I was detained on 19th Sept 2016 at HK Int’l Airport for drug trafficking from Brazil. I want to share my story because I accept the error I committed, and the damage to health and the economy that it brings. I did it because of my father who had been 2 years in hospital in Peru with lung cancer and then died in 2009. On 9th April 2014, my mother was diagnosed with the same illness. In order to pay for her operation, and because I too have a cyst in my testicle which troubles me very much, that I cannot sleep from the pain. Because of my desperation to help her, and myself, I did this damage to Hong Kong. I worked for a construction company Gutierrez in Peru for 3 years, and had a friend Yoni who told me that he had a friend in Brazil who could set me up with a lot of money by transporting cocaine to Hong Kong. I accepted with 2 conditions: the first that it would help my mother, the second that I would travel ‘lawfully’ out of Brazil with destination Hong Kong. Perhaps other people have fallen into the same trap as me, but I believe that the police in Brazil put into my suitcase a pencil case (so the Nigerian gentleman told me, and that I should not throw it away). The police firstly searched for this evidence; the Nigerian who sent me said it would be an 8 hours flight, but after 14 hours, I was getting worried, in case one of the packages inside my body would break open. When I arrived at HK airport, I was ready to cooperate with the officials. At that moment, I asked for an interpreter to explain exactly what happened to me, because I couldn’t understand anything the police were saying. Fr John, I really ask for forgiveness, on behalf of my young children because you are the only one who can transmit this message on all media of communication – particularly in people in Peru and Bolivia: “Be careful when you go to Brazil to seek work, because there are Nigerians there who will promise to send you travelling to Hong Kong ‘legally’”. This is what happened to me. When the Nigerian that I would be travelling within the laws laid down by the police, then I accepted. I knew the risk of swallowing packages of cocaine that could open inside my stomach. I did it because of my mother’s illness. When I arrived at the Brazil Int’l Airport for my flight to Hong Kong, a lady called my mobile phone and and within 2 minutes, 2 “ police officers” arrived – one was a Chinese lady and the other a Brazilain man who had a pencil case in his hand. And he put it inside my suitcase as evidence, as the Nigerian told me would happen, and that I should not throw away this pencil case until I arrived in Hong Kong. When I arrived in Hong Kong, the customs immediately looked for this pencil case and would not let me proceed. When I offered to cooperate with the HK Police, they told me to be quiet. Clearly the “Chinese” policeman in Brazil knew in advance that I would be caught with cocaine in my stomach and had tipped off the HK authorities. I wanted an interpeter so that together we could catch the person who was waiting for the cocaine in the hotel. When I offered this information to the police, they told me there was “no need”. So I now know that there is a connection between the “Chinese police” in Brazil and the Hong Kong in order to trick people like me.

Signed: