

PROJECTS
PROJETS
PROYECTOS



CHRISTIAN LIFE COMMUNITY
COMMUNAUTÉ DE VIE CHRÉTIENNE
COMUNIDAD DE VIDA CRISTIANA

No. 138, March 2008

Letter of communication between the Executive Council
and the World Christian Life Community

World ExCo annual meeting - 2008

The World Executive Council met from February 9 -16 in Munich hosted by the German CLC. We are especially grateful for the generosity of the National Community and the warm welcome and day to day care from the Munich CLC. Spending our break day in the historic center of Munich and meeting the local CLC in both Munich and Regensburg added to the richness of our time together.

Sandra Haley (formerly Chan) and Mari Carmen Mora were unable to be with us for this meeting. Please join us in congratulating and offering best wishes to Sandra and her husband John whose daughter Amelia was born on Dec. 29, 2007. We were joined by Jody Sim from CLC Philippines and coordinator of the Asia/Pacific Region who brought regional input to our planning. Also present was Edward Warrington from CLC Malta, our process guide for Fatima 2008.

As always, we began with a personal sharing followed by a report about each region. It is always a rich experience to hear about CLC in current and emerging communities. We also discussed and received updates on the Nairobi mandates.

- Leadership: Courses have taken place in a number of national communities. During April, the Leadership Working Group will report to national leadership on what has happened since the November 2006 Rome Leadership Course and how national communities can to get support for leadership development.
- SJ and CLC: Thank you also for the input from national communities and Ecclesiastical Assistants on the draft document “The Relationship between the Christian Life Community and the Society of Jesus in the Church”. For the final document, we also plan to take into account the reflections during the recent General Congregation of the Society of Jesus.
- The CLC Formation Working Group has completed a rewrite of the Formation Manual (former Charism 2), which is currently being translated. We plan to publish the final version in the near future to give some orientation on CLC formation, complementing “The CLC Charism”.

In addition to this work on the initiatives and the normal work of governance and finance, we spent much of our time outlining the process for the Fatima Assembly. By the time of the meeting, we had received reports on *Projects 136* from 2/3 of the national communities. This input, which the delegates will expand on at Fatima, was also critical to us in designing the process for our August 12 – 21st Assembly.

Thank you to all the National Leadership and Preparation Teams that worked on your community's report. The reports gave us a much fuller picture of the growth, opportunities and struggles in communities and demonstrated clear progress since Nairobi. Many sent detailed responses on each topic. Thank you for your time and reflection. If your response to *Projects 136* and National Community Graced History has not yet been sent to the Secreteriat, please still send it. It is very important that the situation of all of our national communities is considered in both planning and living out Fatima 2008.

As you know, Fatima 2008, with its theme "Journeying as an Apostolic Body: Our Response to this Grace from God", is an invitation to deepen the graces of Itaiici and Nairobi. The delegates will pray with and explore together our graced history during and since those Assemblies using the pre-work from *Projects 136*, the National Community Graced Histories, the report from this World ExCo and the shared experience and hopes of the assembled delegates.

We will use a process called 'Open Space' for part of the Assembly. In this process, delegates are invited to raise specific topics of interest to them and their national community since Nairobi. Each topic will be discussed by interested delegates during time periods in the 'open space' day. Each delegate will have time to participate in several topics during the day. The Assembly will receive brief reports and a conclusion from each session. We will work with these recommendations in national and regional groups and in the entire Assembly to answer the question; "How are we called to deepen our living out Apostolic Community?" These 'conversations' together with the pre-work of national communities and the World ExCo will create the content for the Assembly's deliberation and eventual decisions.

Several communities have also presented amendments to our General Norms. Those amendments will be sent to all delegations at the beginning of April.

We have asked that delegates register before the end of March. Delegates can register online at www.fatima2008.org. A mailing with further preparation materials and information about the Assembly will be sent to all delegates in April as well.

If you are seeking Solidarity Fund support, please send your application as soon as possible. Please also continue to make contributions to the Solidarity Fund. The Assembly cost is very challenging to many of the national communities (and even more so with the current crisis of the US\$). It is only with the generosity of all of the World Community that we can meet at the Assembly and have all of our national communities present.

Those who have been nominated for the next World ExCo have received notification of their nomination and are asked to respond within a month. We will send the final list of candidates to the delegates no later than May. Please pray with us for those discerning a nomination.

We are also seeking nominations of persons who would be available to serve as Executive Secretary April or May of 2009. Guy Maginzi will be leaving the office in June 2009. We want to plan for a transition period. The Executive Secretary role description is available at the World Secreteriat. Please contact Guy at exsec@cvx-clc.net for a copy. If you are interested, please get in touch with your national leadership. We ask a commitment of 5

years, a willingness to relocate to Rome, and working knowledge of at least 2 of the official languages.

Taking into account his resignation as Superior General of the Society of Jesus, Fr. Peter-Hans Kolvenbach contacted us last year to consider a possible successor for himself as World CLC Ecclesiastical Assistant. The two positions – General Superior of the Society and CLC Ecclesiastical Assistant – are not necessarily linked to one another, but from our experiences during the past years and the excellent collaboration with Fr. Kolvenbach, it makes a lot of sense if the General Superior is ready to also act as CLC EA. We are very grateful that the new General Superior, Fr. Adolfo Nicolás, expressed his willingness to take over the position. Therefore, the world ExCo and Fr. Kolvenbach contacted the Pontifical Council for the Laity, asking for the appointment of Fr. Adolfo Nicolás SJ as the new Ecclesiastical Assistant for World CLC (see also General Norms #42). Meanwhile, Fr. Kolvenbach – who has recently returned to Lebanon – continues as our World EA.

Please continue to pray with us and all of the delegations as we prepare for the General Assembly.

United in our prayers and service,
For the World Executive Committee

Daniela Frank
President

Lois Campbell
Consultor