

INTERNATIONAL SENIOR LAWYERS PROJECT

Serving the World Community



Chip Roh and Patrick Macrory, Trade Negotiation Training Program, Botswana



Dick Spencer with staff of the Centre for Human Rights in Mongolia



Perry Irvine and members of his business law class in South Africa

2006 PROJECT REPORT

OVERVIEW

The International Senior Lawyers Project (ISLP) seeks to advance the rule of law, human rights and equitable economic development worldwide by providing highly skilled legal services from experienced lawyers and distinguished law firms on a pro bono basis.

ISLP has three program areas: (1) human rights and social welfare; (2) equitable economic development; and (3) access to justice. Within these program areas, ISLP provides three kinds of services:

- On-site volunteers to help strengthen and build the capacity of local nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), government agencies and other institutions;
- Expert legal counsel on corporate, transactional, litigation and legislative matters; and
- Cross-border research and analysis on human rights and other issues.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

This report provides brief descriptions of each of the projects that were implemented or significantly developed during 2006. The larger trends and a few projects of particular significance are highlighted below.

On-site assignments with NGOs: 2006 witnessed a significant increase in the number of long-term on-site assignments undertaken by ISLP volunteers to help build the capacity of NGOs and governmental agencies promoting human rights, access to justice and the rule of law. ISLP volunteers spent from three weeks to seven months working in the Czech Republic, Hungary,

Ukraine, Mongolia, India and Kenya. In Mongolia, a focus on the gold mining industry resulted in legislative reforms, the first court victory ever against a mining company, a national training conference for advocates and the first use of a statutory provision allowing the buy-out of mining rights in a protected area. In India and Hungary, significant advances in promoting the adoption of formal *pro bono* programs by local law firms were made with the help of ISLP volunteers. In Ukraine, a recently retired criminal defense lawyer with substantial experience as a public defender assisted with the establishment of the first two public defender offices; his work was considered so valuable that he was asked to stay on in a paid position for an additional year. In the Czech Republic, two ISLP volunteers provided mentoring and strategic advice to an important human rights organization that, according to the leadership of the organization, was instrumental in helping them clarify their mission and prioritize their goals and work. Finally, two volunteers started a four month assignment in Kenya working with the public interest practice of a long-time human rights lawyer and with his center for constitutional research that continued to the end of February 2007.

Short-term on-site trainings: In 2006, the number of short-term training programs conducted by ISLP volunteers also expanded, from one in prior years (the South Africa Black Lawyers Association Commercial Law Education Project, “CLEP”) to three, with several additional programs in preparation for 2007. In addition to the CLEP program, which was offered in Johannesburg and Cape Town, ISLP conducted a one-week intensive trade negotiation training program in Botswana for government officials and others selected by the government, while a two-day training on the enforcement of sexual harassment laws was given in Budapest to the entire staff of Hungary’s Equal Treatment Authority. Work on projects to provide training to women’s rights advocates in China, to conduct commercial law education programs in Botswana and Tanzania, and to offer a trade negotiation training program in Rwanda, was begun.

Transactional pro bono assistance: A number of significant transactional matters were handled by participating law firms and individual volunteers in 2006, including intellectual property and contract work for Ethiopian coffee growers and project finance assistance for the government of Rwanda in connection with the development of a power plant on Lake Kivu. A major achievement of ISLP transactional work in 2006 was the renegotiation of the terms of an iron ore concession agreement with the largest steel company in the world, Arcelor Mittal, on behalf of the newly elected democratic government of Liberia. The ISLP team was led by a business law professor from the University of California at Davis Law School and lawyers with a prominent New York firm and included an expert from the Harvard Business School, attorneys with a distinguished Boston law firm and a British attorney. Our volunteers worked intensively with their clients, Liberian government officials, to achieve a contract that was hailed in Liberia and throughout the world as one of the signature achievements of President Johnson Sirleaf’s first year in office. The \$1 billion agreement will create 3500 direct and 20,000 indirect jobs; President Sirleaf, in a thank you letter written to the ISLP team, stated that the agreement was one that she could proudly present to her nation and that represented “a significant improvement in the management of our natural resources and protection of our national interest.”

