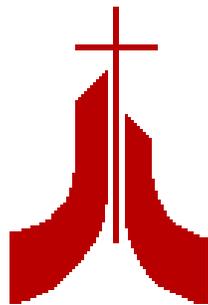


PROGRAM REPORT

July to December 2010



CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE OF ASIA

Chiang Mai, Thailand

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FOREWORD

It is with great joy but in deep humility, that we present here the report of the Life and Ministry of CCA from July to December 2010. This was the period after the Kuala Lumpur General Assembly, thus a transition in the CCA leadership. The Assembly elected four members of the Presidium, Honorary Treasurer, members of the General Committee consisting of one person from each country, and the members of Program Area Committees. The new General Secretary was also elected by the General Committee prior to the Assembly. Members of the Presidium, the Honorary Treasurer and the General Secretary function as CCA Officers.

Since the Assembly took place in the early part of 2010, many programs were planned for implementation at the second half of the year. However, some programs had to be cancelled or postponed due to financial constraints. The major attention of the staff after the Assembly was focused on understanding the mandates of the Assembly, to develop the CCA Mission and Vision statement and proposals for the CCA Programs in 2011 to 2015. In addition, the staff needed to prepare the draft of the CCA Programs and Budget for 2011 to 2013 to be further discussed by the Program Area Committees and finally adopted by the General Committee.

We are in the process of finding better ways to present not simply reports of CCA activities, but also the impact of the CCA ministry in the life of its constituencies and communities in Asia in the context of a wider ecumenical collaboration. We will appreciate to receive any comments or feedbacks from CCA member churches and councils, and ecumenical partners for the improvement of our work in the future.

Our deepest gratitude goes to the ecumenical partners who are faithfully accompanying and supporting CCA in the ecumenical journey in Asia, as churches are finding their ways to respond to God's call to prophesy, heal and reconcile.

Henriette Hutabarat Lebang
General Secretary

General Secretariat (GS)

Rev. Dr. Henriette Hutabarat Lebang, General Secretary

Rev. Dr. Rienzie Perera, Associate General Secretary

Dr. Liza Lamis, Communications Consultant

A. Ecumenical Relations

The new General Secretary, Dr. Henriette Hutabarat Lebang assumed office on August 16, 2010. This arrangement enabled her to work for a transition with the outgoing General Secretary, Dr. Prawate Khid-arn who ended his term of service on August 31, 2010.

Relationship with member churches and councils and other ecumenical and related organizations is very important in the life and ministry of CCA. In the beginning of her service, the new General Secretary paid special attention to the invitations received from member churches and councils to attend their special events. These were opportunities to know better the CCA constituencies, to introduce herself as the new GS and to share the common concerns of the CCA family.

In implementing the programs, staff has tried their best to be in collaboration with the member churches and councils in recruiting participants and finding resource persons as well as in organizing the programs.

The General Secretary also tried her best to attend meetings on promoting Christian unity and those organized by other ecumenical organizations. As a Regional Ecumenical Organization, CCA needs to: a) promote Christian unity in collaboration with other church bodies such as: Federation of Asian Bishops' Conferences (FABC), Asia Evangelical Alliance (AEA) and Asia Pentecostal Society (APS); b) develop its programs in collaboration with sister ecumenical organizations in Asia, such as the Asian Church Women's Conference (ACWC), and with the wider ecumenical organizations such as the World Council of Churches (WCC).

In the change of leadership of the member churches and councils and the CCA as well, it is very crucial to continuously renew and strengthen the CCA relationship with its constituencies. Following are the detailed reports of the visits and programs related to some intentional efforts of CCA to build and strengthen ecumenical relationship, presented in chronological order.

A. 1. September 26 - October 3, 2010

Meeting of the Joint Working Group (JWG) of the WCC and Pontifical Council for Christian Unity of the Roman Catholic Church, Damascus, Syria

After the WCC Assembly in Porto Allegre, Rev. Dr. Henriette Hutabarat Lebang was appointed by the WCC as a member of the JWG. This was the fourth plenary meeting of the JWG that consists of about 44 members with 22 from each parent bodies. The first two meetings were basically aimed to get to know each parent organizations better; and therefore, the first meeting in 2007 was held in Rome, hosted by the Pontifical Council for Christian Unity. The second meeting in 2008 was held in Geneva, hosted by

WCC. The third meeting was held in Cordoba, Spain in 2009, hosted by the Roman Catholic Church in Spain and the fourth meeting was held in Damascus, Syria on September 26-October 3, 2010, hosted by the Syrian Orthodox Church, a member of WCC.

The JWG worked on the documents on Reception, Spiritual Root of Ecumenism, and addressed two burning issues, namely migration and youth. The above meetings did not simply take place to prepare the documents, but rather to know each other better, to strengthen the relationship of the WCC and its member churches with the Roman Catholic Church, to engage in theological dialogues and to develop common theological responses to the crucial ecumenical issues and concerns in society.

There were three JWG members from Asia, namely: Fr. Dr. K. M. George (Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church) and I (Reformed) representing the WCC; and Sr. Veronica (Singapore) representing the Catholic Church. This effort at the global level is similar to our effort at the regional level with the joint endeavors of CCA and the FABC. The presence of the CCA General Secretary in this JWG serves as a bridge in communicating and enhancing regional and global efforts to promote Christian unity.

A.2. October 11

CCT Assembly, Bangkok, Thailand

The CCA General Secretary represented CCA to the Assembly of the Church of Christ in Thailand (CCT) and delivered greetings. She took the opportunity to thank CCT for hosting CCA in Thailand, for their contribution through the leadership of Dr. Prawate Khid-arn, as previous CCA staff and the outgoing CCA General Secretary, and for the leadership of Dr. Pradit Takerngrangsarit and others in the CCA Foundation, Thailand.

A.3. October 13-15

Annual Meeting of the Toraja Church

Before joining CCA, Rev. Dr. Henriette Hutabarat Lebang was the full time Director of the Institute of Theology of the Toraja Church in Indonesia. The Executive Board of Toraja Church decided to ask her to continue this responsibility on honorary basis until the church Synod meets in 2011.

She was also invited in this meeting in her capacity as CCA General Secretary. This meeting was considered an historic event as the Toraja Church and the Presbyterian Church of Malaysia signed a Memorandum of Understanding to embark into a joint ministry especially in responding to the situation of migrant workers. There have been an increase number of migrant workers from Toraja, mostly Christians and members of Toraja Church, who are presently in Malaysia. In fact, an Indonesian congregation has been developed, whose members are mostly Torajanese. This congregation associates itself with the Presbyterian Church of Malaysia, which functions as an umbrella organization for this newly developed congregation, particularly to serve its legal aspect until such time that the Toraja Church gains its own legal status. The two churches officially signed the MOU for joint ministries.

At the time of signing the MOU, Dr Lebang was invited to bring greetings on behalf of CCA. In the context of globalization boundaries are overlapping; a reality that have significant impact on the life of the churches today. This is a new challenge that needs to be responded to with an ecumenical spirit. Dr Lebang also taught a few sessions in

the training for the candidate pastors of Toraja Church on the subjects of spirituality of leaders and on ecumenism.

A.4. October 18

Assembly of the Asian Church Women's Conference (ACWC)

The General Secretary was invited to bring greetings on behalf of CCA. It was a good opportunity to have reminded the participants on the close relationship with the ACWC as well as with the FLC (Fellowship of the Least Coin) with CCA since its inception. In the earlier stage of the history of FLC, the fund that was collected by church women in the act of their prayers was administered by the CCA (then EACC). After sometime the FLC took care of all its administration. This historic relationship is maintained by the presence of a CCA staff, at this time, Ms. Moumita Biswas, Joint Executive Secretary for Ecumenical Formation, Gender Justice and in the Committee of both organizations. She was also present in this Assembly.

A.5. October 22

The 125th Anniversary of the Diocesan Council, Church of Ceylon

The General Secretary represented CCA to this historic event in the life of one of the CCA member churches in Sri Lanka, to bring greetings on behalf of CCA. she was able to meet many friends and ecumenical leaders especially of the Anglican Church, and also representatives of other churches, including Metropolitan Irenaus of the Mar Thoma Church in India; the Vice Moderator of WCC Central Committee, Rev. Dr. Margaretha Hendriks; Anglican Church of Canada representative Ms. Andrea Mann, and others. As a priest of this Diocese, the Rev. Dr. Rienzie Perera, Associate General Secretary for Finance and Relationship, also attended this event where a church seminar immediately followed this celebration.

