

Rome: Meeting of the members of the SIF

From 26 to 28 June, while experiencing the scorching heat, the members of the ***International Secretariat for Vocation Promotion and Formation (SIF)*** met for the first time in Rome at the General House of the Society of St. Paul. The meeting, convened directly by the Superior General, Fr. Valdir José De Castro, involved two Councillors General and the three *Reference Persons* of the three linguistic groups of our Congregation, namely, CAP-ESW, CIDEP and GEC.

The main objective of these days was twofold: to reflect and to share experiences and challenges of the apostolate in the field of formation in our Congregation. The members have lived three days of challenging work.

The first was characterized by the **illumination phase**. The Superior General presented the annual letter of 2017, entitled *Study in view of the Mission*, and the document *The Identity of the Pauline Centres of Communication*. He then concluded by pointing out the expectations for this meeting. Subsequently, Fr. Carlo Cibien, the Provincial Vicar of the Italian Province, helped the members to re-read the Constitutions and the Directory in terms of formation, specifying precise indications for formators and formands.

The second day was devoted to the **analysis and evaluation of the priorities and operational lines of the X General Chapter** of the Society of St. Paul using the responses to the questionnaire sent to all those responsible for vocation promotion and formation.

The last day will be devoted to the **eventual updating of the normative documents of the SIF** (*Statute of the International Secretariat for Vocation Promotion and Formation and A Guide of SIF for the Writing of the Formation Iter*).

With enthusiasm, relying on your prayers and through the intercession of our Father St. Paul, we hope to reap good fruits of our meeting.