



## CONGREGATIO SS. REDEMPTORIS

Superior Generalis

Prot. No. 0000 228/2013

November 9, 2013

### **A Letter to individual confreres**

Dear Confreres,

1. The last General Chapter invited us to a new missionary availability and solidarity. “Restructuring for Mission should stimulate a reawakening of our *Vita Apostolica*. It should prompt a new availability for mission” (Principle 2 of Restructuring).

2. The Congregation faces many needs in various areas, such as: missionary initiatives, pastoral urgencies, formation, administration of temporal goods, the service of leadership, development projects, conflict mediation and resolution, know-how and expertise, etc. Many of them cannot be answered because of lack of personnel in the Unit or Conference. Our experience teaches us that some of these initiatives have died for this reason. On the other hand, there are other positive experiences of confreres working in other Units helping to respond to such needs.

3. We are sure that there are confreres in various Units who are capable and willing to make themselves available to respond to such urgencies and needs. Sometimes their generosity is well used through bilateral agreements between Units. However, there have been cases when this did not happen because the Units were too concerned about their own needs - unwilling to look beyond their own horizon - in order to share personnel, resources and expertise with others. Sometimes it also happens that the units in need do not know where to turn to look for help.

4. In the past, the General Government often asked units to start new missions. There were also instances when it invited volunteers from various units to start a new work together. There have also been many instances where missionary projects failed precisely because of the lack of personnel or positive responses. There have been unanswered calls for the help in formation. Some international missions still need to call for more personnel from various units. There are different types of needs, both long-term and short-term. Sometimes we need

just one confrere to help in a particular area in another Unit. Sometimes a community needs to be established in a completely new missionary territory.

5. Therefore moved by the decisions and spirit of the XXIV General Chapter, and carrying the responsibility for the mission of the whole Congregation with a wider vision of the needs and possibilities, the General Government decided to take the initiative to look directly for such capable confreres willing to generously make themselves available for the wider mission of the Congregation.

6. If your missionary zeal urges you to present yourself for the possibility of serving the wider mission of the Congregation beyond the present work of your Unit, please notify the General Government of your availability. You can send your letter to the Office of the Secretary General: [seg.gen@cssr.com](mailto:seg.gen@cssr.com) or/and [seg.gen.cssr@gmail.com](mailto:seg.gen.cssr@gmail.com)

7. We realize that such a decision will call for a big sacrifice on your part and on the part of your Unit. However, we believe that every Redemptorist inspired by the missionary zeal of St. Alphonsus should ask himself before the Holy Redeemer about his willingness to make himself available for the wider mission of the Congregation in the spirit of Our Founder.

Your brother in the Redeemer,

*Michael Brehl, C.S.S.R.*

Michael Brehl, C.Ss.R.  
Superior General.

