NOTE TO THE MEDIA

WINNER OF THE IMAGES TO STOP TUBERCULOSIS AWARD ANNOUNCED AT THE ANGKOR PHOTOGRAPHY FESTIVAL

26 November 2008 – Siem Reap, Cambodia – The photojournalist Jean Chung of the Republic of Korea, best known for her moving photographs of people’s struggles in war-torn Afghanistan, is the winner of the Stop TB Partnership’s 2008 Images to Stop Tuberculosis Award. Internationally renowned photographer Gary Knight, co-founder of VII Photo Agency and founder of the Angkor Photo Festival, presented the award during a ceremony at the festival today.

The award, which is supported by the Lilly MDR-TB Partnership, is intended to obtain outstanding photos depicting tuberculosis prevention and treatment and community activity to raise awareness about it. The Angkor Photography Festival and COLORS magazine also provide support for the award.

Ms Chung, whose portfolio was selected by an international jury from among 54 entries, will receive a grant of $5000 to produce a photo essay on tuberculosis in one or more of the 22 countries* most heavily affected by the disease. She will also be awarded $5000 in prize money.

Tuberculosis is an airborne infectious disease that is preventable and curable. People ill with tuberculosis bacteria in their lungs can infect others when they cough. In 2006, more than 9 million people fell ill with tuberculosis and 1.7 million died of the disease. If tuberculosis is detected early and fully treated, people affected by the disease cease to be able to infect others and can be cured.

The Stop TB Partnership, which is hosted by the World Health Organization in Geneva, Switzerland, consists of more than 700 international organizations, countries, donors from the public and private sectors, and nongovernmental and governmental organizations that are working together to eliminate TB. The Partnership’s Global Plan to Stop TB (2006-2015) sets forth a roadmap for halving TB prevalence and deaths compared with 1990 levels by 2015.

Jean Chung is the author of a book documenting her life in Afghanistan - A Photographer in Kabul. She is the recipient of the Grand Prix Care International du Reportage Humanitaire award from the Visa pour l’Image Photo Festival in Perpignan, France; the first prize from the 4th DAYS JAPAN International Photojournalism Awards; and the bronze award from the China International Press Photo Contest. In September 2008, she became the first winner of Pierre & Alexandra Boulat Award, which she received at the Visa pour l’Image Photo Festival. Her work has been featured in Newsweek, The Los Angeles Times, Stern, Der Spiegel, The New York Times, Chicago Tribune, Time Asia, French GEO, Vanity Fair (Italy) and the Boston Globe.

*Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Brazil, Cambodia, China, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Russian Federation, South Africa, Thailand, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Zimbabwe

Partners

The Angkor Photography Festival, which was created in 2005, draws photographers whose work has a humanitarian focus from around the world. The festival’s strong educational goals set it apart from other photography events. During their stay, famous photographers tutor free
workshops for emerging Asian photographers. The festival also presents outreach programmes for vulnerable people.

COLORS is a quarterly magazine read by young people all over the world. Established in 1991, its premise is that diversity is positive but that all cultures have equal value. It is published by the Benetton Group and is on sale in 40 countries and published in four languages.

The Lilly MDR-TB Partnership is a public-private initiative that encompasses global health and relief organizations, academic institutions and private companies and is led by Eli Lilly and Company. Its mission is to address the expanding crisis of multi-drug resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB). The partnership is pursuing a comprehensive strategy to fight MDR-TB through increasing drug supply at concessionary prices; research; providing training in prevention, treatment, and surveillance; promoting awareness and community support programs and sharing drug manufacturing technology with nations most at risk of MDR-TB.

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