

Africa Special



Pan Africa Conference Supasses Expectation

There was joy, inspired preaching, exuberant praise and worship, much dancing, faith-building seminars and refreshing fellowship.

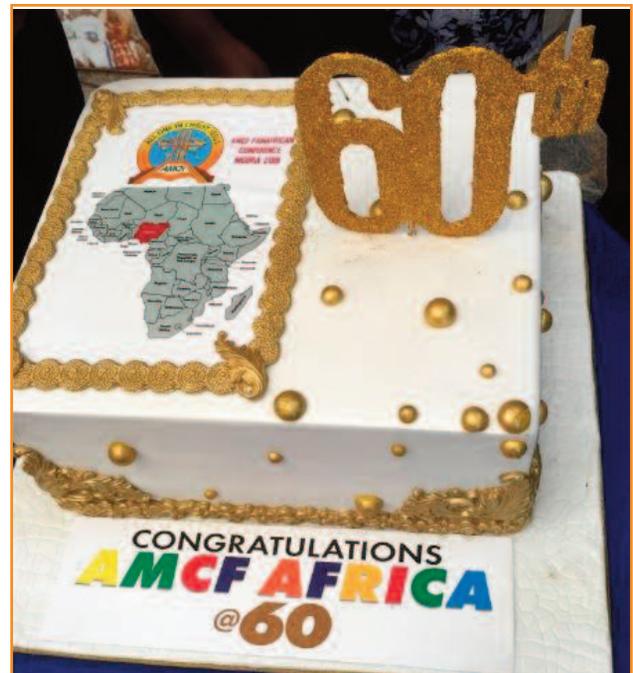
The Pan-African Conference in Abuja, Nigeria, from 19th to 23rd September 2018 surpassed all our expectations in every way.

We were delighted that delegates from Ghana, Cameroon, Liberia, Senegal, Rwanda, Botswana, Ethiopia, Uganda, South Africa, Madagascar and Cote d'Ivoire were able to attend. This was something of a re-launch for the Ghanaian MCF, whose 13 exuberant delegates had been personally sponsored by their CDS!

The Nigerian MCF (NMCF), ably led by their outgoing President Dominic Ejila, did an excellent job of pulling the detailed programme together and around 120 delegates enjoyed the palpable sense of the presence of God throughout our time together.

Full Report on Page 2.

AMCF World President Srilal Weerasooriya and Dilhani cut the AMCF 60 years in Africa cake at the opening celebrations.



Pan-Africa Conference

'Ambassadors for Christ'

by MMI CE/TL General Roddy Porter

The Conference theme was, "Ambassadors for Christ," and the roles, responsibilities and rewards of His Ambassadors were powerfully delivered by the Conference Speaker, Mr Isaac Okpanachi, a Nigerian Solicitor and an African FGBMFI leader. He extrapolated the roles and responsibilities of a national Ambassador into a spiritual context. There was significant emphasis on the Christian being 'not of this world', representing his/her Lord to a 'foreign' land; and on our position in Christ as believers. There was a call for deep and consistent holiness and on the incentive of heavenly rewards. This teaching was refreshing and a real blessing. I made extensive notes, if anyone would like to receive a copy!

Tchenkoua). One of the most encouraging outcomes was the sense of momentum that developed through discussions and prayer about the possibilities for future ministry in each of the Regions. AMCF VPs, together with MMI's Africa team and the reps of CRU (Campus Crusade for Christ, Military Ministry) had a sense of a renewed call from God to ministry. There are certainly some clear 'green shoots' in Africa that might be prayerfully nurtured. We need to maintain the momentum and, through the P&P process, we declared our intent to develop some Holy Spirit-inspired 5-year plans in the Regions.



Dominic and Comfort Ejila

We are so grateful to Dominic Ejila, his wife Comfort, to Son Igwe, the West African AMCF VP, and all the planners and prayer warriors in the NMCF for rising to the challenge and delivering an inspiring Conference. To God is the glory and they all enabled God's name to be honoured.

There was no doubting the Lord's blessing on the gathering and we rejoice at the re-launch of the Ghana MCF and the renewed sense of purpose evident across the board at the Conference.

Delegates spoke of this time being, "Africa's time," and I am certain that we can pray with confidence going forward that the Lord has some good things, some 'new things', He wants us to accomplish in Africa. Let's pray and plan; and may the Lord's will be done.



