



ORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Online with Meet system

On 28 November 2020, at 18:00 Spanish time, begins the online OMAEC ORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY, organised with the Meet system and convened in time and form according to the Statutes.

It is chaired by the President of OMAEC, José Antonio Cecilia Ferrón ; it is coordinated by the Secretary General, José Ramón Batiste Peñaranda, and moderated by the Vice-President, Angel Gudiña, who at the same time ensures simultaneous translation.

To open this Assembly, the Ecclesiastical Assistant, Bishop Luis Argüello, has prepared a special prayer and all the participants present it to the Lord.

The Executive Council decided at its July 18, 2020 meeting that this General Assembly would be held online, given the widespread spread of the Covid-19, the impossibility of travelling and the need to maintain the greatest possible health precaution.

Since the official convocation, various documents have been sent to all Member Organisations for information and reading (minutes, proposed Rules of Procedure, financial report, reports of member organisations, nominations, etc.), all by email, in different shipments to reduce the volume of each.

Before the beginning of the Assembly, the accreditation of the Member Organisations shall be verified:



NOM	PAYS	REPRESENTATION	VOTES
Michal Hort		CONFEDERATION AE DON BOSCO	2
Alejandro Galván		UMAEL-La Salle	4
Federica Rossi Germani		AMASC-Sacred-Heart	4
Alain Deneef		WUJA-Jesuits	6
Evangelina García		UNAEC- America	1
Giuseppe Mariano		UNAEC- Europe	1
Laurent Grégoire	France	COFAEC- France	6
Giuseppe Mariano	Italy	CONFEDEREX - Italie	1
José Antonio Cecilia	Spain	CEEAAAEC- Spain	2
Luis Miguel Roquete	Portugal	COPAEEC Portugal	1
Stephen Gatt	Malta	MALTESE FEDERATION	1
María Teresa Acro	Argentina	CONFAEEC Argentina	1
Adolf W. Sobrevilla	Peru	CEEC Peru	1
Nagy El-Khoury	Lebanon	FAEC Lebanon	0
Jorge Camacho	Mexico	FEDECMEX Mexico	0
TOTAL			31

The following members of the Executive Council participate in this Assembly :

Archbishop Luis Argüello – Ecclesiastical Assistant

José Antonio Cecilia – President

José Ramón Batiste – General Secretary

Evangelina García – Vice-President

Giuseppe Mariano – Vice-President (UNAEC Europe)

Alfonso Giraldo – Vice-President (UNAEC America)

Nagy El-Khoury – Vice-President

Angel Gudiña – Vice-President

The General General introduced and welcomed OMAEC correspondents who agreed to participate as observers :



- Luis Wong – Panama
- Polydor Lokombe – South Africa/Swaziland/Lesotho/Namibia
- Vladimir Gómez – Venezuela

We also welcome the following guests :

- Claudio Andreoli – OMAEC President Emeritus
- Antonio Pires – OMAEC President Emeritus
- Debora Lattuada – Italy
- Marc Buker – Turkey/France
- Sandra Maritza Zabala – Colombia
- Marco Russo – Italy
- Fabian Jerkovich – Argentina
- Maurizio Bruni – Italia
- Fremioth Viegas – Portugal
- Quentin Wodon - OIEC

The General Assembly begins with the AGENDA :

1 – Greeting from the President

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President José Antonio Cecilia presents a message of gratitude for all the collaboration received during his presidency. It encourages us to continue to work in the defence of Catholic education and refers to the current global situation caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, which makes us more vulnerable and must bring us closer to God. He ends with the motto of former students :

"WE COME IN TO LEARN, WE COME OUT TO SERVE"

2 – Approval of the previous minutes (Rome, 23 October 2017)

Participants have already received the minutes of the General Assembly of 23 October 2017 in Rome ; due to the holding of the current Assembly online, it has already been indicated that it will not be read.

The Minutes were adopted unanimously.



