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"We can't row the canoe fast with one paddle"
(African proverb)

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Dear fellow Coordinators, Here are some news from the AFRAM Zone.

New Triennium. The first of June is the beginning of the new triennium in all the provinces, regions and missions in the AFRAM Zone. This includes the CNG province (I stand corrected) – *Fr. General Antonio Pernia* pointed out the document of 2004 concerning the change of the date May 1 (see Handbook for Superiors) to June 1. Assuming the task of a Major Superior means leaving previous responsibilities and saying goodbye to many people and places. Our spirituality of “passing-over” is put to the test.

Concrete example. I was told that the New Provincial of KEN, *Fr. Eusebio Manangbao*, during his last goodbye tour in Simanjiro, Tanzania, has collected more than 40 goats. The last mass was animated by 15 choirs with a collection of 4.500 USD for the building of the new church. Around 800 people gathered together for the feast. That's how the people he served wanted to say THANK YOU!

New Chairman. *Fr. Thomas D'Mello* is the new provincial of GHA. We welcome him as the new Chairman of the Executive Committee and of the Zonal Assembly. He has a long experience in administration and has assumed key responsibilities in the Ghana Province. The handing-over took place last June 12 in a simpler ceremony in Accra.

Lots of rebuilding. In ANG the inauguration of the new triennium took place on June 3 at the feast of Charles Lwanga and his companions. The confreres as well as the SSpS sisters gathered in the Provincial House for the Holy Mass presided by *Fr. Zeferino Zeca Martins*. The 40 years of war is over! The time of peace commence. There will be lots of rebuilding; not only the infrastructures but more so the minds and the hearts of the people and the confreres as well.

Go where God calls. *Fr. Paul Shiju Puthenpurackal* left his motherland India to do pastoral work in Zambia. He took Formators course in SAIDI Philippines and earned MA in Pastoral Studies. He was Novice Master in Francistown, Botswana in 2005 and then in Ghana in 2006-2008. He packed up his things again as he was appointed the Provincial of BOT which also means crossing the borders of Zambia and South Africa.

Newest mission. In the midst of political turmoil the new SVD Mission of ZIM is born with *Fr. Alexander Kalinayil* as the first Mission Superior. He arrived in Zimbabwe in 1989. Before his appointment he was director of Caritas (2000-2008) and Financial Administrator of the Archdiocese of Bulawayo. We hope that his experience would help the new mission to survive the economic crises where inflation is incontrollable.

Newest province. Archbishop Michel Blume, the Apostolic Nuntio himself presided the solemn mass to inaugurate the transition of TOG from region to province last June 2. In the late 80s he was the provincial of Ghana-Togo-Benin province. The new Provincial *Fr. Joseph Kallanchira* and his council have adopted the updated Vision-Mission Statement and sent it to the Generalate for approval.

Faternally yours in the Divine Word,

P. Xene A. Sanchez, SVD
AZC