Systems (CBS, Korea) and the Christian Television Systems (CTS, Korea) that sent a large team to cover the conference. The interview can be accessed at their websites.

Excerpts from the interview: “It is greatly appreciated to have a meaningful celebration of such a historical event. However, it is burdening, that all the critical comments that were introduced and followed throughout the century, giving critical reflections on the concept of mission and missionary engagement, were not given any room to raise their voices, or at least to be recognized. The theme of 1910 was “Evangelizing the whole world within this generation”. A hundred years after, at this centenary celebration it is “Witnessing to Christ Today”.....”

Some delegates commented that this celebration brought back mission to the church, which can be regarded with great meaning and is revitalising the churches and churches’ life for the commitment towards mission. Historically, mission was often regarded as a ‘professional job’ and assigned to missionary organisations that were largely ‘supported’

by the churches. The every day life and work of faithful Christians was not regarded as mission. Hence, the theme itself is supposed to give a new meaning to mission, namely, widening the realm of mission to the life of the congregation. In order not to weaken the significance of mission in both areas, the presenters and responses put a lot of weight in explaining the expanded and deepened meaning of mission.

The Asian churches shall not lower their voices of critical reflections on the understanding of mission. Additionally, the centenary celebration of Edinburgh 1910 does not mean a full approval of missionary engagement and understanding of mission since 1910. Along with other comments and requests regarding mission directed to Dr Park who is CCA staff in-charge on Mission, there were numerous encouragements towards continuing the on-going critical reflections and promoting the concept of holistic mission. Many other contacts were established and/or renewed that will ensure more cooperation and enrichment of partnership among partners, friends and the CCA.

JUSTICE, INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, DEVELOPMENT AND SERVICE (JID)

*Mr. Carlos Ocampo, Joint Executive Secretary
Rev. Freddy de Alwis, Joint Executive Secretary*

A. CCA Assembly preparations

With the exception of a three-day planning visit to the Council of Churches in Malaysia in Kuala Lumpur to meet with our Malaysian counterparts for the planning and organizing of the 13th CCA Assembly in January 11 and 12, 2010, the executive staff practically did not have any other activity. We each took on particular assignments for the Assembly.

The Rev. Freddy de Alwis was tasked with the pre-registration and registration of delegates, partners and guests at the Assembly, while Charlie Ocampo was assigned the compilation of the CCA Program Activity Report from the last Assembly in Chiang Mai until December 2009. The Report was published in a book, “Chiang Mai to Kuala Lumpur”.

B. Philippine Ecumenical Peace Platform 1st Assembly
Venue: Brokenshire Convention Center, Madapo, Davao City,
Philippines
Date: February 11-13, 2010

CCA was invited by the Philippine Ecumenical Peace Platform (PEPP), through the National Council of Churches in the Philippines (NCCP), to join the Philippine peace process as an international ecumenical observer. The PEPP is a network of Roman Catholic and Protestant bishops and church leaders advocating the resumption of the stalled peace talks between the Philippine Government and the National Democratic Front (NDF).

The first Assembly held in Davao City was a step further in a series of regional consultations and workshops on peace building in the Philippines.

Forty-five bishops, members of clergy and lay leaders in the Philippines met for the first time in a PEPP Assembly. Members of the PEPP include representatives from the Association of Major Religious Superiors in the Philippines (AMRSP), the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines (CBCP), the Ecumenical Bishops Forum (EBF), NCCP, and the Philippine Conference of Evangelical Churches (PCEC).

Issues and concerns addressed at the PEPP Assembly

The efforts to bring both the Philippine Government and the National Democratic Front before the negotiating table have been a long and circuitous process. Past agreements signed by both parties include the Joint Agreement on Safety, Security and Immunity Guarantees (JASSIG) under President Corazon Aquino Government, and the Comprehensive Agreement on Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law (CAHRIHL) under President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo. Agreements in the field of social and economic rights and political and constitutional changes are still on the agenda for future talks.

PEPP receives a strong and consistent support from the Norwegian churches with funds and personnel. Six Norwegian representatives, including Bishop Helga Byfuglien representing the Christian Council of Norway attended the Davao meeting.

