

Executive Report

Kingdom Education Fellowship Consultation

18 -22 February 2020, Pyeongchang, South Korea

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1. CONTEXT

1.1 General Context

For many years, Christian missions and Evangelical churches in general have focused primarily on making individual converts, partly because of a reduced understanding of the mandate to disciple nations (Mt. 28). While the renewal of a nation is indeed rooted in individuals who submit their lives to the Bible in obedience to Jesus Christ, we suggest that this mandate goes beyond the call to individual transformation.

Church history teaches that renewal of personal faith has consistently led to a holistic transformation of cities and even whole nations (e.g. the Reformers in Europe, Francke and Spener in Germany, Kuyper in the Netherlands), an increased concern for societal justice and righteousness (e.g. Wilberforce in England), a holistic developmental approach to missions (e.g. William Carey in India) and initiatives for mercy and compassion for the poorest (e.g. UK settlement movement). The idea that individual change should consistently lead to profound societal reform seems to have taken a backseat in the current Evangelical Christian culture.

Vishal Mangalwadi (born 1949), described by Christianity Today as “India’s foremost Christian intellectual,” is an international lecturer, social reformer and author of 21 books who studies and speaks extensively about the impact of the Bible on Western society. For about 10 years he has emphasized the importance of Biblical Christian education in the context of the mandate of discipling nations. It is this education that moves changed individuals towards participation in societal reform. According to Vishal Mangalwadi, the church of today needs to recover this idea of holistic church-based biblical education¹

¹ Holistic church-based biblical education consists of three elements. (1) Church-based: the church facilitating education. (2) Biblical: not just teaching Bible content, although this is part of it, but recognizing its wide reach and ultimate authority and applying it to other subjects. (3) Holistic: including character building (emphasis on virtues)

as the root of societal transformation, as witnessed throughout church history. His suggestion, worked out in an appendix of his Book *Truth and Transformation*, is to train pastors to become *Academic pastors*, who educate their community. Where this is not possible for the primary pastor, an elder or other church member could be trained to become an *Academic pastor*. *Over the years*, his repeated call has brought together people of various nations and Christian convictions who agree on the importance of recovering the church's holistic mission.

1.2 Ugandan Context

Within this discussion, Uganda takes a special place. Uganda is a highly Christianized nation with about 80% of its inhabitants adhering to some form of Christianity (Britannica Online). Yet the primary emphasis of many Christian missions and churches has been on individual conversion, resulting in little societal reform. Vishal Mangalwadi has been invited repeatedly to speak on the role of Biblical education in the transformation of nations, and a special relationship developed with the National Fellowship of Born-Again Pentecostal Churches of Uganda (NFBPC) and its head overseer, Bishop Joshua Lwero. The NFBPC represents about 30,000 churches (according to information of the head overseer and the official website <https://www.nfbpc.org/>).

The NFBPC became convinced of the importance of their churches becoming involved in Christian education for the good of their nation. In January 2019, the National assembly of the NFBPC decided to take steps towards their pastors becoming *Academic pastors* in their fellowship. This was worked out practically in a proposal for pastors to be enrolled in a program of biblically-based, worldview-oriented further education called a *Bachelor of Applied Theology*.² The aim of this program is to increase the capacity of pastors to become effective, holistic Christian educators within their villages, towns and districts, with the goal of bringing biblically-based reform to their communities and, ultimately, the nation.

Along with the unfolding of the above events a connection was formed with Vice Chancellor David Young-Gil Lee of Kumi University, a Ugandan University partly run by South Korean Missionaries in Uganda. The idea was worked out for the NFBPC to collaborate with Kumi University to build the curriculum. In this way the Bachelor of Applied Theology program could be presented to the church's pastors from a platform that was already recognized. Connections to collaborate were also made with other Ugandan universities such as Ndejje University and Uganda Christian University. See appendix I for a brief overview of some exemplary courses currently offered by Kumi University.

