



The journey continues!

3rd session 21-23 February 2021



Third meeting of the Reconfiguration Commission

The Reconfiguration team made progress on the proposed Action Plan:

Line of Action 1: *To facilitate the change of mentality and attitudes in order to open minds, hearts and wills. (Integrative process).*

"To build bridges": the link persons for the motivation and implementation of the sessions have been contacted. They are in contact with the provincial councils. They will organize the way to present it to the communities and lay groups in each place. The first four themes (*Building bridges between cultures, generations, provinces and in the mission*) to be developed in the Congregation until July 2022.

Line of Action 2: *To analyze the feasibility of the current structure of the Congregation.*

We have worked on the responses to the questionnaires sent to all the Provinces, on the new section of the Annual Report with data for reconfiguration, and on the responses to the questionnaire sent by the Commission on Shared Mission. The objective is to prepare "the true picture" of the religious and laity in the JM mission in the world.



Some comments:

- To the reality of decline and aging, Covid 19 is added. It makes transfers difficult, also new ministries within the same province as well as responding to new calls.
- There are real impossibilities, such as visas, paperwork, necessary for collaboration.
- Great availability for welcome and formation both of religious RJM and laity.
- Openness with certain limitations. We sense the fragility.
- Availability and the desire to collaborate, with lay people also.
- Two or three provinces can be enlarged (go beyond...).
- We live the "inter" at local or provincial level: no one is excluded, each according to its own reality, including the most fragile and vulnerable.
- PJV: not all provinces have a plan.

Signs for the future:

- There is the desire to give life.
- The provinces show openness of mind to search together.
- Awareness of our fragility and the need to walk with others.
- The "Inter" gives us more security and opens us to what is possible.
- Shared Mission - Companions in Mission - offers us new opportunities.

- We need to hear concrete calls and an impulse to take initiatives and take another step, to go beyond...

Line of Action 3: *To explore new ways of organizing the Congregation and expanding the charism.*

In this area, other Congregations (general and provincial level) who are involved in the reconfiguration process have been consulted. Some comments:

Processes

- New foundations have lived the “inter” process.
- It is a long process of integration for many congregations.
- Need to articulate tailor-made processes.
- Pay attention to diversity, the accompaniment of the provinces (teams) and the projects that are generated.
- Do not be afraid to change, to rectify.
- The advantage is that people feel closer to each other.

Structures

- Lots of variety and flexibility regarding Provincial, Delegation and regional structures.
- Start with small and uncomplicated projects.

Method and criteria

- The call to give something or to do things differently.
- To consolidate and develop. Reconfiguration is a means.
- It is also a means to launch out and to take risks.
- To work on feeling “one apostolic body”.

Difficulties-resistances

- Many “expectations” are not good.
- Macro-structures sometimes do not facilitate life.

Economy

- Having an economic fund offers many possibilities.

Let's continue our journey based on these reflections and concrete actions!

THE UPCOMING EVENTS

- To develop material for "Building Bridges " in each province/delegation.
- To continue to support the task of the link-persons.

THE NEXT COMMISSION MEETING:

24-26 June 2021

