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

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Dear Fellow Coordinators

Many things happened in the month of July and I pray you again to forgive me for sending you the Update only now. The different activities has also multiplied the things to do afterwards and other Workshops are still coming which also need much attention.

Workshop for New Provincials. July 2 was the final day of the Workshop for New Provincials. The results of the Evaluation was very positive and we hope that our New Provincials be equipped to accomplish their difficult but very important responsibility. In his concluding talk Fr. General Antonio Pernia told them that the ministry of a Provincial is not only confined to his own province but for the Society in General.

Workshop for AFRAM Formators. As the triennium 2009-2011 was coming to its end many formators were also finishing their terms of office. The need for new formators and to give them basic formation was strongly felt. Some Missions were also planning to open their formation program. For this and other reasons the Formation for AFRAM Formators was organized in Adoagyiri-Nsawam, Ghana from June 12 to July 11. There were 16 participants coming from ANG, BOT, CNG, GHA, KEN, TOG and ZIM. We thank the Ghana Province for hosting the Workshop, Br. Guy Mazola, Fr. John Asiedu and other organizers and invited speakers. We thank the Generalate for granting us the funds and its representative Fr. Thomas Malipurathu for his contribution to the Workshop. It was a very useful and practical workshop because all those who participated are now back to their respective provinces and missions to work in the field of formation. In fact the participants recommended that another workshop of its kind be organized two years from now.

Workshop for JPIC. After seven long years the second JPIC Workshop has been held last July 18-22, 2011 in Nairobi, Kenya. We were lodged in the Franciscan Family Center (*Portiuncula*), a House just on the other side of the fence of our CFC-Nairobi in Langata. In the last AFRAM Zonal Assembly four out of the seven recommendations made were related to JPIC. We are happy to say that all provinces, region and missions - except one - sent their JPIC Coordinators. The Workshop was graced by the presence of Fr. Herman Wijtten the first Generalate JPIC Coordinator and co-founder of the AEFJN, the incumbent JPIC Coordinator Bubák Milan and the President of the Execom Fr. Zeferino Zeca Martins who took active part in the last Synod for African Bishop who took up the theme Justice, Peace and Reconciliation. Every coordinator was well prepared with his report and the exchange of reflections was serious and enriching. Because of the size of the materials everything could not be contained in the DVD disk! Luckily each one had a "pen-drive" which can contain not only "megabytes" but "gigabytes". We pray the outgoing JPIC Coordinators to take time to handover all the materials to his successor and to give a report to his provincial, regional and mission superiors. I also request the Major Superiors to invite the JPIC Coordinator to share the results of the Workshop and see how the "Action Plans" can be implemented to their respective areas. As to the recommendations, they still have to pass to the Executive Committee for approval who in turn has to consult the Major Superiors before taking decisions. Then the Execom will endorse them to the Generalate. Big thanks to João Facatino, the Area Coordinator for JPIC for the mission well accomplished.

Workshops for Mission Animation. At the same time and at the same place the Workshop for Mission Secretaries was held simultaneously with the JPIC. There were occasions where joint sessions were held. The group was smaller since the three Missions don't have Mission Secretaries and the one for the Region of Madagascar was sent for studies. Since it was the third Workshop and that most of the participants were present in the second, the quality of exchange and reflection was excellent. Listening from the reports, it was evident that the Action Plans of the first and the second workshops are being implemented. The development for instance of the SVD Friends in the AFRAM Zone is very encouraging compared to three years ago. The Mission Secretaries decided therefore to retain the current action plans to give more time for their accomplishment. Added to that, 10 recommendations were made many of which are addressed to the Provincials. In my similar request to you in behalf of the JPIC Coordinators I also ask you to please allot a time for the Mission Secretaries to report to you and your council the acts of the Workshop. They have all the materials in their pen-drives. The presence of the Generalate Mission Secretary, Pio Estepa and his contributions to the Workshop was highly appreciated by both the JPIC and MA participants. Bravo Bro. Rudy Chamenyi, the Area Coordinator for Mission Animation.

We thank the Kenya Province for hosting the two Workshops orchestrated by Fr. William Odeke, the outgoing Mission Secretary. We thank his successor Fr. Stanislaw Róz who is at the same time Superior Delegate for hosting the Workshop. He had to stay late at night or wake up very early in the morning to fetch the participants coming from the different parts of the world.

Other Workshops. In the meantime the Workshops for BPM and Communications are coming soon, in September in Madagascar. Pray that they will bear much fruit. The agenda of both Workshop are already well prepared. We need the breath of the Spirit to give life and wisdom to our activities.

Fraternally yours in the Divine Word,

P. Xene A. Sanchez, SVD
AZC