The occasion provided the new General Secretary the opportunity to visit NCC Sri Lanka, meet with the new General Secretary, Rev. Ebenezer Joseph, spend some time with Shantha Fernando, staff of NCC Sri Lanka who was released from jail last year, and to be in touch with the leadership of the member churches such as the Methodist Church and the CSI Diocese of Jaffna.

She met specifically with the member of CCA General Committee from Sri Lanka, Ms. Devashrie de Silva, and with Moderator of JID Pprogram Area Committee (PAC), Ms. Vijula Arulanantham. It was a good opportunity to have known each other and shared with them the situation of CCA in general, the functions of the different committees, and encouraged them to take an active role in the life of CCA.

A.6. October 26-29

General Assembly of the United Church of Christ in Japan (UCCJ)

The General Secretary brought greetings to the UCC Japan during their General Assembly held in Tokyo, and met Rev. Hiroko Ueda, the Acting General Secretary of NCC Japan. With Rev. Ueda she visited Nippon Sei Ko Kai (Anglican Church) and met the General Secretary, Mr. Shinya Samuel Yawata. She also went to visit the Korean Christian Church in Japan and met with Rev. Baekki Ho, member of JID PAC; and the Women Center for Peace and War initiated by the late Yayori Matsui, former member of CCA International Affairs Committee.

A.7. November 10 – 12

Asian Consultation for the 10th WCC General Assembly

The General Secretary attended the Theological Consultation organized by the Korea Local Assembly Planning Committee (KAPC) in partnership with CCA and the WCC Asia Desk in Seoul, Korea. Fifty-two participants from Australia, Bangladesh, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Thailand, and Korea came. Seven Asian members of the WCC Central Committee, seven from CCA, resource persons, theologians, delegates from WCC member churches in Korea, delegates from NCC Korea member churches that are not members of WCC, and some theologians from the Evangelical and Pentecostal churches in South Korea were also invited. Dr. Sung Kook Park, CCA Joint Executive Secretary for Faith, Mission and Unity, was also invited to this consultation.

The theme proposal from the Faith and Order Commission of NCCCK, “Now Choose Life!”, a presentation of different theological perspectives on Asian contextual challenges, interfaith initiatives, struggle for justice, and Asian spiritual traditions, enabled an extensive discussion resulting to an agreement to propose the following theme for the 2013 WCC Assembly: *“Living Together in God’s Justice and Peace.”*

While in Seoul the General Secretary was able to meet the leadership of all CCA member churches in Korea, especially during the opening of this consultation. She visited the office of PROK and met the General Secretary and the Executive Secretary for Ecumenical Relations, Rev. Shin Seung-Min, and shared the concerns of CCA especially related to CCA’s financial difficulties. The PROK promised to do its best to improve its financial support to CCA. The General Secretary of PROK who is a member of JID PAC offered to host the meeting of JID PAC and take care of the board and lodging of the participants.

Dr Lebang also met with the Executive Secretary for Ecumenical Relations of PCK, Rev. Kim Kyung-In, to share the concerns of CCA. PCK is actively contributing to the CCA Emergency Funds. There was an impression that it may be easier to raise funds from local congregations to support specific projects or programs of CCA.

On the initiative of Dr. Ahn Jae-Wong, former General Secretary of CCA, Dr Lebang was invited for dinner with senior ecumenical leaders in Korea. There she met the senior ecumenical leaders, namely: Rev. Park, Sang-Jung; Mr. Oh, Jae Shik; Rev. Kwon, Ho-Kyung; Mr. Kang, Moon Kyu; Dr. Ahn, Jae-Woong and Dr. Chang, Yun-Jae. Many stories of ecumenical experiences in the past were shared and worth sharing to the future generation.

A.8. November 12 – 16

Global Christian Forum, Asian Meeting

Together with CCA FMU staff Dr. Hope S. Antone, the General Secretary represented CCA to this meeting. The General Secretary was able to participate in this meeting only on November 13-14, as she had to moderate the Asian theological consultation on the WCC Assembly preparations. A detailed report of the meeting appears in the FMU section.

A.9. November 15

Assembly of NCC Korea

On behalf of CCA the General Secretary delivered greetings at the opening of the Assembly, and was able to meet many more leaders of the CCA member churches in Korea. The new General Secretary of NCCCK, Rev. Dr. Kim, Young Ju and the General Secretary had conversations where Dr Kim underlined his passion for the peace and reunification process in the Korean peninsula, and is hoping that CCA will continuously support this endeavor. He also expressed his willingness to work with the CCA member churches in Korea in supporting the work of CCA.

A.10. November 15 – 20

15th FABC Annual Bishops' Meet, Office of Social Communication

The 15th Annual Bishops' Meet of the Federation of Asian Bishops' Conferences (FABC) Office of Social Communication with the theme, "Communication Formation for Priestly Ministry in Asia" was held at the Camilian Pastoral Care Centre in Bangkok, Thailand. CCA Communications Consultant Dr. Liza Lamis represented CCA to this meeting, where she briefly shared on the communications work of CCA. It has been a mutually agreed arrangement between CCA and FABC to invite each other to each one's activity to promote further collaboration.

The challenge for CCA is the foundational need to articulate a communication theology, and for an integration of this theology in theological formation and in its work. Additionally, effective communication happens when we are truly a 'communicative' community that cares a lot about how the 'good news' is being communicated, what to do with the communicated message received, and how to maximize the use of advanced communication technologies in our ecumenical work.

A.11. November 18-24

First Meeting of the WCC Assembly Preparatory Committee (APC)

Held at the Orthodox Academy in Chania, Crete, the APC meeting discussed, among others, the following: vision, ethos and character of the Assembly; possible themes for the Assembly; style, size and shape of the Assembly. The Terms of Reference of the was discussed, followed by a presentation of the Korea Local Planning Committee (KAPC), as the WCC 10th Assembly is planned to be held in Busan, Korea, on 2-13 October 2013. The General Secretary was recently appointed by the WCC to be a member of the APC.

Dr. Jhong-wha Park presented the contributions of the Korean hosts, which were developed through a series of seminars and hearing sessions organized by the National Council of Churches in Korea (NCC Korea) through its Faith and Order Committee. The proposed theme was: "*Now Choose Life.*" (Deuteronomy 30:19) The Rev. Dr. Henriette Hutabarat Lebang presented the Asia proposal on the WCC Assembly theme which was prepared in Seoul meeting described above.

At this meeting the General Secretary talked with the WCC General Secretary and WCC Asia Desk Secretary about the relationship of WCC with CCA and how to improve collaboration, which will be included in the agenda of the meeting of Regional Ecumenical Organizations in Geneva in February 2011. She also met Pauline McKay, National Director of CWS Aotearoa New Zealand, and discussed with her about ways of working together to strengthen our relationship. CWS Aotearoa New Zealand will be

sent the CCA Program and Funding Request for 2011-13 and in turn it will send CCA the Terms of Reference of CWS.

A.12. December 1-5

Fifth Gathering of the Asian Movement for Christian Unity (AMCU V)

Building Christian unity in Asia is a priority of CCA. The AMCU V was jointly organized by CCA and the Office of Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs of the FABC. CCA and FABC each had a delegation of 12 including the CCA General Secretary and FMU staff Dr Hope Antone, while the Asia Evangelical Alliance (AEA) had 5. This is the second time for AEA to attend AMCU, and the first time for the Asia Pentecostal Society. A full report of this meeting appears in the FMU section.

B. Communications and the CCA Library

The CCA News is released regularly every quarter, and is getting better in terms of content in that it faithfully reflects the life and work of CCA coupled with theological reflections. The e-news, *A Letter from CCA*, now comes out fortnightly. We continue to encourage member churches and councils to send their urgent country and church concerns to CCA for wider sharing.

The archiving of CCA documents is on going, with the Memorandum of Understanding now being drafted between CCA and the Yale University. The CCA website is updated from time to time.

Member churches and councils and friends are encouraged to visit our Library online. A surplus of CCA publications and materials are available upon request.

C. Meetings

C. 1. First General Committee (GC) Meeting

Immediately after the Assembly, on April 22, the first meeting of the newly appointed CCA General Committee members was held in Kuala Lumpur. It was a brief meeting, with the primary task to elect the members of the Executive Committee (EC) from among themselves. Five members were selected to add to the Officers to form the Executive Committee. The Committee also mandated the Executive Committee to address the issue related to staff vacancies. A brief Executive Committee meeting followed immediately.

