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Rome, 4 September 2023

Dear brothers,

In the light of the Operational Guideline 2.3.2 of the XI General Chapter and after a work in which the Directors General of Apostolate, the Coordinators of Formation, the Major Superiors and the General Council participated, we present the new **General Guidelines of the International Organisms of Apostolate and Formation**, aimed at redesigning the way of implementing the mission and formative action of our Congregation at a supranational level.

The epochal change in which we find ourselves living requires not only an update of our way of being witnesses in the context of communication, but above all to continually rethink the mission, both in content and organization. This change also intercepts the formation process at all levels, primarily to form the integral Pauline, the Pauline “Editor” who at the school of the Master gives the joy of the Gospel to the world, like Saint Paul and Blessed Alberione.

In the past, our Intercontinental Organisms – CIDEP, CAP-ESW and GEC – have indeed been creative and proactive through editorial, formative projects and initiatives of various kinds, especially in the context of CIDEP’s action, but in the last decade the need has grown of a real rethinking. It is therefore a question of undertaking a new course to simplify existing structures and give even more space to project sharing.

Planning together seems to be the style to be strengthened, where the relationship between our Circumscriptions finds ever new and more synodal forms. We are aware of the complexity and difficulty of implementing initiatives at a global level, but even today we can find more adequate ways to respond to the needs of our times with more focused, targeted, shared and concrete projects.

With the present document, the Intercontinental Organisms CIDEP, CAP-ESW and GEC are abolished, and the work will be carried out according to the **General Guidelines** presented here. Everything that has been achieved over the years by the aforementioned Organisms is the responsibility of the CTIA and the SIF.

Finally, we underline that the Circumscriptions are the main actors of the projects – through the Directors General of Apostolate and Coordinators of Formation – with the aim of creating initiatives that respond to new opportunities, also enhancing our Pauline Centers for Studies in Communication and the Cultural Centers.

We extend special thanks to all the confreres who have given life and continued these intercontinental apostolic and formative realities over time, an expression of an apostolic passion that has been translated into shared initiatives with a broad international scope.

In Jesus Master.



Domenico Soliman
Father Domenico Soliman
Superior General

SUPERIORE GENERALE



*“Let yourselves be transformed,
renewing your way of thinking” (Rm 12,2)*

General Guidelines of the International Organisms of Apostolate and Formation

Living as Pauline “Editors.”

The New Configuration of the International Technical Committee of Apostolate (CTIA)
and the International Secretariat of Formation (SIF),
in the perspective of Pauline Mission

To progress in Synodality

“What counts today, more so than in times past, is organization, especially at international level, in every sector and in a particular way for the apostolate. Be more ‘catholic’ [universal] as beloved sons and daughters of the Catholic Church. Be united for the apostolate. Exercise mutual understanding and love: “Congregavit nos amor Christi unus”; provide mutual exchange of prayer and help” (UPS I, 382). These words of Blessed Alberione addressed to the entire Pauline Family still show their strength. We cannot walk disunited and proceed by groping. Together we express our mission and our being a formative community, a process that is renewed over time, but which maintains the same purpose: to live as Pauline “Editors,” as apostles, like Mary Queen of the Apostles who was the first “Editor” of Jesus.

With other words, Pope Francis also encourages us to give concreteness to that process of synodality so necessary to be witnesses of the Risen One as a Church that goes forth, where the only objective is to give the world Jesus Christ Way, Truth and Life.

The XI General Chapter noted that lately the experience of international cooperation bears little fruit, beyond the great distances of cultures and situations in which we find ourselves living. However, this does not mean that we must abandon Pope Francis’ invitation: “Synodality expresses the nature of the Church, its form, its style, its mission” (Address of 18 September 2021 to the faithful of the Diocese of Rome). It is therefore necessary to continue international collaboration, aware that walking together is a commitment that comes primarily from our being Christians.

Now, the new form that we have identified together is that of sharing projects, both in the exercise of our apostolate and in the integral formation of the Pauline. If we manage to improve the quality of our collaboration in the ongoing formation of the person and in the life of apostles, our testimony can only receive benefits.