1.3 Phoenix Consultation Context

As the call for the church to recover its mandate in Biblical Christian education became stronger, a group of people gathered in Phoenix, AZ in the early summer of 2019 to discuss and pray. The group represented people of different nations, missions, expertise, and walks of life. The gathering was hosted by a team of the Discipling Nations Alliance based in Phoenix, AZ. The agenda consisted of learning from previous education initiatives and brainstorming how to bring practical expressions of recovering church-based biblical education in different areas of the world. A main focus was on the Ugandan context as mentioned above. See appendix 2 for a partial list of participants and organizations who participated in the consultation.

as well as knowledge acquisition and logical comprehension. Whenever the document speaks about education it is always understood to concern all these elements.

² Although Applied Theology is sometimes understood as learning how to officiate weddings, funerals, etc. in this case Applied indicates applying biblical truth to all areas of life and society.

At the end of the consultation, a unanimous commitment was made to move forward with assisting the educational initiative of the NFBPC in Uganda. This might be regarded as a pilot project. An online platform was set up to facilitate further communication and collaboration between participants of the consultation.

1.4 Pyeongchang Consultation Context

In certain ways South Korea has been an exception to the reductionist view of the mandate to disciple nations. South Korea experienced intense revivals at the beginning of the 20th century. By the 1950s, however, it had been ravaged by two consecutive wars. Yet in 2020, it is one of the wealthiest, most developed nations (compare Appendix 3) with a large number of Christians and churches.

Korean Christians have been instrumental in grasping the important role education has in discipling nations. Dr. James Hwang, founder and CEO of EROM Corp., a company with a variety of products and services in the health sector, is one of those who understood this role. He has been instrumental in encouraging the spread of Korean Christian universities into the world. One of the means of doing this has been through the creation of PAUA (Pan Asian African American Universities Association). Kumi University in Uganda is part of PAUA.

In 2019, David Young-Gil Lee, former Vice Chancellor of Kumi University, was asked to become the International Vice Chancellor of a new *Cyber University*³ with global reach. The goal of this university is to become a platform for programs that many universities and colleges can join. This university would be able to award Korean degrees in many places around the world.

David Young-Gil Lee had been part of the Phoenix Consultation and proposed, together with Dr. Hwang and Vishal Mangalwadi, to organize a follow-up consultation in Pyeongchang, South Korea. It became clear that the Uganda idea could not only be well supported from Korea, but also that the idea of the Cyber University could be useful in many other parts of the world. Purposes of the Pyeongchang consultation included (1) building and strengthening relationships, (2) understanding how to make further progress with the vision in Uganda, (3) understanding how the vision of recovering biblical education could be applied in other places, (4) taking next steps in forming official identities to support the vision of recovering biblical church-based education worldwide, and (5) making decisions on how to move forward with creating curricula. An additional purpose was to gain more understanding how biblical education helped South Korea develop in a relatively brief amount of time. The organizers limited the consultation to 20 participants because of logistical limitations. The remainder of the report will provide more in-depth information about the consultation. See Appendix 5 for a chronological agenda of the consultation.

2 PARTICIPANTS

The consultation had a little more than 20 participants coming from all five continents and from different denominational and organizational backgrounds.

See Appendix 3 for a detailed list of participants and represented organizations

³ *Cyber University* is a working title. A proper name is still under discussion. One of the suggestions of Dr. Hwang has been *Kingdom Dream University*. Both terms apply to the same idea.

3 MEETING REPORTS

3.1 Meeting with PAUA (Pan Asian African American Universities Association)

PAUA is an organization that links approximately 40 universities, all founded by Christian scholars from South Korea. These universities were founded with the vision of impacting the nations through educating its future leaders and bringing the influence of the Bible to bear on the public spheres of these nations. Professor Kang gave a brief presentation about the vision and needs of PAUA to the participants of the consultation. A primary need is Christian teachers who can speak English.

During the meeting, a possible future collaboration was considered. The universities could become full partners of the Cyber University. The relations with these universities are strong through Dr. Hwang and David Young Lee.

