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MARCH 2014

**Jesus answered, "I am the way, the truth, and the life.
No one comes to the Father but through me." - John 14:6**

Dear Friends,

"What is truth?" It's a question asked over and over throughout history. Jesus reminded his disciples that He was "the way, the truth and the life." He let Pilate know that He was born into this world "to testify to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice." In our post-modernist culture, people everywhere argue over the truth every day. Here are three examples from Advocates ongoing mission: Cameroon, North Korea and Malaysia.

Rule of Law in Cameroon

Last year the Rule of Law & Integrity Global Task Force (RLIGTF), led by Latcho Popov (Bulgaria), and its Africa Task Force, led by Caroline Dzukou (Cameroon), partnered with Pointman Leadership Institute, led by Henri Minder (Switzerland), to provide character-based leadership and ethics, as well as anti-corruption training in Cameroon. You can read more about that event in the enclosed report and newspaper story. One encouraging aspect about this great work is that "the participants were trained on how to take tangible action to prevent or reduce corruption through a commitment to honesty and effectiveness in leadership."

We are excited that the RLIGTF is planning a second training for 2014, in Cameroon, and hopefully, in N'djamena, Chad, too. If you would like to help sponsor these efforts, make a note on your gift. The needs include printing Advocates brochures and prayer cards in Africa to increase our visibility and strengthen the AI network. Most importantly, pray with us for these tremendous efforts of the RLI Task Force.

Human Rights & Religious Freedom Violations in North Korea

According to every Human Rights watch group, North Korea tops the list of violators. Its dictator, Kim Jong-un, in the tradition of his father and grandfather before him, rules as if he is god. In September 2011, Global Council member Nina Balmaceda (Peru) was appointed to represent Advocates before the International Coalition to Stop Crimes against Humanity in North Korea (ICNK). The efforts of the ICNK led to the establishment of a United Nations Commission of Inquiry to conduct a systematic investigation of the ongoing atrocities in North Korea.

Published in February 2014, the report notes that "there is an almost complete denial of the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion, as well as the rights to freedom of opinion, expression, information and association." It concludes that the regime "considers the spread of Christianity a particularly severe threat" and as a result, "Christians are prohibited from practicing their religion and are persecuted." Severe punishments are inflicted on "people caught practicing Christianity." It also estimates that between 80,000 and 120,000 political prisoners are currently detained in four political prison camps, "where deliberate starvation has been used as a means of control and punishment."

Please pray with us for the people of North Korea, and for the efforts of the international community in bringing pressure for accountability by the government. Pray for a peaceful and prompt transition to democracy in North Korea. Although it seems impossible, with God all things are possible.

Malaysia Update

As I shared last month, there are significant differences between Christians and Muslims in Malaysia. The legal battle there over the use of the Malay word for God, "Allah," continues with a scheduled hearing at the Federal Court on March 5. Min Choon provided further insight into the situation there:

The national language of Malaysia is Malay. Two-thirds of the Christians in Malaysia speak Malay. In the Malay Bible, the word for god (Hebrew: "Elohim" and Greek: "Theos") is translated as Allah. This was influenced by the Arabic Bible which also translated the word God as Allah and this practice preceded the founding of Islam. In this region, Malay translations of the Bible have used the word Allah for nearly 400 years.

In the Malay language, "Allah" means "God" and "Tuhan" means "Lord." As is obvious when we read the Bible, both God and Lord are used in the Bible, and both have different connotations. Therefore 'Allah' cannot be substituted by 'Tuhan'. It creates an absurd situation if Christians have to translate the biblical phrase 'Lord God' as Tuhan Tuhan. The repeated words Tuhan Tuhan indicates plural in Bahasa Malaysia, and creates the impression that Christians believe in many Gods, which is unacceptable.

Min Choon indicated that the Muslim authorities are now trying to save face following his January arrest and seizure of the Bibles. He fully expects that all the Bibles will be returned. Please continue to pray with us for that situation.

Upcoming Season of Travel

As I mentioned last month, my busy travel schedule kicks off this month as I travel first to Barcelona for the European Religious Liberty Forum (ERLF). You may recall the report from last year's ERLF gathering in Istanbul that we were able to bring a first representative from Tbilisi, Georgia. Latcho Popov and Julia Doxat-Purser have expertly led the ERLF for the last dozen years and we look forward to encouraging one another yet again. I travel from Barcelona straight to Ottawa, Canada for the 2014 Religious Liberty Partnership (RLP) Consultation. The RLP continues to bring together 40+ ministries to serve the persecuted church and fight for religious freedoms. Advocates plays a key role by networking our lawyers where the need for legal assistance is greatest.

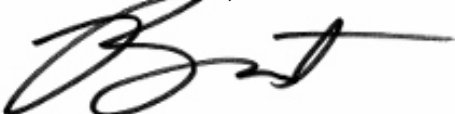
In April I travel to South Africa, Swaziland and Mozambique, where I will meet and encourage lawyers from our fellowships in those nations. I will also attend the annual meeting of the Global Kingdom Partnerships Network Marketplace Initiative, made up of Christian business leaders from across the globe.