Part of the MMI delegation. L to R: Eddy (West Africa), Roddy (MMI CE-TL), Hermann (East & South Africa), Eric (RTL West & Francophone Africa)

Much AMCF core business was also achieved. Presentations were given by the AMCF President, General Srilal Weerasooriya; each of the African Vice Presidents (VPs); by MMI, ACCTS and MSO, and the Nigerian MCF. MSO also presented on the Korean Evangelism Model and, on the 60th Anniversary of AMCF Africa, a presentation of that history was given. Key seminars focused on Inductive Bible Study (IBS), Pray & Plan (P&P), Conversational Prayer (CP) and Establishing an MCF. Other seminars focused on women's ministry (led by Dilhani Weerasooriya), Faithfulness as an Ambassador, Chaplains Interaction, Evangelism using Radio, ACCTS Monthly Prayer, Stewardship and Ethics. I was privileged to lead seminars on P&P, CP and the PSOs and the desire of the delegates to hear these core presentations was remarkable.

I was particularly pleased that all the AMCF VPs for Africa were present (or in the case of Daniel Njoya, the Francophone Africa VP, represented by Augustin

Again I sensed, as on previous occasions, the Lord encouraging the PSOs to seek ways to collaborate more closely together. I am convinced that part of the 'New Thing' that the Lord is revealing is new ways of working amongst the PSOs and it was therefore good to spend time with ACCTS representatives Mike and Leslie

Fligg and Frank and Ginny Cole; and Maj Gen Kim, Kyoo (Vice Chairman for Mission) and Lt Col (Retd) Lee, Hyunchul from MSO. We also refreshed our relationship with CRU. Daryl and Martha Cole (International Directors and both former senior USAF officers) and Steve Cooper (Associate International Director Africa, former US Army Chaplain) shared their work and their enthusiasm for collaborating with the PSOs not only in Africa but elsewhere. CRU has much to offer (as Augustin is demonstrating in Cameroon) and have a wealth of experience and teaching material available.



RTL Max Mupondi, Pastor Gashaye Nuressa (Ethiopia) & Eddy Amponsah

Moves of the Spirit in West Africa

In Jan 2018 RTL Eric Mandille accompanied by Augustin Tchenkoua (CCRU Mil Ministry) on behalf of AMCF VP, Daniel Njoya, visited Guinée. The aim was to encourage the Christians in the Guinée Military with a “Peter and Cornelius” visit to lift up both MCF and emerging Chaplaincy. The plan had started taking shape a year before.

By the end of the seven day visit the authorities of Guinée had agreed to support (finance, recognition, facilities) sending candidates to the IAEC Chaplains training in Benin in March 2018 and to the AMCF Pan African conference in Abuja/Nigeria in September 2018, as well as a delegation to the RIMP 2018 in Southern France.

The visit ended with warm fellowship with the Conakry branch of the Guinée MCF in a military base, praying and praising for the encouragement and peace that all participants found. We praise the Lord for the Guinée MCF who is determined to carry the MCF and Chaplaincy project forward.



Top right: Brig Gen Akpatsu, President Ghana MCF, WO Godwin Walkan and Col Augusta visiting a training establishment.
Above: RTL Eric Mandille (right) with Augustin in Guinée Conakry.



In June 2016, Col Augusta Wellington (Ret'd) was invited by the West Africa AMCF VP to participate in the 2016 MEO programme in South Korea. By the grace of God, on her return to Ghana, she met together with three other surviving active members of the MCF in Ghana and they committed to meeting together and to prayer, asking God to guide and help them to revive the 'Dry Bones' of the Military Fellowship in Ghana.

In Sept 17 Brig Gen Akpatsu was appointed interim President together with an interim executive including Col Augusta. Many units and military churches in Accra have now been visited by the executives to introduce the vision and mission of the MCF to troops and their families and to invite and encourage membership.