The above summary merely highlights a few signature achievements of 2006. Brief descriptions of all of our projects follow.

For more information on ISLP’s past and current projects, please visit our web site at www.islp.org or contact Jean Berman, Executive Director, ISLP, 31 W. 52nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10019-6131 or jberman@islp.org.

PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS

As noted above, ISLP has three broad program areas: human rights, equitable economic development and access to justice. This report is organized by program area, and within each program area, by geographical region.

HUMAN RIGHTS

Africa

Kenya Human Rights Law Center: Volunteers Bill Coogan and Kim Matthews, a husband-wife team, went to Kenya in late September for a five-month period to work with Gibson Kuria, a prominent Kenyan human rights lawyer and Laureate of the RFK Memorial Center for Human Rights, in his human rights practice and his work at the International Centre for Constitutional Research and Governance (the “Centre”). Kim is a retired civil liberties lawyer and general practitioner, and Bill is a retired professor of government and constitutional law. Kim provided training and assistance on specific cases, particularly one involving the taking of land by eminent domain from a group of poor farmers for a mining company. Bill worked with the Board of Directors of the Centre to draft a three-year strategic plan and prepared a fundraising proposal to enable the Centre to implement its plan. Kim also assisted another human rights lawyer in Nairobi with some of her caseload.

Chad Human Rights Law Centre: François-Bernard Côté, a French Canadian lawyer, spent 8 days in Chad with Delphine Djiraibe, a Chadian human rights lawyer who is also an RFK Memorial Center for Human Rights Laureate, to help her strategize about opening the first human rights legal assistance center in Chad and to assess her needs and advise ISLP on ways it could provide further assistance. Ms. Djiraibe later met with Kim Matthews and Bill Coogan in Nairobi for further guidance on establishing her NGO.

Liberia Justice and Peace Commission: Partners and associates of the New York and Washington offices of a major firm provided research and strategic planning assistance to the Liberian Catholic Justice and Peace Commission, a human rights NGO founded by the Archdiocese of Monrovia, on issues arising out of the conduct of the civil war in Liberia.

Liberia: Senior lawyers at two firms in Washington, D.C. with expertise in public international law and foreign assets control provided research and strategic counsel to the Open Society Justice Initiative in connection with issues relating to violations of United Nations sanctions in Liberia during the civil war.

Independent Diplomat: A senior partner with a Washington firm who is a former high level government attorney, undertook a matter on behalf of Independent Diplomat, an organization founded by former senior British foreign service officers that provides diplomatic training and assistance to least developed countries and regions. This project requires confidentiality.

Global Grassroots/Darfur Project: A senior partners and associates at a major entertainment law firm in New York City provided intellectual property and contracts assistance in connection with the production of a documentary film on the crisis in Darfur, Sudan. In addition to copyright and trademark advice, the team negotiated a complicated production contract for the nonprofit client’s film. The film, entitled “The Devil On Horseback,” premiered at the Sundance Film Festival and had a tremendous response. The firm continues to represent Global Grassroots to tie up some loose ends with the production.

Friends of the Walter Sisulu Pediatric Cardiac Centre for Africa: Partners and associates in the New York office of a major firm provided corporate governance advice, incorporated and started the process for securing tax exempt status for the American affiliate of this NGO that provides cardiac medical services for poor children throughout Africa and trains the local doctors of their patients in follow up care.

Asia

The Centre for Human Rights and Development, Mongolia: Richard Spencer, a shareholder in the Maine law firm Drummond Woodsum and MacMahon and a highly experienced public policy and environmental lawyer, went to Mongolia for three months to work with the Centre for Human Rights and Development to help build its environmental advocacy program. His numerous projects included help with the first case ever won against a mining company in Mongolia; assistance in drafting two amendments to the Mongolian mining laws that were, with some changes, adopted by the parliament; identification of a statute that served as the basis for negotiating the termination of a mining license in a protected area of the Gobi Desert; and assistance with writing a national discussion paper on mining and the environment for the United Nations Development Program. His firm provided back-up research and other assistance, as did a number of lawyers and environmental specialists to whom Dick reached out for advice.