Recommendations and role for CCA

The CCA participation was highly endorsed by the NCCP, and in particular, nominated Charlie Ocampo, JID Executive Secretary, as its representative to this and future PEPP meetings. The Philippine peace process is a particular ecumenical model of peace initiative that CCA can support by in its role in accompanying member churches and NCCs in Asia. In particular

- CCA can learn lessons in accompanying its members working in conflict situations to achieve peace and reconciliation;
- The PEPP efforts can inform CCA on possible approaches to peace in the Philippines and the role of churches; and

- Resource persons from the Philippines can be invited to CCA program activities on peace and human rights advocacy, while the Philippines can also be a venue for CCA programs.

C. Northeast Church Forum Meeting

Venue: Presbyterian Bible College, Hsinchu, Taiwan

Date: February 26-27, 2010

The Northeast Asia Church Forum on Peace, Development and People's Security is composed of church leaders representing the NCCs and CCA member churches from Korea, Japan, Taiwan and Hong Kong. The Meeting in Taiwan was a regular annual meeting to plan and follow-up programs for 2010.

The Forum is chaired by the Rev. Po, Kam Cheong, General Secretary of the Hong Kong Christian Council (NCKK) and convened by CCA's Charlie Ocampo.

The agenda items addressed by the Forum

An evaluation of the 2nd Article 9 Interfaith Conference held in Seoul, Korea in December 2009 was shared at the Meeting. The 1st Conference in 2007 addressed the geopolitics surrounding Article 9 and their implications for peace and security in northeast Asia. The 2nd Conference focused on the impact of the campaign in Japan. The 3rd Conference in 2010 will share the anti-militarism and peace agenda beyond the northeast Asia region, inviting representatives from countries affected by conflict and militarization.

The Forum will also follow up with CCA its initiatives, including a meeting of theological students and seminarians and a gathering of women with their respective program clusters, Faith, Mission and Unity (FMU) and Ecumenical Formation, Gender Justice and Youth Empowerment (EGY).

National situation updates were also shared to help members locate the Forum programs within the particular contexts of northeast Asia.

Recommendations and role for CCA

The Forum will play host to a School of Peace to be held at the Tao Fong Shan Centre in Shatin, Hong Kong on 23-30 July 2010, which will be participated in and supported by member churches and NCCs in northeast Asia and a participant each from India and the Philippines.

The follow up with CCA on possible meeting of theological students and seminarians and a gathering of women within the program clusters of FMU and EGY is an attempt of the northeast Asia sub-region at better integration of CCA programs.

- The School of Peace in Hong Kong is underway and the Coordinating Team of Revs. Po, Kam Cheong, Shin Seung Min, and Hu Hong-Chi is convened and led by Charlie Ocampo from CCA;
- The follow-up meetings of theological students and seminarians and the women's gathering are being taken up with FMU and EGY, respectively;
- Article 9 and peace and reunification on the Korean Peninsula are priority concerns for Forum members which will need the continuing support from CCA;
- Charlie Ocampo, JID Executive Secretary is to serve in the Forum as Convener and Coordinator.

D. The People's Forum

Venue: Dynasty Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Date: April 12-13, 2010

The People's Forum is one of four CCA Pre-Assembly events. Its objectives are:

- To initiate a creative dialogue between churches and peoples movements and to draw implications for churches' mission among the broken, bruised and brutalized people and communities in Asia;
- To initiate a network among churches and movements where it does not exist and to renew and strengthen existing networks;
- To work out an Action Plan enabling churches at national and regional levels to work together in solidarity to overcome forces that divide and suppress people's rights; and
- To issue a Forum Statement identifying the principalities and powers which are denying life to people and challenging the churches to focus on mission that affirms their witness to Jesus Christ.

Program and resource persons:

The two-day Forum was made up of biblical reflection on mission, a critique of the CCA vision and directions from its founding parents' (EACC) perspectives; recovering the URM ecumenical perspectives and approaches; peace and reunification on the Korean Peninsula; responses to conflict situations in India and the Philippines; and justice in tourism.