Vishal Mangalwadi briefly outlined in his statement how this consultation came about (see context), the long-term goal of the Cyber University and the basic reasons as to why such a university is needed at all. The meeting was a good basis for future cooperation. A collaboration with a considerable number of international universities could offer the needed gravitas to the Cyber University initiative.

From the point of view of PAUA and the consultation, it became clear that there is a great need for a financially viable foundational course with a focus on the Christian view of man and the world (Bachelor of Applied Theology). This need both corresponded to and complemented the plans of the consultation.

3.2 Meeting with Dr. James Hwang / EROM Corp.

A second important meeting took place between Dr. Hwang and employees of his company EROM (<http://www.eromworld.com/>). Dr. James Hwang has - as mentioned above - a great vision for the Kingdom of God in the world. As a Christian and a successful businessman, he is able to connect the business world and mission work in an intelligent and admirable way. Dr. Hwang was very moved by the coming of the 20 consultation participants to South Korea and reached out with special warmth and solidarity.

Dr. Hwang articulated an impressive vision of the future to the entire management team of his company and the participants of the consultation. This vision emphasized unity within the body of Christ and Kingdom principles. He imagines resource providers (curricula) and field units (bridgeheads, e.g. universities) connected through the work of a new university called *Kingdom Dream University*.⁴ Dr Hwang highlighted that we should stop building "monuments" to ourselves as Christians and contribute to the networking of resources. Research on complexity and chaos theory lays at the basis of his suggestions. His spiritual seed analogy was thoughtprovoking as well. See Appendix 6 for some illustrations.

Through meeting Dr. Hwang and seeing his dedication, it was clear that a potential strategic partnership with him would be providential. Dr. Hwang has long prayed in his heart for this vision and for the realization of it. The group around Vishal Mangalwadi has pondered a similar vision for some time, but the question was with whom this vision could develop into reality, and who would be the right partners. It was clear to all participants of the Pyeongchang Consultation that God is bringing together different strands of leadership, resources, and vision for a broader global initiative, including a new strategic partner in South Korea. South Korea as the hub of an international education network is better suited than for example a platform the US, both for work in countries of the two-thirds world and equally for countries in the West.

⁴ One of the proposed names for the Cyber University.

Dr. Hwang has started to create concrete conditions for the implementation of the platform. He has moved an entire department from one of his office buildings to other buildings to create office space for the Kingdom Dream University platform. He is also in the process of purchasing land adjacent to one of his production facilities to make room for teaching, media and infrastructure. In addition, he is in the process of purchasing a building complex (which, as an aside is the location, where the consultation took place) to create a Professor's Lodge. This will be a venue where professors from around the world can come together to develop curricula for new courses that would be offered on the platform. All these are strong signs that the vision of this consultation is becoming more concrete, namely that nations are being disciplined through education (Discipling Nations / Kingdom Education).

3.3 Canaan Farmers School / Canaan Global Leadership Center

The third strategically important encounter was a visit to the Canaan Farmers School. The institution, which today is primarily active as a leadership school, is an example of the transformational power of Christian worldview-oriented education. Korea was one of the poorest nations in the world after the suppression of the Japanese. By focusing on the three guiding principles of "Work, Service, Sacrifice," Kim Yong-Ki began a movement in the 1930s that led to South Korea developing into one of the world's strongest nations today in economic terms. The transformational principles he implemented were (1) the aspect of hard work as a (biblical) positive value, (2) the aspect of service (love your neighbor as yourself/be and remain a community learner) and (3) the aspect of devotion (focusing all our lives on God, the source of all good and truth). This made him one of the founders of the New Community Movement, which has shaped and changed Korea right up to the level of its national government and its state policies.

The visit to this historic place and meeting with the 86-year-old son of Kim Yong-Ki, Bum-il Kim, left deep impressions on all participants of the consultation. It became clear that God really could change a nation if people commit themselves wholeheartedly to holistic education to reform a nation.⁵

4 INITIAL CONCLUSIONS

During the consultation, some primary lines of thought emerged: (1) the development of a *Bachelor of Applied Theology*, (2) the founding of a university in Korea, which could have further campuses internationally in an extension campus system and (3) the need for a virtual education platform that can serve as a hub for biblically-based education initiatives.