The Beijing University Centre for Women's Law Studies and Legal Service: The offices of a global firm in Hong Kong, London, New York and Germany assisted the Centre for Women's Law Studies and Legal Services of Beijing University in the development of model rules and procedures for the implementation of China's new law prohibiting sexual harassment and prepared materials and a workshop for its January 2007 International Symposium on Establishing Anti-Sexual Harassment Mechanisms in the Workplace. The firm will continue to assist the Centre in working with corporations in China to implement sexual harassment policies.

Justice Ventures International Shanghai Legal Aid Research Project: Beth Shoemith, an American lawyer living in Shanghai, who is a former legal aid lawyer, conducted research on the current state of legal aid in Shanghai for Justice Ventures International ("JVI"), with the goal of determining if and how JVI can support legal aid programs in Shanghai.

Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA): A partner in a Chicago-based firm assisted this major Indian trade organization, which works to improve the lives of women in the poorest trades – textiles, construction, paper picking, cigarette rolling and the like. SEWA is currently in a controversy with the regional government of Gujarat, where SEWA is based, which launched an attack on SEWA that SEWA believes was instigated because of its work with the Muslim community. The attack threatened the continuation of a number of initiatives with funding from a United Nations program. The volunteer reviewed the terms of the United Nations grant and advised SEWA on its rights and responsibilities under those terms.

A Leg to Stand On: A Leg to Stand On ("ALTSO") is a U.S.-based organization that provides prosthetic devices and other care for disabled children throughout the world, most significantly in India. Partners and associates in the New York office of a major firm provided assistance to ALTSO on a broad range of matters, including corporate governance, tax, intellectual property, employee benefits and complying with state and international registration requirements to solicit contributions.

Child Helpline International: Child Helpline International ("CHI") is a global network of free emergency telephone lines and services for children with 82 member organizations in 71 countries.

Founded by Jeroo Billimoria, an Ashoka Fellow from India, its mission is “[t]o respond to children in need of care and protection and voice their concerns to policy and decision-makers by establishing a global network of children's helplines and provide support to individual child helplines.” A partner in the Singapore office of a global firm, together with associates in his office, provided corporate legal assistance in connection with the establishment of a regional office of Child Helpline International in Singapore.

Eastern Europe and Russia

League of Human Rights, Czech Republic: The League of Human Rights (LIGA), one of only a handful of public interest legal organizations in the Czech Republic, approached ISLP for on-site help to strengthen the skills of legal professionals in its two offices, located in Prague and Brno. In the spring of 2006, Michael Haroz, a senior partner in the Boston firm Goulston & Storrs, who earlier in his career spent several years at Greater Boston Legal Services, and Arline Pacht, a retired judge and a founder of the International Association of Women Judges, spent a combined total of three months with LIGA. To prepare for certain aspects of the trainings and mentoring they would undertake, Mike and his firm gathered materials on the law and legal strategies used to address police brutality, while Arline researched and prepared materials on domestic violence issues. Each helped LIGA make improvements in policy and practices, and provided training and advice to staff on how to address challenges faced by their various programs. They also secured an agreement for *pro bono* assistance from a major European law firm, and built relationships between LIGA and other firms. Most significantly, each made a number of recommendations for prioritizing programs and managing the organization that were later adopted by LIGA.

Hungarian Equal Treatment Authority: In response to a request from the European Roma Rights Center and the Hungarian Equal Treatment Authority (ETA), a newly formed agency that enforces Hungary's anti-discrimination laws, ISLP volunteers provided training on the enforcement of sexual harassment laws. Senior partner Blair Soyster and associate Marye Cherry of Clifford Chance US prepared a comprehensive manual addressing definitional, applicability and evidentiary issues, and conducted a 2-day workshop that was attended by all ETA staff. One lawyer in attendance reported to us that “From the comments of the Chairwoman and the staff of the Equal Treatment Authority one could easily see that the training met their needs fully. At one point the Chairwoman even stated that during the training and the discussion of the cases she . . . had the chance to write down full sentences that she would ‘quote’ in the decisions to come.” The Budapest office of Clifford Chance arranged for the translation of the manual into Hungarian at no cost to the client.