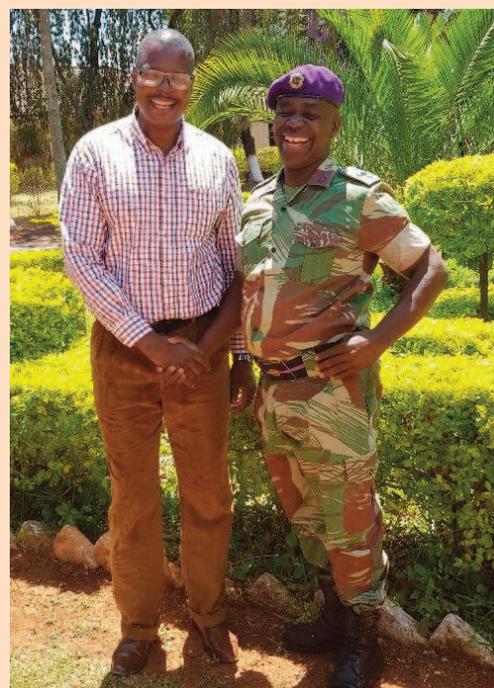
At the end of May this year, a troop of soldiers numbering over 500, including officers, men and women were visited at their pre-deployment training camp. A time of worship and prayers was held. We praise God that 13 delegates were officially sponsored by the Ghanaian military to attend the Pan Africa conference. Thanks be to God for the revival of the Ghana Military Christian Fellowship.

ZIMBABWE ready for partnership in military ministry

RTL Max travelled to Harare after the Pan Africa Conference to see his father. While in Zimbabwe he was able to meet the Deputy Chaplain General, Lt Col Ashani Bwanali at the Army Corps of Chaplains, Army Headquarters, in Harare. The two discussed working together in partnership in military ministry.

The DCG hoped that the new political situation in Zimbabwe presented an open door for them to get involved in the global family of the AMCF under their chaplaincy, as in the days when the late Val Rajah was Chief Chaplain. He suggested that the politics of fear no longer existed and the new government was working hard to normalise relations with the West in general, UK and USA in particular.

Max assured the DCG that despite Zimbabwe not being represented at the recent African events, prayers were made for the country and for believers in the military. He was encouraged to learn that they are seeking support in training chaplains and permission has been granted for them to work with outside military Christian organisations in this regard. As the political slogan in the country goes, 'Zimbabwe is open for business,' the chaplaincy is also open and ready for partnership in military ministry.



East Africa Prayer Convention



Vision for Africa International), accompanied by five German Christian travellers. Mrs Preat expressed a desire to bring back the convention to Mt Galilee Prayer Retreat Centre near Jinja, which the leaders promised to do.

The convention ended with the blessing and sending-off of Maj John Katusabe who was leaving for Mogadishu the following day, and the new non-paid MMI volunteer who over the years has shown willingness to support MMI and undertake

visits to neighbouring countries with both Homfray and Max.

Brigadier David Wakaalo, AMCF VP East Africa, hosted the East Africa Prayer Convention (EAPC) at the Africa Prayer Mountain, World Trumpet Mission at Seguku Hill in July 2018. It was held at short notice which probably affected the participation of delegates from neighbouring countries. Invitations were sent out to Kenya, Burundi, Rwanda and South Sudan but none sent delegates. However, the love of the Lord and faithfulness was unquestionable throughout the convention. The main purpose of EAPC 18 was to bring together military Christians at one focal point to pray about issues affecting individual countries and the region. The participation of MMI staff Max and Hermann served to encourage and support the hosting of the event and strengthen the Ugandan MCF as an anchor for spiritual radiance into the whole of East Africa. Senior officers who attended included the MFCU Chairman, Brigadier Tom Tumuhairwe; two Colonels and one Lt Colonel. Overall, there were twenty-four participants (changing daily due to availability). Max and Hermann were received at Entebbe International Airport by Capt (Rtd) Absalom Tinkamanyire, who drove them from the airport straight to the prayer

mountain. Due to the lack of preparation time, the improvised Spartan accommodation was enough to meet the needs of people who were praying and fasting. Each day was organised into two non-stop periods. The day period ran from 9am to 6pm and night one started at midnight to 6am. Focus on the first day was on repentance, and on the second day the Psalms, reflecting on the main messages of the texts, transferring and applying them into both individual and group prayers. The third and fourth days focussed on prayers for the nations of the region and their MCFs or military Christian groups, the nation of Israel and MMI. The night periods focussed on worship, devotions and praise.



The event gave the opportunity for fervent and focussed prayers to be made for the nations, conflicts and hot spots.

Although they only had a few hours to sleep each night, the participants testified that they had been spiritually revitalised to return to their homes and work places empowered by the Holy Spirit for good works.



The main theme throughout the convention was 'Christ First,' which challenged delegates to make the Lord Jesus their number one priority. The 'in-between' highlights were the visit of the Derek Prince Foundation bringing Bible study books to the convention, followed by the visit of Mrs Maria Preat, founder and chairperson of

Top: Flag waving during devotion time. Middle: Day 1 Participants Bottom: Derek Prince Ministries East Africa brought Bible Study books to the convention.

