



REPORT OF THE AMI SECRETARY GENERAL

Ms. Nelleke Swinkels-Van De Vorst
12 September 2011
Manansala B Hall, Sulo Riviera Hotel
Quezon City, Philippines

The Secretary General of AMI, Ms. Nelleke Swinkels-Van De Vorst presented to the plenary the various activities of the AMI from the 2010 AMI Conference and General Assembly which was held in Germany to the series of meetings with the Organizing Committee in preparation for the 2011 AMI Conference in Manila, Philippines.

From October 20 to 22, 2010, Ms. Van De Vorst and other representatives from the AMI attended the Annual Conference of the Institute for Religion and Peace in Vienna, Austria. The said center was established in 1997 in order to promote the scientific discussion of current security-political changes in light of the Christian social science. Part of the conference's program was a tour of Vienna, including an excursion to the Chancellery.

From December 17 to 18, 2010, Ms. Van De Vorst visited the office of BGen Kloss in Rheinbach in order to discuss two topics: evaluation of the AMI conference held in Berlin, Germany; and the AMI's strategy to obtain an NGO status as required by the Vatican. She explained that at present, the AMI operates on the basis of canon law only. With directive from the Holy See, the AMI wishes to be recognized as an international Catholic NGO, which would allow the AMI to enjoy legal status according to civil law. The AMI has decided to make use of the possibilities of the Dutch legal system, which recognises approved ecclesiastical bodies in civil law. However, the Dutch Bishops' Conference last May turned down AMI's request for legal recognition in the Netherlands.

On January 2011, the summary of 2010 AMI Conference and General Assembly was finalized and sent to all the delegates by mail. Also sent through courier was a list of AMI contacts, press release about the Declaration of Berlin and 2010 Conference DVD. On January 12, AMI Treasurer, accompanied by Lt Col Jedlička and Lt Col Preuss, visited Cologne, Germany for the organization's annual cash audits. The AMI's financial report shall be submitted later this week.

From February 4 to 5, 2011, Ms. Van De Vorst, BGen Kloss, Mgr Werner Freistetter, and Chief Chaplain Jan van Lieverloo went to the State Secretariat at the Vatican to visit Mgr. Wells, who became very interested in AMI activities and supported AMI's efforts to become a Catholic NGO.

It was in April 2011 that Ms. Van De Vorst visited the Philippines to discuss 2011 Conference in Manila with Bishop Leopoldo Tumulak, Lt. Gen Oscar H Rabena and MGen Tristan Kison and the other members of the organizing committee. The last AMI conference in Manila was held in 1997. The AMI delegation also paid a courtesy call on the German Ambassador in Manila, Mr. Christian-Ludwig Weber-Lortsch.

AMI activities from April to May 2011 consisted of updating the list of AMI members as well as preparations for the 2011 General Assembly and annual conference. Last August 19 to 21, AMI representatives visited Vienna, in order to discuss and finalize the details of the AMI conference in Manila, as well as the upcoming elections of a new President and Secretary General.

The Ms. Van De Vorst ended her report by thanking the AMI for their confidence, friendship and allowing her to serve in the AMI.