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Dear Friends and Family,

Our thanks to those of you who, despite our silence, have kept us up-to-date with your developments! For our family, 2007 will be an unforgettable year of change: we face the challenge of moving our base from Colombia to Holland.



**Changes ahead:** When the oldest child finishes high school, all missionary families face some difficult decisions. As for us, we feel the Lord would have us return to Europe together as a family. In this way we can provide a home for our children while they adapt to a different environment and pursue their further education.



#### **Why Holland? Why Eindhoven?**

Anneke is Dutch and Philip is half Dutch. Anneke has brothers and Philip uncles, aunts and cousins in Holland. It is a small and well connected country. Some call it the "Gateway to Europe"! The city of Eindhoven, in the south of Holland, has some attractive features for us: it has an active Christian assembly, an international school for Vikki and Elsa, and housing is somewhat cheaper than in the centre of the country. Although Philip and the children will have to learn Dutch, we feel the effort will be worth it.

**And what do you hope to do?** We do sense that the Lord would have us continue serving Him full time. Our experience during these last 15 years in Colombia is that the Lord, in His time, burdens our heart and opens doors for service. The promise in Psalm 32:8-10 still stands: "I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go... the Lord's unfailing love surrounds the man who trusts in him". At least initially, Philip would hope to travel 2 or 3 times a year to Colombia to visit assemblies and help with counselling and training. He also expects to devote time to some writing projects. We would love to encourage and help establish new missionaries in Colombia and elsewhere. We look forward to meeting and helping Hispanics in Europe. Where possible, we would like to be a help and an encouragement to our brothers and sisters in Eindhoven and in Christian assemblies in Europe and elsewhere.





**Life here in Armenia:** Usually missionary work is about getting involved and working for growth. The rhythm of our work has changed quite significantly over this last year: we are preparing to leave. Some areas of service will stop once we leave. Others should continue. How to determine what should continue? How to hand over? During 2006 Philip taught a course for preachers. Together with another 2 brothers, he will be teaching a Christian leadership course during the next 2 months. Preparing to say goodbye is an emotionally charged time for all of us.

**Some Christian assemblies here in Colombia:** In February some 70 brothers came together from 33 assemblies across Colombia. It was a constructive event,



strengthening bonds of fellowship and a time to seek from the Lord a clear vision as to the future - facing our deficiencies and exploring interesting opportunities.

This event was followed by a 2 day Workers Retreat. Among the 21 brothers who participated in this event were the full time workers (Colombian missionaries) and project brothers (who from time to time get involved in Christian projects among assemblies). The objective of this new twice-a-year Workers Retreat is to keep each other informed, to encourage, to provide accountability, and where possible, to stimulate a degree of teamwork.



Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. We do appreciate your concern for our family and your interest in what the Lord is doing in this small corner of His vast vineyard. With our love and warm Christian greetings,

- Philip & Anneke, Vikki, Elsa, Edward and Julie.