

Oriens

INFORMATION REGARDING PACIFIC ISLAND MINISTRIES

December 2005

STATEMENT OF INTENT

This paper is to help explain the purpose and activities of Pacific Island Ministries. Each year in its renewal application to the Evangelical Council of Financial Accountability, of which PIM is a charter member, the following is submitted.

Pacific Island Ministries is a discipling and training mission with special interest in Papua New Guinea where the mission pioneers in remote areas to promote the knowledge of the Scriptures and obedience to its mandates. This is done through the sponsorship of schools, Bible training, adult education courses, the supply of Christian educational materials, community development, health services, the installation of clean water systems, the support activities making these possible, the training of nationals for their continued expansion, and presenting North Americans with the mission's needs to further these purposes. Using its publications among the disadvantaged, PIM also fosters the development of indigenous Christian leadership elsewhere in the world when and where appropriate.

PIM's purpose can be stated in a sentence with key words emphasizing its seven aspects: PIM TEACHES and TRAINS for OBEDIENCE to GOD'S WORD that believers SERVE in a HOLISTIC manner to fulfil NEEDS in obedience to CHRIST. In each of these areas PIM tries to make a special contribution. Two texts providing guidance for this approach are Matthew 28:19-20 and Ephesians 4:12-13. They are the Great Commission and Apostle Paul's directive to "Equip God's people for the work of Christian service."

A. TEACHING AND TRAINING. Discipling is teaching. God created man with the drive to become more than he is. PIM tries to foster this motive to help the Christian become what God wants him to be. Numerous short courses, teacher training classes, leadership and management seminars, elementary schools, a Sunday school program involving production and distribution of materials, and on-the-job training attest to this pursuit.

B. OBEDIENCE is the call of Scripture. Jesus says, "He who has my commandments and keeps them, he it is that loves me..." (John 14:21). PIM aims to help the believer mature by learning to love Christ's commands. Though the mission is evangelistic and works to this end, its primary concern is that the Christian grow in conformity to Christ so he becomes a productive member of the Body and an asset to the community.

C. PIM's focus is on GOD'S WORD. To obey Scripture one needs to know it. PIM's courses, elementary schools, Sunday schools, church development program, and devotional activities teach the Bible as the foundation of all knowledge, authority, and conduct.

D. PIM's goal is to SERVE. It aims to aid individuals, churches, the government, and other missions. PIM is not a mission in the usual sense of the term. It is not a church or denomination. It does not baptize, perform ecclesiastical functions, or conduct communion. In all its activities, however, the mission's object is to train God's people to develop their gifts and talents for service to others. One of the objects of this service is to prepare disciples for local church development who look to the Word of God for direction.

E. The mission is HOLISTIC in method. It aims to respond to all human need, not just spiritual. Man being body, soul, and spirit, we believe sound development comes when his physical, intellectual, and spiritual needs are met.

F. PIM responds to NEED. PIM pioneers at the ends of the earth. It does not have any prescribed method. It aims to determine need and try to respond to that need in the particular locale. PIM's motto is: "Working WITH the needy in their development." With this *hands on approach* PIM entertains requests for assistance, analyzes the need, and then responds to it as it is able and appropriate in the specific milieu from a biblical perspective. We believe this is in line with Christ's statement, "The Son of Man can do nothing except what He sees the Father doing."

G. PIM works in obedience to CHRIST. He is head of a kingdom in which men recognize authority, responsibility, gifts, and rights of each other. The aim is to develop effective, innovating working teams with each member submitting to Christ's rule and all to each other.

PACIFIC ISLAND MINISTRIES' PROGRAMS

PIM operates largely in rural PNG, that is, in the upper Sepik River basin and in the Waria Valley in Morobe Province. The upper basin is generally understood to be that from Pagwi to villages about 50 miles above the mouth of the May River. PIM's PNG headquarters is located on the Sepik at Ambunti about 45 river miles above Pagwi and 60 air miles southwest of Wewak. Its Waria Valley programs in the past have been conducted largely out of Garasa, located about midway between Port Moresby and Lae. Since the turn of the century, however, the mission is also reaching into other areas of the country.

Since PIM's policy is to respond to need, it is involved in many activities not

normally taken on by missions or other groups. Also, these programs, because of their need status and being located in difficult and isolated regions, are expensive to operate. Many of the Sepik villages are only accessible by water transport, therefore other groups and the government have not undertaken to be involved. We list the mission's following programs realizing there is some overlap to the material mentioned above:

A. **Training and Discipling.** PIM takes the command to disciple very much to heart. Experienced PIM nationals conduct courses at Ambunti and other areas to train leadership personnel in pastoring, teaching & administration, Sunday schools, community guidance, as well as village personnel in specialized areas such as health and marriage relationships. These courses undergird PIM's other activities.

B. **Church Development.** PIM promotes indigenous local church growth by training pastors and teachers in its short courses. It also sponsors an active Sunday school publishing program for various churches in PNG.