European Roma Rights Centre (ERRC): Lawyers in the Brussels office of a global firm assisted the ERRC with its submission to the European Court of Human Rights in the first case against Macedonia involving Article 3 of the European Convention of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms. Article 3 prohibits torture or inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. The case was brought on behalf of a Roma citizen who, while in police custody, was kicked in the head, punched and beaten with a truncheon by a police officer. He filed a criminal complaint with the public prosecutor against an unidentified police officer. More than seven and a half years later, no steps had been taken to investigate the complaint. The ERRC filed a claim against Macedonia in the European Court on behalf of the victim, claiming that the State's failure to investigate the victim's complaint for more than seven years was a breach of his fundamental right to an effective remedy, as guaranteed by Article 13 of the Convention. This case was considered a long shot, and the firm's assistance in researching and writing the brief was believed by ERRC to have contributed to a significant victory when the Court ruled the case admissible in May of 2006. A decision on the merits is expected by March 2007.

Freedom of Information and the Press in Russia: In June, ISLP Board member and retired Clifford Chance partner Richard Winfield participated in the World Editors Forum/World Association of Newspapers Congress in Moscow. Mr. Winfield delivered a paper on the numerous Russian defamation cases decided or pending in the European Court of Human Rights. The audience consisted of members of the Coordinating Committee of press freedom organizations, including, among others, the Committee to Protect Journalists, the World Association of Newspapers, the International Association of Broadcasting, and the World Press Freedom Committee. An associate at Clifford Chance assisted in the research.

Jurists for Constitutional Rights and Freedoms (JURIX): Volunteers from three distinguished law firms provided research and assistance to this Russian human rights NGO in connection with its submission of briefs for two cases arising in Russia. One requested a ruling by the Constitutional Court of Russia in connection with the conviction of a journalist of criminal libel under Articles 129 and 33 of the Russian Criminal Code. The other was an *amicus* brief to be submitted to the European Court of Human Rights on an appeal from the Russian courts in a case challenging the process by which a woman was declared legally incompetent due to mental incapacity and the sweeping deprivation of civil liberties resulting from the declaration.

Polish Judiciary Screening Project: A former Chair of the ABA Standing Committee on the Federal Judiciary advised ISLP Board member Zbigniew Lasocik, a leading human rights lawyer in Poland, and NGOs in Poland on strategies and substantive ideas in connection with their efforts to advocate for and develop procedures for civil society participation in evaluating and assessing the qualifications of judicial nominees, including nominees to Poland's Constitutional Court and its appointments to the European Court of Human Rights and the European Court of Justice.

Middle East

Jordan Media Law Reform: In December, ISLP Board member and retired Clifford Chance partner Richard Winfield participated in a workshop in Amman, Jordan exploring the problems of repressive media laws in the Gulf region. Mr. Winfield delivered a paper entitled Connecting the Links: The Media, Exposing Corruption and Economic Vitality. The workshop, organized by International Research and Exchanges Board (IREX) and a regional press freedom organization, included media lawyers and journalists from Oman, Yemen, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Lebanon, Qatar, Kuwait, and Egypt.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Africa

Botswana Trade Negotiation Training Program: Weil Gotshal & Manges partners Chip Roh, Joanne Osendarp and Jean Anderson and retired trade lawyer Patrick Macrory developed and conducted a week-long training for the Ministry of Trade and Industry of Botswana (the "Ministry") targeted to Botswana's specific needs. The training was undertaken jointly with the South Africa-based African Centre for the Constructive Resolution of Disputes ("ACCORD"). The development of the program took place over several months of discussions among ISLP, ACCORD and the Ministry, and included two preparatory meetings in Botswana with Mrs. Ntletleng Martha Masisi, the Deputy Permanent Secretary for Trade, to discuss the project concept and explore the Ministry's interests and areas of focus. The program covered negotiation strategies and concepts, substantive rules of the General Agreement on Trade in Services and the World Trade Organization, and a detailed hypothetical trade negotiation simulation that formed the core of the training. The evaluations were uniformly excellent,

and another indicator of success was the fact that all of the participants, including Mrs. Masisi, attended the entire program.