Lusophone Africa

In early September both Mozambique and Angola held conferences which included outreach. MMI's Lusophone (Portuguese speaking) field worker LtCol Samuel Cóiás attended both and was joined in Mozambique by AMCF VP for the region Peter Louwrens.



Mozambique

In Mozambique the Associação de Militares Cristãos de Moçambique (AMCM) conference opening ceremony was attended by two Bishops (actual and emeritus) from the Anglican Church, D. Carlos Mtsingue and D. Dinis Sengulane; Reverend Tseco - President of Maputo Bible Society; Felicina's Church Pastor - Estefâno Jesse, on behalf of President of Mozambique Assemblies of God; AMCF VP - Cmdr Peter Louwrens; MMI Africa Staff LtCol Samuel Cóiás and about 60 military/police.

MCF President Lt Col Felicina spoke about the work of AMCM making special reference to Bibles given by brother Roger Keller from Australia and also mentioning the work of brother Homfray in the process. The AMCM now have the Bibles as a tool to reach the military and police forces in all Mozambique. With actions following words, after the opening ceremony a group, including Samuel and Peter went with Felicina to the Military Communications Headquarters, to present Bibles to the soldiers there. Peter was able to speak about the regional AMCF and Samuel about MMI and to give his own testimony. The group then moved on to the Military War Veterans Centre at Boane, to distribute Bibles and witness about Jesus. Both visits significantly contributed to local MCF development.



Top right: Lt Col Felicina. President AMCM
Top left: Presentation to the Veterans. with AMCF VP Peter Louwrens and RTL Samuel Cóiás
Above:(AMCM) members with Bibles to distribute.

Angola

Lt Col Felicina and Samuel then flew to Angola to participate in the 2nd Associação dos Militares Polícias e Bombeiros Cristãos de Angola, (AMPBCA) Conference. The AMPBCA president is Ex-Parliamentary Dr. Teodoro Ricardo.

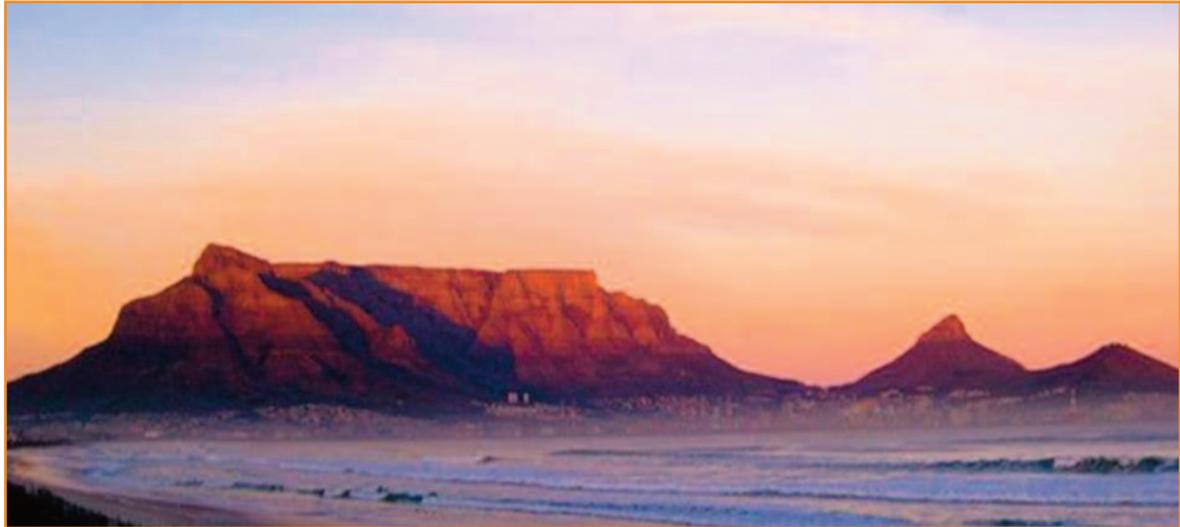
The fellowship is struggling in the political/economic situation in Angola, where people live with much difficulty (Luanda has the highest cost of living in the world). However, a group including Samuel, Felicina and Teodoro were able to visit and present some bibles to the Navy Chief of Staff with AMPBCA compliments. At the conference Samuel spoke about the universal dimension of Christian military association and also explored the question 'Can a member of the defense and security forces be effective as a Christian?' The conference closed with a special church service, with the closing message given by Rev Prof Dr Missionary José Sitonga from Congo, based in I Timothy 1:7. After the message, many people responded to receive prayer.



