

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Africa Travel Association and Miracle Corners of the World Co-Host Private Lunch for Nobel Peace Prize Winner Archbishop Desmond Tutu**

**NEW YORK, N.Y., June 7, 2006**—International business, non-profit, and spiritual leaders, gathered today at the Ustav Indian restaurant in mid-town Manhattan for a special luncheon in honor of South African Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

The Africa Travel Association, an international trade association, and Miracle Corners of the World, a New York-based non-profit organization, co-hosted the event, alongside other like-minded organizations. Representing ATA and MCW were Rob Alsbrooks and Eddie Bergman, who introduced Archbishop Tutu.

“Introducing Archbishop Tutu is one of the most amazing moments in my life,” said Bergman, who serves as Executive Director of ATA and MCW. “Just sitting next to him is inspiring. Seeing his smile makes me smile... a smile that will surely last me the rest of the week.”

Archbishop Tutu is a South African cleric and activist, who gained worldwide attention during the 1980s as a leading opponent of apartheid. He was the first black South African Anglican Archbishop of Cape Town. He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1984. Desmond Tutu was visiting New York to deliver the keynote address at a benefit for the Ubuntu Education Fund last week.

In his remarks at the luncheon, Archbishop Tutu said, “There are many forces of good and evil in this world and I believe the good far outweighs the evil. People like Eddie and Rob represent the good because the work they do in Tanzania truly makes a difference in people’s lives. They have a choice—a choice to do good or a choice to do evil. And they choose to do good. Thank you Eddie. Thank you Rob. Thank you.”

During the lunch, ATA leaders discussed faith-based tourism with the Archbishop who expressed an interest in working with ATA in this area.

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**About Miracle Corners of the World**

Miracle Corners of the World, Inc. was founded in 1999 as a nonprofit organization serving youth around the world, primarily through programs of youth leadership training, community center and housing development, and healthcare outreach, with a special focus on Tanzania. MCW’s mission is to empower youth worldwide to become positive agents of change in order to help improve their own lives and contribute to their communities. For more information, see [www.miraclecorners.org](http://www.miraclecorners.org).

**About ATA**

ATA is the premier international travel association, promoting tourism to the African

continent and intra-Africa travel and partnership since 1975. ATA members include ministries of tourism, tourism boards, airlines, hoteliers, travel agents, tour operators, media representatives, public relations firms, NGOs, individuals, and small- and medium-businesses actively engaged in promoting travel opportunities to the African continent. For more information, see [africatravelassociation.org](http://africatravelassociation.org)