3 – Approval of the Rules of Procedure

The General Secretary indicates that in the previous months, consideration, elaboration, study and agreement had been made on the Rules of Procedure, as provided for in Statute No 29.

This document was sent to all the Member Organisations for reading, indicating that it would not be read in this House.

The President of COFAEC France, Laurent Grégoire, proposes to insert a text in section 3º of the Rules of Procedure to legitimize the meetings of the Executive Council and General Assemblies organized online :

"In addition, it is specified that the General Assemblies, as well as the meetings of the Executive Board, may be held online, but the President's vote must be secret, unless the General Assembly decides otherwise."

This proposal is accepted by all participants.

The Rules of Procedure is approved unanimously by the participants.

4 – Report of the President and the General Secretary

The President and the General Secretary have already forwarded their report to all member organisations, but it has been read and explained by theme:

- **ORGANISATION :**
 - Restructuring - relocation - reorganization of Madrid headquarters, c/Alfonso XI.
 - Development of the structure of the CORRESPONDENTS ; appointment of a Vice-President in charge of the Correspondents. Mediation to obtain assistance.
 - Appointment of Archbishop Luis Argüello as Secretary of the Spanish Bishops' Conference.
 - Coordination for the text of the Rules of Procedure.
 - Executive Council meeting : 1 (online).
 - Organization of the General Assembly : 1 (online).
 - Personalized monitoring of FEDERATIONS - CONTINENTAL UNIONS - WORLD UNIONS that have been listed.
 - Support for petitions from NGOs and others.
 - Resignation of the Treasurer General, Domenico Bossi.
 - Management of the General Treasury.
 - Departure of the President of OMAEC YOUTH, Marco Anguissola.
 - Resignation of Chilean correspondent Fernando Roa Brito.



- **OMAEC NEW MEMBERS**

- WORLD UNION : WUJA, World union of Jesuit alumni/ae (admitted in 2017 GA).
- CONTINENTAL UNIONS : UNAEC-America, UNAEC-Africa (admitted in 2017 GA)
- NATIONAL: CEEC-Peru (Confederation of Catholic Education Alumni – Peru (replacing OMAEC-Peru).

- **ORGANISATIONS**

- ECOSOC UN-New York : Assistance and miscellaneous contributions.
- UNESCO UN-Paris : Assistance and Contributions.
- COUNCIL OF EUROPE-Strasbourg : Assistance and various contributions, by UNAEC-Europe.
- EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT-Brussels and Strasbourg: Approximation and petitions.
- ECOSOC UN-Geneva and Vienna : Meetings and Contributions
- VATICAN: Meetings and assemblies for different reasons.
- OIEC – OING FORUM – CCIC – FIUC – OIDEL

- **CATHOLIC CHURCH**

- Congregation for Catholic Education
- Dicastery for the Laity, the Family and Life (OMAEC Youth)
- Meetings with several cardinals and bishops
- Meeting with the Holy Father FRANCIS in October 2017.

- **COMMUNICATION**

- Maintenance and update of the OMAEC site (572 records) at no cost.
- 19 e-World publications (18-37)
- Active Facebook account: 255 members.
- Email bundles to “friends of OMAEC” : 602 contacts.
- ANNUAL SUMMARY Documents – 2018 – 2019 – 2020.

- **PENDING ISSUES**



- Official registration of OMAEC in France
- Reintegration of the World Confederation of alumni/ae of the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians
- The Dicastery for the Laity, the Family and Life does not recognize OMAEC as an Association of Faithful Lay.

On this report, Laurent Grégoire, from COFAEC France, asked for the floor to indicate that the future team will also have to ask the CORRESPONDENTS for a report on their actions

The General Assembly unanimously approves the report of activities just presented.

5 – Report of the General Treasurer

This report was sent in advance to all member organizations ; however, it seems useful to read it.

The Chair presents this report following the accepted resignation of former Treasurer General Domenico Bosi about three months ago.

