

Global HIV Consultation- Churches Living with HIV

October 21-25, 2008 - Pattaya, Thailand

*Micah Network Pre-Conference to the
World Evangelical Alliance
General Assembly*



Global HIV Consultation- Churches Living with HIV



Communities with a common identity and a shared sense of life can 'live with HIV', rather than simply be 'affected by HIV' or 'respond to HIV'. We are already 'living with HIV' as communities and churches, but sometimes we talk and act as if we are not. People who are living with HIV have proven that knowing one's HIV status can be liberating and life giving, when there is care and support in the community. In October, the Micah Network will gather in the name of Jesus, who came that we might have life in all its fullness, and who came to set us free, so that we will return to our communities, who are living with HIV, better equipped to share this life and freedom.

Micah Network invites you to join with delegates to the World Evangelical Alliance General Assembly, people who are living with HIV, members of the Micah Network and Christian theological educators to:

- Strengthen the capacity of churches to live with, protect and care for individuals and communities who are living with HIV
- Strengthen the development of Christian thought, education and communication, which is relevant and responsive to the HIV pandemic
- Listen and interact with people who are living with HIV
- Plan collective action with churches, and civil society activists, and groups of people who are living with HIV
- Share experiences and network with your peers
- Hear about good practices and the lessons being learnt by your peers
- Learn practical skills from training courses and workshops
- Build partnerships
- Pray, reflect and encourage one another

Program

The emphasis of this consultation will be on building partnerships to support Christian communities to make life, love and justice available to all individuals and communities living with HIV, who are within the wide reach of the church.

Plenary sessions will include:

- What can churches learn about abundant life from people who are living with HIV?
- Various roles of churches in HIV epidemics
- HIV and integral mission
- Building partnerships for effective advocacy for better health care

The following resource people have confirmed their availability for this consultation:

- Rev. Christo Greyling (South Africa) Global Advisor HIV/AIDS & Church/FBO Partnerships, World Vision International, and Board Chair of ANERELA+
- Dr. Donald Messer (United States of America) Executive Director, Center for the Church & Global AIDS

- Dr. Peter Okalet (Uganda) Senior Director for Health, HIV and AIDS Policy, MAP International, Kenya
- Gracia Violeta Ross (Bolivia) LAC NGO Alternate Representative UNAIDS Board and LAC region Delegate, NGO Delegation of the Global Fund Board
- Rev. Patricia Sawo (Kenya) East Africa Coordinator of ANERELA+ (African Network of Religious Leaders Living with or Personally Affected by HIV) and Tearfund HIV Ambassador
- Sally Smith (United Kingdom) Partnerships Adviser, UNAIDS

We will announce additional resource people as we receive confirmation of their participation.

Group Interaction

Participants will interact with each other over the plenary sessions using a 'World Café' format - small group sessions designed to get the benefit of everyone's experiences and perspectives. These will be collated by a drafting committee and a talented artist.



Afternoon Training Tracks and Workshops

Each afternoon, participants will interact in smaller group contexts, building on the morning's themes. Some of the topics which will be discussed include:

Capacity Building - What support do churches want and need to live with HIV? What partnerships do we need to develop in order to meet these needs? How do we build on the work of churches, National Evangelical Alliances and NGOs which are already actively responding to HIV?

- Churches and NGOs working together
- Responses to orphan crises
- Gender, culture and religion
- Faith, cure and adherence to treatment
- Reducing risk, reducing vulnerability

Integral Mission - HIV and AIDS have defined a new context in which the gospel is proclaimed and demonstrated around the world. How does this context affect our words and actions?

- The status of HIV in theological education
- Sex, sexuality and the Gospel
- 'Open spaces'

Advocacy - With whom will we raise our collective voice, in our pursuit of justice? What will we ask for?

- Participating in the design, implementation and evaluation of public health care policies

- Access to medical treatment (including the use of and breaking of patents)
- 'Open spaces'

The 'Open Space' sessions provide opportunities in which the participants can define and facilitate topics of their own choice for discussion.

Special Opportunity: World Vision's Channels of Hope Training

World Vision International will also conduct a workshop to introduce the 'Channels of Hope' training package.

This highly interactive workshop introduces church leaders to the types of things church leaders and their congregations can do concerning stigma and attitudes, and Christian perspectives on prevention and care strategies.

Participants who sign up for the workshop will be expected to participate in the entire workshop, which spans the 3 afternoon sessions of the Micah Network consultation as well as one evening session. They will still be able to attend all of the plenary sessions of the overall consultation.

For more information about the overall 'Channels of Hope' program, please contact Christo Greyling (christo_greyling@wvi.org).

Places in this workshop are limited, so please register your interest early by sending an email to Anne Liew (anne.liew@micahnetwork.org).

Regional Groups

At the end of each day, there will be time for regional groups to meet, pray, reflect and plan strategic regional initiatives for the future.

Networking Opportunities

Most of the evenings will be "free time" so that you can relax with fellow participants after the busy day program.

There will also be opportunities for face to face interaction of the Micah Network practitioner forums for:

- HIV
- Inclusion of courses on HIV in theological education
- Gender
- Advocacy

Micah Network is happy to facilitate other interest group meetings on request.