C. 2. The Executive Committee Meeting

The Executive Committee met on August 25-27, 2010, to understand the Mandate of the CCA Assembly in April 2010, to discuss the draft paper prepared by the staff on the CCA Vision, Mission and Goals (VMG) of CCA for 2010-2015. In addition, the Executive Committee also discussed the draft of the CCA Programs and Funding Requests 2011–2013 before being presented to the ecumenical partners to seek financial support. These documents were sent to the GC members and will be presented to the GC meeting in March 2011 for official adoption. Members of the Program Area Committees who are supposed to accompany the staff in developing the programs were consulted through electronic communications. Due to financial constraints, the first meeting of the PACs did not take in 2010.

In order to deal properly with staff matters, the Executive Committee elected the members of the Personnel Committee from among themselves and proposed it to the General Committee. The proposal was adopted by postal ballot. The Executive Committee realized the financial crisis being faced by CCA. Therefore, staff appointment was postponed and the Personnel Committee was mandated to prepare a proposal on a financially viable program structure to be presented to the General Committee meeting in March, 2011. This meeting also addressed the preparation of the CCA Roundtable meeting with Ecumenical Partners to be held in Chiang Mai on March 3-5, 2011.

Before the Personnel Committee could take on the above task, they needed to receive an input from the Finance Committee concerning the financial situation of CCA. The Finance Committee which consists of the CCA Officers met prior to the Personnel Committee meeting. The meetings of Finance, Personnel Committees and Officers were held in Manila on December 9-10. The result of these meetings will be presented to the General Committee on March 7-9, 2011 for further discussion.

D. The CCA Emergency Fund

In the second half of 2010, Asia was inundated with natural disasters. There were floods in Pakistan and Wasior, Papua in Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia, Sri Lanka and Australia; volcanic eruption in Central Java, Indonesia; tsunami in Mentawai, western Sumatera in Indonesia, typhoon Megi in the Philippines. The General Secretary sent pastoral letters to the churches and councils in the affected areas, assuring them of prayers from Asian churches for the affected people, and to the churches as they found ways and means to respond and accompany the people in need.

It is worth to note that the initiative in the Kuala Lumpur Assembly to establish the CCA Emergency Fund as a way for Asian churches to express a tangible financial support in an emergency situation, was welcomed by the churches. We have received contributions from member churches and councils, such as: the Presbyterian Church of Korea (PCK), Council of Churches in Malaysia (CCM), Communion of Churches in Indonesia (PGI), the Methodist Church in Malaysia, Presbyterian Church in the Republic of Korea (PROK), and the National Christian Council in Japan.

This enabled CCA to send some money to affected areas as an expression of solidarity among Asian churches. CCA continue to encourage other members to prayerfully consider giving to the Emergency Fund.

Ecumenical Formation, Gender Justice and Youth Empowerment (EGY)

*Ms. Moumita Biswas, Joint Executive Secretary
Mr. Adam Anand Row, Youth Consultant (until July 2010)*

Asian Network for Ecumenical Women

Networking with ecumenical organizations towards strengthening the Asian women's ecumenical movement is one of the crucial foci of EGY. The EGY Executive secretary thus represents CCA in various activities of other ecumenical women's organizations to enhance relationships with partner organizations and collaborate in strategic programs that help build the women's ecumenical movement.

- 1) Annual Meeting of International Committee of Fellowship of the Least Coin (ICFLC)
Bogor, Indonesia
October 21-26, 2010

CCA plays a crucial role in promoting the Fellowship of the Least Coin (FLC) movement, a women's movement of prayer, healing and reconciliation. The Executive secretary of EGY is the regional representative in the ICFLC. Every year the ICFLC committee meets for its annual meetings with the following objectives:

- Regional sharing regarding the promotion of the FLC movement
- Selection of projects to be supported through grants for 2012
- Reporting by regional organizations about the utilization of block grants given by ICFLC to regional organizations.

Outcomes:

- Eight project applications from Asia endorsed by CCA and the Asian Church Women's Conference (ACWC) were accepted, and the amount of grant to be given to each of these eight projects was determined. It was also decided that CCA will receive a block grant from ICFLC for 2012.
- Strengthened ecumenical women's networking to promote the FLC movement
- Endorsed the following three applications for ICFLC support:
 - 1) Indigenous women's Project on Garbage Management, submitted by the Church of Christ in Thailand
 - 2) A Project of the Asian Resource Women's Center for Culture and Theology (AWRC)
 - 3) A Project for the Rehabilitation of Sex Workers, submitted by the United Church of Christ in the Philippines

2) Asian Church Women's Conference (ACWC) Quadrennial Assembly
Bogor, Indonesia
October 20- 24, 2010

CCA EGY has very close relationship with ACWC. The executive secretary attended the quadrennial Assembly of ACWC. CCA also supported an EGY Program Area Committee member, a young woman to attend the ACWC Pre-assembly event, the Young Women's Forum. EGY also facilitated and linked the women's commission of Igreja Protestante Iha Timor Leste (IPTL) in Timor Leste to develop relationships with ACWC, and also supported the women commission Chairperson to attend the ACWC assembly. The IPTL formally presented its request for membership in ACWC.

Faith, Mission and Unity (FMU)

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

A. Asian Ecumenical Course 2010 (National Level BEC) **Quezon City, Philippines** **October 15-29, 2010**

To reach out to more people with lesser costs, the holding of a national Asian Ecumenical Course was conceived. This is also a way to work closely with CCA member churches or councils. The national AEC (or Basic Ecumenical Course, as it is called in the Philippines) was held in cooperation with the National Council of Churches in the Philippines. Like AEC, the BEC module includes the components of Asian reality (through Philippine issues), ecumenical vision, community building and leadership training.

Of the 29 participants, 22 were Filipinos and 7 were from Japan, Korea, Taiwan and Indonesia. The Filipino participants came from different parts and denominations of the Philippines. They included pastors, youth leaders, church workers, and theology students. Many of them were very critical of how the church has become captive to capitalism – e.g. when the church works only for the rich and seeks to be rich, preaching that God wants people to be rich so that if we obey God’s word we will be rich.

The BEC module was a building up from ecumenical memory to ecumenical agenda, ecumenical theology, deepening through immersion and encounter, and concrete actions for solidarity and advocacy. Resource persons came from various denominations in the Philippines, thereby giving participants a taste of various ecumenical perspectives on issues. For more details and evaluation comments from participants, please refer to *CCA News* (December 2010).

B. Ecumenical Lectures Series

B.1. Theological College of Lanka (TCL) Venue: Pilimatalawa, Sri Lanka Dates: July 9-10, 2010

Objective

To contribute to the broadening of ecumenical perspective through lectures on given topics by the host institution.

CCA-FMU staff Hope S. Antone was the chief guest at the College Day of the Theological College of Lanka. She conducted a seminar on “The Future of Wider Ecumenism in Asia” on 9 July morning, highlighting the need for wider ecumenism in Asia (including intrafaith, interfaith, relating with ideological groups, and ensuring the integrity of the whole creation). She argued that the question is not so much whether wider ecumenism in Asia has a future but how we can ensure our future through wider

ecumenism. Seminar participants were current students and returning alumni of TCL, including some church leaders and faculty. In the afternoon, she gave the homily during the graduation rites and induction of the new principal, Rev. Dr. Jerome Sahabandhu. Attending were students and graduates, their families, TCL Board of Governors, other church leaders and guests, including a Buddhist monk (Ven. Bulumulle Sumanarathana Thero) and representatives of the Methodist Church in Britain. A summary of her homily is in *CCA News* (September 2010). On 10 July, Hope Antone met separately with the faculty and the current students, who shared a number of their concerns related to curriculum, faculty, examinations, etc. On 11 July, Hope Antone preached at the Christ Church in Kotte, where the Rev. Dr. Jayasiri Peiris is the priest on the theme, “Who is My Neighbor” based on the parable of the Good Samaritan.

B.2. PERSETIA (Association of Theological Schools in Indonesia)

Venue: Universitas Kristen in Tomohon (UKIT), Tomohon, Indonesia

Dates: July 19-23, 2010

Objectives

- To provide graduate students an opportunity to gain international experience in their course work by bringing Christian scholars from abroad to teach chosen subjects.
- To provide graduate students an opportunity to fellowship and develop an ecumenical spirit as future leaders of churches.
- To provide graduate students an opportunity for in-depth discussions on issues facing the church and society they are serving.