We therefore follow this path by converting our international Organisms into flexible structures, simplifying and adapting to real needs, working on projects with dedicated persons, whose constitution expires with the realization of the project itself. There may be teams of two or three persons and others with more members, expressions of the Circumscriptions that have freely chosen to join. The Councilors General for the apostolate (CTIA) and formation (SIF), respectively, remain as points of reference and coordination.

1. Identity

The CTIA and the SIF are two Organisms with flexible structures that work in synodality to assist and cooperate with the General Government in the areas of the apostolate and formation of the Congregation.

2. Ends

| CTIA | SIF |
|---|--|
| Elaborates editorial lines and general policies on the apostolate of the Congregation, animating, coordinating and supervising their application. | Animates, coordinates and verifies the activity of the Congregation in the three areas: pastoral care of vocations, initial and ongoing formation. |
| Accompanies the elaboration, execution and verification of Apostolic Projects and presents them for the approval of the General Government. | Accompanies the development, execution and verification of the Formation Iter of the Circumscriptions and present them for the approval of the General Government. |
| Promotes the formation of Major Superiors and those with specific responsibilities, as well as working groups for international projects and the exchange of information and experiences and appoints the person responsible. | |
| Accompanies the working groups so that they can operate according to the real needs of the Circumscriptions involved. | |

3. Members

| CTIA | SIF |
|---|--|
| Two Councilors General appointed by the Superior General are members of the CTIA, one of them as President. | Two Councilors General appointed by the Superior General are members of the SIF, one of them as President. |
| The CTIA has as its main contacts the Directors General of the Apostolate for shared projects. | The SIF has as its main contacts the Coordinators General of Formation for shared projects. |
| They avail of the collaboration of the Coordinators of the working groups of actual projects. | |

4. Operational Duties

| CTIA | SIF |
|---|--|
| Promotes the application of the general guidelines of the Congregation in the Circumscription (Seminars, Editorial Guidelines ...). | Promotes the application of the <i>Ratio formationis</i> and the Documents on formation of the Church. |
| The President promotes and organizes meetings and collaboration between the members of the Circumscriptions. | |
| The President can convene the Directors General of Apostolate and the Coordinators of | |

Formation for a face-to-face or remote Assembly whenever the need arises. The Assemblies have as their main purpose mutual information, sharing of projects, planning and verification.

The Coordinators of the working groups are responsible for the execution of the specific project.

5. Collaboration

| CTIA | SIF |
|--|---|
| Collaborates with the SIF and with the General Government in the formation of those responsible for the apostolate. | Collaborates with the CTIA and with the General Government in the formation of those responsible for formation. |
| Participates with the SIF in the formation for the apostolate in the international formation Courses (Novitiate and Perpetual Profession). | Participates with the CTIA in the formation of formators, through international courses. |
| Collaborates with the SIF in the elaboration and revision of the lter on formation for the apostolate. | Collaborates with the CTIA in the elaboration and revision of apostolic projects in relation to formation. |
| Creates with the SIF the formation program to prepare circumscription Governments for effective management of the apostolate. | Creates with the CTIA the formation program to prepare circumscription Governments for effective management of formation. |

Steps to Achieve

If I want to propose a project, what should I do? The operational functioning will be flexible, per projects and provides that if a Circumscription, a group of Paulines or a single Pauline has a project and wishes to share it with other Circumscriptions, he will present the proposal to the CTIA or to the SIF. The concerned Presidents will share the proposal with the other Circumscriptions. If the project will affect more than one Circumscription, the CTIA or the SIF will activate an *ad hoc* working group.

In summary:

1. The proposal is elaborated in a written text.
2. It is to be presented to the CTIA (ctia@paulus.net) or the SIF (sif@paulus.net).
3. The CTIA or the SIF consults the Circumscriptions if they are interested in the project.
4. If positive, an *ad hoc* working group will be activated.
5. The working group will be responsible for the implementation of the project.

Text approved during the General Council of 1 September 2023 and to be considered “*ad experimentum*” until the Interchapter of 2025.

Lorenzo Vezzani
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 Secretary General