



Rome, March 25, 2019
Prot N°. 0000 088/2019

TO THE COORDINATORS, (V) PROVINCIAL, REGIONAL AND MISSION SUPERIORS:

Subject: Convocation of the Mid-Sexennial Meetings for 2019

Dear Confreres,

At the midpoint of the Sexennium, the General Government once again convokes the Meetings of the (V) Provincial and Regional Superiors together with the Vocals. Explicitly requested by the 21st General Chapter in 1991, the Mid-Sexennial Meetings were affirmed once again by the 25th General Chapter in 2016. These Meetings will be held in conjunction with the Assemblies of the Conferences. The Meeting for Africa and Madagascar will also include the Mission Superiors. I remind you of the Decree on *Representation in the Mid-Sexennial Meetings* (Prot. No. 0000 149/2018), sent to you on September 26, 2018, and which is included with this Letter of Convocation.

By this letter, I officially convoke the five Mid-Sexennial Meetings for 2019. It is the hope of the General Government that these meetings will be moments of grace for the participants, for the Conferences, and for the whole Congregation as we continue the process of restructuring for mission and the revitalization of our *Vita Apostolica*.

The 25th General Chapter mandated a direction for the Congregation which involves a radical conversion in our self-understanding as a missionary Congregation called to preach abundant redemption in a wounded world. In a rapidly changing world, how we organize ourselves to respond to this call will result in the most significant change in our structures since the reunification of the Congregation and the introduction of Provinces more than 150 years ago. The General Government believes that this process of restructuring and reconfiguration, in the light of our apostolic priorities and plan, will enable us to continue to grow as authentic and prophetic witnesses of the Redeemer, in solidarity for mission to our wounded world.

Places, Dates, and Preparatory Commission for the Meetings:

- **The first date is the date of arrival, the final date is the date of departure.**
- **Each Preparatory Commission should name the moderators of the meeting.**

- Latin America and the Caribbean – Mexico City, Mexico: June 17-30.
 - Preparatory Commission: Marcelo Araujo, Rogerio Gomes, José Guadalupe Nazarín Ramos



- Africa and Madagascar – Nairobi, Kenya: July 28 to August 11.
 - Network (Mother Provinces): July 29-30
 - Mid-Sexennial: July 31-August 7
 - Assembly of the Conference: August 8-10
 - Preparatory Commission: Zephirin Luyila, Nicolas Ayouba, Kenya Mission Superior

- North America – West End, NJ, USA: September 15-27.
 - Preparatory Commission: Jack Kingsbury, Jeffrey Rolle, Paul Borowski

- Europe – Cortona, Italy: September 30-October 10.
 - Preparatory Commission: Johannes Römelt, Alberto Eseverri, Pedro Lopez, Antonio Cirulli,

- Asia Oceania – Saigon, Vietnam: October 27 – November 7.
 - Preparatory Commission: Ben Ma, Sebastian Ani Dato, Joseph Bich,

The Coordinator of each Conference will chair the Preparatory Commission and provide an important link between the work of the Mid-Sexennial Meeting and the work of the Assembly.

Participants in the Mid-Sexennial Meeting:

The *Decree on Representation* designates the representatives of the Conference to the Meeting. The Preparatory Commission can request that other delegates be designated to participate.

The Superior General, the Coordinator of the Conference, and the General Consultor(s) from the Conference also participate *ex officio*. The General Government may also name other participants from the General Government or others as it deems necessary.

Agenda of the Mid-Sexennial Meeting:

The Preparatory Commission will prepare the detailed agenda and process for the Meeting. The following themes should receive adequate time for thorough discussion in each meeting. Other themes may be added for the Assembly of the Conference.

1. Address from the Superior General

2. Presentation by the Commission for the Apostolic and Restructuring Plan (CARP)
 - a. Priorities
 - i. Missionary
 - ii. Apostolic
 - iii. Fundamental
 - b. Apostolic Plan



- c. Restructuring Plan
- d. Plan for the Fundamental Priorities, especially Formation
- e. The future of the Congregation in Northern Hemisphere (Decision 6, 25th General Chapter)
- f. Timetable for the implementation of the necessary steps in relation to restructuring and reconfiguration for mission.
- g. Information about other Conferences

It is very important that this process prepares the Meeting to make decisions about the Apostolic and Restructuring Plan for the Conference, as well as for its implementation.

3. Directory for Superiors
 - a. Working Document approved by the General Government until 26th General Chapter.
 - b. Suggestions, questions, revisions to the General Government to prepare for presentation at General Chapter.
4. Directory for Chapters
 - a. Working Document approved by the General Government until 26th General Chapter.
 - b. Suggestions, questions, revisions to the General Government to prepare for presentation at General Chapter.
5. Plan of Community Life
6. Manual for Economic Affairs
 - a. Working document to be presented
7. Report on the Alphonsian Academy
 - a. Concrete Proposals
8. Commission for Brothers
 - a. Report and Proposals
 - b. Plan of Action
9. Commission for Shared Mission
 - a. Profile and Directory
 - b. Plan of action
10. 26th General Chapter
 - a. Proposals for the date and location
 - b. Proposals of names for moderators and other collaborators
 - c. Other questions.
11. Safeguarding and Child Protection
12. Other matters



The Preparatory Commission for the Mid-Sexennial Meeting must work collaboratively with the Coordinator to plan all practical aspects concerning liturgies, translations, transportation, notaries, and other matters.

The Mid-Sexennial Meeting will require seven working days. The Coordinator must determine the time required for the Assembly of the Conference. The Preparatory Commission is encouraged to prepare the Agenda in order to provide opportunities for celebration as well as rest and recreation.

As we prepare for these very important meetings at the mid-point of the present Sexennium, I appeal to all of you participating in this momentous event to prepare adequately for the work involved. In the coming weeks you will receive an abundance of material which I ask that you study carefully, with reflection and prayer, so that we discern together the call of the Spirit to the Congregation at this moment in history.

As we enter more fully into this process of discernment, may Our Mother of Perpetual Help accompany us with her prayers and encouragement. May St. Alphonsus and all our Saints and Blessed Confreres inspire us to embrace the future with courage and hope. May we become more authentic and prophetic Witnesses of the Redeemer today.

Your brother in Christ our Redeemer,

Michael Brehl, C.Ss.R.

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Superior General