Liberia Review of Concession Agreements: ISLP recruited outstanding teams of lawyers and technical consultants to provide counsel to the new government of Liberia with respect to the review and renegotiation of major concession agreements entered into by the interim government with Mittal Steel NV and Firestone Rubber. Work in 2006 focused on the Mittal agreement, which was signed in Monrovia on December 28. ISLP volunteers included team leader Robert Hillman, Fair Business Practices Distinguished Professor of Law at the University of California at Davis Law School, Professor Louis Wells of the Harvard Business School, and attorneys at three leading law firms. ISLP also recruited an expert on iron ore pricing on a *pro bono* basis. The ISLP volunteers analyzed the terms of the original Mittal and Firestone agreements, provided advice on the enforceability and effect of the arbitration clauses as well as on the business and other terms, met with their Liberian clients in Liberia and New York, and undertook three rounds of intensive negotiations on the Mittal agreement in the fall and winter of 2006. The last round took place from December 18 to the 28th and required a tremendous effort through the Christmas holidays. In noting President Sirleaf's achievements in her first year in office, the news service Reuters observed that the President had "made steps towards mending her country's shattered economy, pulling off a coup in late December to mark a year in office by successfully renegotiating a billion dollar iron ore mining concession with the world's biggest steel company, Arcelor Mittal. 'Mittal Steel is one of those big success stories. We went back on the drawing board and renegotiated what the transitional government did,'" Information Minister Lawrence Bropleh was quoted by Reuters as saying.

Liberia Review of Hotel Contract: At the request of the Liberian government, a senior partner of a New York firm advised the National Investment Commission of Liberia (the "Commission") in connection with a potential transaction for the development of a major hotel in Monrovia. Pro Bono counsel prepared a detailed memorandum for the Commission, analyzing the terms of an agreement proposed by the prospective developer and recommending changes to some of those terms.

South Africa Black Lawyers Association Commercial Law Education Program: For the third year in a row, ISLP undertook a significant program of commercial law education for black lawyers in South Africa in partnership with the Black Lawyers Association of South Africa, the Senior Lawyers Division of the American Bar Association and the South African law firm Brink Cohen Le Roux, Inc. About 45 South African practitioners, including Paul Coetser of Brink Cohen, co-taught with ISLP volunteers Becky Jacobs, Kevin Salisbury, Jim St. Clair, Bob Smith, Steve Spronz, Gregory Weiss and Karen Wishart. The program was presented in Johannesburg and Cape Town over a 12-week period in each city. About 88 attorneys attended the classes.

United Nations Millennium Cities Initiative: Several partners and associates at a top-tier New York firm provided counsel to the United Nations Millennium Cities Initiative in connection with a review of the foreign investment regulatory structure of three cities in Mali and Kenya and the impact of those structures on foreign direct investment ("FDI"), with a goal of promoting increased FDI in these cities. The Kenya team spent nearly two weeks in-country meeting with business leaders, lawyers and government officials. Based on what they learned in those interviews, as well as research conducted in the U.S., the team drafted a report that summarizes areas of Kenyan law relevant to foreign investors and also makes recommendations for changes in the law to increase foreign direct investment. The Mali team spent four days in Bamako and Segou conducting similar interviews; their report will be completed in early 2007.

The Near East Foundation: The Near East Foundation (NEF) is an 80 year-old nonprofit organization that provides training, technical assistance, project management and institution-building support services to public and private agencies engaged in organizational and community development in Africa and the Middle East. While its head office is in New York, the majority of NEF's staff is based abroad. NEF sought help in establishing a for-profit subsidiary of the currently existing 501(c)(3) organization, to enable it to better compete for U.S. government funding, and in the separation of its international offices into independent local entities while maintaining a relationship with the mother institution. A distinguished law firm provided legal counsel to NEF to accomplish the desired restructuring and then took on the role of general counsel.

