

# Introduction

February 1, 2001

Dear Brothers,  
Dear Partners and Associates in Lasallian Mission,

As we began together our ministry of animation at the Center of the Institute, we spent a great deal of time exchanging our very different life experiences and our quite varied perceptions of the challenges facing our Institute and our Lasallian mission in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. We examined together and assisted one another in deepening our appreciation of the documents of the 43<sup>rd</sup> General Chapter. Most of us were delegates; but a couple of us, like most of you, were not.

All those Brothers responsible for the various Secretariats and for the General Services of the Institute were also invited to reflect with us on the programs in which they are engaged and the priorities they perceive as most necessary for the benefit of our entire Lasallian Family of Brothers, Associates, and Partners.

The exchange of information and our common reflection provided an extraordinarily rich experience for our community and for each of us personally. We believe that our ministry of leadership among you and on your behalf will benefit greatly from this period of preparation and formation that we lived together.

Our discussions, as you might imagine, were rather wide-ranging. They included such topics as might be grouped together under the following headings:

- renewing consecrated life and fostering vibrant religious community living;
- enhancing the excellence of Lasallian education and of pastoral

ministry with young Lasallians;

- strengthening our association for the educational service of the poor;
- providing good initial and ongoing formation of Brothers and of Partners in association for Lasallian mission;
- promoting the pastoral ministry of vocations in a pluralistic world;
- assuring the quality accompaniment and interdependence of the leadership teams of Regions, Districts, Sub-Districts and Delegations;
- implementing the necessary adaptation of structures of government within the Institute and in our Lasallian mission;
- guaranteeing the practice of good management and of financial solidarity in the Institute;
- sustaining excellent communication within the network of the Institute, the Lasallian mission and ministries, and the Lasallian Family.

Some of the results of our deliberations and a few indications of the lines of thought that we have begun to pursue have already been communicated to you in writing over the course of the past few months. While this material will be re-published here, other information is only now ready to be shared; and we do so by means of this *Circular Letter*.

In the pages that follow, you will find in greater detail the matters that are only briefly outlined here.

1. The Relations between the General Council and the Regions, Districts, Sub-Districts, and Delegations.

Proposed is the manner in which we hope to work and to co-ordinate our relations with Regions, Districts, Sub-Districts and Delegations.

2. The Relations between Brother Superior General and the General Council and a Few Intentional Lasallian Groups of Associates.

Proposed is the Brother designated as liaison, chief advisor, and resource person on all matters concerning the relationship with those few intentional Lasallian groups which are, in quite differing ways, associated with the Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools.

3. The Calendar of Pastoral Visits by Brother Superior General and the General Council.

Provided is the schedule of the official visits (2000-2007) planned by Brother Superior General to the various Regions of the Institute and of the proposed dates of the meetings (2000-2007) in the various Regions between the General Council and the members of each Regional Visitors' Conference.

4. The Commissions Established or Reconstituted by Brother Superior General and the General Council.

Provided is a summary presentation of the proposed plans, objectives, activities, and membership of the Central Government Commissions.

5. The International Councils and Standing Committees Established or Reconstituted by Brother Superior General and the General Council.

Provided is a summary presentation of the function and membership of the International Councils that assist Brother Superior General and the General Council.

6. The Calendar of International Meetings and of Continuing Formation Sessions to Be Organized by the Center of the Institute (2000-2007).

Provided, in summary form, is the schedule of international meetings and of continuing formation sessions which have already been proposed by Brother Superior General and the General Council and

by the Commissions, Councils, and Standing Committees. Much of this material can also be found in the summary presentations of the plans and activities of the Commissions, Councils, and Standing Committees.

7. The Decree of the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life, modifying article 106 of the text of the *Rule of the Brothers of the Christian Schools* and leaving article 45 unchanged.

As we continue to live the moment of grace that the 43<sup>rd</sup> General Chapter was for all of us, we invite each of you to join with us in the important and challenging work that lies ahead. Our fervent hope is that the whole of the Institute and all of our Associates and Partners in Lasallian mission will join together in a commitment to procure, together and by association, the glory of God in the world of education and especially among the poor.

Fraternally in De La Salle,

Brother Álvaro Rodríguez Echeverría, Superior General,  
and the Members of the General Council:

Brother William Mann

Brother Miguel Campos

Brother Victor Franco

Brother Marc Hofer

Brother Yemanu Jehar

Brother Juan Pablo Martín

Brother Claude Reinhardt

# 1. The Relations between the General Council and the Regions, Districts, Sub-Districts and Delegations

[For the most part, as per the letter of Brother Álvaro Rodríguez Echeverría, dated 3 October 2000]

Brother Superior General and the General Council have concluded the work of reflection and organization under three headings:

- the designation amongst the Councillors of the Regions, Districts, Sub-Districts and Delegations of what will be points of liaison with the Center of the Institute;
- the study of the calendar of the coming years;
- the redefining and setting up of Commissions, bearing in mind the guidelines of the 43<sup>rd</sup> General Chapter, the priorities assumed by the General Council, and the study of the reports of existing services in dialogue with the Secretaries and Directors of such services.

While continuing to study ways of being in touch with and accompanying the Regions, Districts, Sub-Districts and Delegations, we would like to offer you the following indications.

- We begin with a principle: the General Councillors are Councillors for the Institute as a whole.
- In the name of Brother Superior General and the General Council, the General Councillors will be charged with the animation of Commissions and of certain programs, as also with the accompaniment of Regions, Districts, Sub-Districts and Delegations.
- One of the objectives which seems to us important is to assure the unity and interdependence of the Regions, fostering new relations amongst them, for example at the continental level.
- Brother William Mann, as Vicar General, in addition to the attri-

butions indicated by the Rule, will be responsible for the co-ordination of all the Commissions and of the General Services, for the pastoral accompaniment of the Brothers of the Central Community of the Generalate, and for the representation of the Superior General on certain occasions.