4.1 Bachelor of Applied Theology

The *Bachelor of Applied Theology* is a degree that is to be offered in a low-cost, blended education model. It is initially intended for countries in the two-thirds world, including emerging nations such as Uganda. The goal of the bachelor's degree is to train "Academic Pastors" or "home-schooling moms" for congregations, villages, communities, and districts as explained in the Uganda Context (see above). These Academic Pastors will work in their church as youth pastors or worship pastors, with a focus on educating the next generation of leaders in their congregation through a holistic university education. All this is done in collaboration with recognized universities.

⁵ For more info on Canaan Farmers School and its role in Korean History see :
<http://darrowsmillerandfriends.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/ABOUT-CANAAN-YONSEI-PROGRAM.pdf> and
<http://darrowsmillerandfriends.com/2013/12/19/disciple-a-nation-the-story-of-the-canaan-farm-school/>

These Academic Pastors will function as teaching assistants who provide in-person support and guidance to students who are completing their studies online. The Academic Mentors will also disciple their students in Christ-like character and serve as role models to their students.

The process of change and transformation in the Academic pastor's village could take place in the following steps:

- The pastor is trained as an Academic Pastor via the Bachelor of Applied Theology.
- He/she is enrolled in an official study program of a local university (possibly in the Extension Campus Model).
- He/she completes a blended learning education, including virtual and face-to-face components.
- After completion of the bachelor's degree, the Academic Pastor begins to take on the role of educational companion or "home-schooling mom" for students enrolled in the degree program within their local church.
- He/she develops competencies in the fields of 'common life,' Bible overview and character formation.
- This way, young people are trained locally at manageable cost. They are accompanied in their everyday life in order to get along well in their lives, to build up a simple business, and to counter corruption through their strength of character.
- In time a changed society will emerge as more graduates of these educational activities enter society.
- Some of the graduates will continue to study other subjects and, building on this foundation, take on leadership roles in government, business, science and the arts.
- Thus, little by little more and more people will change society and imbue it with the truth.

The curriculum of the Bachelor of Applied Theology (BATH) is currently in development by Prof. Kasirye (Makerere University, the top university in Uganda), Vishal Mangalwadi, and other curriculum experts in Uganda with the assistance of the Executive Committee of the Kingdom Education Fellowship (the group that was appointed and commissioned in Korea to steer the ongoing development process).

The BATH in Uganda is initially divided in three academic levels: a certificate, an intermediate diploma and a bachelor's degree. The bachelor's degree is intended to take four years; the other programs require shorter periods of study. For prospective students who do not have an adequate secondary school certificate, a program is being set up to enable them to start studying after one year of preparatory studies. The Uganda delegation is discussing the details of the further steps necessary for academic feasibility.

4.2 Establishment of a University in Korea.

The second main focus of the discussions was the establishment of a university in Korea. This university would be able to award recognized degrees in various fields to students from around the world. This is of great importance because some courses cannot be offered through the shared university platform (see below) and will have to be developed. This may include the development of degrees with a Christian mindset foundation, such as Business, Leadership, Education, Psychology, etc. The idea of founding a university was conceived by Dr. Hwang, among others, and is currently in the planning stage. It is, however, not a priority at the moment, as BATH and the creation of an online platform are current priorities.

4.3 Creation of online platform/hub

The third idea was the creation of a platform or "hub" as it was repeatedly referred to during the consultation. This platform serves the purpose of making internationally existing degrees from already accredited universities accessible to other countries and partners. The core idea is that the platform is an internet-based search and information base through which one can access a wide range of university offerings, regardless of where one lives. Criteria for inclusion in this offering include

- Orientation towards a holistic, biblical worldview
- Basic convictions that respect Christian views of man
- Adequate financial sustainability of the study programs for emerging countries
- A blended learning approach with online sharing capability.