Almost 80 graduate students participated in this two-week summer program, an annual intensive course for graduate students coming from various seminaries and universities of Indonesia, with guest lecturers coming from Indonesia and abroad. FMU staff Hope S. Antone gave a series of lectures on (a) wider ecumenism, its historical and biblical foundations, and its implications on mission, evangelism and conversion; and (b) Asian feminist theologizing, with a practical application of the spiral of feminist theologizing in the participants’ own contexts.

B.3. World Student Christian Federation Asia-Pacific Region

Venue: Manado and Tomohon, Indonesia

Dates: July 19-20, 23, 2010

While in Tomohon, Hope S. Antone was also invited to lead two Bible studies on eco-feminism at the Women’s Regional Committee meeting of the World Student Christian Federation Asia-Pacific Region held in Manado on 19-20 July. In the first Bible study, she led the group in exploring some passages in scripture using the lens of eco-feminism – ecology + feminism. She pointed out that despite their differences what the creation stories signify is that there is variety in God’s creation. While human beings are part of creation, they are blessed with the special task of tending, caring for, and nurturing creation. God created humankind in God’s image so that they will be co-creators with God and co-stewards of God’s creation. The original blessing to multiply, fill the earth and subdue (have dominion) should not be understood in its heterosexist and anthropocentric, even androcentric, way nor as a license to do anything one likes with creation for profit, fame and power are never God’s purposes of creating. The order in creation – from matter, to matter with life, to matter with life and soul – is not God’s way of instituting hierarchy in creation but to show the interdependence or interconnectedness of all that God created. In the second Bible study, she focused on

the biblical concepts of Sabbath and Jubilee – which the biblical people attributed to God – as a holy time of rest not only for workers, but also for animals and for the land. These are revolutionary ideas with personal and communal implications.

On 23 July, she was again invited to lead one Bible study on men and women partnership this time for the WSCF A-P Regional Committee which was meeting in Tomohon.

B.4. Southern Christian College Clergywomen’s Seminar

Venue: Midsayap, Cotabato, Philippines

Dates: October 19-20, 2010

To provide a venue for clergy women to deepen their understanding and role not only in church but also in the wider society and to lay the groundwork for the establishment of a clergy women’s organization, this clergywomen’s seminar was organized by the Theology Faculty of the Southern Christian College in Midsayap, Cotabato, Philippines. A total of 22 clergywomen and female theology students attended the seminar with the theme, “Discerning the Role of Clergy Women in These Critical Times”. They came mostly from the Cotabato Annual Conference and Southern Mindanao District Conference of the United Church of Christ in the Philippines. Many serve as pastors of local churches, a few as theology faculty, and several as theology students.

FMU staff Hope S. Antone was the main resource person while the Rev. Dr. Teresita de la Cruz, dean of the SCC theology faculty, served as facilitator. The program included sharing of stories during which many cases of violence against women and sexual abuse committed by church leaders surfaced. The sharing was followed by an input on the theme by Hope S. Antone, who later did a workshop on using the Asian feminist spiral of theologizing.

Many clergywomen in Mindanao have not had a chance to attend seminars or workshops to update them on various issues. They expressed hope that a seminar like this can be open to clergy women from other denominations, for the women’s and men’s organizations, and also for the clergywomen’s husbands.

C. National Theological Workshop in Thailand on: “Redeeming God’s Creation”

Venue: Bangkok Institute of Theology (BIT)

Dates: 6-10 November 2010

Objective

To provide a space for theological discussions on ecological issues, focusing on “Redeeming God’s Creation” in the Thai context.

Many ‘Evangelicals’/‘Pentecostals’ attended and actively participated in the workshop. Concepts of an Asian way of doing theology of creation were introduced and intensively discussed. A large number of future theologians (M. Div. students of BIT) were actively involved and helped as stewards at the same time. The morning devotion was organized by students. Although the participants found the theme very timely and very well expounded, it was generally felt that there was too little time to discuss more on the given theme. More multi-media presentations should be used for following workshops, which

also could be a way to bridge the language barrier for some participants. The group recommended that workshops on national level be held regularly, especially in Thailand.

D. Fifth Gathering of the Asian Movement for Christian Unity (AMCU V)

Venue: Bangkok, Thailand

Dates: 1-5 December 2010

To affirm the wider meaning of Christian unity in Asia and prepare action plans that demonstrate participants' commitment to pray and work for unity in their own context, AMCU V was jointly organized by CCA and the Federation of Asian Bishops' Conferences' (FABC) Office of Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs. CCA and FABC each had a delegation of 12 including the CCA General Secretary and FMU staff Dr Hope Antone, while the Asia Evangelical Alliance had 5. This is the second time for AEA to attend AMCU. For the first time the Asia Pentecostal Society was also represented, with support from the Global Christian Forum.

The theme of AMCU V was "One in the apostles' teaching, fellowship, breaking of bread and prayer" (cf. Acts 2:42) – the theme of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in 2011. Participants from each group spoke as panelists on three theme topics: (a) One in the Teaching of the Apostles; (b) One in the Gift and Task of Fellowship in Christ; (c) One in Breaking the Bread and Prayer. Discussion starters were done by some participants on key issues: (a) conflict transformation, (b) interfaith relations and cooperation, (c) promoting human dignity and (d) care for creation.

There were some initial apprehensions on the theme – that it would touch on very sensitive doctrinal issues and traditions that could not be resolved – e.g. on the Eucharist, women's ordination. Yet it turned out to be an honest and open sharing, with questions for one another, raised honestly but gently, and there was also the willingness to listen to each other. Each side tried to respond to questions raised simply to explain their positions without being too necessarily defensive. The group recommended the holding of the AMCU gathering every three years – with a three-year cycle of CATS, ACTS and AMCU. But it was strongly suggested that efforts of relating and working with the different churches should be pursued at the local level.

E. Publications

The FMU staff 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. Sung Kook Park coordinated the production of *Asia Sunday 2010* liturgy booklet.

Two editions of *CTC Bulletin* came out in 2010 – one in June and another in December. Starting in 2010 CTCB will only come out in two editions per year – this is an effort to minimize the use of paper. The June edition featured the papers presented at the Sixth Congress of Asian Theologians while the December edition featured the special presentations (Bible studies, DT Niles Lectures, homilies) at the 13th CCA General Assembly in Kuala Lumpur.

F. Scholarships for Ministerial Formation and Theological Education

FMU received more requests for scholarship this year and allocated the little fund available according to the greater need and prioritizing those from the countries specified by the scholarship.

G. Other Programs/Meetings attended by staff (not CCA programs):

G.1. Workshop on the Future of ETE in Asia (organized by the WCC-ETE)

Venue: Bangkok Institute of Theology, Bangkok, Thailand

Dates: July 2-5, 2010

Organized in cooperation with the World Council of Churches Ecumenical Theological Education office, this workshop brought together representatives of theological education associations in Asia, CCA, and two ecumenical partners (EMW and FTESEA). Represented were the Board of Theological Education-Senate of Serampore College (BTE-SSC), Association of Theological Education in South East Asia (ATESEA), Association of Theological Education in Myanmar (ATEM), Association of Theological Education (ATA) of Evangelical schools, Asia Pacific Theological Association (APTA) of Pentecostal schools, CCA and WCC. The group recommended that an Asian Forum on Theological Education (AFTE) be created in 2011, open to all theological education networks and groups relating to theological faculty development, promotion of Asian theologies and production of resources for theological education in Asia. The group named a task force consisting of Dr. Theresa Lua (ATA), Dr. Alex Fuentes (APTA), Dr. Wati Longchar (BTE-SSC), Dr. Limuel Equina (ATESEA), Dr. Hope Antone (CCA) and Dr. Huang Po Ho (PTCA) to explore and prepare for the launching of AFTE.