Suba Foundation: The Suba Foundation works to empower poor African women and address poverty by providing basic community/village-based training on nutrition, HIV/AIDS, prenatal care, literacy, and small business skills to women in the villages of the Western and Northern Zambia and Central Ghana. A New York-based global firm provided assistance with incorporation, governance and tax issues.

ACCESS TO JUSTICE

Ashoka, India: Barbara Putta, a retired Chicago lawyer, worked on-site with Ashoka in Bangalore, India for three months to help it launch its Advocates for Social Entrepreneurs ("ASE") initiative, which seeks to encourage Indian law firms to develop organized programs to provide *pro bono* assistance to local NGOs and social entrepreneurs. During her time there, Barbara worked closely with ASE India Director Tanya Jairaj to engage law firms and lawyers in discussions about *pro bono*, to begin to educate the nonprofit sector on how lawyers can help them achieve their goals, and to set up systems to implement *pro bono* programs. Her accomplishments included (1) assisting ASE with planning, scheduling and implementing meetings with Ashoka Fellows, lawyers, professors and judges in Bangalore, Mumbai and Delhi, which led to partnerships between ASE and law firms and *pro bono* work for some Ashoka Fellows; (2) providing detailed verbal and written input regarding American firms' *pro bono* policies and programs and making the "business case" for *pro bono*; (3) creating models for legal needs assessments/legal audits; (4) assembling a library of *pro bono* materials and websites as resources for the development of *pro bono* legal service and policies; (5) preparing databases; and (6) reviewing the proposed ASE website and generating a list of issues to be reviewed by legal counsel provided through ISLP.

Public Defenders Office, Ukraine: ISLP volunteer Edward Rucker, a retired public defender/criminal defense lawyer from California, spent seven months in 2006 helping to launch the first two public defender offices in Ukraine, one in Kharkiv and one in Kyiv. He worked with the newly hired directors of these offices to develop procedures for training, case management, case selection, interviewing witnesses and clients, motion practice and many other aspects of public defender work. He also worked with the public defenders' office to develop procedures for the police to follow after arrests. His work was so highly regarded that he was asked to stay on for another year as a paid consultant to the Open Society Justice Initiative on the Ukraine public defender project.

Public Interest Law Initiative (PILI), Hungary: Volunteer Mike Cheroutes, who retired from the firm Hogan & Hartson at the end of 2005, spent nearly three months working with the Public Interest Law Initiative ("PILI") in Budapest in the winter and spring of 2006 helping PILI launch an initiative to encourage firms in Central Europe to develop organized *pro bono* programs. Upon his return from this assignment, Mike described the accomplishments of the previous 10 weeks, in which he played a major role, as follows: "There is significant progress on the PILI *pro bono* initiative in Hungary: a strategy is in place; a number of law firms . . . have committed and three have given PILI money in

support of the project; a public Declaration [in support of *pro bono*] is being finalized; the Clearinghouse concept is starting to come together under PILI auspices and steered by a Pro Bono (Law Firm) Coordinator's Committee; Hungarian-based NGO's are taking notice, and PILI is initiating an outreach and educational program within this community; the Hungarian Bar is taking note, and the Hungarian Ombudsman's office is on board; and regional efforts have begun in the Czech Republic and Poland." Ed Rekosh, PILI's Executive Director, wrote to thank ISLP for the "tremendous assistance" given by Mike. Mike later joined the five-person Board of Directors of the newly named Public Interest Law Institute.

MAJOR PROJECTS IN DEVELOPMENT BUT NOT IMPLEMENTED IN 2006

HUMAN RIGHTS:

Civicus: ISLP was asked to provide a volunteer to work in South Africa for several months to help develop advocacy efforts for Civil Society Watch, a Civicus program that identifies and responds to threats on civil society's fundamental rights to collectively speak out, associate and organize throughout the world.