The financial result of the 50-year Congress in Rome in 2017 is first indicated :

REVENUE:	14,630.25 €
EXPENDITURE:	10,916.30 €
RESULT:	3,713.95 €

Then the financial result for the years 2018, 2019 and 2020 (until 30.10.2020) is shown:

BALANCE at 31.07.2017:	3,359.40 €
REVENUE:	4,701.67 €
EXPENDITURE:	5,930.75 €
BALANCE:	2,130.32 €

It is specified that special expenses come from our office in Madrid (Casa de la Iglesia), a building that groups many religious organizations, with the provision of a meeting room, lounges, individual offices, etc.; this building has undergone a major renovation, including special clean-ups related to Covid-19.

The auditors appointed to the Paris General Assembly (April 2016) according to the Statutes, Alejandro Galván (Mexico) and Polydor Lokombre (South Africa) have done a perfect job, which we thank them for and have presented their respective reports



which are favourable in support of economic management. This general meeting will appoint new auditors.

This FINANCIAL REPORT is submitted for approval and adopted unanimously.

6 – Resignations and Appointments

The General Secretary reports on the following resignations and departures :

- Fernando Roa - Correspondent of Chile, at the request of the World Confederation of the alumni of Salesians of Don Bosco, for internal reasons.
- Marco Anguissola - President of OMAEC YOUTH, for inactivity and at his request (Italy).
- Domenico Bosi – General Treasurer – at his request (Italy).

The following appointments are proposed :

- **Marco Russo** – Jesuit alumnus - Italy : **Delegate of OMAEC to the Youth Commission of the Dicastery of the Laity, the Family and Life**, especially for the work of WYD in Lisbon in 2023.
- **Debora Lattuada** – Jesuite alumna - Italy, member of CONFEDEREX : **Accounts Supervisor for 2020-2023**.
- **Adolf Sobrevilla** – Marianist alumnus - Peru, member of the CEEC, **Accounts Supervisor for 2020-2023**

The Assembly unanimously approves resignations, departures and new appointments.

7 – OMAEC Members Report

The General Secretariat has asked all Member Organisations and the OMAEC Delegation to UNESCO for a PROGRESS REPORT on the period from the last General Assembly to the present. The result was very satisfactory : 14 reports were received, which were put together in one document and sent to all participants for information.

8 - Presentation of the candidatures for the OMAEC presidency

The Executive Board has set dates and conditions (Rules of Procedure) for the submission of candidatures. The General Secretary confirmed that two candidatures for the OMAEC Presidency had been received by the scheduled date.

In order of receipt:



- ALFONSO GIRALDO SAAVEDRA (Colombia), alumnus of the Salesians of Don Bosco. Candidature submitted by UNAEC America (American Union of Catholic Education Alumni).
- MAURIZIO BRUNI (Italy), alumnus of the Salesians of Don Bosco. Candidature submitted by the World Confederation of alumni of the Salesians of Don Bosco.

These candidatures were sent to all Member Organisations for information and evaluation (accreditation by the nominating body, curriculum vitae, programme for the next 3 years).

Each candidate has five minutes to address the General Assembly and make their presentation.

At the end of this item, 30 minutes of breaks shall be allowed to vote.

9 – Election of the President of OMAEC

Article 15 of the Statutes states that the vote for the President of OMAEC must be secret ; therefore, the Executive Council has agreed, prior to the holding of this General Assembly online, on a formula that guarantees this procedure, providing that all Member Organizations with the right to vote do so by e-mail addressed to the Ecclesiastical Assistant.

During the break, voting by member organisations took place. Then Bishop Luis Argüello, Ecclesiastical Assistant, announces the following result :

- Alfonso Giraldo Saavedra : 26 votes
- Maurizio Bruni : 5 votes.

Alfonso Giraldo Saavedra is proclaimed president of the OMAEC and the Assembly congratulates him.