This type of platform is easier and faster to set up than the new university in Korea, which is why it can be reasonably prioritized.

5. FURTHER THOUGHTS

5.1 Uganda strongly represented

Something that stood out at this consultation, in continuation and even expansion to the consultation in Phoenix several months prior, was the presence of 6 representatives from different universities in Uganda. John Senyonyi (plus his wife) and John Kitayimbwa from Uganda Christian University (Anglican Church), Gillian Kasirye (Makerere University) and Patrick Sekigongo (Ndejje University). Together with Kumi University, represented by David Young Lee and Ui-Whan Kim, the Chairman of the Board of Kumi University four universities from Uganda were represented. This gives additional weight and credibility to a study program accreditation application with the Ministry of Education in Uganda.

Overall, the impression of the consultation was that God is giving the impetus in Uganda for the start of the education initiative and bachelor's degree (BATH). The Uganda delegation had its own small gathering one evening to clarify how to move forward vis-à-vis the state authorities for the accreditation of the bachelor's degree (BATH). As a result, a concrete schedule was agreed upon in Uganda and two persons from the group were nominated as representatives of the country for the International Executive Committee.

5.2 Further nations willing and asking for support

5.2.1 Colombia, Bogota

Colombian Pastor Hector Pardo reported that a building and infrastructure for teaching is already in place, as well as a leadership school ready for BATH to be offered. He also has the people who would be suitable for this training and multiplication and is eager to see when one can start in South America.

5.2.2 Chile, Santiago

Lenin Nasiff is also highly interested and wants to set up a program and establish a initial cohort of students in his country for autumn 2021. He says that South America urgently needs a biblical education for future professionals in business, politics and science who are focused on serving the good of society.

5.2.3 Nigeria

Paul Ndukwe reported on his contacts with some of the largest universities in Nigeria, which he hoped to engage. He also has a college of his own, where BATH could start in autumn 2020 if the conditions are

created in time. He would like to start as soon as possible, as he considers the need for it to be highly urgent for his country.

5.2.4 Bihar, India and Australia

Rodger and Delphine Sukh have run a successful community training program in India for decades, which they would like to develop further to the BATH level. Their missionary work is widely networked and known in the north of India.

5.2.5 Central Europe

Andreas Wieland reported that 40,000 copies of Vishal Mangalwadi's "Das Buch der Mitte" (German translation of "The Book That Made Your World") have been sold. There has been great interest in Vishal's publications in Germany, Austria and Switzerland. The perspective for Europe is to set up a BATH program adapted to Western conditions with three possible target groups. Refugees could receive an introduction to the cultural history and Christian backgrounds and foundations of Western European societies by means of an adapted BATH course. Young students who come to university cities could receive an accompanying program that offers a holistic worldview that builds individuals, families, institutions and nations. This might help them to identify secular narratives based on humanism and help them to develop strong character and deeper reflection in their field of study. Pastors, theologians and interested lay people from congregations around Europe could be given an introduction to the basics of a biblical worldview with the help of the BATH, so that a proactive counterculture to the social mainstream could develop. Other scenarios for the use of the BATH are conceivable, e.g. in prisons in cooperation with Prison Fellowship International, in secondary school curricula, in Christian teacher training programs, etc.

6. OUTCOMES

6.1. Foundation of a university and a university platform in Korea

The consultation decided to encourage and mandate David Young Lee to promote the idea of establishing a university in Korea and a university platform (with headquarters in Korea).

6.2 Appointed and commissioned Executive Team

Amanda Forbes, John Kitayimbwa, Gillian Kasirye, David Young Lee and Andreas Wieland were appointed and commissioned to the Executive Committee of the Kingdom Education Fellowship (and the University Platform to be established).

6.3 Annual International Meeting

An annual international meeting of the Kingdom Education Fellowship (including the Phoenix Group) was decided.

6.4 Annual Meeting Executive Committee

A meeting (at least) once a year in person of the members of the Executive Committee was decided upon.

