



July 2015

GLOBAL NETWORK UPDATE

Quarterly newsletter from ECFA encouraging the faithful administration of God's work among all nations



On April 13-14, 2015, ECFA convened the first-ever International Accountability Summit with Rev. Dr. Gary Hoag, ECFA International Liaison, facilitating the event. A coalescence of like-minded Christian leaders, representing 15 countries, attended the event to connect and discuss the need for the faithful administration of God's resources globally. Christian leaders from around the world were godly dreamers desirous of raising the bar for integrity, transparency, and accountability in their finances.

Time for a Renewed Commitment to Accountability

By Sarah Kanaiya (AfCAA)



We are at a critical time in history, and the love and light of God needs to be seen in and through the church and other Christ-centered ministries, now, more than ever (Isaiah 60:1-3). As nations grapple with significant challenges related to the times in which we live, we have a tremendous opportunity to demonstrate the wisdom and compassion of the One to whom all nations belong, Jesus Christ.

We live in turbulent times. Economic and social injustices are on the rise, and humanitarian disasters caused by war, plagues, earthquakes, terrorism, and extreme weather are evident on every continent. Whilst these challenges present an amazing opportunity for the church to respond in a distinctive way as light and salt, we recognize that the lack of credibility facing churches in many nations hinders its ability to capitalize on these opportunities. Our ability to speak with moral authority and bring healing into

situations is impaired wherever it is perceived as untrustworthy or even worse, as part of the problem.

In Kenya, (where I come from), recent surveys amongst youth have revealed that the church fares poorly when it comes to trust. In Hong Kong, the situation is somewhat similar—the younger generation of leaders increasingly wants to know more about how finances are being spent. And youth take readily to social media, and therefore, another factor that is fuelling the accountability movement is the widespread use of the internet and social media to challenge, expose or simply attack ministries. Ministries can be discredited in minutes when damaging and often unsubstantiated information is shared, on multiple social media platforms, reaching thousands of people nationally and across the globe. [Click here to read full article.](#)

Online Resources

Visit www.ECFA.org/GlobalNetwork to view videos from the inaugural International Accountability Summit in Dallas in April 2015. Also find valuable PDF resources such as [CMA Australia's Essential Standards of Ministry Governance](#) booklet.

Updates from the Nations for Prayer, Praise, and Collaboration

Africa: Ms. Valentine Gitoho, executive director of the African Council for Accreditation and Accountability (AfCAA), requests prayer for wisdom for planning, the accreditation process, and for organizations to [sign up](#). They are praising God for a Kingdom-minded brand identity firm, and need prayer for favor as challenges persist: “The Government is still speaking about the need to regulate.”

Australia: Mr. Gary Williams, CMA Australia national director, requests prayer for the CMA Standards Council to recruit the right person to direct the accountability program. Also, Dr. Sas Conradie (UK), Mr. J.S. Anbu (India), and Dr. Zenet Maramara (Philippines) attended the [CMA Australia conference](#) in June to help launch the CMA Generosity Network.

Ecuador: After the IAS, Mr. John Turnidge contacted Mr. Juan Andrés Játiva Andrade, a leader who cares deeply about financial transparency that serves with Christian Missionary Alliance in Ecuador. Mr. Andrade has graciously provided ECFA with a copy of his “Manual de Transparencia Financiera” (Manual for Financial Transparency) based ECFA’s standards for responsible stewardship. This manual conforms with Ecuadorean laws but could be adapted for other Spanish-speaking contexts.

Guatemala: Mr. Edgar Güitz reports that Guatemala suffers political turmoil linked to corruption. The nation’s VP has resigned and the President may be impeached. Pray for healing, the restoration of trust, and for just leaders in the national elections in September. Pray the Body of Christ shines as light and for training for nonprofit leaders to implement good practices of governance, stewardship, and transparency to rebuild trust.

Hong Kong/China: As no accountability organization exists in Hong Kong, Mr. Chi-Chung Keung asks for prayer for the HK government to approve this summer the establishment of a legal entity (Pioneers Hong Kong) to serve as a sending base for China and Mongolia that includes the ECFA standards in its by-laws. Mr. Keung will serve as board chair and Rev. Dr. Hoag has also agreed to serve as a board member.

India: Mr. Deva Villuri says that financial accountability in India remains at a nascent stage. Pray for leaders to take up this task with zeal to bring honor to Jesus in running ministries with integrity and adherence to biblical principles. Pray for financial transparency to prevail in Christian ministries so they bring glory to Jesus and become beacons of hope and shine Christ’s light to all secular organizations in how finances are administered.

Korea: The Christian Council for Financial Transparency in Korea (CCFK) formally launched on June 27, 2015, appointing a president, Dr. Ho Chan Hwang, auditors, and board members. CCFK passed a series of articles, welcomed 20 founding members, and thanked Rev. Dr. Sung Wook Chung for serving as a special advisor. Rev. Dr. Gary Hoag and Dr. Glen Nelson also attended and spoke at a CCFK symposium.

Philippines: Mr. Angelito Gabriel volunteered to serve as executive director of Christian Council for Transparency and Accountability (CCTA) after the IAS. Pray for the formation of a board and initiatives to offer governance, accountability, and financial management training in the Philippines. He reports that God has provided an office for CCTA and ECFAPress resources, *The Sower* and *The Choice*, are blessing many leaders.

Ukraine: Pray specifically for frontline ministers aiding those displaced by war. Intercede for the churches to remain strong in this difficult season. As God often allows challenging adversity to position us to experience His strongest affirmation, pray for God to continue to bless His name, His people, and the wonderful country of Ukraine despite the current crisis.

UK/Malaysia: Dr. Sas Conradie, coordinator of the Global Generosity Network, lives in the UK and engages leaders globally. One challenge limiting giving in Malaysia is lack financial accountability and trust. To address this, a generosity consultation and training is planned for 2016. Pray for wisdom to help Christian leaders in Malaysia to develop processes to strengthen accountability, management, and trust.

USA: Pray for continued growth in church membership, as churches represent the most underserved and yet the fastest growing area of ECFA membership. President Busby reports that God is at work in this area as a result of prayer, networking, and the growing desire for church leaders to build confidence and trust in congregations.

God Is at Work Around the World

We take this course so that no one should blame us about this generous gift that is being administered by us, for we aim at what is honorable not only in the Lord’s sight but also in the sight of man (2 Corinthians 8:20-21 ESV).



The Apostle Paul’s attention to financial transparency inspired people around the ancient Mediterranean world to participate in the Jerusalem collection. Likewise our labors around the globe linked to managing ministry funds with integrity and transparency are leading to greater levels of generosity. God sees our work and people are watching too, so let us continue to work together and resource one another so that God’s work is not hindered but fueled by our faithfulness! If you need assistance, please let us know how we may be able to serve you.

— Rev. Dr. Gary G. Hoag, ECFA International Liaison

Global Network Update is a quarterly e-newsletter from the ECFA that seeks to encourage faithful financial administration among all nations. For more information, visit our web page at www.ECFA.org/GlobalNetwork or to subscribe, [click here](#).