The new President appreciates the trust and is committed to continue working for OMAEC, paying special attention to young people, new national confederations and deepening training.

Mr. Maurizio Bruni congratulates the OMAEC team on the successful organization of the Assembly and congratulates the new President on his election.

10- Approbation of the Executive Council

- The General Secretary recalls that Article 15 of the Statutes states that the President will propose to the Assembly the persons and functions that will form the Executive Council.



- It informs the Assembly that, after consultation and proposal of the two candidates, it is proposed to the Assembly to grant the new President a period of four months to enable him to conceive, manage and form the new Executive Council and submit it for approval of a new online General Assembly, duly convened in time and form.
- This proposal is subject to the approval of the Assembly and it is specified that the new General Assembly would take place on Saturday, March 20, 2021, at 18h, Rome time. In accordance with the Statutes, this Assembly must be convened three months in advance, before 20 December 2020.
- The General Assembly unanimously adopts this proposal.

11- Remarks and questions

As moderator, Angel Gudiña successively gives the floor to several participants who ask for it :

- Federica Rossi, AMASC delegate, congratulates the new President on behalf of the AMASC and asks if the current Delegates maintain their responsibilities. It was replied that all members of the Executive Council, Delegates, Correspondents, etc. remain under their "acting" responsibility until the next General Assembly of 20/03/2021.
- Quentin Wodon (OIEC) congratulates the new President and announces an important educational alliance between various organizations, including OMAEC, for a new website on Catholic education in three languages.
- Jorge Camacho (FEDECMEC Mexico) expressed his concern for small National Federations in relation to large global Organizations and asked that the new team study this situation.
- Evangelina Garcia (UNAEC America) congratulates the new President and offers the full support of UNAEC America and of herself, and looks forward to the smooth running of this Assembly.
- Laurent Grégoire (COFAEC France) congratulates the new President, thanks for the organization of this Assembly and reaffirms that delegates continue to exercise their responsibility until the next Assembly.
- Giuseppe Mariano (UNAEC Europe) congratulates José Antonio Cecilia and José Ramón Batiste on the great work they have done in recent years ; he congratulates and welcomes Alfonso Giraldo and offers his availability.
- Maria Teresa Acro (CONFAEC Argentina) thanks the former President José Antonio Cecilia for his work and dedication and welcomes new President Alfonso Giraldo from Argentina.



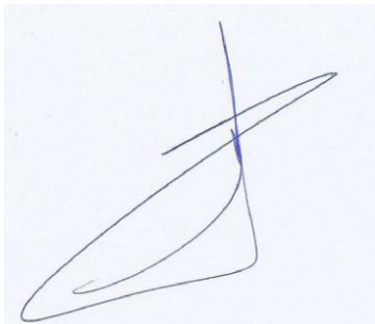
- Polydor Lokombre (South Africa Correspondent) thanks José Antonio Cecilia and Jose Ramón Batiste for their work and congratulates the new President, expressing his desire to continue working with OMAEC and to bring his ideas for the future of the organization.
- Nagy El-Khoury (FAEC Lebanon) congratulates José Antonio Cecilia and José Ramón Batiste on their work and congratulates the new President. He commented on the serious general situation in Lebanon ; he indicated that the FAEC is no longer active and that he is available to help OMAEC relaunch it.

Luis Argüello, Ecclesiastical Assistant, concludes by inviting us to create bonds of brotherhood and to weave paths for peace. After the OUR FATHER whom we pray individually in our own language, he gives us his APOSTOLIC BLESSING.

The General Assembly ends at 20:45 Spanish time.

The acting General Secretary

José Ramón Batiste



Internal Regulations

(Approved at this General Assembly)

These Internal Regulations refer to the OMAEC Bylaws as approved by the Extraordinary General Assembly held in Paris on April 10th, 2016.

They have been drafted for adoption at the Ordinary General Assembly held by videoconference on November 28th, 2020.