Resource persons and participants invited from outside the Assembly are:

- 1) Dr. M.P. Joseph, Tainan Theological Seminary
- 2) Rev. Dr. Kim Yong Bock, Korean Ecumenical Academy of Social Sciences
- 3) Mr. Victor Hsu, former Country Director, World Vision North Korea
- 4) Rev. Prince Devanandan, Vicar, Aoteroa New Zealand Anglican Church
- 5) Rev. Heawon Chae, Director, Korean Ecumenical Forum
- 6) Ms Carmencita Karagdag, Coordinator, Peace for Life
- 7) Pastor Berlin Guerrero, United Church of Christ in the Philippines
- 8) Mr. Christopher Rajkumar, National Council of Churches in India Peace Program
- 9) Mr. Alan Saw U, Church of the Province of Myanmar

10) Mr. Caesar D'Mello, Director, Ecumenical Coalition on Tourism

Recommendations, assessments and reflections

Participants raised the question of program integration in the JID cluster, but also commended the Forum for being timely and an attempt to recover ecumenical perspectives in areas of human rights, peace, ecological justice and just tourism.

The executive staff of CCA expressed the following assessment of the Forum –

- The strength of the Forum lies on its timeliness, the historical overview of CCA's ecumenical directions, and recommendations for future programs, which were forwarded to the Assembly to assist in firming up the mandates for JID programs from 2011 to 2015;
- The quality of the deliberations served to clarify and re-focus JID programs following the Kuala Lumpur Assembly; and
- One weakness identified was the format of the Forum which did not show unified planning by the two executive secretaries.

Recommendations for CCA

- The recommendations from the Forum should be seen alongside the Program Review and Future Directions Report on JID. These documents are appended to this Report;
- The program mandate and recommendations will need to be discussed at the first meeting of the JID Program Area Committee in early 2011; and
- Identified program foci need to be integrated into JID programming from July 2010.

E. World Without Empire Gathering

Venue: Union Theological Seminary, New York, USA

Date: April 23-25, 2010

Background and highlights of the WWE Gathering

The Gathering in New York was third in a series of Peace for Life events in advocating peace by resisting the political, economic and cultural domination that dis-empower people, curtail their rights and prevent sovereignty. The Conference and Peace Festival featured testimonies and building alliances with cultural activists in the US.

Themes of the two-day gathering included:

- The Empire Strikes – In Women's Voices;
- Militarism and Empire;
- Building Alliances: the United States of Exception (a fishbowl exercise);
- Action Perspectives;
- Bearing Witness

Presenters and facilitators were: Metropolitan Dr. Geevarghese Mor Coorilos, Junaid Ahmad, Lilia Solano, Ulrich Duchrow, Allan Boesak, David Wildman, Peter Heltzel, Nimalka Fernando, Evangeline Rajkumar, Maake Msango and Elizabeth Tapia. Panel Moderators were Omega Bula, Eunice Santana, Christopher Ferguson, Chung Hyun Kyung, and Luciano Kovacs.

A Peace Festival was held in the afternoon of May 24th, and the Peace for Life Continuing Committee met on April 25th.

Role and recommendations for CCA

Peace building and advocacy is an important program priority for CCA, and Peace for Life is an ecumenical initiative which can assist CCA in strengthening that role in Asia and beyond. Pfl can also offer CCA different approaches and models of peace building learned over the years, as well as a global network of peace movements and activists.

CCA was one of the ‘parent’ organizations that launched Peace for Life. Its continuing support through resources and representation is expected. Charlie Ocampo was invited to the Continuing Committee representing CCA.

F. General Council Executive Meeting, United Church of Canada

Venue: UCC Church House, Etibioke, Toronto, Canada

Date: May 1-3, 2010

The Meeting was the second for the 2009-2012 triennium. A major agenda was planning for the future of the United Church of Canada (UCC), following a process of consultations with all its constituencies. The consultation process provided venues for addressing challenges in governance, the UCC’s theology based on its 20 Articles of Faith, the priority themes affirmed by the 40th General Council, and moving into the future.

A number of actions passed by the GCE included:

- Reducing and realigning staff to implement cost-saving and to support identify and connection inside and outside the UCC;
- Prioritizing mission grants and support of ministry personnel based on a diverse new generation of leadership;
- Creating the Centre for Ministry Development, to include services in training, consulting and congregational and new ministry development;
- Establishing a New Ministries Fund and the United Cares Fund; and
- Initiating an expanded People in Partnership Program that will link UCC communities with global and Canadian partners for shared engagement in mission.

Why involve CCA?

The UCC is a consistent source of fund and ecumenical support, and the role of the Corresponding Member of the General Council Executive in the person of Charlie Ocampo, is to represent CCA and to raise global partnership issues with the UCC.