In order to co-ordinate our relations with yourselves, your Regions, Districts, Sub-Districts and Delegations, we have divided up the work in the following manner:

RELAF	Council liaison: Br. Yemanu Jehar with assistance from Br. Marc Hofer Contact person: Br. Yemanu Jehar
PARC	Council liaison: Br. Victor Franco with assistance from Br. Marc Hofer Contact person: Br. Victor Franco
USA/Toronto RELAL Canada	Council liaison: Br. Miguel Campos with assistance from Br. William Mann Contact person: Br. Miguel Campos
Proche Orient	Council liaison: Br. Marc Hofer Contact person: Br. Marc Hofer
ARLEP Italy France REBIM RELEC	Council liaison: Br. Juan Pablo Martín and Br. Claude Reinhardt Contact person: (ARLEP, Italy) Br. Juan Pablo Martín Contact person: (France, REBIM, RELEC) Br. Claude Reinhardt

In this way, we are seeking to develop more dynamic relations among ourselves and with the whole of the Institute.

## 2. The Relations between Brother Superior General and the General Council and Some Intentional Lasallian Groups of Associates

[For the most part, as per “La Salle Intercom 116 (December 2000): News for the Lasallian Family”]

Proposed here is the Brother designated as liaison, chief advisor, and resource person on all matters concerning the relationship with those few intentional Lasallian groups (as per The Documents of the 43<sup>rd</sup> General Chapter: Circular 447) which are, in quite differing ways, associated with the Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools.

Liaison with the Union of Catechists of Jesus Crucified and Mary Immaculate: Brother Juan Pablo Martín

Liaison with the Hermanas Guadalupanas La Salle: Brother Álvaro Rodríguez Echeverría

Liaison with the Lasallian Sisters of Vietnam: Brother Álvaro Rodríguez Echeverría

Liaison with the Lasallian Youth Movement: Brother William Mann

Liaison with Signum Fidei: Brother Victor Franco

Liaison with the World Union of Lasallian Former Students: Brother Claude Reinhardt

### 3. The Calendar of Pastoral Visits by Brother Superior General and the General Council

Provided here is the schedule of the official visits (2000-2007) planned by Brother Superior General to the Regions of the Institute and of the proposed dates of the meetings (2000-2007) in the Regions between the General Council and the members of each Regional Visitors' Conference.

#### Pastoral Visits and Regional Meetings in the Year 2001:

7 January to 18 February	RELAL (1)	Visit of Brother Superior General
1 April to 16 May	RELAL (2)	Visit of Brother Superior General
20 to 24 October	RELEC	Meeting with General Council & Regional Visitors' Conference
26 October to 9 November	RELAL (3)	Visit of Brother Superior General
9 to 13 November	RELAL	Meeting with General Council & Regional Visitors' Conference

#### Pastoral Visits and Regional Meetings in the Year 2002:

15 January to 20 February	RELAF (1)	Visit of Brother Superior General
1 April to 7 May	RELAF (2)	Visit of Brother Superior General
8 to 12 May	RELAF	Meeting with General Council & Regional Visitors' Conference



10 to 15 November  
REBIM Meeting with General Council &  
Regional Visitors' Conference

Pastoral Visits and Regional Meetings in the Year 2003:

15 January to 20 February  
PARC (1) Visit of Brother Superior General  
21 April to 7 May  
Italy Visit of Brother Superior General  
8 to 12 May  
Italy Meeting with General Council &  
Regional Visitors' Conference  
7 October to 10 November  
PARC (2) Visit of Brother Superior General  
10 to 14 November  
PARC Meeting with General Council &  
Regional Visitors' Conference

Pastoral Visits and Regional Meetings in the Year 2004:

15 January to 20 February  
RELEC Visit of Brother Superior General  
1 April to 1 May  
Proche Orient Visit of Brother Superior General  
11 to 15 May  
ARLEP Meeting with General Council &  
Regional Visitors' Conference  
15 October to 15 November  
REBIM Visit of Brother Superior General  
15 to 20 December  
France Meeting with General Council &  
Regional Visitors' Conference

## Pastoral Visits and Regional Meetings in the Year 2005:

15 January to 25 February	USA/T (1)	Visit of Brother Superior General
1 April to 7 May	USA/T (2) & Canada	Visit of Brother Superior General
8 to 12 May	USA/T & Canada	Meeting with General Council & Regional Visitors' Conferences
10 October to 15 November	France	Visit of Brother Superior General

## Pastoral Visits and Regional Meetings in the Year 2006:

15 January to 20 February	ARLEP	Visit of Brother Superior General
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## 4. The Commissions Established by Brother Superior General and the General Council

### Associated for the Educational Service of the Poor Commission

#### 1. Description

This Commission will seek to assist Brother Superior General and the General Council in the accompaniment of the diverse groups within the Lasallian association: the Brothers, the Partners, and the Associates. It hopes to do this by dealing with:

(a) the link between the foundational experience of association and the growing interest, developed in an altogether unprecedented way in the last forty years, and

(b) the need of association among Brothers and of association among Brothers with Partners and Associates. Furthermore, it will encourage and support collaboration among Partners and Associates themselves and with the Brothers, so that all can deepen their own understanding of association in light of our experience of the Lasallian charism and present theology of the Church.

Membership on the Commission is for one term of three years. It would be possible, but not necessary, to have this appointment renewed for an additional three-year period.

#### 2. Membership

Brother Miguel Campos, General Councillor

Brother Victor Franco, General Councillor

Mr. Eric Bryan Amaladas, Region of PARC (Penang)

Brother Antonio Botana, Region of ARLEP (Central Spain)

Ms. Eveline Geoffroy, Region of France  
Brother Lorenzo González Kipper, Region of RELAL (North Mexico)  
Brother André Jacq, Region of France  
Ms. Maria Clara Loza, Region of RELAL (Argentina/Paraguay)  
Mr. Dominic Njeru, Region of RELAF (Lwanga)  
Mr. Luis Peña, Region of RELAL (Antilles)  
Dr. Carmelita Quebengco, Region of PARC (Philippines)  
Mr. Gery Short, Region of USA/Toronto (San Francisco)

### 3. Objectives

*Objective One: To underscore the centrality of the vow of association in understanding the identity of the Brothers associated with one another for the mission.*

**Implementation Plan 1:** To make an inventory of the studies related to the vow and experience of association in the last forty years and to promote research and publication of new studies (*Recommendation 14 and Proposition 17*).

