



EAST ASIA CONFERENCE, SECRETARY FOR MISSIONS & EVANGELIZATION

LIGHTS, CHALLENGES & PROPOSALS

EMS

FRANCISCAN CONFERENCES OF ASIA, AUSTRALIA, & OCEANIA (FCAO)

Ministers Meeting with the Minister General, the General
Definitory & Major Secretariats & Offices of the General Curia

TRYP Hotel Manila, Philippines
April 07-13, 2024

EAST ASIA CONFERENCE, SECRETARY FOR MISSIONS & EVANGELIZATION

LIGHTS, CHALLENGES & PROPOSALS

I. Composition of Secretariat for Mission and Evangelization (SME) for East Asia Conference

Jovit M. Malinao, OFM	Secretary for the Missions and Evangelization Coordinator for East Asia Conference Province of San Antonio de Padua Philippines, Cebu
Andrew Litigio, OFM	Province of San Pedro Bautista- Philippines, Manila
John B. Luat, Quang Nguyen, OFM	Province of St. Francis of Assisi, Vietnam
Stephan Kim Hyun Hong, OFM	Province of the Holy Korean Martyrs, Korea
Seongkil Shin, OFM	Franciscan Province of the Martyrs of Japan, Japan
Michael, OFM	Province of Mary Queen of China of Taiwan and Hong Kong
Jerome Vungh Za Langh, OFM	Foundation of St Francis of Assisi, Myanmar
Thomas Zhuo, OFM	Custody of St Francis-(Fengxiang)

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II. Reports of Lights & Challenges:

- A. *Profiling and data gathering of member entities on their respective ministries and pastoral involvements*

A. LIGHTS

1. Challenging but fulfilling ministry, “for the service of brothers”
2. Through FCAO gathering in Bali, Indonesia, I had a chance to meet the provincials and to ask some information and updates on their Pastoral Ministries.
3. Able to establish data and information for possible means of communication like email, Facebook, Provincial Secretary Office and the like.

B. CHALLENGES

1. Communication and language barrier is a big challenge.
 2. Based on my experience, some SME coordinators are not responsive to my email and communications, especially on the request of GSME-Curia to their responses to the questioners on the creation of Ratio Evangelization of the Order.
 3. Some data presented above are not complete and updated. It was gathered and updated only last May 2023 at Bali, Indonesia
- B. *Gathering of Lay Brothers in Vietnam (as member of organizing team)*

A. LIGHTS

1. I was able to know the struggles and challenges in the life and ministry of our Lay Brothers in their respective entity.
2. I had a chance to listen to their aspirations, dreams and direction as Lay Brothers in the context of mission and evangelization.

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3. As I listen to their sharing, I was able to consider the integration of Lay Brothers in the crafting common formation program for missionaries ad gentes/inter gentes for the Order.

B. CHALLENGES

1. Highlighted here is the issue of Clericalism and Decreasing number of Lay Brothers.
 2. Need more presence of Lay Brothers in the Formation Houses, if possible, they may be trained as formators or be assigned as guardians.
 3. Need more animation on the on-going formation program of the Lay Brothers, developmental skills and professional formation program and special trainings like guidance counseling, teaching, community development organizers, etc.
- C. 2023 FCAAO resolution #3; *“that the EAC and SAAOC Secretaries for Formation and Studies and Secretaries for Mission and Evangelization, study the feasibility of developing a shared post-novitiate formation program as a long-term response to the Order’s need for missionaries ad gentes.”*

A. LIGHTS

1. Able to finish the proposed program, ready for presentation and submission.
2. Very ideal and responsive to the challenge of long-term program and preparation for missionaries of the Order; ad gentes/inter gentes.
3. Strengthen the spirit of Collaboration and Participation among FCAO members in responding the need of the Order for missionaries.

B. CHALLENGES

1. Needs more time for consultation, discussions and planning.

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2. Big project and long program, it needs a lot of preparation and considerations from the participating FCAO members.
 3. Lot of technicalities that needs considerations and adjustments. Indeed, it demands a lot of Friars to work as a team, and it needs fulltime director or secretariat.
- D. *EAC's Response on Instrumentum Laboris in view of the composition of the Ratio Evangelizationis.*

A. LIGHTS

1. Some members been able to submit.
2. It is better to have this kind of gathering like FCAO or EAC meetings. Through face to face, we could be able to share our experiences in order to learn and update our missions and evangelization work as we go back in our respective entities.
3. Questions and inquiries in the instrumentum laboris are very animating, informative and motivating. It gives us ideas and clear direction on how we will manage and organize our mission and evangelization in our respective pastoral ministries and context.

B. CHALLENGES

1. I have difficulty in communicating and animating the EAC-SME coordinators particularly to the GSME-Curia's request for follow-up and reminders on the survey questioners.
2. Difficult to gather and summarize the responses due to communication barriers.
3. Face to face gathering and meetings are ideal, but too expensive like expenses on accommodation, transportation and other logistics.

Prepared by:

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