Simultaneous Interpretation

Sessions will be conducted in English and simultaneous interpretation into Thai, French, Spanish and other languages will be available to enable speakers of other languages to participate, depending on demand.

Dates

October 21-25, 2008. Registration will be from 11.00am on Tuesday October 21, 2008 (with sessions starting at 3.00 pm) and the consultation will conclude after dinner on Friday October 24, 2008 and participants will need to check out after breakfast on Saturday October 25, 2008.



Venue

Jomtien Palm Beach Hotel & Resort,
408 Mu12, Jomtien Beach Road,
Pattaya City, Chonburi 20260,
Thailand

www.jomtienpalmbeach.com

(Approximately 1.5 hours by van or coach from Suvarnabhumi International Airport).

Transport

Transport between Suvarnabhumi International Airport and the venue will be provided at regular intervals. Details will be advised after you register. Participants who are not staying on for the World Evangelical Alliance General Assembly will be transferred back to the airport on the evening of Friday October 24, 2008 or the morning of Saturday October 25, 2008.

Cost

Please note: All prices include accommodation, meals and registration fee.

Contributing Micah Network Members & Associate Members:

(Agencies and individuals who have made a financial contribution to Micah Network of more than US\$ 50 during the 2008 calendar year or at the time of registration).

Twin Share = US\$ 425 / GBP 220
Single Accommodation = US\$ 525 / GBP 270

Other Participants:

Twin Share = US\$ 475 / GBP 245
Single Accommodation = US\$ 575 / GBP 295

Participants who are staying extra nights will have to make their own bookings and payments for accommodation. We will have suggestions on the places to stay in Pattaya and Bangkok on our website.

Micah Network is very grateful to World Concern Asia for its role as host agency for this consultation.

Funding

Unfortunately Micah Network does not have funding available for delegates to attend. We encourage you to plan early and to seek funding support from your usual support agencies if necessary to enable your participation.

Bookings and Enquiries

Download an electronic copy of the booking form from the Micah Network website and email it to bookings@micahnetwork.org OR

Register online at the Micah Events website (English only) - www.micahnetwork.org

1. Register as a new user (click Register on left menu and enter your details) or if you have used the site before, go to step3
2. Check your email (open email from Micah Network and click on the activation link contained in it, while you are connected to the internet).
3. Log In (Click Log In on left menu and use your username and password to log in).
4. Sign Up (Scroll down to your selected conference and click Sign Up). Proceed to payment options – enter your credit card details or other payment method.

5. Transport to venue and other specific needs-once you know your flight details or transport needs, Log In (Step 3) and insert your details.

For general booking and program enquiries, please contact Anne Liew (anne.liew@micahnetwork.org).

About Micah Network

Micah Network is a global partner of the World Evangelical Alliance and many national evangelical alliances are members of Micah Network.

We are a global network of over 500 Christian relief, development and justice organisations and churches, comprising over 300 main members and 200 associate members. The network aims to:

- **Strengthen Capacity**
Strengthen the capacity of participating agencies to make a Biblically-shaped response to the needs of the poor and oppressed.
- **Encourage a deeper understanding of integral mission**
Speak strongly and effectively regarding the nature of the mission of the church to proclaim and demonstrate the love of Christ to a world in need.
- **Advocate for and with the poor**
Prophetically call upon and influence the leaders and decision-makers of societies to “maintain the rights of the poor and oppressed and rescue the weak and needy”.

More information on Micah Network is available on our website www.micahnetwork.org



Draft Consultation Schedule

Please note: Further changes are likely to be made before the consultation

Time	Tuesday (October 21)	Wednesday (October 22)	Thursday (October 23)	Friday (October 24)	Saturday (October 25)
7:30		Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
8:30		Worship	Worship	Worship	Checkout
9:00		Devotions: D. Messer	Devotions: P. Sawo	Devotions: Speaker TBC	
10:00		Plenary 2: Roles of Churches <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ P. Okaalet ▪ EA Rep ▪ Speaker TBC 	Plenary 3: HIV and Integral Mission <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ D. Messer ▪ Speaker TBC 	Plenary 4: Partnerships for Advocacy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ GV. Ross ▪ S. Smith ▪ Micah Challenge 	
11:00	Registration	Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Coffee Break	
		World Café	World Café	World Café	
1:00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	
2:30	[3.00 pm] Opening Plenary: What do churches need to know about living with HIV? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ P. Sawo ▪ C. Greyling ▪ GV. Ross 	Choice of Workshops & Case Studies	Choice of Workshops & Case Studies	Choice of Workshops & Case Studies	
4:30	Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Coffee Break	
5:00	Consultation Opening & Introduction to Micah Network	Choice of Workshops & Case Studies	Choice of Workshops & Case Studies	Consultation Wrap-Up & Close	
5:45	Regional Meetings– Introductions			Presentation of Final Statement	
6:30	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	
8:30	Drafting Team Meeting	Drafting Team Meeting	Micah Network Practitioner Group Meetings/ Drafting Team Meeting	Free Time	