**Implementation Plan 2:** To launch a year of spiritual renewal for all the communities of the Institute centered on the value and significance of association (*Proposition 18 and Proposition 19*).

*Objective Two: In conjunction with the Brother Visitors and Formators, to assess and strengthen the structures for the accompaniment and formation of those who seek deeper ties within the Lasallian association.*

**Implementation Plan 1:** In conjunction with the Formation Commission to identify existing and ongoing formation programs that serve both Brothers and Associates, and to seek ways of creating a network for these programs both at the Regional and the international levels (*Proposition 9, Recommendation 4, and Recommendation 5*).

**Implementation Plan 2:** In conjunction with the Brother Visitors to identify new forms of association that have emerged in recent years in order to clarify the Brothers' vocation vis-a-vis the vocation of our Partners and Associates (contributes to *Proposition 8* and *Proposition 11*).

*Objective Three: To identify existing processes and structures of association and to discern with our Partners and Associates the main characteristics of the Lasallian charism and association for the educational service of the poor.*

**Implementation Plan 1:** Identify in all the Regions of the Institute individuals and groups that share in the Lasallian educational mission, and facilitate the formation of reflection groups with them, in order to determine existing ways of understanding, living out, and sharing in the Lasallian association and charism (*Proposition 1, Proposition 2, Proposition 3, and Recommendation 1*).

**Implementation Plan 2:** To promote reflection groups within existing intentional groups in the Lasallian association in order to clarify the main characteristics of the Lasallian charism and association for mission (*Recommendation 3*).

**Implementation Plan 3:** To promote reflection groups among other Christians and members of other religions who share in the Lasallian mission, to clarify their way of sharing in the charism and association (*Recommendation 2*).

# Communications Commission

## 1. Description

The Communications Commission has as its primary responsibility the implementing and fostering of communication between the Center of the Institute and its various audiences. It oversees the co-ordination of the various publications so that they are effective within the context of the goals of Brother Superior General and the General Council, especially with regard to the implementation of the major themes of the 43<sup>rd</sup> General Chapter. It is assisted in its work by the International Advisory Council on Communications.

## 2. Membership

Brother Yemanu Jehar, General Councillor

Brother Marc Hofer, General Councillor

Brother Valerio López, Secretary General

Brother Alain Houry

Brother Donald Johanson

Brother Rodolfo Meoli

## 3. Objectives

*Objective One: To co-ordinate all of the major communications that come from the Center of the Institute.*

**Implementation Plan 1:** The Commission will review the publication calendars of the various services of the Central Government of the Institute, co-ordinating the presentation of the various themes, so as to insure timely and appropriate publication of material.

**Implementation Plan 2:** The Commission will aid the various

Commissions and the General Services of the Institute to insure that all publications adhere to the approved guidelines established by the Communications Commission. These goals are that:

- the messages of the publications are clear and accurate and that they implement the guidelines set down by Brother Superior General and the General Council;
- the publications are appropriate for the audience for which they are intended;
- there is a clear purpose or goal for what is being communicated;
- the publications are presented in the most appropriate mode (print, electronic media, etc.);
- the publications are presented at an appropriate time;
- it is clear who is responsible for what is being communicated;
- there is appropriate follow-up, especially in terms of evaluating the effectiveness of what is being communicated.

**Implementation Plan 3:** An Editorial Committee will examine all publications, insuring the quality and appropriateness of information and their adaptation to the publics to which they are directed.

[For the present, the Editorial Committee is made up of the following permanent members: Brother Yemanu Jehar and Brother Marc Hofer, General Councillors; Brother Valerio López, Secretary General; and Brother Donald Johanson, Web Site Coordinator.]

*Objective Two: To modernize and insure the quality of all publications of the Center of the Institute.*

**Implementation Plan 1:** The Communications Commission will seek the advice of experts in the technical area of publication, in order to assure modern and effective methodology is being used in all publications media.

**Implementation Plan 2:** Based on the information gained from Implementation Plan 1, appropriate training will be made available for personnel involved in the technical aspect of publication.

*Objective Three: To determine the specific forms of communication best suited to the Institute's various audiences.*

**Implementation Plan:** The Communications Commission will devise a means of surveying the various audiences which it serves in order to determine their publication needs so that appropriate planning for publications can be done.

*Objective Four: To support the various Commissions, Councils, and Standing Committees of the Institute in their publications needs.*

**Implementation Plan:** The Communications Commission will maintain regular contact with the various Commissions, Councils, and Standing Committees in order to understand, support, and prioritize the work necessary to meet the publications needs of these groups.

*Objective Five: To implement follow-up mechanisms that will aid the Center of the Institute in determining the effectiveness of its publications for its various audiences.*

**Implementation Plan:** The Communications Commission will devise periodic surveys which will aid them in determining the effectiveness of their publications, seeking to clarify the readership and to evaluate the content of the Institute publications.



# Formation Commission

## 1. Description

The Formation Commission works with Brother Superior General and the General Council in the animation of this area of the life of the Institute. It gives direction to the formation task of the Brothers, especially its Lasallian dimension, which it carries out according to the Guide for Formation, based on the guidelines, Recommendations, and Propositions of the 43<sup>rd</sup> General Chapter concerning association for the educational service of the poor.

## 2. Membership

Brother Juan Pablo Martín, General Councillor

Brother Yemanu Jehar, General Councillor

Brother Aidan Kilty, Secretary of Formation

Brother Alberto Prada, Secretary of Formation

Brother Adalberto Aranda, Director of CIL

Brother Alain Houry, Director of Lasallian Studies

## 3. Objectives

*Objective One: To help Districts, Sub-Districts and Delegations to (a) provide the coherence and continuity suggested in the “Guide for Formation” between the pastoral ministry of vocations, initial formation, and continuing formation and (b) integrate the guidelines of the 43<sup>rd</sup> General Chapter concerning Association for the educational service of the poor throughout the formation process.*

**Implementation Plan 1:** From the Center of the Institute, appropriate guidelines will be provided based on the Guide for Formation and the guidelines of the 43<sup>rd</sup> General Chapter (October 2001).

