We are ARUPÁ
a space for the mission

Carlos Acosta, presidente de CEN-CLC Argentina, CLC Paraguay y Federico Montes, María Celia Sandar, Leonardo Lima, María Noel García, Francisco Arrondo sj, CEN-CLC Uruguay

The wishes and hopes of ARUPÁ, in this time of preparation of the 2018 World Assembly

Let’s tell the story

“For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord.” Isaiah 55, 8

Saturday night - July 4, 2015: in a family home, among friends. We had met to celebrate the lived experience, the “Family Clock”, thanking Fernando Vidal and Carmen Oliveros, from CLC Spain, who gave us that experience.

Between meals and typical music, we exchanged views on several topics: the World Assembly in Lebanon, the next Assembly ... and then, the surprise suggestion by Fernando Vidal: And why not organise it ourselves ...?

For those of us who listened to Fernando’s words, it was a special unique moment. A few seconds, with a sense of eternity ... It would never have occurred to us to act as hosts of the next World Assembly: the text of Isaiah became a reality with vengeance. That moment will be an unforgettable, genuine, full, mysterious and miraculous memory in our lives ... an experience of God.

Through our minds, bodies and hearts many things were taking shape, all hinting to one intuition: And why not...

Someone said Paraguay can participate, another added. And so, among friends, as a family, celebrating, sharing a meal and singing, the work team formed by Uruguay, Paraguay and Argentina took shape. Although there was still a lot missing... CLC Argentina formally invited the national communities of Uruguay and Paraguay to discern the call to be responsible for the organization of the next world assembly.

When the affirmative response of these communities was received, the National Executive Council met in Buenos Aires, together with members of the communities of the Region, to make the final decision.

We offered a day to pray and discern, to understand what the Lord was asking of us. And we felt convinced by the Spirit to say YES, to give and to receive on this way of preparing to host the World Community in the next World Assembly - Buenos Aires 2018.

Our offer, which was a wish arrived at in communion with each other, could not be confirmed without the practical collaboration of the Loyola Center team, and the open support of the Provincial ARU, Alejandro Tlwe, SJ, to whom we are deeply grateful.

Carlos Acosta
CLC Argentina, President
ARUPÁ, the process of a name

Initially, the EXCO called us the APU team, an acronym that combined the first letters of the names of our three countries.

The name became clearer to us when we amended the sequence of the letters, and the word UPA was formed: in our region, when the child asks to be lifted in his arms, he expresses this by saying upa. An image behind the name, which made us happy.

While designing the logo, the graphic arts team thought of, and proposed, ARUPA (Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay), a new amalgam that combined our countries.

And we could still provide more meaning to this combination of communities by reading an accent on the last syllable, (and we could hear ARUPA), we could discern the Guarani words that mean: I BRING EVERYTHING (the Guarani is one of the living native languages that is used in large areas of our countries, even as an official language).

Then, as a summary of all the above, the host team chose to be called ARUPÁ: I BRING EVERYTHING ...

I BRING EVERYTHING, and I put it at Jesus’ disposal for Him to perform the miracle. The motto of the World Assembly in fact is “How many loaves do you have? Go and see.” They came back and told him: “There are five of them, and there are also two fishes.” That’s what we wish – ARUPA, I BRING EVERYTHING.

CLC Paraguay

Our role as host team

Several elements make up this role: the ability to receive and welcome with a wide open and generous heart and mind. We want to receive them as visitors in our house. Each person and delegation will be very welcome, and we will make you feel at home, in the house of this region of South America, vibrant in its vitality, enterprising and open to reconciliation; and within a “great homeland like all of Latin America and the Caribbean.”

Also, we are encouraged to see what we now want to generate with prayer, communication and hope: what we will live in Argentina will be of God, since it is in His Spirit that we want to trust and be faithful. And we want to celebrate so many rivers of life that will converge, so many stories of grace and testimonies of how God never abandons us. We will see the maps of everyone’s journey. We will bring about gratitude, memory, meeting, celebration and feast.

We are inspired by what we want to share and show our hosts. How we live the CLC vocation in these countries, in our families and jobs. We will show them our journey’s plan (map), and the motto very open and receptive: a mate (a typical celebratory Argentinean drink) – just one mate that passes from hand to hand to drink the liquid of trust, fraternity and world communion without the exclusion of anyone. Three little bread rolls, one for each country, with whose poverty and offering Jesus Christ will make food so much for so many, that we cannot even imagine. A shape of V, like the outline of Latin America, open to give and receive, green of land and hope. You are very welcome!
What drives the spirit of our service?

God drives the spirit of CLC. God drives it in the deep experience of its members to be and recognize themselves so unconditionally loved by him, “The very Holy Trinity”. The CLC members are very grateful for this grace of God, undeserved, a pure gift. Very grateful for being CLC in the universal and local Church. And we know from experience: “a grateful heart always responds.”

The spirit of CLC cannot be anything other than service, out of gratitude for so much - in quantity and quality - that we have received from God, from the Church and from so many witnesses that have preceded us in CLC and with whom we share this path today. It drives us to be participants in these 50 years of journey, of discernment of how to truly be a Body for the mission, a Body for the Spirit. We continue to receive a lot of love, kindness, generosity, effort, work, fidelity to the commitments assumed, time and sacrifice to be who we are.

Some people knew from before, and was confirmed to us in CLC, that this way of living Church, of belonging to the Church is what we want, with all the consequences, and we showed our joy and happiness with it. Other people learned in CLC an incarnated Ignatian spirituality, ways of searching and finding God in everything, of living in community the essential reality of our being in God, and for Him, and for Others whom He entrusts to us. We help each other to grow, gazing at a horizon of evangelization with the joy of the Gospel in our hearts.