G.2. Global Christian Forum – Asia Regional Meeting

Venue: Choi Jasil Memorial Fasting and Prayer Mountain, Kyunggi Do, Paju Shi

Dates: November 12- 16, 2010

CCA-FMU staff Hope S. Antone, together with CCA General Secretary Henriette Hutabarat Lebang, attended the Asia Regional Meeting of the Global Christian Forum, hosted by the Yoido Full Gospel Church in Korea. A number of CCA member NCCs and churches were also represented at this gathering – e.g. NCC Australia, Taiwan, Bangladesh, Pakistan, India, Nepal, Cambodia, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Japan, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Laos and Thailand. Everything seemed to go smoothly as participants seemed to be polite to each other until the reading of the group statement on the last day – where varied understandings of the word “ecumenical” led to a more passionate discussion. Many participants take ecumenism as intrafaith or interchurch ecumenism only and they were not ready to accept that ecumenism should naturally include interreligious dialogue and cooperation. This GCF meeting affirmed the efforts of CCA and FABC to foster unity through the Asian Movement for Christian Unity (AMCU) since 1996 and through the subsequent gatherings in 1998, 2001, 2007. They were happy to note that this program has been open to the Asia Evangelical Alliance since 2007, following the Asia Regional Meeting of GCF in 2006, which CCA hosted at the Bangkok Christian Guest House. They recommended that the next AMCU gathering (1-5 December 2010) should be open also to the Pentecostals in Asia.

G.3. Visit to Mission 21, Basel, Switzerland
Venue: Mission 21, Basel, Switzerland
Dates: September 16 – 18, 2010

Objectives: (agenda of the meetings)

- Ecumenism between CCA and Mission 21
- Revitalization of cooperation
- Theological exchange regarding migration and interreligious dialogue
- Promoting feminist/gender theology in the Asian context.

Rev. Dr. Sung Kook Park was invited to the headquarters of Mission 21 in Basel for several business meetings, in order to revitalize and improve the ecumenical relationship between CCA and Mission 21. Being a traditional and faithful partner to CCA, it was greatly appreciated to be invited and the FMU's staff was honored to convey greetings on behalf of CCA. The ecumenical partnership between CCA and Mission 21 has a long history and both sides felt the need to deepen the relations between the two. In terms of sharing resources and shared ownership of programs both sides agreed on more vital exchange of information on future programs in advance, in order to explore possible areas of cooperation.

Mission 21's focus points are: HIV and AIDS concerns, Migrant (workers) issues, Interreligious dialogue and Theological Exchange that are regarded as possible areas of cooperation between CCA and Mission 21. Regarding Theological Exchange, Mission 21 was very interested in receiving information and reports, material on theologizing in Asia, since Mission 21 has no assigned staff for theological concerns (only for Latin America and Africa, but not for Asia). We agreed on sharing information and mutual invitation to several programs concerning theological issues, in order to monitor and promote new trends in theological thinking and especially in "Theologizing in the Asian Context".

Long and fruitful conversations with the Asia Mission Team at Mission 21 (Mr. Christian Wagner, Ms. Katharina Gfieler), opened new ways of cooperation and sharing of resources on various fields of work. Especially mentioned was a possible cooperation in the field of HIV and AIDS ministry, which is very actively done with PGI in Indonesia. Concrete suggestions were made and agreed upon for future cooperation and both sides a looking forward to a promising future.

G.4. Ostasien Studientagung, "Zukunft braucht Erinnerung" (Consultation on East-Asia, "Future needs memories")
Venue: Begegnungszentrum, Berlin – Woltersdorf, Germany
Dates: September 20 – 23, 2010

The Rev. Dr. Sung Kook Park was invited to Germany as one of the main resource persons on "Future needs Memories". The consultation, organized by three mission organizations (Deutsche Ostasienmission, DOAM; Evangelisches Missionswerk in Suedwestdeutschland, EMS; Berliner Missionswerk, BMW), was focusing on overcoming the pain of the burdened past among Korea, Japan and China. Since the Rev. Dr. Sungkook Park majored in the field of peace and reconciliation studies in Germany, focusing on the relationship between Korea and Japan, he was invited to give one of the main presentations on the theme. Several other resource persons introduced the Japanese perspective and some conceptual thoughts were shared at other sessions.

It became clear during the consultation and several group discussions that a burdened history cannot be ‘just forgotten’. Even celebrated dates (anniversaries, memorial days, etc.), however, to take away the destructive– even deadly – power of painful memories have to be healed. Many ways of dealing with these issues were introduced and discussed and the theme itself was examined from various perspectives, e.g. women’s perspective (comfort women and sex slaves).

G.5. Workshop on “Yasukuni Shrine”

Venue: Lazarus, Berlin, Germany

Dates: September 23 – 24, 2010

After the consultation in Berlin (“Future need memories”) a small working group shifted the venue in Berlin on the invitation from DOAM and BMW. This group discussed the recently arising concerns regarding the Yasukuni Shrine in Japan. In connection with the “Article 9” Movement, some other groups are trying to launch an anti-Yasukuni Shrine movement in Japan. This meeting was a response to an urgent call of the church and ecumenical partners in Japan for support. As a resource person of the prior consultation, the Rev. Dr. Sung Kook Park was invited to this small working group, which was trying to gather more information on the situation and explore possible ways to respond.

The CCA staff proposed to forward this issue to the CCA-JID cluster that deals with concerns related to international affairs. Since CCA is already involved in the “Article 9” Movement the Yasukuni Shrine concern can be considered in the JID action plans. The members of this working group were representatives of DOAM, BMW and EMS and a local church congregation pastor along with the CCA staff, and another expert on political issues from Japan.

G.6. Visit to EMW

Venue: EMW, Hamburg, Germany

Dates: September 24 – 25, 2010

Objectives

- Sharing of information about the activities of CCA
- Exchange of information about the work and activities of the German churches and their missions.
- Discussion on possible and new cooperation

On the invitation of the Evangelisches Missionswerk in Deutschland (EMW), the Rev. Dr. Sung Kook Park visited for two days the EMW in Hamburg. A sharing of information and future program plans of CCA-FMU took place with an appeal to support CCA-FMU in the future. This visit was mainly to strengthen good relations between CCA and EMW and to explore funding possibilities. EMW graciously granted a good amount to support the recently set-up CCA library, which is supposed to be used as an ecumenical research center. The CCA library is regarded as an ideal resource center for ecumenical theological education.

G.7. PROK (Presbyterian Church in the Republic of Korea) Indochina and Philippines
Mission Co-workers' Consultation
Venue: Hotel Ambassador, Bangkok, Thailand
Dates: September 8 – 9, 2010

Objectives

- Exchange of information from respective mission fields and regions
- Theological reflection and discussion on “Doing Mission in Asia”

The Rev. Dr. Sung Kook Park was invited as resource person to a consultation of Korean missionaries sent by the Presbyterian Church in the Republic of Korea (PROK) as ecumenical co-workers to the Indo-china region and the Philippines. He gave a brief reflection on the past history of mission with some reflection on the recent Centenary Celebration of “Edinburgh 1910” in 2010, Edinburgh.

Although the PROK missionaries are well ecumenically minded and equipped, this kind of consultation was felt necessary to re-affirm their ecumenical mindset and concept of mission and have the chance for professional updates. This gathering was helpful in that more insights on the practical and technical field of missionary work have been gained, and would be of important help in generating support in doing ecumenical mission.

G.8. Theological Consultation on the theme development of the WCC's 10th Assembly
in 2013
Venue: Hotel Christian Academy, Seoul, Korea
Dates: September 9 – 13, 2010

The CCA General Secretary Rev. Dr. Henriette Hutabarat Lebang and Rev. Dr. Sung Kook Park, were invited to a theological consultation on the theme development for the WCC's 10th Assembly in 2013, which is going to be held in Busan, Korea. Regarded as a very timely one, it was held right before the preparatory committee of the WCC's Assembly met, to propose the theme to the WCC executive committee.

In order to contribute to this consultation the Korean local hosting and planning committee introduced their proposed theme, which was greatly welcomed by the participants and representatives of the Asian Churches. After a four-day consultation and countless comments and enrichment, a theme proposal from the Asian perspective was brought forward. The proposed theme reads: “Living Together in God's Justice and Peace!”

Justice, International Affairs, Development and Service (JID)

Rev. Freddy de Alwis, Joint Executive Secretary

Mr. Carlos Ocampo, Joint Executive Secretary

A. School of Peace for Northeast Asia Church Workers Tao Fong Shan Centre, Shatin, Hong Kong August 23-30, 2010

CCA organizes a School of Peace for Church Workers every year, offering peace advocates in the churches basic knowledge and skills on how to deal with conflict situations and promote peace building and to be able to train other peace workers in the churches in their home countries.

The Peace Curriculum

The basic approach adopted is participatory learning with the goal of empowerment of parties involved in the conflict and towards conflict resolution and social transformation.