Andreas Wieland, Stuttgart, March 23rd, 2020

(edit) Peter Randewijk, Lausanne, April 6th, 2020

APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Exemplary overview of some Kumi University Courses

Faculty of social science and management studies	Bachelors	- Bachelors in Business administration	3 Years
		- Bachelors in Human resource management	3 Years
		- Bachelors Administrative and secretarial studies	3 Years
		- Bachelors of Commerce	
		- Bachelors in Social Work and Social Administration	3 Years
		- Bachelors in Development Studies	3 Years
		- Bachelors in Guidance and Counseling	3 Years
		- Bachelors in Community Development	3 Years
		- Bachelors in Public Administration	3 Years
	Diploma	- Diploma in Business Studies	2 Years
		- Diploma in Human Resource Management	2 Years
		- Diploma in Secretarial Studies	
		- Diploma in Commerce	2 Years
		- Diploma in Social Work and Social Administration	2 Years
		- Diploma in Development Studies	2 Years
		- Diploma in Community Development	2 Years
		- Diploma in Guidance and Counseling	2 Years
		- Diploma in Public Administration	2 Years

Appendix 2: List of participants Phoenix Consultation

Vishal and Ruth Mangalwadi, Revelation Movement, USA

Bob (Robert) Moffit, President of Harvest Foundation, Director of the Discipling Nations Alliance, USA

Christine Colby and Phil Leage, University of the Nations, YWAM, USA

Bob Osburn, Executive Director of the Wilberforce Academy, USA

David Young-Gil Lee, Vice Chancellor of Kumi University, Uganda

Allan Carrington, Learning Designer, University of Adelaide, Australia

Andrew Baartz, Chief Financial Officer at Anglican Youthworks, Australia

Hans-Joachim Hahn, founder and director of the Professors' Forum, Germany

Bishop Joshua Lwere, NFBPC, Uganda

Takim Andriono, founder and director of TRAMPIL, Indonesia

Hector Pardo, pastor and leader of the National Evangelical Alliance, Colombia

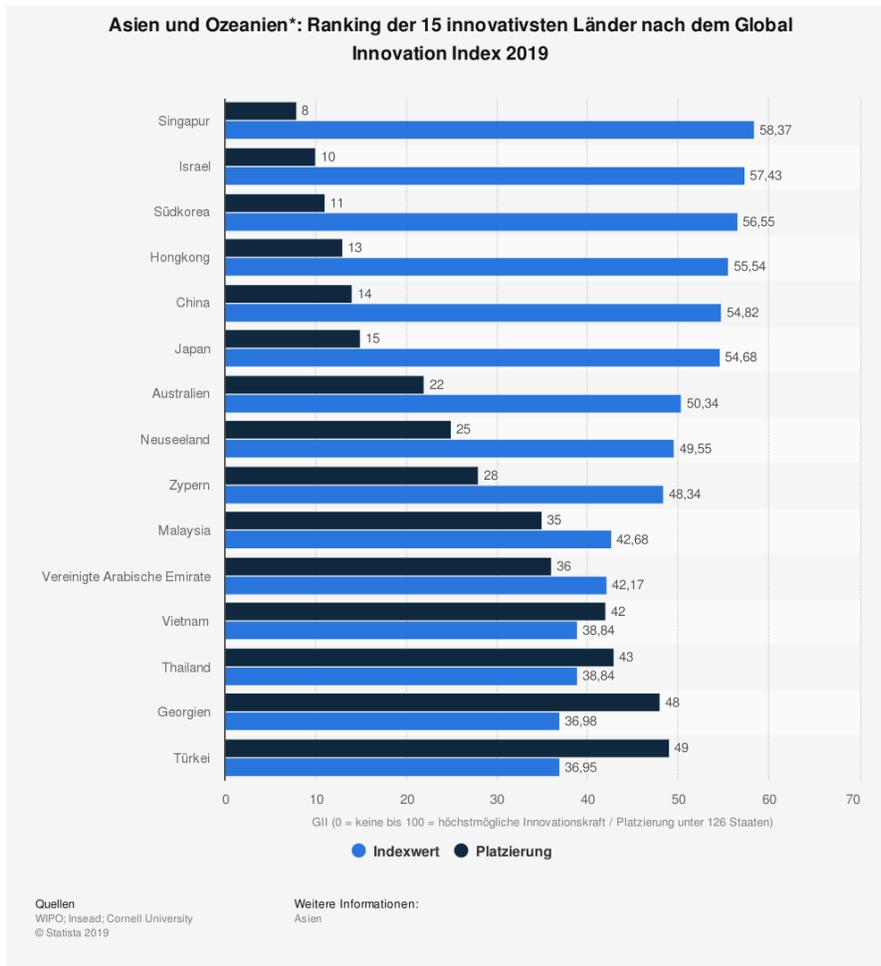
Gillian Kasirye, Makerere University, Uganda

