

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

“Publishing Landmark” Reached

Africa Bible Commentary Ready to Launch July 5

FORT MILL, S.C., June 28, 2006—After five years of writing, editing, and fundraising, the *Africa Bible Commentary* (ABC) has been printed and will be launched on July 5 in Nairobi, Kenya.

This first-ever, one-volume commentary was sponsored by the Association of Evangelicals in Africa (AEA)—with significant financial support from Christians worldwide—and represents the labor of over 70 African theologians. It gives a section-by-section interpretation that provides a contextual, readable, and useful guide to the entire Bible. In addition, there are 72 articles on pertinent issues facing Africa’s churches, such as HIV/AIDS, angels/demons/powers, funeral and burial rites, widows and orphans, and persecution.

Dr. Tokunboh Adeyemo, former General Secretary of AEA, served as General Editor of the commentary. The commentary’s writers, advisors, and editors—all African men and women—represent the broad sweep of the evangelical church across the continent of Africa.

“Producing the *Africa Bible Commentary* now is doing the right thing at the right time for the Christian Church in Africa,” says Dr. Adeyemo. “One of the few to believe that it could be done and to throw its weight logistically and financially behind the project was SIM, which lived up to its name as Serving In Mission.”

Others in the evangelical world are acknowledging the significance of this new publication, including John Stott and Rick Warren. Stott writes in the book’s Foreword, “The *Africa Bible Commentary* is a publishing landmark. I intend to use it myself ... Indeed, I hope it will have a worldwide readership.”

With an initial print run of 46,000, most copies of the commentary will be distributed in Africa, while Zondervan plans to distribute the book in other English-speaking countries. In his endorsement, Warren writes, “Every pastor, Bible teacher, and Christian will benefit from [the *Africa Bible Commentary*]. We’ve needed this commentary for a long, long time!”

The major launch event on July 5 will be held at the Grand Regency Hotel in Nairobi, where retired President of the Republic of Kenya, Hon Daniel Arap Moi, will give the keynote address.

The launch coincides with the beginning of SIM’s Pastor Book Set Conferences in Kenya, Zambia, and Ethiopia. The *Africa Bible Commentary* will be the most cherished book in the study libraries of up to 20,000 pastors as it gets distributed over the next several months.

The \$1.2 million literature project needs just \$35,000 to completely fund the English-language version. Next plans for the commentary include translation projects. A French edition is slated for release in 2007, with Amharic, Portuguese, and other languages to follow.

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For more information, contact SIM International at 803-802-4550.

Note to Editors: SIM (Serving In Mission) is an international, interdenominational mission agency, sending workers from nine distinct sending offices to more than 40 field countries around the world. SIM members are involved in a full range of mission activities including church planting (evangelism and discipleship), ministries to human need, and development of Christian leaders.