

Burma Refugee Commission Report July – December 2023

Burma Refugee Commission (BRC) is grateful to have Rev. Dr. Robin Stoops, Associate General Secretary for Mission Resource Development, OGS, to oversee the Commission and work alongside Rev. Florence Li (retired from ABHMS in December 2022), and Rev. Leslie Turley (retired from IM in May 2023). Both Florence and Leslie remain in the Commission and coordinate with Robin to envision BRC future goals and targeted activities. Three of them met three times throughout the summer into September to review the BRC members list and organized the BRC files that be stored in OGS office. In addition to the already existed BRC list of the diaspora convention and association representatives, the newly expanded list to include selective mission partners from overseas (Malaysia & Thailand) and national entities that have vast interests and passion on the Burma work.

BRC sponsored an exhibit table at the 2023 Biennial Mission Summit in Puerto Rico. We are grateful to 2023 Mission Summit attendants who generously gave offering during the last worship service on Sunday, June 25. The offering helped to support the work of Burma Advocacy Group (BAG), a sub-group of BRC that focuses on advocacy and campaign letters to Senators and churches among many other plans.

BAG delegates under the leadership of Dr. Roy Medley, General Secretary Emeritus, went on a mission/advocacy visit to Malaysia and Thailand from September 28-October 6, 2023. A written report was furnished by Roy (see attachment). ***DUE TO THE SENSITIVE CONTENT, THE REPORT IS FOR BGM BOARD MEMBERS ONLY AND NOT TO BE SHARED OR CIRCULATED TO THE PUBLIC.***

Robin, Leslie, Florence, Roy and Van Kio met on Zoom on October 17 to discuss and initiate some action plans regarding 2024 (and beyond) refugee resettlement from Malaysia and Thailand. An anticipated 70,000 diaspora refugees will be resettled in the third country include the U.S. There will be numerous efforts and coordination between United Nations Higher Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) and various official agencies and resettlement organizations. BRC will share more information as time comes with this resettlement effort.

Submitted by:

Robin Stoops

Leslie Turley

Florence Li

On Behalf of Burma Refugee Commission.