**Implementation Plan 2:** The Councillor(s) for each Region and the Secretary/Secretaries for Formation will hold Regional meetings with the Presidents of the Formation and Vocation Commissions for each District, Sub-District, or Delegation to provide guidelines and offer assistance to meet these criteria (from June 2002 until December 2003).

**Implementation Plan 3:** The topic of Formation is to be included in the Reports of the Brother Visitors for the year 2004.

*Objective Two: To foster the development and accompaniment of Continuing Formation in harmony with what is already being done in the area of the pastoral ministry of vocations and initial formation, by means of a Formation Secretariat.*

**Implementation Plan:** The General Council approves the structure and the role of the Formation Secretariat according to the following basic outline (October 2000).

**Structure:** Two Brother Secretaries who accompany Pastoral Vocation Ministry and Initial Formation, and one Brother Secretary who accompanies Continuing Formation (who would also be the Director of CIL).

**Basic roles:** Guide and support (a) the Districts, Sub-Districts, and Delegations in their development of formation programs, and (b) the formation sessions organized by the Center of the Institute.

*Objective Three: To promote the formation of formators.*

**Implementation Plan 1:** The Formation Secretariat will offer guidelines to carry out Recommendation 25 of the 43<sup>rd</sup> General Chapter: Districts, Sub-Districts and Delegations, as far as this is possible, will free some Brothers to prepare for formation respon-

sibilities, from initial formation to preparation for retirement and beyond. The preparation would last one or two years.

**Implementation Plan 2:** A progress report on the implementation of this Recommendation will be given in the Brother Visitor's Report in 2004.

*Objective Four: To offer support to the Districts to promote personal accompaniment and community discernment.*

**Implementation Plan 1:** The Formation Secretaries will (a) guide and support Regions, Districts, Sub-Districts, and Delegations to organize sessions for personal accompaniment and community discernment, and will (b) participate in other sessions organized by other Church bodies. (Special attention here will be given, according to the specific responsibilities of the Secretaries, to the accompaniment of Brothers with temporary vows and those nearing retirement age).

**Implementation Plan 2:** Offer new materials based on Lasallian spirituality concerning the dynamics of personal accompaniment and community discernment, and distribute those already in existence within the Institute (Year 2003).

*Objective Five: To organize the formation sessions proposed by the 43<sup>rd</sup> General Chapter in collaboration with the other Secretariats and General Services using the CIL structure.*

**Implementation Plan:** The Secretary for Continuing Formation will coordinate, in collaboration with the General Services involved, the following formation sessions:

- 2 sessions concerning "Formation in Lasallian Charism" for middle-aged Brothers (October 2002 to February 2003 and October 2006 to February 2007). Prior to each session there will be a

specified period of involvement in situations of service to the poor.

- 2 sessions for “Formators for the Lasallian Mission,” for Brothers, Partners, and Associates (October to December 2004 and October to December 2005). Prior to the sessions there will be a specified period of involvement in situations of service to the poor.

- 1 session for “Brother Formators for Initial Formation of Brothers” (October 2003 to February 2004). Prior to the session there will be a specified period of involvement in situations of service to the poor.

- 3 sessions for “New Brother Visitors” (1 to 14 October 2001, 15 to 30 May 2003, and 15 to 30 May 2005).

- 1 session concerning “the Accompaniment of Senior Brothers”, for Brothers and Partners (May 2002).

*Objective Six: To help Districts in giving a renewed thrust in the pastoral ministry of vocations and draw up an updated District plan according to the criteria of the 43<sup>rd</sup> General Chapter.*

**Implementation Plan:** The Secretaries for Formation will encourage and support the organisation of Regional meetings concerning the pastoral ministry of vocations (Proposition 26 of the 43<sup>rd</sup> General Chapter), and they will make known to others the positive propositions that are adopted (Year 2003).

*Objective Seven: Encourage studies about Saint John Baptist de La Salle, the history of the Institute, and educational and spiritual practices in the Institute today.*

**Implementation Plan 1:** The General Council will appoint an International Council for Lasallian Studies (CIEL). This Council’s basic objectives are (a) to draw up a plan for research and (b) to evaluate the publications that are being produced by Districts, Sub-Districts, Delegations, and Regions and to study their possi-

ble broader dissemination.

**Implementation Plan 2:** Throughout this intercapitular period Brother Superior General, as he listens to the opinions of the Regions, will propose to at least 2 Brothers that they make themselves available for and be willing to carry out Lasallian research.

**Implementation Plan 3:** The Secretariat for Lasallian Studies will publish materials on the Lasallian charism for use in initial and continuing formation of Brothers and Partners.

# Government Commission

## 1. Description

The Government Commission, which is at the service of Brother Superior General and the General Council, is concerned with the implementation of the Propositions of the 43<sup>rd</sup> General Chapter which refer to the government of the Institute and its Lasallian mission and with other matters conducive to the efficient running of the Institute.

## 2. Membership

Brother Victor Franco, General Councillor

Brother Claude Reinhardt, General Councillor

## 3. Objectives

*Objective One: To suggest to Brother Superior General and the General Council, a manner of proceeding with the re-organization and/or the further development of relationships between Regions, Districts, Sub-Districts.*

**Implementation Plan:** To identify the Regions, Districts, Sub-Districts, and Delegations that may be in need of assistance due to: (a) lack of Brothers to ensure the viability of the apostolates and lack of formators or possibilities of formation (Recommendation 30); (b) financial limitations (Recommendation 31); (c) difficulty of finding Brothers able or willing to assume leadership positions (Recommendation 32 and Recommendation 33); and (d) presence of young Brothers in communities with a high average age (Recommendation 21).

To ensure that these sectors develop a realistic plan based on their areas of strength and weakness (Recommendation 30).