Clinical Drug Trial Training Program: ISLP volunteers Stuart Land, a retired Arnold & Porter partner, and Adam Sonnenschein, who retired in 2006 from the Boston firm Foley Hoag, are heading up a project to train government agencies and health care institutions in the developing world on negotiating high standards for clinical drug trials. Working with ISLP staff, Messrs Land and Sonnenschein, together with Arnold & Porter associate Katherine Stroker, developed the project proposal, identified countries where this project could make a significant impact, and reached out to a major health research NGO in Kenya to explore the possibility of partnering with it.

Liberia Project with Global Rights: ISLP was asked to provide a short-term, on-site volunteer to help conduct training aimed at increasing the capacity of local NGOs to engage in legal advocacy and monitoring. ISLP identified a potential volunteer and began working with Global Rights to define the goals of the project.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Commercial Law Training Programs in Tanzania and Botswana: ISLP opened discussions with law societies and lawyers in these two countries regarding the implementation of a program similar to the South Africa Commercial Law Education Program. It is expected that the South Africa model will be brought to these and other countries in the region.

Small Business Legal Support Center in Russia: an ISLP committee consisting of ISLP Board member Natasha Lisman and Randy Bregman of the Salans firm, retired attorneys Edward Delaney and Tom Shillinglaw, and Estelle Rogers, all attorneys who have worked in Russia in both the business and NGO community, pursued the development of a proposal for a small business legal support center whose purpose would be to educate small businesses in the use of lawyers to accomplish their goals, to train lawyers to represent small businesses, and to provide direct legal assistance at low or no cost to start-up businesses.

Trade Negotiation Training Program, Rwanda: A committee consisting of the ISLP Board member Robert Herzstein, Patrick Macrory, Joanne Osendarp, Chip Roh and a representative from the African Centre for the Constructive Resolution of Disputes was formed to identify other countries in the region with significant trade negotiation skills needs and to develop programs for next year. The

committee identified Rwanda as a candidate and reached out to the Rwandan Trade Representative at the WTO in Geneva. Rwanda responded positively and further work to develop the program was undertaken by the committee, including the preparation of a grant proposal to fund it.

Access to Justice

Chinese Public Defender Training: At the request of International Bridges to Justice, a nongovernmental organization that works to build the capacity of legal aid lawyers and public defenders in Asia and elsewhere, ISLP recruited law firms and volunteers to assist with a program to train six leading public defenders from China in Washington in January 2007.

Liberia Project with the Ministry of Justice: ISLP initiated discussions with the Liberian Ministry of Justice to send an experienced litigator to work with the Ministry for a six-week period in the spring of 2007. ISLP selected Jim Dube, a senior partner at the Canadian firm Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, to undertake this project.

CONTINUING PROJECTS

In addition to newly undertaken or developing projects, ISLP volunteers continued to provide assistance on a number of significant projects begun prior to 2006. Some of these included:

Acumen Fund, multinational: Legal assistance continued to be provided by the New York office of a major firm on a range of commercial law subjects to this international fund that invests in medical technologies for the developing world and “social enterprises” in developing countries.

Guantanamo Bay cases: Lawyers from two firms which were recruited by ISLP to assist the Center for Constitutional Rights in connection with Guantanamo Bay *habeas corpus* petitions and other legal actions continued to provide substantial assistance to petitioners and to undertake new assignments on behalf of Guantanamo detainees. This work included preparing and filing cases against former Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld and senior members of the U.S. military arising out of the incarceration and torture of former detainees and trips to Europe and the Middle East to meet with families and potential witnesses in habeas proceedings.

Light Years IP, Ethiopia and Oxfam International: Light Years IP helps entrepreneurs from musicians to coffee growers in less developed countries to utilize intellectual property rights for their benefit. A major Washington-based law firm began working with Light Years and the Ethiopian government in connection with efforts to brand and market Ethiopian coffee in 2004. In 2006, the firm’s Washington and London offices continued to represent Ethiopia in obtaining trademark registrations in the United States and elsewhere, and in connection with a growing dispute over the use of Ethiopian coffee trademarks with Starbucks. This work included, among other things, (i) consultations with Light Years and the Intellectual Property Office of Ethiopia on a variety of strategic and tactical issues, (ii) filings with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and various trademark offices worldwide in efforts to secure registrations for Ethiopia’s trademarks, (iii) communications with the IRS to obtain favorable tax status for Light Years, (iv) drafting license agreements and letters of intent with various companies, (v) coordinating activities in various countries outside the US, and (vi) research as to various legal issues relevant to the foregoing. In addition, the firm advised Oxfam International, which undertook a campaign of public support of Ethiopian coffee farmers, on the range of legal issues involved in Ethiopia’s dispute with Starbucks.

