

INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT FOR VOCATION PASTORAL AND FORMATION (SIF)

STATUTE

1. NATURE OF THE ORGANISM

The *International Secretariat for Vocation Pastoral and Formation* (SIF) is an international organism at the service of the General Government of the Society of Saint Paul as far as vocation promotion and formation are concerned. It has been constituted on 8 October 2008 by the same General Government to realize what has been established by the VIII General Chapter of the SSP (2004), in *Operative line* 2.2.1: “The General Government is to create an ‘International Secretariat’ to animate, coordinate and verify the work of vocation pastoral and basic and permanent formation in the Circumscriptions.”

2. ENDS

In conformity with the above-mentioned *Operative line*, the Secretariat has been constituted to animate, coordinate and verify activity in the three areas: vocation pastoral, charismatic, philosophical and theological formation, as well as basic formation in communication and permanent formation in the Circumscriptions of the Society of Saint Paul. In concrete, the Secretariat will have to:

- a) **Animate**: motivate constantly the work that concerns vocation promotion and basic and permanent formation in the various Circumscriptions.
- b) **Coordinate**: promote, on the level of congregation, the systematic connection of vocation work and formation work as aspects of a single process; carry out a cognitive analysis of the formative contents of the single Circumscriptions and favor the exchange of information and experiences among them, proposing common objectives and actions, with particular attention to geographical-linguistic groups.
- c) **Verify**: keep watch so that the common objectives of vocation promotion and formation be pursued in an adequate way; examine the results and also the strategies and actions, suggesting others that may be necessary for constant betterment. Through mandate of the General Government, evaluate the *Iter formativi*.

3. MEMBERS

3.1 The members of the *International Secretariat for Vocation Pastoral and Formation* (SIF), five in number, are nominated by the Superior General with the consent of his Council. Two of them are chosen among the General Councilors; for the choice of the other three, to be taken into account are the criteria of competence and experience in the vocation aspect of Pauline formation, having the sagacity to represent all the geographical-linguistic groups.

3.2 The members of the SIF remain in office for three years. Their office, however, also ceases when the term of the General Government ceases.

3.3 The *President* and the *Secretary* of the SIF are designated by the Superior General among the five members that compose the organism.

3.4 The primary work of the *President* is to promote and coordinate the functions of the Secretariat described above in no. 2; it is the *President's* role to fix the schedule of the day and to preside over the assemblies.

3.5 The *Secretary* assists the president in the exercise of his duties and writes the reports of the assemblies.

4. INTERCOMMUNICATION AND ASSEMBLIES

4.1 The members of the SIF constantly keep themselves in contact and meet at least once a year; however, they can be called for extraordinary meetings every time the need presents itself.

The assemblies have as their principal aims reciprocal information, programming and verification. For every assembly the most convenient venue is fixed in advance and agreed upon in common. As for the expenses, the trips are shouldered by the individual Circumscriptions, while the stay is shouldered by the host Circumscription.

4.2 The Secretariat, in the mandated assembly of the beginning, chooses one of its members to be proposed to the Superior General for the office of secretary of the organism. In this same assembly, a strategic plan of work is elaborated, deciding on the objectives to which give precedence and entrusting to each one specific tasks.

4.3 The Secretariat operates in close collaboration with the *International Technical Committee for the Apostolate* (CTIA), with the *Center of Pauline Spirituality* (CSP) and with the other related organisms of the Congregation, to favor the systematic exchange of information and the integration of formative and apostolic projects.

5. STATUTE

The approval of the Statute is the competence of the General Government; the authentic interpretation of the same is reserved to the Superior General.

Rome, 8 September 2017

Slightly revised and approved by the General Government of the Society of St. Paul on 8 September 2017.