It is of great comfort to feel the extra encouragement of three CLCs working together - Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay – making up the host team. This encouragement and enthusiasm is helping us to get a real feel of the body of CLC in the region, in Latin America and worldwide. We are living an experience of integration and CLC identity that feels every day stronger.
What do you want for the world community?

That we become aware again of so much good received since the last World Assembly in Lebanon 2013, recognizing with courage, the action of the Spirit of God in everything and giving thanks, as explicitly as possible, that we are a part of the Body of the Church. A Church that cannot fail to exercise its mission in the spirit of motherhood, communion and wisdom. A recognition and gratitude for each CLC in each country. And let us praise and honour God who has made it possible together with us, with our successes and failures. We know that gratitude is the engine of our commitment.

Having harvested so many fruits without trepidation from Lebanon 2013, and having analyzed so many rapid changes in the world and in the Church itself, we are determined to present ourselves after this Assembly. The after July 2018, to offer and give to the world and the Church what we are, the most genuine, proper and vital CLC servant (no CLC person is here to be served, but to present itself as a body to serve).

CLC Uruguay National Executive Federico Montes, María Celia Sandan, Leonardo Lima, María Noel García, Francisco Arrondo sj

ARUPÁ, the structure

The ARUPÁ community in the form of the Executive Secretariat, is in charge of organizing, together with the EXCO, the next World Assembly at the Loyola Center in San Miguel, Buenos Aires, Argentina. It is composed of members of the National Councils and CLC communities of:

**Paraguay**: Jorge Irala Moreno, Arq. Claudia Napout and Carlos Benítez

**Uruguay**: Federico Montes and Cecilia Roselli

**Argentina**: Carlos Acosta (President), Marita De Lorenzi, María Laura Eder and P. Juan Berli, SJ, National Assistant.

ARUPÁ has organized itself with a Secretariat (executive) in Argentina and in different Working Groups:

- **SECRETARÍA ARGENTINA**: Carlos Acosta (General Coordinator), Marita De Lorenzi (Secretary), María Laura Eder (Coordinator of Work Areas), Marcelo Arango (Responsible of Finance) and Víctor Pacharoni, SJ (Advisor)

- **WORKING GROUPS**
  - **LOGO**: Lucia Hyon, coordinator (Argentina)
  - **COMMUNICATIONS**: Manuel Martínez (Uruguay), María Laura Rolle (Argentina) and Diego Pereira (Uruguay).
  - **FINANCE**: Marcelo R. Arango and advisor, P. Víctor Pacharoni, SJ, (Argentina)
  - **TRANSLATORS**: María C. Galli, coordinator of interpreters and Alicia Nin (Uruguay)

On the other page from top to bottom:
- Meeting CEIA in June 2017 with collaborators.
- ARUPÁ on 9-07-16 at the Loyola Center, with several friends.
- Preparation Meeting
- Marita de Lorenzi, Cecilia Roselli, Carlos Acosta, Mauricio Lopez.
- Below: Meeting in February 2018
• LITURGY: Jorge Moreno Irala (Paraguay) and Gabi Aguer (Argentina)
• LOGISTICS & INFRASTRUCTURE: Dr Claudia Benítez (Paraguay), Dr Lucía Hyon, Adviser, and Daniel Fernández (Argentina)
• DECORATION & DESIGN: Claudia Benítez (Paraguay) and Lucía Hyon (Argentina)
• WELCOME & SERVICES: María Laura Eder and volunteers from Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay.
• RECREATION: Jorge M. Irala (Paraguay), Valentina Artola (Uruguay), and Elena Yeyati (Argentina).

We are waiting for you at:

The venue of the next 2018 World Assembly will be Centro Loyola, in the Máximo School of San José · San Miguel, ARGENTINA.

The Society of Jesus settled in San Miguel (province of Buenos Aires) in the year 1930, began to build the building called Colegio Máximo de San José. At that time the term “Máximo” of Latin origin expressed the target aim, as the culmination of the studies that would be carried out there.

Colegio Máximo, born as a house of formation for the Society of Jesus, has been widening its services to become a true center of formation in matters of faith and culture, sheltering in its own building different initiatives and institutional activities.

The Centro Loyola currently uses an important part of the building of the Colegio Máximo, formerly used as living quarters for Jesuit students, as a place identified for the dissemination of Ignatian spirituality through the practice of Spiritual Exercises, courses and workshops on spirituality. Similarly, as a way to reach out to other social and business sectors and contribute to the financing of the whole, Colegio Máximo offers its facilities for business meetings, conventions and congresses.

The Colegio Máximo, with its large building, offers a large and pleasant space, ideal for carrying out activities linked to reflection and dialogue, spiritual and academic formation. The tradition and formation of the Jesuits, and the strong apostolic extension into the social, economic and religious reality of the area, make Colegio Máximo an ideal venue for the meeting and offers a link between very different groups and sectors of the social, economic and ecclesiastical spectrum. Different people and groups from very diverse regional, cultural and economic backgrounds hold their meetings and conferences at Colegio Máximo in search of guidance, formation and a greater Christian commitment. The long history and institutional prestige of Colegio Máximo makes it a center for all, well known in the region and in the national ecclesiastical sphere.

* In this house lived Fr. Jorge Mario Bergoglio, SJ, current Pope Francis. You can visit his office and room. For more information, plans, photos, etc., you can access the Loyola Center page: http://centroloyola.com.ar/

++ Cecilia Roselli, former head of Communications, passed away before the publication of this article. Her presence and life’s gift continues to inspire the work of ARUPA in the preparation for the assembly. Communications is now headed by Manuel Martinez (CVX Uruguay).