Finally, in May, the Global Council meets in Munich in conjunction with the *Christ und Jurist* 2014 Congress. The theme of the *Christ und Jurist* Congress is "Truth," and we will explore that concept from legal, philosophical and theological perspectives. Please pray with us that all those who need to join us in Munich for these discussions on Truth will be there.

Thank you for your continued prayers and financial support for the ongoing ministry of encouraging, equipping and enabling advocates to "Do Justice With Compassion." You are crucial members of our team as you help us to bring the Truth to the world through the legal profession.

May the Lord bless and keep you in His perfect . . .

Grace and Peace,



Brent McBurney
President and CEO



Report PLI-Advocates International RLI GTF African Chapter Seminars in Cameroon

During Advocates International 2013 Global Convocation in Hong Kong, the AI African Task Force dedicated to partner with Pointman Leadership Institute as part of a commitment to build capacity for law enforcement in the Nations. In the context of this partnership, Pointman Leadership Institute who has a proven track record assisting governments and law enforcement, committed itself to assist the African Task Force of Advocates International on Rule of Law & Integrity in creating and supporting inspirational, trustworthy leaders in Africa. As a follow-up and after prayers and several meetings, the two bodies joined hands together in July 2013 in Cameroon in raising Government leaders' prepared in character-based leadership and ethics. To this effect, two workshops were organized respectively with the Cameroon Customs General Directorate and the judicial body of the country.

Cameroon Custom Authority, as part of its reform on good governance and ethics welcomed the workshop on leadership and ethics from July 22-24 2013 in Mbankomo Yaoundé, Cameroon. Attendees' numbered around 90, and comprising leaders of the General Directorate including directors, good governance president, regional coordinators, and others leaders. During three days, the audience followed the subjects dispensed by PLI experts and African Directors. The participants were trained on how to take tangible action to prevent or reduce corruption through a commitment to honesty and effectiveness in leadership. Convicted and satisfied, the attendees adopted at the end of the training what is known today as "*Mbankomo Declaration*", commitment of uncorrupted customs officers to improve their organization public image, and serve the country with integrity.

From July 25-27 2013, the African Chapter of Advocates International RLI Task Force in partnership with Pointman Leadership Institute conveyed the judicial body to the Court of Appeal of Douala-Littoral to a training seminar on rule of law and integrity. Attendees' number was estimated around 48, and originating from Cameroon, Chad, Central Africa Republic, South Africa, England and Switzerland. Among the participants were lawyers, solicitors, judges, magistrates, and administrative authorities of the Court of Appeal. PLI training subjects "leadership & ethics" were designed in raising Government leaders' in integrity and good governance, as backbone for development. Alternatively, the local task force of AI RLI African Task Force focused on anti-corruption legislation and mechanisms at the international, regional and national levels. The judicial body was encouraged to apply the legal instruments in the fight against corruption polluting the country. On Sunday 28th, a Christian legal seminar on God and Governance was organized with the French Christian attorneys and magistrates. During the seminar prayers sessions were held respectively for the nation and the Christian Legal Society ministry in the Nation.

The presence of PLI and AI in the country was broadcast widely. Several authorities in the country received in audience the organizers and invited the team to repeat similar trainings for their administrative bodies. We give glory to God Who enabled this to happen and stood by us in the midst of all challenges related to the organization of those seminars. May the fruit of righteousness flow in the land of Cameroon.

*Caroline Dzukou N., African Chapter Chairman
Advocates International RLI GTF*

Fighting Customs Fraud Officials Learn Ethical Strategies

A three-day international workshop moderated by world-class facilitators began in Mbankomo yesterday, July 22.



Positive change in managerial attitude could greatly impact development.

Senior customs officials in the country are currently being schooled on strategies they can embrace at work to uphold ethics and improve governance at individual and national levels. This is within the framework of a three-day (July 22-24) international workshop on individual and professional ethics in the customs administration that went underway at the CAF training centre in Mbankomo yesterday July 22.

Organised by the Customs Ethics and Governance Promotion Committee of the customs department in collaboration with international partners; Advocate International and Pointman Leadership Institute, the workshop seeks to arm Chiefs of Sector and Chiefs of Division of the customs administration with the necessary tools to consolidate achievements and improve their personal for efficiency in service delivery and revenue collection.

Speaking during the opening ceremony, the Director General of Customs, Minette Libom Li Likeng, said the vision of the customs administration is to ensure modern, dynamic, transparent and efficient customs services piloted by honest, impartial and competent officials who put a high premium on responsible behaviour and respect of the law and public property. "This workshop is very important for us because we are already in the fight against corruption. We have been working tooth and nail to uphold ethics, ensure good governance and combat corruption within the customs administration. But we cannot say that we have wholly attained our objectives," she said. The still-visible pockets of resistance from hard-to-die habits, she noted, will be combated vigorously. "We are privileged to be trained by two very important international institutes in charge of integrity. It will help us to consolidate our achievements and collectively embrace the virtue of integrity in the customs administration," Libom Li Likeng said.

The President of the Customs Ethics and Governance Promotion Committee, Hon. Daniel Claude Abate and the workshop facilitators like Henri Minder and Quiistus Smit of Pointman Leadership Institute, all agreed that problems of ethics and governance are universal and need concerted actions to be dealt with. When one person in a department fails in character, he fails the whole department, they underscored, stating the necessity to encourage people to work on their own character and that of their organisations.

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