C. **Elementary Schools.** PIM conducts K - 3 classes in Melanesian (PNG Tok Pisin) to assist primary age children's adjustment to the English-oriented classroom of the community school to learn the basics. Highly successful and in great demand, the village schools, with hundreds of students coordinated by experienced supervisory national personnel, focus on knowledge of the Scriptures. They foster God's law, principles, memorization, and Bible stories, along with achieving literacy in Melanesian.

D. **Service Activities.** PIM's purpose is to serve the community. It operates a mechanical repair shop, a joinery for woodworking, small sawmills, an air agency, and communication and transport service for the sick. In addition, PIM construction crews aid communities by building service centers, health care facilities, water systems, schools, community facilities, and churches. Since these activities operate on biblical principles, they demonstrate how blessings result from obedience to the Bible's directives.

E. **Sunday School.** Teaching materials are produced in PIM's USA office and Ambunti for distribution for over 300 Sunday schools serving 11,000 students in different areas of PNG. Training courses are regularly conducted by national personnel in various centers to prepare teachers in the use of materials.

F. **Village Health Care.** PIM supports medical and health care services. Volunteer health workers are trained by PIM (developed in conjunction with the Stanford Medical School) to provide service in many Sepik basin villages. Health training courses are conducted on PIM's Ambunti premises.

G. **Water Systems Installation.** For twenty five years PIM has been erecting and

maintaining rain catchment water systems. Over 185 systems have been completed. Other systems using springs or clean stream water have been installed. Currently, corrugated iron tanks are being replaced with polyethylene ones when funds are made available. Much appreciated by villagers, the water systems improve village health and ease the subsistence living conditions of the people.

A PROFILE OF PACIFIC ISLAND MINISTRIES

Pacific Island Ministries (PIM) was incorporated in 1977 as a nonprofit organization in the State of California, to promote rural education, training, and development in Papua New Guinea. It was established through the leadership of Orneal Kooyers by a group of USA West Coast Christian business people.

Kooyers' educational background is in science, mathematics, teaching, and school administration which led to a position of a school district superintendent in Northern California before going to New Guinea in 1961. Mrs. Kooyers was a teacher for six years in California primary schools.

Kooyers then worked for 16 years with wife Martha translating the New Testament into the Waskuk language in the Sepik basin before forming PIM in 1977. The literacy courses led to the formation of a school called the Ambunti Akademi. The school provided courses in Melanesian (Tok Pisin), English, mathematics and morals. The Akademi trained many students who later were engaged by PIM while others realized employment in other areas of PNG. The school produced teachers, foremen, managers, clerks, bookkeepers, construction people, and other types.

PIM (USA) is governed by a fifteen member Board of Directors. It meets regularly to conduct business in conformance to the laws of the State of California and the Internal Revenue Service of the USA. It's books are audited annually by a certified auditor by standard accounting practices.

PIM (Canada) was formed in 1988 and has a five member Board of Directors. It also was established to further training, education, and development in PNG. PIM (C) conforms to the laws and regulations of the Province of British Columbia and the national government of Canada.

PIM (PNG), formed in 1978 with headquarters at Ambunti, East Sepik Province, is governed by a Board of Managers of whom six are nationals and one is an expatriate.

Since PIM's purpose was to establish schools and conduct courses in rural areas where none existed, PIM pioneered in setting up Christian primary K-3 schools in

the rural regions of the Sepik. Besides the 30 schools, PIM now conducts various short courses in leadership, management, ethics, specialized training, and training on the job.

PIM assumes PNG's greatest resource is its people, that development depends on the approach to life, incentives, and character development. With these aspects attended to the development of other resources follow. This approach aims to empower the existing talents, gifts, and potential in the people by the application of principles that nations by Christian witness through history have learned to be effective. Pioneering in methods of development, PIM believes biblical principles which governments, businesses, and societies have learned from experience to effectively provide for the general welfare should be applied to rural development for better living.

PIM responds to need. With no colonialist or paternalistic inclinations, the organization has gathered from experience that the intelligence, latent skills, and incentive exist in the rural milieu waiting to develop. Optimism, an open mind, and faith are needed on the part of management to bring the potential to fruition.

Since PIM's emphasis is on training nationals for involvement, its expatriate staff is small. The mission comprises an executive director (assigned in PNG), the founder (based in California), an assistant to the director (assigned in PNG), and two specialized office personnel. It's PNG national staff numbers over 80. Many of its managers are PNG citizens. In addition the organization works closely with church leadership affecting over 100 villages.

PIM operates on a firm financial base adhering to strict accounting procedures. PIM (USA) is a charter member of Evangelical Council of Financial Accountability, a watchdog accountability firm organized to monitor the operations, procedures, governance, and accounting methods of its member organizations. PIM (PNG) books are audited periodically by certified auditors.

PIM obtains its funds from various sources. Individuals, groups, businesses, and churches in the USA, Canada, and Europe who are in agreement with PIM's purposes support the organization. The costly Sepik operations need to be subsidized by other sources because few business opportunities exist in the region to earn a profit to fund operations.