To identify Regions or Districts that can assist with personnel for formation, leadership or apostolic work, and/or financial support (Recommendation 31 and Proposition 28).

To establish, together with the Brothers responsible and with the Management and Solidarity Commission, guidelines, and explore various options for restructuring, merging, and fostering greater interdependence (Proposition 27, Proposition 28, Proposition 29, Recommendation 30, Recommendation 31, and Recommendation 34).

*Objective Two: To suggest to Brother Superior General and the General Council, after appropriate consultation, a manner of proceeding in the evaluation and possible re-structuring of the General Services of the Institute and the general operation (including the guest services) of the Generalate.*

**Implementation Plan:** To propose a plan and oversee the review, by qualified consultants and with the assistance of the Management and Solidarity Commission, of (a) the General Services of the Institute (Proposition 32), (b) the general operation of the Generalate (Proposition 32), and (c) the guest services of the Generalate (Proposition 32).

*Objective Three: To suggest to Brother Superior General and the General Council, after careful study of the evaluations of the 43<sup>rd</sup> General Chapter, specific recommendations concerning a revision of methodologies and procedures for the Preparatory Commission and/or the Capitulants of the 44<sup>th</sup> General Chapter.*

**Implementation Plan 1:** To explore ways by which the 44<sup>th</sup> General Chapter (a) can be preceded by an inter-active process involving as many Lasallians as possible in the study of its important themes, thus shortening the duration of the General Chapter (Recommendation 37) and (b) can implement an alternative model

that encourages interchange and stimulates reflection among interested Lasallians (Recommendation 38).

**Implementation Plan 2:** To ensure the attendance at the 44<sup>th</sup> General Chapter (a) of some members of the Standing Committee on the Lasallian Educational Mission who will present the work of the International Assembly on the Lasallian Educational Mission (Recommendation 36) and (b) of a representative group of young Brothers (Recommendation 39).

*Objective Four: To assist Brother Superior General and the General Council in a study which is conducive to the efficient government of the Institute relative to the properties and the institutions for which it is responsible, and to the animation of its Lasallian Mission.*

**Implementation Plan:** To study the policies pertaining to the ownership and management of property, the governance or administration structures of educational establishments, and the assurance of Lasallian charism in such ways that Partners and Associates have a significant role to play, and that a few Brothers are not over-burdened with the maintenance of these structures. This study will be conducted with the assistance of the Management and Solidarity, the Lasallian Educational Mission, and the Association for the Educational Service of the Poor Commissions (Recommendation 43 and Proposition 22).

*Objective Five: To assist Brother Superior General and the General Council in the development of a plan or a program which will assure good present and future leadership of Regions, Districts, Sub-Districts, and Delegations and in their appropriate co-ordination.*

**Implementation Plan 1:** To make the accompaniment and formation of the Brother Visitors, Brother Auxiliary Visitors, and Brother Presidents a priority (Proposition 23).



**Implementation Plan 2:** To organize and plan Sessions for the New Brother Visitors, Brother Auxiliary Visitors, and Brother Presidents in the years 2001, 2003, and 2005 (Proposition 23).

**Implementation Plan 3:** To organize, in coordination with the other Commissions concerned, and plan the meeting between the Brother Visitors, Brother Delegates, and Brother Presidents with Brother Superior General and the General Council to reflect on the educational service of the poor (Proposition 12).

**Implementation Plan 4:** To organize and plan the meeting of the Brother Regional Co-ordinators with Brother Superior General and the General Council.

*Objective Six: To assist the Brother Superior and the General Council in matters concerning the “Rule.”*

**Implementation Plan 1:** To propose an ad hoc committee to study the implications of the new situations in the Church and in the Institute for the present text of the Rule (Proposition 38).

**Implementation Plan 2:** To assist Brother Superior and the General Council in the publication of a new, but limited, edition of the Rule of 1987 which incorporates all of the changes of the 42<sup>nd</sup> and 43<sup>rd</sup> General Chapters.

# Lasallian Educational Mission Commission

## 1. Description

The Lasallian Educational Mission Commission assists Brother Superior General and the General Council in the implementation of the Propositions and Recommendations of the 43<sup>rd</sup> General Chapter which concern policies and practices in the service of the human, religious and Christian education of young people from all cultures.

## 2. Membership

Brother Claude Reinhardt, General Councillor  
Brother Miguel Campos, General Councillor  
Brother Anton de Roeper, Secretary of Education  
Brother Nicolas Capelle, Secretary of Education  
Brother Noël Bois, Director of SECOLI

## 3. Objectives

*Objective One: To set up the Standing Committee for the Lasallian Educational Mission.*

**Implementation Plan:** Assist Brother Superior General and the General Council in the creation of the Standing Committee for the Lasallian Educational Mission.

The 43<sup>rd</sup> General Chapter (Proposition 7) defined the tasks of this Committee:

- serve as adviser to Brother Superior General;
- accompany Regions, Districts, Sub-Districts and Delegations through visits or appropriate interventions;
- encourage educational forums;
- convoke the International Assembly on the Lasallian Educational Mission at least once before the General Chapter of 2007.

This Standing Committee will be composed of a dozen or so members. It will meet every year in Rome for a few days at the beginning of March and October.

*Objective Two: To stimulate research and assure the diffusion of Lasallian responses to present-day anthropological educational reality.*

**Implementation Plan:** Help define the educational anthropology that characterizes the present age, and how it responds to the expectations of young people today.

*Objective Three: To promote solidarity (a) by promoting justice and the educational service of the poor and (b) by the consideration of educational and pastoral questions in missionary contexts.*

**Implementation Plan:** Reinforce solidarity with “those whom the world neglects.” This entails strengthening the presence and involvement of the Institute and of Lasallians in a number of more specific issues such as the rights of children, and in alternative forms of education for young people and for adults in great need. It entails also providing aid and being present in developing Regions, and in inter-faith contexts.

It will involve also bringing the most committed and the most competent persons involved in Lasallian mission into contact with one another, so that they come to know one another and can share their different approaches and skills.

