



MLC International Team Meeting

November 2010, Rome

Present: Isabella R. Moyer (President), Félix Arqueros Pérez (Europe), Susan Vogt (North America, Asia, Ireland and Australia), Isabel Duarte Quapper (Latin America), Ernest Kasongo (Africa), Domingo Fuentes, SM (Assessor)

Regional Reports

Europe

Accomplishments

- An [Animation Team](#) has been formed in Europe to promote the international dimension in all countries.
- The first Marianist Lay Community in [Poland](#) has been officially welcomed to our International Organization. Another community of young people is being formed.
- A new NGO, [Acción Marianista](#), has been formed by the Marianist Family Council in Spain to support social justice projects around the world.

Challenges

- The region consists of seven countries and five languages. This is a challenge for communications and the translation of documents.
- Some countries still do not understand or support the international dimension of our Marianist Lay Communities.
- Financial accountability and transparency is very important to the countries that do contribute regularly and generously to the International Organization.

Latin America

Accomplishments

- Isabel attended the III Congress of Ecclesial Movements sponsored by [CELAM](#), the Episcopal Congress of Latin America.
- There is a good relationship with the Latin American FMI coordinator, and president of CLAMAR (Latin American Congress of Marianist Religious), and a closer relationship with many of the national responsables.

Challenges

- To organize and promote a meeting of the Latin American Marianist Family in Ecuador, 2011. Support for this meeting is not shared by all.
- To promote a network of communication among all the National Responsibles, not only with the Regional Responsible.
- To encourage the regular payment of dues.
- To promote the existing online formation courses from the University of Dayton.

North America, Asia, Australia and Ireland

Accomplishments

- 12 issues of [Gifts and Tasks](#) were published. The use of many photos helps to put a face on our international communities.

- [MLNNA](#) organized an international response to the earthquake in Haiti. They had the technology and infrastructure to allow online donations.
- The MLNNA Continental Assembly in Hawai'i was successful. Participants from South Korea gave the gathering a joyful and energetic international presence.

Challenges

- Not all countries respond to requests, or communicate on a regular basis.
- The issue of languages makes communications difficult. The Gifts and Tasks newsletter is published in English, but the region also includes French, Korean, Japanese, several Indian dialects, and Tagalog.
- It is a challenge to promote the continental and international dimension of Marianist Lay Communities in North America. It is culturally difficult to convince all members that dues are more than a voluntary contribution.

Africa

Accomplishments

- The [East Africa Regional Council](#) met in Zambia
- A new foundation has started in Cameroon by a lay Marianist from Congo Kinshasa.
- The Circular, "Being Marianist, Being Family" was well received in Africa.

Challenges

- In Africa, MLCs have been historically founded and supported financially by the religious. Sometimes, when the SM leave, the lay members stop participating in projects and communities cease to exist. This is the case in French speaking countries.
- In Africa, there is great financial and intellectual poverty. The need for formation is great.
- In some countries, misunderstandings and division exist within the Marianist family.

Temporalities

International MLC Directory

- The team thanks all National Responsibles who sent reports with the requested data.
- Basic data for each country will be posted on the national web-pages: photo, name and email of National Responsible; number of communities and members; cities and towns that have a Marianist presence
- When it is completed, a full directory will be sent to all National Responsibles. This directory can be printed and distributed, but it is **not to be posted online**, for privacy issues.
- Susan Vogt is responsible for compiling and updating the directory.

www.clm-mlc.org

- All National Responsibles are encouraged to send content for the national web-pages to webmaster@clm-mlc.org. This content includes newsletters, bulletins, web links, photos, etc.

Finances

- The Finance Team consists of Iñaki Barrio and Isabel Duarte Quapper.
- The International Team discussed the importance of financial accountability and transparency.
 - Financial Guide-Lines for the use of International Organization funds will be clearly defined.
 - An annual report of income and general expenses will be distributed every February, beginning in 2011.
 - Each team member will continue to send a monthly report of detailed income and expenses to the Finance Team. These reports will be available to all members upon request.

Justice and Peace

- An International Justice and Peace Team will be formed. The purpose of this team is to develop a web-page at www.clm-mlc.org that will provide access and information to existing and future MLC justice and peace initiatives and projects. By promoting the projects, we hope to encourage financial support. The site will be linked to a World Marianist Family Justice and Peace web-page being developed at www.marianist.org.

- The team will consist of representatives from each Region who are involved in Justice and Peace initiatives. Susan Vogt will be the contact person from the International Team.
- Information will be posted online at www.clm-mlc.org and will include:
 - Links to existing Justice and Peace initiatives and project web-sites
 - If a project does not have a web-site, newsletters and bulletins will be uploaded to make them available for all.

Education

Formation

- An International Formation Team will be formed. The purpose of this team is to develop an international lay Marianist Formation web-page at www.clm-mlc.org. The site will be linked to an World Marianist Family Formation web-page being developed at www.marianist.org.
- The team will consist of representatives from each Region who are involved in lay Marianist formation. Félix Arqueros Pérez will be the contact person from the International Team. Pati Krasensky (Associate Director of the NACMS and Director of the Marianist Lay Formation Initiative, USA) will represent North America.
- Resources will be posted online at www.clm-mlc.org and will include:
 - Links to Marianist Formation centres
 - Links to existing online lay Marianist formation resources and web-pages
 - Lay Marianist formation resources that are not already online will be uploaded and made available for all. (example: Manuals of Formation from countries that do not have web-sites)

Youth MLC

- An International Marianist Youth Team will be formed. The purpose of this team is to network Marianist youth and to promote Marianist youth initiatives around the world.
- The team will consist of representatives from each Region. Isabella Moyer will be the contact person from the International Team. Initial members are Brian Reavey (USA), Lorna Mueni Kilonzo (Kenya), and Sidney Matias (Brazil).
- The team will be responsible for the direction and creativity of its work.

Religious Life

Formation of Assessors

- The need to form lay and religious assessors for Marianist Lay Communities was affirmed in discussions with the Marianist seminarians and the World Council.
- A workshop to study the issue took place at the University of Dayton in October, 2010. There will be a follow-up.
- Domingo Fuentes and each team member will continue to study and promote dialogue on this important issue.

Ecclesial Relationships

- Marianist Lay Communities information has been updated on the [Pontifical Council for the Laity](http://www.pontificalcouncilfortheLaity.org) web-site. We are also included in the [International Associations of the Faithful Directory](http://www.internationalassociationsofthefaithful.org).
- The International Team did not meet with the Pontifical Council this year. We will arrange a meeting for November 2011.
- All Regional and National Responsibles are encouraged to contact their local Bishops and/or Episcopal Conferences to promote a good relationship with our Marianist Lay Communities and to ensure representation in lay congresses and initiatives. Templates for letters will be produced by the International Team.

The International Team also participated in the annual meeting of the World Council of the Marianist Family, November 3-5. A report from this meeting will be available at www.marianist.org. The next meeting of the International Team of Marianist Lay Communities will take place in Rome, October 31 to November 5, 2011.