It is worth to mentioning here that according with jurisprudence, in the event of a conflict of interpretation between the Bylaws and the Internal Regulations, the Bylaws shall prevail.

Paragraph 1: Languages used

This article clarifies Article 6 of the Bylaws which states that the official languages of OMAEC are English, French and Spanish.

All the documents attached to General Assemblies invitations are written up in mentioned three languages (English, French and Spanish), in case of conflict between the three (3) versions, the French version shall prevail.

Similarly, the reports presented by the President, the Secretary General and the Treasurer during General Assemblies must be in all three (3) languages.

Other documents presented by the members of OMAEC must be, at least, in one of these 3 languages.

The OMAEC website must include 3 versions in each of the languages. On this site, important messages from OMAEC should be in all 3 languages. Other messages and communications from OMAEC members shall, as far as possible, be in all 3 languages.

If the original document of a member is in a language other than the three (3) official languages (Italian, Portuguese, Arabic ...), it may appear in that language, accompanied by a translation in at least one of the 3 official languages of OMAEC.

Paragraph 2: Documents required for new members' admission

This item refers to Bylaws' Article 8 for the documents to be provided by a new organization applying for admission. The file must be sent by the president of the applying organization. In addition to the commitment to respect bylaws and a copy of the applying organization bylaws, it must provide the list of its member associations, last General Assembly minute, list of bureau or committee members, full style of the organization representative to OMAEC, full style of the treasurer.

Paragraph 3: Number of votes at the General Assembly

This item refers to Bylaws' Article 13, regarding the number of votes at Ordinary and Extraordinary General Meetings.



The Continental Unions, with only a role of coordination and animation, without membership fee obligation with the OMAEC, have the right to one vote.

The number of votes of the rest of the members, Congregational World Unions or National Federations, depends on their number of members, which is reflected in their subscription to OMAEC. The membership fee for OMAEC varies from €100 to €600. The amount for each member is fixed by mutual agreement between the treasurers of OMAEC and the member concerned. The member then has one vote for each €100 of membership.

In order to have the right to vote, members must be up to date with their membership fees from the last General Assembly (or their admission if it is recent) up to the year preceding the General Assembly.

In addition, it is specified that the General Assemblies as well as the meetings of the Executive Council can be held by videoconference but the vote of the President must be by secret ballot, unless otherwise decided by the General Assembly.

Paragraph 4: Submission of Candidatures for Election to the Presidency of the OMAEC

This item refers to Bylaws' Article 15 of the Statutes regarding the introduction dossier. The General Assembly is elective if the President has completed his 3-year term in charge, if he has resigned, or if he has died.

Any member may nominate a natural person for the presidency of OMAEC if he or she is up to date with his or her membership fee (up to the year preceding the holding of the elective General Assembly).

The call sent out for an elective General Assembly recalls the conditions relating to candidatures, the contents of the candidature introduction dossier which must be sent to the Secretary General and the deadline for sending it by e-mail which is no later than 15 days before commence the Assembly.

The application file must include :

- A copy of an identity document (identity card or passport)
- The candidate's Curriculum Vitae, with a photo and detailing his or her personal, professional and family situation as well as social, church and alumni commitments.
- The agreement of the member organization of OMAEC, supporting the candidature.
- A project of priority actions to be implemented by OMAEC for the next 3 years, which can then be debated during the elective General Assembly. This document of about one page should be in the 3 official languages of OMAEC.
- Any other document that the member organization submitting the candidature consider useful.

This complete file should be sent to the Secretary General of OMAEC by e-mail and in PDF format to the following address: secretariogeneral@omaec.info within the time limit indicated.

Once the file has been received, the Secretary General shall verify its completeness and send it by e-mail to all members for their perusal prior to the elective General Assembly.

Paragraph 5: Interpretation of the Internal Regulations

For the interpretation of the Rules of Procedure, please refer to the French text.



A translation into English and Spanish will be made available to all member bodies and the Executive Council.