*Objective Four: To promote the proclamation of the Good News.*

**Implementation Plan:** The proclamation of the Good News.

As was noted by the 43<sup>rd</sup> General Chapter, this proclamation must be made at the present time in very different contexts and on the

basis of respect and willingness to listen. But this proclamation must be made.

There is much work that must be done in this area, under the following headings:

- sharing experiences and research;
- communities of faith in Lasallian centers;
- criteria defining Lasallian centers in various contexts;
- the link between the service of the poor and the proclamation of the Gospel;
- “proclamation and dialogue” in a multi-religious and ecumenical context.

*Objective Five: To increase the public visibility of the Institute and its representation on international bodies.*

**Implementation Plan:** In view of this, (a) continuing participation in international organisations in which the Institute already works (namely, in the International Bureau for Children, the International Catholic Center for Communication at UNESCO, the International Office for Catholic Education, the World Organisation of Former Students of Catholic Education, Justice and Peace) and (b) diffusing with more determination Lasallian educational thinking and practice within and outside the Lasallian network are envisaged.

#### **4. Some Further Practical Measures**

The General Council has a part to play in this implementation, and in this capacity has taken two decisions:

**Decision 1:** The creation of the Lasallian Educational Mission Commission, composed of a General Councillor, the Secretary for the Lasallian Educational Mission, 2 assistant secretaries for the Lasallian Educational Mission (who are yet to be named),

and the Director of SECOLI. This Commission will ensure the smooth running of the Standing Committee and will be responsible, to Brother Superior General and the General Council, for decision-making.

**Decision 2:** The approval of the following general program:

- 2001-2002 campaign: The Rights of the Child;
- 2002-2003 campaign: Educational innovations;
- 2003 2004 campaign: Education for justice;
- 2004-2005 campaign: Pastoral ministry;
- 2005-2006 campaign: Preparation for the International Lasallian Educational Mission Assembly;
- April 2006: The International Lasallian Educational Mission Assembly.

# Management and Solidarity Commission

## 1. Description

The Management and Solidarity Commission assists Brother Superior General and the General Council in the implementation of the Propositions and Recommendations of the 43<sup>rd</sup> General Chapter which concern the policies and practices of management and solidarity in the Institute and in the administration and financial overseeing of the Generalate and its related services. As appropriate, it operates in collaboration with the International Economic Council, which functions according to the objectives defined in the Guidelines for Financial Administration, # 20.2.

## 2. Membership

Brother Marc Hofer, General Councillor  
Brother Juan Pablo Martín, General Councillor  
Brother Jordi Oller, Bursar General

Brother Noël Bois, Secretary of SECOLI (as appropriate)  
Brother Valerio López, Secretary General (as appropriate)  
Brother Everardo Márquez, Director General of the Generalate House (as appropriate)  
Brother Aidan Kilty, Secretary of Formation (as appropriate)  
Brother Alberto Prada, Secretary of Formation (as appropriate)

## 3. Objectives

*Objective One: To reinforce economic solidarity among Regions, Districts, Sub-Districts, and Delegations and with the Center of the Institute.*

**Implementation Plan 1:** To further implement, with the assistance of the Director of SECOLI and the International Economic

Council and according to criteria approved by Brother Superior General and the General Council, the process of twinning (Proposition 33).

**Implementation Plan 2:** To draw up for Brother Superior General and the General Council, with the assistance of the International Economic Council, a plan of action to increase the Lasallian Formation Fund (Proposition 34).

**Implementation Plan 3:** To propose appropriate guidelines, based on the Guidelines for Financial Administration and the orientations of the 43<sup>rd</sup> General Chapter and with the assistance of the Director of SECOLI, for the implementation of Proposition 28 and Proposition 35, and to report on and provide Brother Superior General and the General Council with a yearly analysis on progress in this area.

Proposition 28: That Brother Superior and his Council provide guidelines to ensure that solidarity and interdependence continue to be promoted within and between Regions, by strongly recommending that they pay particular attention to the sectors in need.

Proposition 35: That the donor District inform the Centre of the Institute (SECOLI) prior to any decision to send aid directly to a District, Sub-District or Delegation.

**Implementation Plan 4:** To propose, with the assistance of the Director of SECOLI and after appropriate study and reflection, to Brother Superior General and the General Council the guidelines according to which Institute funds are made available for the missionary activities of the Institute.

**Implementation Plan 5:** To propose to Brother Superior General and the General Council, according to an approved formula and

with the assistance of the Institute Secretaries for Formation and the Director of SECOLI, a plan for the distribution of the Sharing Fund, for the formation of Brothers and the support of the economically fragile sectors of the Institute.

*Objective Two: To assure that Regions, Districts, Sub-Districts, and Delegations continue to apply the guidelines of the 43<sup>rd</sup> General Chapter and the “Guidelines for Financial Administration” regarding management and financial policy and practice.*

**Implementation Plan 1:** To draw up, with the assistance of the International Economic Council, suggestions for Brother Superior General and the General Council concerning the application of the guidelines of the 43<sup>rd</sup> General Chapter and the Guidelines for Financial Administration in the Regions, Districts, Sub-Districts, and Delegations.

**Implementation Plan 2:** To assist the Brother Bursar General and the Brother General Councillor designated as the liaison for the Region to follow-up on the application of the guidelines of the 43<sup>rd</sup> General Chapter and the Guidelines for Financial Administration in the different Regions.

*Objective Three: To accompany and support the Bursars of Districts, Sub-Districts, and Delegations, most especially in the sectors in which there is need.*

**Implementation Plan 1:** To encourage and organize, with the assistance of the International Economic Council, formative and educational meetings between the Bursars of the different Regions, Districts, Sub-Districts, and Delegations of the Institute.

**Implementation Plan 2:** To study, with the assistance of the International Economic Council, the possibility of setting up a program, or of proposing one already existing, for the education and



formation of Bursars, above all for the sectors which ask for or are in need of assistance.

**Implementation Plan 3:** To propose, with the assistance of the International Economic Council, a plan for the approval of Brother Superior General and the General Council, that ensures that appropriate funds are raised and administered in each District, Sub-District, and Delegation to support the formation of Partners in Districts, Sub-Districts, and Delegations with limited resources (Proposition 10).