AMPBCA President - Teodoro Ricardo and Captain Prócoro Ismael.

"I believe that even in the current political and economic framework, we will see the development and stabilization of the AMPBCA. They are comitted to elect a military/police member to leadership in the near future." Samuel Cóiás

Table Mountain Top Interaction



South Africa Western Cape's famous land sight gave the event its name: Table Mountain Top Interaction. It was started in 2003 and developed over the years into an annual international event of mostly young military Christians. TMTI's main goal, given by AMCF VP Peter Louwrens, is to equip and prepare emerging junior Christian leaders for future ministry and exemplary service where God has placed them. The interaction's Scripture verse was "And when He had sent the multitudes away, He went up into a mountain apart to pray; and when the evening was come, He was there alone." (Mt 14:23) Col (retd) Hermann Meyer was MMI's representative and actively participated, leading various bible studies on themes of relevance for military service generally and for leadership in particular. Further goals were to help broaden delegates' perception for God's work in international vineyards by informing them about MMI, ACCTS and MSO.

Wellwood Lodge in Fish Hoek, close to the beach and well equipped with lecture hall, lounge for prayer and worship, reading room, dining hall and accommodations for up to 50 persons was an ideal choice as the venue for TMTI. The town is close to the Cape of Good Hope.

Right at the beginning of the interaction God granted an overwhelming surprise. Brig Gen Monwabisi Andrew Jamangile, Chaplain General of SANDF, emphasised in his key note speech the importance of mutual acceptance, solid relationship, and supplementary co-operation between Chaplaincy and MCF. He explicitly said:

"I am encouraging SA MCF to go on with its particular ministry.

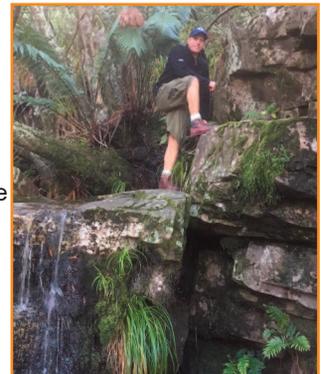
Keep up your good and valuable work!"
 Brig Gen Monwabisi Andrew Jamangile, Chaplain General of SANDF



These words were genuinely the result of God's grace after much prayer. The Chaplain General used the metaphor of a congregation with the garrison's chaplain as its pastor and MCF members as deacons and church-elders to describe his vision of a fostering relationship.

The days at the Cape were focused on talks and teaching on Psalm 91 and Ephesians 6, also on different forms of individual prayer, Inductive Bible Study, Personal Evangelism, Worship, PTSD and Pastoral Intervention, Christianity in the Military and by continuously sharing personal testimonies about God's mighty deeds in the military context.

Over all the talks, teaching and exchanging experiences stood the questions 'How does it relate to military leadership tasks?' and 'How best to be applied' led by Cmdr Neville Howell.



In between the study times was a vast array of sport, cultural and military activity and opportunities i.e. boat trip, challenging hiking, Western Cape fauna and flora, beach walk, astrologic tour on southern sky, guided tours on a SA submarine as well as a SA frigate with prayer for their crews. Also visits to local church services and invitations to delegates to speak at services.

The highlight of TMTI was a backpack hike over two days on the 'Hoerikwaggo Trail' right up to Table Mountain's peak at 1,087m. Ron, a Christian member of the South African Mountaineer Association was our very competent and prudent guide with a lot of information not only on what we saw and encountered during the hike but also on the Southern hemisphere's brilliant starry night sky. The spiritual component of the two-day-hike was given by Hermann with bible study and prayer walk.

Top: Table Mountain, Cape Town, South Africa
 Middle: Cmdr Neville Howe, TMTI Director
 Bottom Left: Brig Gen Jamangile, Chaplain General SANDF with MMI Africa Field Worker Col Hermann Meyer

Although TMTI's programme had huge variety and intensity the staff handled it with impressive flexibility taking into account the actual needs and changes of situation. The mix of young delegates with future responsibility both in the military and in their church congregations and of senior/former military leaders with



very individual backgrounds of long year service provided an outstanding amount of subliment and synergy. Attendees described their experiences on TMTI as "refilling, strengthening and refreshing ... through the Holy Spirit" and a considerable equipping with spiritual gifts and sensitivity to what God might have in mind with every single individual labourer on HIS military vineyard was stated.