The curriculum includes:

- 1) Six dimensions of peace (revolutionary violence/armed conflict, criminal violence, structural violence/economic situation, state repression/human rights violations, discrimination/inter-cultural situation, environmental situation, individual peace);
- 2) Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
- 3) Peace making, peace keeping, and peace building;
- 4) Theories of the causes of conflicts;
- 5) Solving conflicts and violence;
- 6) Conflict management strategies;
- 7) Issues in social conflict resolution;
- 8) Mediation;
- 9) Ethnicity and gender factors in conflicts;
- 10) Political advocacy – areas of struggle and work for social change;
- 11) Reactive conflict resolution methods;
- 12) Conflict resolution and peace;
- 13) Documenting conflicts

Worship, biblical reflections and morning meditations formed part of the program and set the tone for the workshop-style curriculum. Country reports from Japan, Hong Kong, Korea, Taiwan and the Philippines provided the contexts in which peace needs to be pursued.

The exposure experience with migrant workers, refugees and people at the margins in Hong Kong society were offered by the Asia Pacific Mission for Migrants (APMM), the Asian Human Rights Commission (AHRC), and the Christian Hostel were helpful in experiencing pockets of poverty in Hong Kong where it hurts and people are in need of assistance and support from churches.

Here are some excerpts from the exposure experience by the participants:

1. Born in HK but never encountered migrant workers, just walking by them all the time. Even thought they are a problem, as they occupy space and I do not understand their problems. As we learned more of their HK situation through NGOs who work with them to educate them about their rights and to provide their needs and to advocate for them, my understanding grew and a resolve to help them. When I met the Filipinos, one of the answers is that helplessness and many things are beyond their control. They do not see their political leaders having the political will to support their cause. We saw that through regular gathering to discuss issues they gain courage and hope to continue working to better their conditions.

2. I always go to the place in Central and get jealous that Filipino migrants can stay there on Sunday afternoons, and we do not enjoy the same among the Hong Kong population. The Indonesian I talked to always had hope that she could still smile and not be worried about the result of her Court appeal. The other Indonesians were still to be informed of her case. APM have the passion to fight for migrant workers rights, and I appreciate what they do. What is the church doing in HK about this issue? Why can't we go and meet them on Sundays and listen to their stories? We can ask the big church in the park to open their doors to them.

3. I am grateful to see the people's side of the problem. If I came as a tourist I just visit the shopping malls, but I came here this time to see the reality. There is a gap between southeast and northeast Asia, but people are suffering different levels of exploitation. I realized how little I know and was encouraged to see the people's courage to confront their realities.

Participants' evaluation of the Course

CCA and the planners of the Course need more time to prepare for the School of Peace, at least six months before the SOP, and responsibilities need to be distributed evenly among the organizers. While Tao Fong Shan Centre is very conducive for this type of activity, the participants need more space for creativity and interaction around the venue.

The SOP Course felt very intense theoretically, and participants recommended the country situation presentations to precede the main presentations. The exposure experience was very helpful and would need to be a good introduction to the Course at the beginning of the Program. The participants also recommended more interaction, role play, case studies and creativity between the theme presentations.

The participatory method was useful in encouraging participants to engage in the learning process. The chronology was also helpful in arriving at practical tools and in planning national and region-wide peace advocacy initiatives. The exposure to migrant workers in Hong Kong provided a good context in peace initiatives and the role of churches in supporting NGOs engaged in such efforts.

The Sunday worship at the Kowloon Union Church was helpful in emphasizing the link between worship and responding to reality, particularly in the context of Hong Kong. Participants were also asking for more biblical reflections, meditation and prayer sessions in the Course.

Recommendations

- Input from outside the region is helpful in broadening the context of the Course, e.g, the Mindanao situation from the Philippines;
- Planning a regional advocacy program at the end of the Course will assist in following up participants and in focusing on their respective contexts;
- A more compact curriculum with less lecture and more practical exercises is recommended.

B. Interfaith Cooperation Forum (ICF) Working Committee Interfaith Centre, Siem Reap, Cambodia August 20-21, 2010

Representatives from the ICF project holders, CCA and the Asia Pacific Alliance of YMCAs were joined by three alumni and two ICF staff at a planning meeting. They identified the program accomplishments for 2010, including the School of Peace held in Manila from 1st February to 14th May. Also discussed were ways of supporting the SOP alumni and their continuing role in their home base and in future SOPs. Also discussed was the forthcoming SOP to be hosted by the YMCA in Colombo, Sri Lanka and plans and program priorities for the next phase (2012-2014) of the program.

The four priorities identified include – 1) confidence building among SOP alumni in each participating country that will strengthen national movements; 2) regular evaluation of programs; 3) looking into self-support of country SOP alumni network and movements; and 4) succession in regional and national leadership.

2011 will prepare for phase 3 and will include training of ICF resource persons in community organization, journalism, fact finding advocacy, human rights and organic farming. A meeting of national coordinators and workshops for alumni will be conducted, with a focus on social/structural analysis research, community organizing skills, etc. The YMCA SOP will be conducted based on the evaluation of 2010 SOP. Expansion into East Timor, Pakistan, Palestine and the Pacific is being considered. An ICF ideology or common perspective will be drafted.

Implications and recommendations for CCA

ICF started as a CCA program under DAGA but was soon organized as a separate program under the direct management of Mr. Max Ediger, a Mennonite missionary based in Hanoi and utilizing the services of WISTAR in India.

CCA will run its own Peace School, as church leaders find the Course too long, and ICF emphasis is on an interfaith dimension of peace, while CCA member churches and Councils are still at a stage where interchurch cooperation is a primary concern. CCA will continue to run its own 5-6 days Peace School and will encourage those who have undergone the training to join ICF for an interfaith perspective and a much longer training program.

CCA will continue recommending its Peace School trainees to consider joining the ICF School of Peace, depending on availability, venue of the ICF training and budget. Also CCA will need to review its role as project holder of ICF on a regular basis.

**C. Visit with churches in Kandhamal and Shillong in India
Kandhamal, Orissa; and Shillong, Meghalaya, Northeast India
October 18-21; 25-26, 2010**

Background and highlights of the Visit

The visit in Kandhamal was on the invitation of Bishop Kumar Nayak of the Phulbani Diocese in Orissa to meet with victims of the burning of churches and houses there from 2007 to 2009. One hundred and three church buildings were razed to the ground and 10,000 people were rendered homeless by the conflagration. People pleaded to our visiting team for livelihood skills in tailoring, food production and computer work. However, many of the families consider the rebuilding of churches to be a more urgent priority than their houses.

In Shillong in the northeastern corridor of India, I was hosted by the Presbyterian Church in India, and we visited a theological seminary (John Roberts TS), a halfway house of indigenous migrant workers and single mothers, and the social service programs of the local Presbyterian congregations. We also met the leaders of the Presbyterian Church in their headquarters accompanied by the Rev. Basiamoit, NCCI Vice President.

Issues and concerns relevant to CCA

The Diocese of Phulbani is grateful for the visit of our Team, and particularly for the concern and solidarity from CCA directly to a member church (CNI). A follow up on the recommended livelihood training can be facilitated by CCA in partnership with the CCDB in Bangladesh and other India-based micro-credit organizations. Solidarity will have to be shown in more concrete ways in consultation with NCCI's Justice and Peace Commission and the CNI Phulbani Diocese.

The visit in Shillong with the Presbyterian Church is a concrete step in CCA's direct involvement with member churches in India. There are a number of opportunities for theological exchanges, internship and representation in CCA programs in the future.

Recommendations

- To follow up on the Kandhamal visit by helping organize livelihood training with the support of CCDB in Bangladesh or local micro-credit groups in India in consultation with the NCCI and the CNI Phulbani Diocese.
- To explore possibilities of exchanges in theological education, youth internship and program with women involving the Presbyterian Church in India.

**D. Dalit National Conference
CNI House, New Delhi, India
October 22-24, 2010**

Background and highlights of the Conference

The Dalit National Conference was organized and hosted by the National Council of Churches in India (NCCI) held at the CNI Building in New Delhi. There were panel presentations on the struggles of Dalits, the role of churches, and the Dalit mass movements. The Conference drafted a Faith Affirmation, which includes a confession, a reaffirmation and the way forward. It is attached to this Report.