**Implementation Plan 4:** To propose, with the assistance of the International Economic Council, a plan for the approval of Brother Superior General and the General Council, that ensures that in “those Districts where the Brothers do not receive a retirement pension, or where these pensions are inadequate, a separate fund” for their support is created and maintained in each District, Sub-District, and Delegation (Recommendation 41).

*Objective Four: To create a mechanism for the collection of funds with a view to finding new financial sources for the stable endowment of the Institute and for the educational service of the poor.*

**Implementation Plan 1:** To develop, with the assistance of the International Economic Council, a proposal for the Brother Superior General and the General Council about the creation of a mechanism for the collection of funds and for the good management thereof (Proposition 37).

**Implementation Plan 2:** To continue to implement, with the assistance of the Director of SECOLI, short-term plans to raise money for the missions from organizations outside the Institute.

*Objective Five: To assist the Government Commission in the planning and implementation (a) of Proposition 32: to improve the good*

*running of the General Services of the Institute, the general operations of the Generalate, and the guest services of the Generalate; and (b) of Recommendation 43 which concerns policies pertaining to the ownership, management and governance of properties and institutions.*

**Implementation Plan 1:** To collaborate, with the assistance of the International Economic Council, in the work of the Government Commission in those aspects of Proposition 32 which concern finances.

**Implementation Plan 2:** To collaborate, with the assistance of the International Economic Council, in the work of the Government Commission in those aspects of Recommendation 43 which concerns finances.

*Objective Six: To propose, with the assistance of the Brother Director General and the Brother Secretary General, policies to Brother Superior General and the General Council, and to oversee (always with due relation to the International Economic Council) the administration and the ordinary finances of the Generalate and its services.*

*Objective Seven: To prepare and submit with the assistance of the Brother Director General and the Brother Secretary General, to Brother Superior General and the General Council, proposals concerning important matters of functioning, management, upkeep and maintenance, and renovation of the Generalate.*

*Objective Eight: To monitor, with the assistance of the Brother Director General, the ongoing relationship with and operation of the Administrative Council of l'Istituto Convitto Jesus Magister (the hotel services at the Generalate) and to propose to Brother Superior General and the General Council, when warranted, changes in the norms of operation under which ICJM operates at the Generalate.*

# 5. The International Councils and Standing Committees Established or Reconstituted by Brother Superior General and the General Council

## **International Council on Communications**

### **1. Description**

The Communications Commission has determined that it needs collaborators in a number of areas:

- persons who are already in charge of communication in their own Districts, and who can serve as correspondents or photographers;
- persons who are skilled in the new communication technologies and who can act as advisors;
- experts on the theoretical level of communication in the world of today (with qualifications in communication) who can be consulted.

To respond to this need, the members of the International Council on Communications are appointed by Brother Superior General and the General Council. Membership on the Council is for one term of three years; but it would be possible, although not necessary, to have this appointment renewed for an additional three-year period.

### **2. Membership**

Brother Yemanu Jehar, General Councillor  
Brother Marc Hofer, General Councillor  
Brother Valerio López, Secretary General  
Brother Donald Johanson, Web Site Co-ordinator

Brother Alessandro Cacciotti, Region of Italy (Rome)  
Brother Christopher Soosai, Region of PARC (India)

Brother Frederick Dihlmann, Region of USA/Toronto (New York)

Mr. Michel Gény, Region of France

Mr. Luis Carlos Herrera Gutiérrez de Valasco, Region of RELAL (South Mexico)

Mr. John Kirby, Region of REBIM (Great Britain)

Brother Charles Kitson, Region of USA/Toronto (LI-NE)

Brother Miguel Rapatan, Region of PARC (Philippines)

Brother José Antonio Warletta García, Region of ARLEP (Central Spain)

## **International Economic Council**

### **1. Description**

The members of the International Economic Council are appointed by Brother Superior General who also determines the term of their mandate. The ordinary meetings of the Council take place twice a year.

The function of the International Economic Council is to help Brother Superior General and the General Council and the Brother Bursar General. According to the 40<sup>th</sup> General Chapter of 1976 (Circular 403, page 102), the functions of this Council are as follows:

- to develop fiscal policy for the Central Government to be approved by Brother Superior General and the General Council;
- to propose the annual budget for the Central Government;
- to monitor and report annually on the income, expenses, and investments of the Central Government;
- to monitor and adjust according to developments an equitable schedule of District contributions for the support of the Central Government;
- to help Districts in their financial administration when such help is requested;
- to assist the Brother Bursar General in his implementation of policies.

Membership on the Council, as now constituted, is for one term of three years; but it would be possible, although not necessary, to have this appointment renewed for an additional three-year period.

## **2. Membership**

Brother Marc Hofer, General Councillor

Brother Jordi Oller, Bursar General

Brother Francisco López, Region of RELAL (Panamá)

Brother John Patzwall, Region of USA/Toronto (Baltimore)

Brother Gérard Oustric, Region of France

Brother Edoardo Pizzicaroli, Region of Italy (Rome)

Brother Johann Gassner, Region of RELEC (Central Europe)

Brother Fernand Caya, Region of Canada

## **International Lasallian Studies Council**

### **1. Description**

The International Council on Lasallian Studies (CIEL), whose members are appointed by Brother Superior General and the General Council, will have as its functions:

- to provide input regarding the expectations and needs of the Regions, of the houses of formation for Brothers, and of the formation centers and programs for Lasallian mission;
- to draw up plans, to be submitted to the Formation Commission, for research and the publication of books and materials in the area of Lasallian studies;
- to evaluate what has been achieved in the field of Lasallian studies, and its impact both within and outside the Lasallian Family.

CIEL shall meet once a year, for a period of two or three days; and membership is for a specified period of time. It would be possible, but

not necessary, for those appointed to CIEL by Brother Superior General and the General Council to have this appointment renewed for one additional three-year period.