The GCE corresponding member serves a term of three years, with two GCE meetings in May and November every year from 2009-2012. The CCA representative will try to be represented at all meetings and plan programs in CCA to ensure participation.

G. Asia Sunday service and visits to three (3) CCA member churches

Venue: Kyodan Church, Shinjuku, Tokyo, Japan

Date: May 15-17, 2010

On Sunday afternoon, May 16th, Charlie Ocampo preached at an Asia Sunday worship service in a Kyodan Church, Shinjuku District, Tokyo, Japan on the theme of the CCA 13th Assembly – “Called to Prophesy, Reconcile and Heal”. The service was followed by a report by a panel of Japanese delegates and a steward at the CCA Assembly to member churches they represented at the Assembly.

The following day, May 17th, courtesy visits were made with the United Church of Christ (Kyodan) in Japan, the Anglican Communion, and the Korean Church in Japan, particularly with the General Secretaries of these churches – the Rev. Tomeyuki Naito (UCC), the Rev. Makito Aizawa (Anglican). There was also a meeting with Mr. Yoichi Noguchi, Executive Director of the Niwano Peace Foundation. The visit was hosted by the Rev. Hiroko Ueda, NCCJ General Secretary, assisted by Mr. Zen Koike, NCCJ staff responsible for regional and international issues.

Recommendations and concerns relevant to CCA

Asia Sunday is organized by CCA and celebrated by member churches and NCCs in Asia. Tokyo UCC invited Charlie Ocampo to celebrate Asia Sunday and to preach at the Asia Sunday service in Tokyo.

Courtesy visits to member churches serve to strengthen relations with members and to encourage the exchange of information and regular communication.

- CCA staff should assist in promoting regular communication and dialogue with member churches and NCCs every time an opportunity presents itself;
- CCA support for northeast Asia initiatives, including Article 9 Campaign and Peace on the Korean Peninsula need to continue and be sustained.

H. AGAPE Poverty, Wealth & Ecology Reference Group Meeting
Venue: Suprasl Orthodox Academy, Bialystok, Poland
Date: June 23-25, 2010

The AGAPE Poverty, Wealth and Ecology Working Group is an advisory body to the AGAPE Program of the World Council of Churches that meets on a regular basis to hear reports about events and developments from the regions where Consultations had been held and to plan for forthcoming consultations, as in the case of Europe and North America.

The Group also made visits with the Mayor of Lapy City and its social concerns programs for disadvantaged women and children and the disabled members of the community.

Recommendations and issues relevant to CCA

WCC's AGAPE Program addresses issues dealing with ecological justice, the system of wealth creation and their link with poverty. CCA hosted the Asia and Pacific Consultation on Poverty, Wealth and Ecology in Chiang Mai on November 1-6, 2009, attended by more than 70 church, women, youth and representatives from indigenous communities. The Consultation proceedings were published in a book and printed in Chiang Mai.

CCA deals with issues of ecological and economic justice under its JID Program cluster, specifically under two program areas: 1) Globalization and People's Movements, and 2) Ecological Justice in Asian Perspectives.

- That JID considers the recommendations from the Chiang Mai Declaration to be incorporated in its program planning and activities;
- To follow up on the link already established between CCA and the Pacific Conference of Churches at the PWE Consultation; and
- For JID to be in charge of any follow up and PWE-linked activity.

HIV and AIDS PROGRAM

Dr. Erlinda Senturias, Consultant

Introduction

The period under review centers mainly in the activities of the 13th General Assembly of the Christian Conference of Asia (CCA). The consultant was present in the CCA office for staff meetings in January with a two-day visit in Kuala Lumpur on January 11-12, 2010 to meet with the local counterparts in the Council of Churches of Malaysia (CCM). It turned out to be very useful since Rev. Pax Tan Chiow Lian was present in the meeting. The consultant also met with The Church of Christ in Thailand (CCT) and the Mekong Ecumenical Partnership Program (MEPP) to help conduct the capacity building of Yunnan Church Leaders on HIV. This has been a commitment made since the visit to Yunnan in February 2009. Mr. Ekapong Fongmoon of the Asian Interfaith Network on AIDS (AINA) provided the most needed support for administrative work to prepare for the assembly especially on finance and in assisting in organizing the capacity building on HIV for the church leaders of Yunnan from January to May.