CCA contributed \$2,000 to support the Conference and deputized Charlie Ocampo to represent it and to present greetings and solidarity at the opening of the Conference. CCA helped organize the Dalit International Ecumenical Conference on Dalits with the World Council of Churches and the Lutheran World Federation held in Bangkok in March 2009.

Issues and concerns relevant to CCA

The Dalits have been identified as a priority in CCA programs both by the Pre-Assembly People's Forum and the Assembly plenary in Kuala Lumpur, and there needs to be a more conscious plan for their representation and participation across CCA programs. CCA needs to involve both NCCI and the member churches on Dalit participation in CCA.

Recommendations:

CCA needs to help circulate all education and advocacy materials on Dalits among its member churches and Councils and to be involved in following up the recommendations from the Conference.

E. United Church of Canada General Council Executive Meetings UCC Church House, Etibicoke, Toronto, Canada November 13-15, 2010

Background and highlights of the Meetings

This third meeting of the UCC GCE tackled matters including:

- 1) relocation of the UCC General Council Offices from Toronto;
- 2) the remit on UCC doctrine documents;
- 3) integrated fundraising initiatives;
- 4) demographics on ministry personnel;
- 5) planning for 41st UCC General Council Meeting in 2012;
- 6) Peace policy of UCC; and
- 7) KAIROS Palestine letter

Issues and concerns relevant to CCA

UCC is one of the consistent ecumenical partners supporting CCA with funds, and my regular presence in the General Council Executive serves a reminder of their commitment and of mutual partnership. I am allotted a session to report on the work of CCA and how churches in Canada can offer support.

I also represent the global partners of UCC, and in sessions on education, fundraising and fund allocation and budget cuts, I am able to speak for the UCC partners in the global south who are the beneficiaries of UCC funding.

I also have the opportunity to visit other churches in Canada. After the GCE Meetings on November 16th, I met with the Rev. Dr. Karen Hamilton at the headquarters of the Canadian Council of Churches to discuss mutually the work of CCA and the Canadian Council of Churches. Dr. Hamilton attends the Regional Ecumenical Organizations meetings, the last one in October 2008 hosted by CCA in Chiang Mai.

Recommendations

Being the lone representative from global partners, it would be good to continue representing CCA until the completion of my term in March 2012, a total of 6 semi-

annual meetings in Toronto, Canada. I am also recommending CCA members' representation in the 2012 GC Meeting.

**F. Northeast Asia Church Forum Meeting to Plan the 3rd Article 9 Conference
Okinawa Christian University, Naha, Okinawa, Japan
November 24-25, 2010**

Background and highlights

The meeting included a visit to the relocation site of the Okinawa US Naval Base in Henoko and the Okinawa Prefecture Peace Memorial Museum.

The third Article 9 Conference is planned to be held in Okinawa with about 40 representatives from Japanese and Korean churches, 25-30 representatives from churches and ecumenical partners from North America, Europe, WCC, CCA, Pax Christi, World Federation of Buddhists, Asian Muslim Action Network, and the Asian Conference on Religion and Peace. CCA will nominate 5 church leaders outside Japan and Korea. The Conference is raising its own budget, and North American churches and ecumenical agencies have already offered support.

Issues and concerns relevant to CCA

Participation in Article 9 conferences and the International Working Group is part of CCA's commitment to peace and interfaith dialogue in the Northeast and the rest of Asia. CCA is an active member of the International Working Group, and NCC Japan hosts the volunteer secretariat.

Recommendations:

Article 9 Campaign and the Reunification on the Korean peninsula are priority foci identified and animated by northeast Asian church leaders through the Northeast Asia Forum on Peace, People's Security and Development. JID in CCA is to continue playing an active role in the Forum.

**G. Fact Finding Mission to Pakistan
August 29 – September 03, 2010**

Objective

To show solidarity in words, deeds and by our presence, the Rev. Freddy de Alwis visited Pakistan after the floods. In a sense he was a symbolic presence in Pakistan on behalf of all the member Churches of CCA.

Context

As soon as CCA heard about the floods in Pakistan and its drastic effect on millions of people it was decided to send a member of the staff to be with the churches and the NCC Pakistan rather than just send a letter of solidarity. This decision was affirmed by the members of the Executive committee in their meeting in Chiang Mai on August 25-27, 2010.

To see pregnant and birthing mothers in agony and children desperate for food and in dire health situation is to painfully look at suffering on the face. One is tempted to question where God is in that situation, shaking one's faith at the roots. Maybe some victims felt that have God abandoned them and are even whispering in their own way, "God, why

have you abandoned us?" Hundreds of people die weekly or monthly either by suicide bomb or drone attacks and others die of hunger, drought, malnutrition, floods or landslides. The questions that came to my mind were: Is this the world which God created and handed over to us to take care of it as good stewards? How could we say that we are a civilized world and allow so many people to die because of human greed, revenge and callousness? Or even think that all religions have failed and have almost nothing to offer in terms of spirituality to improve or to transform this world from captivity to forces of Mammon?

**H. The Asian International Ecumenical Consultation on 'Ecology, Economy and Accountability' on the theme 'Pathos of Climate Refugees'
Bangalore, India
October 04 – 10, 2010**

Objectives

- To bring together church leaders, ecologists, environmental activists to discuss and plan a course of action to develop local campaigns to pressure their own authorities and governments, and to implement awareness building and advocacy programs at community, national and regional levels.
- To gather religious communities and draw out spiritual insights from their religious traditions, and to organize an inter-religious movement of activists for the protection of the environment.
- To identify and bring together farmers addressing the adverse effects of pesticides and advocating for an alternative, life-giving agriculture.

Context

The Justice, International Affairs, Development and Service (JID) of Christian Conference of Asia in association with the Commission on Justice, Peace and Creation (CJPC) of the National Council of Churches in India (NCCI), organized its 3rd Asian Ecumenical Consultation on 'Ecology, Economy and Accountability' on the theme 'Pathos of Climate Refugees' in Bangalore on 5 to 10 October 2010. Thirty-four (34) participants including 11 women and 9 clergy women and men representing NCCI Member Churches and CCA from 11 Asian countries such as Australia, Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Korea, New Zealand, Myanmar, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Taiwan and Thailand.

The Statement, "Pathos of climate refugees" issued by consultation participants acknowledged the following impact of climate change on people and places:

- Increased natural disasters, such as drought, flood and cyclone;
- Shortage of food and water, faced especially by the poor and the marginalized;
- Threat to public health due to increasing pollution, water related diseases, and death due to natural disasters;
- Change in ecosystems in terms of biodiversity and living conditions
- Melting of glaciers and snow; and
- Rise in sea level.

For the full text of the statement, you may visit the CCA website and archives.

**I. The Asian International Ecumenical Symposium on “Life Giving Agriculture”
Kandy, Sri Lanka
November 22 – 27, 2010**

Objectives:

- To raise critical awareness on environmental hazards and its impact on human beings
- To create and cultivate awareness on eco-friendly agriculture
- To draft a policy document in order to advocate policy changes towards the recognition and acceptance of eco-friendly agriculture
- To develop cooperative relationship and network among organizations in the national and regional levels.

Context

The Christian Conference of Asia has taken a leading role in promoting Life-Giving Agriculture (LGA) since 2005. The consultation in Sri Lanka organized by CCA – JID on 22 – 26 November 2010, is the second, and a follow-up of the first CCA-organized consultation held in Korea in 2006. The LGA Forum in Korea became another church-related outfit that has been at the forefront in establishing an agricultural system based on organic farming.

Participants coming from Cambodia, Indonesia, India, Japan, Korea, Myanmar, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Taiwan expressed their appreciation and gratitude to the CCA for organizing this consultation. They also acknowledged the importance of adopting traditional and organic agricultural practices, instead of using life threatening chemicals and fertilizers.

The participants said in a statement they issued that they “are aware that an underlining principle of LGA is utilizing nature’s benefits to the maximum and recovering the regenerative ability of nature. Based on this, we would like to recommend the following:

1. Prevention of soil depletion by building ridges on sloping land or utilizing Sloping Agricultural Land Technology systems, and mulching.
2. Complete recycling of all organic matter and organic waste to improve the fertility of the top soil and to maximize the microbial activity. Use of cow dung, cow urine and other animal waste improves soil fertility and microbial activity.
3. Enhancing microbial activity by avoiding the use of chemical inputs such as chemical fertilizer, pesticides and weedicides.
4. Mixed cropping instead of monocultures. Mixed cropping reduces pest damages and enhances natural pest control.
5. Retention of moisture in the soil without using much water is a good LGA practice. Maximizing yield with less water need to be a farmer’s objective.
6. Ecological initiatives such as household production of biofertilizers and community level production of biopesticides can build community strengths o the foundation of people’s existing capacity.”