Project Impact, multinational: Project Impact is a nonprofit enterprise that manufactures and distributes very low cost hearing aids and other medical devices in the developing world. A major firm was recruited in 2003 to assist Project Impact and continued to provide commercial law advice in 2006.

Rwanda Power Plant Project: On a project that started in 2005, attorneys in the Washington office of a global firm and retired project finance lawyer Stephen Stein (formerly of Kelly Drye & Warren in New York) continued to provide high level project finance *pro bono* assistance to the government of Rwanda in connection with the development of a methane gas power plant on Lake Kivu.

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS AND PARTNER LAW FIRMS

The International Senior Lawyers Project would like to thank the following law firms and individual volunteers who went abroad for their outstanding pro bono services in 2006, which together provided nearly \$6 million in legal services to promote the rule of law, human rights, equitable economic development and access to justice. Many dozens of partners and associates in law firms participated in our projects who did not have an opportunity to travel and whom we cannot name individually, but their contributions added significantly to the value of the projects undertaken on behalf of nongovernmental organizations and developing country governments.

WE SALUTE THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUAL VOLUNTEERS WHO WENT ABROAD FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING SERVICE AND GENEROSITY:

Joseph Bell

Michael Cheroutes

Marye Cherry

Claudette Christian

William Coogan

François-Bernard Côté

Michael Haroz

Robert Hillman

Becky Jacobs

Henry Lesser

Virginie Liautaud

Patrick Macrory

Meron Makonnen

Kim Matthews

Kristina Mentone

Arline Pacht

Snehal Patel

Barbara Putta

Michael Reynolds
Chip Roh
Edward Rucker
James St. Clair
Kevin Salisbury
George Schoen
Marina Sharpe
Beth Shoesmith
Bob Smith
Blair Soyster
Richard Spencer
Steven Spronz
Stephen Stein
Sean Thompson
Keith Watson
Gregory Weiss
Richard Winfield
Karen Wishart

**WE ARE DEEPLY GRATEFUL TO THE FOLLOWING LAW FIRMS AND LAW OFFICES,
AND THEIR PARTNERS, ASSOCIATES AND STAFF WHO CONTRIBUTED PRO BONO
TIME, FOR THEIR DEDICATION AND OUTSTANDING SERVICE:**

Arnold & Porter LLP, Washington
Baach Robinson & Lewis PLLC, Washington
Bell, Boyd & Lloyd LLP, Chicago
Bernstein Shur, Portland, Maine
Brink Cohen Le Roux, Inc., Johannesburg
Butler Rubin Saltarelli & Boyd LLP, Chicago
Cameron & Hornbostel LLP Washington
Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP, New York
Clifford Chance, New York, Washington, London, Budapest, Frankfurt, Hong Kong and Singapore
Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP, New York and London
Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP, Washington
DLA Piper, San Diego and Washington

Drummond Woodsum and MacMahon, Portland, Maine
Federal Public Defender Office, Las Cruces, New Mexico
Foley Hoag LLP, Boston
Fried Frank Harris Shriver & Jacobson LLP, Washington
Garvey Schubert Barer, Washington
Goulston & Storrs, PC, Boston
Hogan & Hartson LLP, Denver, New York, Washington, Budapest, Moscow
Latham & Watkins LLP, New York
Loeb & Loeb LLP, New York
Mayer Brown Rowe & Maw LLP, Chicago
Otterbourg, Steindler, Houston & Rosen, PC, New York
Sugarman, Rogers, Barshak & Cohen, PC, Boston
Weil Gotshal & Manges LLP, New York and Washington
Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale & Dorr LLP, Washington and Brussels