The new plant of goodwill and open-hearted relationship between MCF and Chaplaincy needs to be nurtured and developed on the national level with its far reaching visibility into the whole region as well as developing strong roots on the local level.

Above: Delegates Katarina (GER), Thandeka (SA) & Kimberley (GER/ISR) having fun at the beach.

Left: A group reach the peak at 1,087m !

A warm welcome in Ethiopia



The maiden trip to Ethiopia by Max Mupondi, MMI Regional Team Leader Africa East & South and Hermann Meyer, MMI Field Worker to meet the Ethiopian Defence Christian Fellowship (EDCF) in

trip, we visited three fellowships in the capital - the Defence Forces Hospital Fellowship, the Defence Forces Head quarters Fellowship, and the Defence Construction Workers Fellowship. The three key leaders of EDCF, Lt Col Eshetu Desta (EDCF Chair), Captain Girma Abebe (Vice Chair), and Pastor Gashaye Nuessa (Coordinator), coordinated the visits.

Addis Ababa had long been on the cards and was facilitated by Homfray Vines through his old contact Gashaye Nuessa. Homfray had forewarned us that there was quite a large fellowship of military Christians in Ethiopia and in his send-off, the new MMI Chief Executive Roddy Porter had told us to expect great things during the trip. The AMCF VP East Africa Brigadier David Wakaalo led our delegation and the welcome we received from our hosts was incredible.

It was clear that the Lord went ahead of us and prepared the way. The visit happened at the right time and right political climate. The EDCF is key to reaching military Christians in neighbouring countries through the missionaries they already employ for outreach. Great feedback was received from the fellowships we visited in Addis Ababa, whose members testified that they were strengthened by the visit and strong working relations were birthed!.

The main purpose of the visit was to strengthen relations and encourage the EDCF to get involved with the global movement of the AMCF. Although there was no official programme, the hosts arranged meetings for prayer, sharing the Word, and fellowship. During the



RTL Max, Hermann & AMCF VP Brig David Wakaalo meeting Addis Ababa

MMI in Africa 2019

The MMI Africa Team

RTL and Francophone Africa: Eric Mandille (eric@mmi.org.uk) France.

West Africa: Eddy Amponsah (eddy@mmi.org.uk). UK

Lusophone Africa: Samuel Cóias Portugal

RTL and East Africa: Max Mupondi (max@mmi.org.uk) UK

Africa : Hermann Meyer (herman@mmi.org.uk) Germany

Lusophone Africa: Samuel Cóias Portugal.

Can you partner with them in prayer?

You can receive short email prayer needs (just a couple of lines) or a longer prayer brief to use in your personal and church prayers. If you would like to receive our succinct email prayers as they are needed sign up at prayer@mmi.org.uk.

Want to be more involved??

You could join one of the **Africa Regional Pray and Plan Groups**, strategically praying and planning with the RTL for the ministry in the region, and supporting the RTL in prayer. If location is a problem you can join by skype.



Eddy at Prayer Mountain S Korea.

Proposed Plan 2019

Francophone Africa

Gabon with Augustin Tchenkoua (4 -10 March).

Madagascar for Chaplains Training (TBD) Possible visit.

West Africa

Gambia, Liberia, and Ghana (March-April)

Sierra Leone(July, but depending on the situation there.)

Nigeria (Sep-Oct) National Convention

Africa East

Uganda for East Africa Prayer Convention in the first half of 2019.

Straight after the convention;

Democratic Republic of Congo in partnership with CRU and a Congolese pastor based in Lubumbashi.

Since DRC is French speaking,

Augustin has agreed to join the trip.

Africa South

South Africa to participate at TMTI 16-26 May, followed by **Botswana** together with the VP Africa South to meet chaplains and MCF there.

If possible Botswana will be encouraged to invite chaplains from neighbouring **Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe** to the event we are asking them to host!

Lusophone Africa

Visits not yet planned.



Newsletter is a private circulation by: Military Ministries International
Havelock House, Barrack Road ALDERSHOT, Hampshire, GU11 3NP, UK Telephone:
++44(0)1252 311222; E-mail: headoffice@mmi.org.uk Reg. Charity 284203

Personal Data Privacy Notice: MMI does not share your personal data with any other organization and has policies in place to keep it secure. If you wish to change or delete the personal data we hold for you please email headoffice@mmi.org.uk