Participants also urged CCA to bring out a policy document on LGA for wider dissemination among Asian churches, and initiate and support a network of farmers in the rural churches spread across the region.

It was also a realization that “Asian farmers are forced to push for strong chemicals produced by multinational companies like Monsanto and Cargil into agriculture. These

companies force Asian farmers to use their products instead of allowing them to pursue organic and natural farming. Promotion of mono-cropping like banana and pineapple for making profits mean increased use of chemicals which will pollute the soil, water and air, and consequently destroy the environment.”

Churches and civil society movements in Asia are called to:

- Introduce organic farming as a subject in the church-run educational institutions in Asia,
- Make awareness about organic farming to people irrespective of religion and beliefs,
- Help rural pastors and rural church members to maintain ecological values of life by providing them education and information about LGA,
- Provide community education for sustainable agriculture,
- Train and nurture dedicated and committed rural leadership who value life and who live side by side with rural people,
- Build consumer awareness about organic farming and sustainable living,
- Recognize and reward organic farmers and communities for their services to the betterment of the environment and society.

Agriculture is a life-giving culture and a way of life. As the Psalmist says, the earth belongs to God. Human beings have the responsibility to protect and safeguard it. Instead of greed and want, let us cultivate innovative habits to save God’s beautiful creation.

J. Co-initiated Programs

J.1. Eco-justice Ministries and Theological Education

NCCI Campus, Nagpur, India

November 19 – 24, 2010,

Objectives

- To train, equip and enrich theological educators from theological seminaries/colleges to train in return their respective students for eco-justice ministries.
- To enhance the skills of a highly accomplished, creative and knowledgeable group of strategic theological thinkers towards eco-justice activism.
- To enhance the capacity of NCCI and CCA Member Churches in equipping their theological students to take up ecology-related concerns towards promoting eco-justice.
- To produce 1000 copies of eco-justice policy and circulate among the member churches of NCCI and CCA.

This would be identified as a theological education strategy to address ecological justice issues using the ‘Green Theology’ Course of the Senate of Serampore University through a Staff Enrichment Programme.

Context

CCA – JID in partnership with the Commission on Justice, Peace and Creation of NCC India and the Senate of Serampore College (University) Board of Theological Education organized a joint Workshop on Eco-justice Ministries and Theological Education on November 19-21, 2010, in Nagpur, India. The three-day workshop for theological

educators from the Senate-affiliated colleges and related ecumenical organizations aimed to develop pedagogical methods in learning and teaching eco-justice concerns.

Prof. Cynthia Moe-Lobeda, Professor of Christian Ethics at the University of Seattle, USA, Rev. Dr. Wati Longchar, Director, South Asia Theological Research Institute, Dr. George Zachariah, Professor of Christian Ethics at the Gurukul Lutheran Theological College and Research Institute, Chennai, and R. Christopher Rajkumar, NCC India Executive Secretary, Commission on Justice, Peace and Creation have served as the workshop facilitators.

Thirty-four participants from 25 Senate affiliated theological colleges and research institutes and ecumenical organizations from India and Sri Lanka participated in the workshop.

HIV and AIDS Program

Dr. Erlinda Senturias, Consultant

A. Publication of “Building HIV Competent Churches: Called to Prophecy, Reconcile and Heal”

The outcomes of the Writeshop on HIV and AIDS in Bali, Indonesia on August 4-6, 2009, Seminar Workshop on HIV Awareness in East Timor on August 12-13, 2009, Pre-Assembly forum of PLHIV+ and Asian Theological Reflection on HIV were published in “Building HIV Competent Churches: Called to Prophecy, Reconcile and Heal”. The publication was edited by Dr. Erlinda N. Senturias and Dr. Liza B. Lamis and supported by the Hong Kong Christian Council, Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui (Anglican Church in Hong Kong), Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS, Regional Office in Bangkok) and United Nations Fund for Population (UNFPA, Regional Office in Bangkok). The publication will be used in seminar workshops on Building HIV Competent Churches in Asia. The book also contains the test for HIV Competent Churches developed by the Ecumenical HIV and AIDS Initiative in Africa (EHAIA) and the World Council of Churches (WCC). The book is also meant to implement the recommendations of the CCA Policy on HIV and AIDS and the Message of the Pre Assembly Forum to the Churches in Asia.

B. Participation in HIV Strategy Group Meetings of the Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance (EAA) Geneva, Switzerland March 1-3, 2010 and October 5-7, 2010

As member of the HIV Strategy Group of the Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance (EAA), Dr. Erlinda N. Senturias, Consultant on HIV and AIDS of the CCA, participated actively in the monitoring and reporting of implementation of strategic plans to address stigma and discrimination, vulnerability, human rights, and advocacy on HIV and AIDS in the international arena through sharing actual experiences in the region. Dr. Senturias participated in Conference Calls to prepare for the Multi Faith Working Group that organized the Pre Conference on HIV and AIDS prior to the International AIDS Conference in Vienna.

Dr. Erlinda N. Senturias and Dr. Liza B. Lamis contributed to the online Advent Calendar on HIV and AIDS, a project of EAA and posted the World AIDS Day liturgy produced by EED in the CCA Website.

C. Free Space Process Strategy Meeting (Sponsored by the International Civil Society Support) Bangkok, Thailand November 21-22, 2010

The Christian Conference of Asia is a member of the Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance (EAA). Dr. Erlinda N. Senturias, Consultant on HIV and AIDS was invited by EAA to represent the concerns of Asia Region. The meeting was convened to develop shared, comprehensive global civil society HIV and AIDS advocacy agenda, in order to address the lack of targets, to move from a reactive mode to a proactive mode and to prioritize HIV and AIDS while linking

it with other Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), also in light of the United Nations General Assembly in New York in 2011. The meeting brought together wider participation from the networks to discuss the priorities, gaps and overarching issues with the aim to develop a shared agenda, develop strategic actions and divide tasks among the NGOs, building on the partners on mapping exercise from the report on “Working towards a Shared Civil Society Agenda on HIV/AIDS: Key Issues of Relevance for Leading Global Networks”. The meeting will ensure the meaningful involvement of people living with HIV, key populations and leadership at country level by civil society. On our part as regional representative, we also presented the significant role played by the Christian Conference of Asia as member of the Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance.

D. Regional Reference Group Meeting of the International Network of Religious Leaders Living with HIV and AIDS (INERELA+) Bangkok, Thailand November 19-20, 2010

Dr. Erlinda N. Senturias was selected as member of the Regional Reference Group of the International Network of Religious Leaders Living with HIV and AIDS (INERELA+) at the Bangkok Christian Guest House on November 19-20 to start the process of planning for the Interfaith Conference on HIV in Busan, Korea in August 2010. INERELA+ is based in Mumbai, India.

E. Planning for the Interfaith Pre-Conference prior to the International Congress on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific (ICAAP), Busan, Korea, August 2011

The plans for this activity started at The Church of Christ in Thailand AIDS Ministry (CAM) office in August 2010. Emails were sent to potential contacts, those who previously attended the Interfaith conference in Bali on August 7-8, 2009. This was followed by the meeting of the Asian Interfaith Network on AIDS (AINA) on November 21-22 but since the CCA Consultant was invited in the Free Space Process, Rev. Sanan Wutti was invited to participate in the planning for the meeting in Busan, Korea in August 2011.

**F. Consultation on Sustainability of HIV and AIDS Program Phnom Penh, Cambodia October 27-28, 2010
And Meeting with Kampuchean Christian Council Phnom Penh, Cambodia October 30, 2010**

The participation of Dr. Erlinda N. Senturias as resource person for the Evangelischer Entwicklungsdienst (EED) was supported by EED. The meeting tackled the theme: HIV and AIDS in Cambodia – Quo Vadis? The sharing on the national situation on HIV and AIDS was helpful in understanding the context in Cambodia. This consultation also introduced Dr. Senturias to people and organizations in Phnom Penh that could help the Kampuchean Christian Council in Building HIV Competent Churches. Dr. Senturias wrote an article for CCA News December 2010 issue on “Twice Bent Over” featuring HIV and AIDS in Phnom Penh and the plight of women and children who are pushed to engage in sex work.