A. Exposure Program and Training Workshop on Building HIV Competent Church in Yunnan, China

Venue: Chiang Mai, Thailand

Date: February 2010

The HIV Program allocated USD 6,500.00 for this program, which was held in Chiang Mai in February instead of March as it was the available time for the church leaders in Yunnan. The training was given by The CCT AIDS Ministry and organized by MEPP. The program was given in Thai with a translator from Thai to Chinese.

B. Pre-Assembly Forum of PLHIV+ and Asian Theological Reflection Process

Venue: Dynasty Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Date: 10-13 April 2010

For the first time in CCA's history, a Pre Assembly Forum of PLHIV+ was held prior to the General Assembly. To maximize the event, the Asian Theological Reflection Process was added to enable pastors and theologians reflect on HIV from the perspective of the stories of PLHIV+. To maximize the limited resources, we requested the World Council of Churches' (WCC) Health and Healing Program, the Lutheran World Federation (LWF), and the United Evangelical Mission (UEM) to sponsor their participants from Asia and to help organize skills building activities. The CCM provided two local

organizers to assist in the organization of the forum: Rev. Pax Tan Chiow Lian and Ms. Asha Lim Singh.

We were able to get the participation of the Malaysian Care, The CCT AIDS Ministry (CAM), the MCC, the LWFederation, the Targeted Outreach Program in Yangon, the Judson Church in Yangon, the St. John's Cathedral HIV Education Center in Hong Kong, the United Church of Christ in the Philippines (UCCP), two pastors from Japan who are actively engaged in Migrant Workers and HIV to present the witness of PLHIV+ and their own organizations' response.

The United Nations Fund for Population (UNFPA) and the Malaysian AIDS Foundation and Dr. Simon Azariah of Pakistan to provide an overview of the AIDS situation. Metropolitan Dr. Geevarghese Mor Coorilos and Rev. Fr. Desmond Cox provided the Biblico-theological Reflection and Pastoral Perspectives on the Challenges of AIDS. The Rev. Dr. Wati Longchar led in the Asian Theological Reflection Process. Dr. Manoj Kurian introduced the concept of Healing of Memories. Dr. Alphinus Kambodji shared his skills in Program Management. There was an exposure program to AIDS activities in Kuala Lumpur arranged by Malaysian Care.

The HIV Forum participants and the Pre-Assembly Women's participants were together in the plenary on Women as Prophets, Healers and Reconcilers. The plenary session started with the Biblico Theological Reflection of Metropolitan Dr. Geevarghese Mor Coorilos on Human Sexuality and HIV. Then two women shared their work on reproductive health and domestic abuse. Participants were also introduced to Positive Masculinity.

Rev. Tara Curlewis of the National Council of Churches in Australia (NCCA) chaired the drafting committee for the Message to the General Assembly. The 55 forum participants approved the message. This was read by Rev. Curlewis, a voting delegate in the General Assembly during the session on Pre-Assembly Messages or reports.

The evaluation revealed the great impact of the sharing of PLHIV+ and wished there were more time to interact with them. There was more of individual and program sharing than time for questions in all the activities due to overextended presentations. Despite time constraints, the program as a whole had a great impact on the participants. They left home inspired to do their work.

C. Participation in the 13th CCA General Assembly
Venue: Grand Seasons Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Date: April 14-21, 2010

The HIV and AIDS Program sponsored the participation of six observers: Ms. Naw She Wah, Rev. Pax Tan Chiow Lian, Rev. Sanan Wutti, Rev. Dr. Wati Longchar, Dr. Manoj Kurian, and Dr. Alphinus Kambodji. Three people gave their moving testimonies: Ms.

Naw She Wah of the Myanmar Positive Group, Mr. Joshua, a client of Malaysian Care and Rev. Pax Tan Chiow Lian.

Mr. Marrio R. Mapanao who documented the Pre-Assembly prepared the news on the forum for the Assembly daily news, Berita Terkini.

D. Documentation of the HIV and AIDS Work

Following the Assembly activities, the consultant sent emails of all the reports of the Pre-Assembly to the participants. Mr. Marrio R. Mapanao, who documented the procedures helped very much in presenting the report.

From end of April to the present the consultant concentrated on preparing for a resource book on “Building HIV Competent Church: Called to Prophecy, Reconcile and Heal”.

The consultant rested from work for total joint replacement surgery at the Asian Hospital and Medical Center from June 22 (date of admission) to June 30.