Conrad Mbewe, Chancellor, African Christian University, Zambia

Mariyosh Joseph, Regional Coordinator Gospel Echoing Missionary Society (GEMS), India

Beyond that: Bryan Prosser, Dwight Vogt, Rabi & Franci Maharaj, Viv Grigg, John Edmiston, Amanda Forbes, Andreas Wieland and many others.

Appendix 3: Ranking of the most innovative Countries of Asia and Oceania



Appendix 4: List of participants PyeongChang Consultation

Vishal Mangalwadi	India/USA	Revelation Movement
David Young-Gil Lee	South Korea	Kumi University
Josephine Insun Choi	South Korea	Power Plant of Dream Publishing
Samuel Kim	South Korea	Korea Cyber University Administr.
Wesley Wentworth	South Korea	IVP Korea
Delphine Sukh	Australia	MOVE Australia
Rodger Sukh	Australia	MOVE Australia
David Glesne	USA	The Virtues Campus
Amanda Forbes	USA	Trinity Education
Hector Pardo	Columbia	Bogota
Lenin Nasiff	Chile	“Unidos en la Fe”
John Senyonyi	Uganda	Uganda Christian University
Ruth Senyonyi	Uganda	Uganda Christian University
John Kitayimbwa	Uganda	Uganda Christian University
Patrick Sekigongo	Uganda	Ndejje University
Gillian Kasirye	Uganda	Makerere University
Paul Ndukwe	Nigeria/Canada	Ambassador
Ui-Whan Kim	South Korea / Uganda	Chairman, Loving Concern International
Peter Randewijk	Netherland/Switzland	Bridging Nations
Andreas Wieland	Germany	Revelation Movement Europe



Appendix 5: Approximate chronological record of the consultation

The rough course of the consultation:

Tue, February 18, 2pm: Arrival Seoul, drive to Pyeongchang and welcome by the Korean team and Dr. Hwang

Wed, February 19, 9.30am – 12noon: Meeting and exchange with the board of PAUA (Pan Asian African American Universities Association)

Wednesday February 19, 2pm – 5:30pm: First meeting of all delegates of the consultation for initial consultations (including a review of Phoenix to establish the link)

Thursday, February 20, 8:30am: Breakfast at the Intercontinental; afterwards visit to the Leadership Retreat of the EROM Company at the Conference Center of the Olympic Village

Thursday, February 20, 11am: Further discussion and exchange of consultation

Thursday, February 20, 2pm: Continuation of the discussions and short presentations of the developments in the individual countries (The "Café Meeting")

Thursday, February 20, 7:30pm Consultations to close the day

Friday, February 21, 08.30am Travel and meeting / exchange with the Governor of Gang-Won Province

Friday, February 21, 12noon: Lunch in the canteen of the EROM production sites, followed by a tour of the plant

Friday, February 21, 3 pm Visit to Canaan Farmer's School / Canaan Global Leadership Center and meeting with Kim Bum-II

Friday February 21, 7 pm, Summary of the consultation, further discussions

Saturday, February 22, 9am, Last country presentations and evaluation of the results of the consultation

Saturday, February 22, 12noon, End of consultation

Appendix 6: pictures of Dr. James Hwang's presentation