## **2. Membership**

Brother Alain Houry, Director of Lasallian Studies

Brother Aidan Kilty, Secretary of Formation

Brother Edwin Arteaga, Region of RELAL (Medellín)

Brother Antonio Botana, Region of ARLEP (Central Spain)

Brother Paul Grass, Region of USA/Toronto (Midwest)

Mr. Elie Michiels, Region of RELEC (North Belgium)

Brother Gabriel Somé, Region of RELAF (Afrique de l'Ouest)

Brother Gabriele di Giovanni, Region of Italy (Rome)

Brother Jean-Louis Schneider, Region of France

Brother Michael Valenzuela, Region of PARC (Philippines)

## **Standing Committee for the Lasallian Educational Mission**

### **1. Description**

According to the 43<sup>rd</sup> General Chapter of 2000 (Circular 447, Propositions 7 & 8), the Standing Committee for the Lasallian Educational Mission, co-ordinated by the Institute Secretary for the Lasallian Educational Mission, should among other things:

- serve as adviser to Brother Superior General on questions related to the educational mission;
- accompany Regions, Districts, Sub-Districts, and Delegations through visits or appropriate interventions, in order to promote interdependence;
- encourage educational forums on education in the Regions, Districts, Sub-Districts, and Delegations;

- convoke the International Assembly on the Lasallian Educational Mission at least once between General Chapters and determine the criteria for participation and propose the objectives of the International Assembly;
- ensure Institute representation in civil and Church educational organizations.

The members of the Standing Committee for the Lasallian Educational Mission are appointed by Brother Superior General and the General Council, who also determine the term of their mandate. It will include among its members: one or two General Councillors representing Brother Superior General; a number of persons responsible for the educational mission in Regions, Districts, Sub-Districts, and Delegations; and the Institute Secretary for the Lasallian Educational Mission.

Membership on the Committee is for one term of three years; but it would be possible, although not necessary, to have this appointment renewed for an additional three-year period.

## **2. Membership**

Brother Claude Reinhardt, General Councillor  
 Brother Miguel Campos, General Councillor  
 Brother Nicolas Capelle, Secretary of Education

Mr. José Cuelli, Region of RELAL (Antilles)  
 Mr. Denis de Villers, Region of Canada  
 Mr. Charles Gaus, Region of USA/Toronto (Baltimore)  
 Brother Guiseppe Gioia, Region of Italy (Rome)  
 Mr. Joël Le Natur, Region of France  
 Mr. Albert Leroy, Region of RELEC (South Belgium)  
 Brother José Maria Martínez, Region of ARLEP (Central Spain)  
 Brother Frederick Mueller, Region of USA/Toronto (LI-NE)  
 Brother I. Sebastian, Region of PARC (India)  
 Brother Owen Smith, Region of REBIM (Great Britain)

## 6. The Calendar of International Meetings and of Continuing Formation Sessions to Be Organized by the Center of the Institute (2000-2007)

### **The Calendar of International Meetings**

The following are the dates of the international meetings that will be organized by the International Commissions, Councils, and Standing Committees of the Center of the Institute, and held at the Generalate in Rome, during the Inter-Capitular period (2000-2007).

- The meeting of the Brother Regional Co-ordinators of the Institute with Brother Superior General and the General Council: 3 to 10 January 2004.
- The meeting of the Brother Visitors, Brother Delegates, and Brother Presidents with Brother Superior General and the General Council to reflect on the educational service of the poor (Proposition 12): 24 May to 7 June 2004.
- The International Lasallian Educational Mission Assembly (Proposition 7): 1 to 15 April 2006.

### **The Calendar of Continuing Formation Sessions**

The following are the dates of the continuing formation sessions that will be organized by the Formation Commission of the Institute, in collaboration with the other Commissions, Secretariats, and General Services involved, during the Inter-Capitular period (2000-2007). Prior to each session or program there will be a specified period of involvement in situations of service to the poor.

- “Program for the New Brother Visitors, Brother Auxiliary Visitors, and Brother Presidents”: 1 to 14 October 2001.
- “Session concerning the Accompaniment of Senior Brothers,” for



Brothers and Partners: May 2002.

- “Session of Formation in Lasallian Charism,” for middle-aged Brothers (CIL): October 2002 to February 2003.
- “Program for the New Brother Visitors, Brother Auxiliary Visitors, and Brother Presidents”: 15 to 30 May 2003.
- “Session for Brother Formators Involved with the Initial Formation of Brothers”: October 2003 to February 2004.
- “Session for Formators for the Lasallian Mission” (in modules), for Brothers, Partners, and Associates (SIEL): October to December 2004.
- “Program for the New Brother Visitors, Brother Auxiliary Visitors, and Brother Presidents”: 15 to 30 May 2005.
- “Session for Formators for the Lasallian Mission” (in modules), for Brothers, Partners, and Associates (SIEL): October to December 2005.
- “Session of Formation in Lasallian Charism,” for middle-aged Brothers (CIL): October 2006 to February 2007.

7. The Decree of the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life modifying article 106 of the text of the Rule of the Brothers of the Christian Schools, in light of Proposition 42 of The Documents of the 43<sup>rd</sup> General Chapter (Circular 447).

Congregation for Institutes of  
Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life

Vatican, 23 November 2000

Protocol N° P 80 - 2/2000

Reverend Brother Procurator General,

On November 11<sup>th</sup> last, you asked for the approbation of two modifications to the text of your Constitutions, approved by vote by the last general Chapter.

After careful consideration of this request, the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life approves the modification of article 106, suppressing the last part: “the Regional Representatives who are full-time.”

On the other hand, the Congregation does not agree with the addition of the word “absence” to article 45, as it is not a form of separation from the Institute. All the same, you are right to ask the Brother Visitor, in the Administrator’s Directory, to inform the Superior General when

he grants a Brother leave of absence.

Rest assured, dear Brother, of our profound union in the Church.

Eduardo Cardinal Martínez Somalo  
Prefect  
Piergiorgio Silvano Nesti, C.P.  
Secretary

Reverend Brother Rodolfo Cosimo Meoli  
Procurator General  
Brothers of the Christian Schools  
Rome