



ORGANIZACIÓN MUNDIAL DE ANTIGUOS ALUMNOS DE LA EDUCACIÓN CATÓLICA
ORGANISATION MONDIALE DES ANCIENS ELEVES DE L'ENSEIGNEMENT CATHOLIQUE
WORLD ORGANIZATION OF FORMER STUDENTS OF CATHOLIC EDUCATION

ORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY Online – Google Meet system

The ORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY of the OMAEC, convened in due time and form according to the Statutes, on March 20th, 2021, begins at 18:00 in Rome, via Google Meet system videoconference.

The President of the OMAEC, Mr. Alfonso Giraldo Saavedra, is presiding over this Assembly; the acting Secretary General, Mr. José Ramón Batiste Peñaranda, is coordinating, Mr. Alejandro Galván (Mexico) and Mr. José Antonio Cecilia (Spain) are collaborating with the translations.

The Ecclesiastical Assistant, Monsignor Luis Argüello, has prepared a special prayer to open this Assembly, which all the participants raise to the Lord.

The celebration of this General Assembly was agreed the past General Assembly on November 28th, 2020, where Mr. Alfonso Giraldo Saavedra was elected president of the OMAEC, in order to allow the new president a time of reflection for the formation of his new team and could be approved by the General Assembly, according to the Statutes.

This General Assembly is being held via Google Meet system (videoconference) in view of the health measures imposed by the different countries to resolve the Covid-19 pandemic.



Since its official call, have been sent to all Members different documents for their reading and information (previous Assembly minute and informative documentation on a new organisation applying for its membership).

Prior to the start of the Assembly, the accreditation of member organisations is verified:

NAME	COUNTRY	REPRESENTING	VOTES
Michal Hort		AA DON BOSCO Confederation	2
Alejandro Galván		UMAEL-La Salle	4
Federica Rossi Germani		AMASC-Sacred heart	4
Laurent Grégoire -delegación		WUJA-Jesuit	6
Evangelina García		UNAEC- America	1
Giuseppe Mariano		UNAEC- Europe	1
Laurent Grégoire	France	COFAEC- France	6
Giuseppe Mariano-delegación	Italy	CONFEDEREX - Italy	1
José Antonio Cecilia	Spain	CEEAAAEC- Spain	2
Luis Miguel Roquete	Portugal	COPAEEC Portugal	1
Stephen Gatt	Malta	MALTA FEDERATION	1
María Teresa Acro	Argentina	CONFAEEC Argentina	1
Adolf W. Sobrevilla	Peru	CEEC Peru	1
Jorge Camacho	México	FEDECMEX México	0
TOTAL			31

Participating in this Assembly as observers are the Correspondents of:

PANAMA – Luis Wong

VENEZUELA – Vladimir Gómez

CAMERUN – Davy Tenefogne

COSTA RICA: Daniel Langlois

SUDAFRICA: Polydor Lokombe

VATICANO: Federica Rossi



Our ECCLESIASTICAL ASSISTANT Monsignor Luis Argüello also attends.

We also welcome the following guests:

- Claudio Andreoli – OMAEC Emeritus President
- Antonio Pires – OMAEC Emeritus President
- Debora Lattuada – Italy
- Marc Buker – Turkey / France
- Sandra Maritza Zabala – Colombia
- Marco Russo – Italy
- Fabian Jerkovich – Argentina
- Fremioth Viegas – Portugal
- Nelson Moros – Colombia
- Giovanni Perrone – UMEC
- Guillermo Gutierrez – Colombia
- Santiago Durini - Argentina

The General Assembly opens with the following AGENDA:

1- Greetings from the President

The President, Alfonso Giraldo, offers us a message of gratitude and good wishes; he thanks the Assembly for this space of inter-assembly time to be able to constitute the new OMAEC team and wishes everyone a fruitful Assembly, full of hope for our organisation and for the good of the Church.

2- Approval of previous minutes (Online Assembly, 28 November 2020)

The participants had previously received the minutes of the General Assembly of 28 November 2020; since the meeting is on line with limited time, the minutes were not read.

The minutes were approved by 31 votes in favour, no abstentions, no votes against.

3- Presentation of the Executive Council and OMAEC Team

OMAEC President was in charge of the presentation of the OMAEC Council and the OMAEC Team; the secretary proceeds to project as share screen to support and better illustrate the presentation. The new composition is as follows:



Presidents informs that it is tradition in the OMAEC that the Ecclesiastical Assistant is from the country of the presidency, so at the moment it is not yet defined who will

occupy this service; the president thanks heartily the accompaniment of Monsignor Luis Argüello during these last years.

The President highlights some innovations in the composition and functions of the new team:

- appointment of an Executive Vice-President, who will mainly coordinate and animate the new Secretariats
- creation of six Secretariats, covering the most important areas to develop the action programme for OMAEC; at the head of each Secretariat a Director is appointed who in turn, can create a working team.
- The secretary and treasurer assistances become active and supportive of the principals.
- The Youth Forum replaces the OMAEC Youth; we understand that there is only one OMAEC.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL:

PRESIDENT: Alfonso Giraldo Saavedra (Colombia) Don Bosco Salesian

ECCLESIASTIC ASSISTANT: To be designated

EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT: José Ramón Batiste Peñaranda (Spain) La Salle

VICE-PRESIDENT: Evangelina García Richard (Argentina) El Calvario-(UNAEC America)

VICE-PRESIDENT: Giuseppe Mariano (Italy) Jesuits - UNAEC Europe)

SECRETARY GENERAL: Vladimir Gómez Escartín (Venezuela) La Salle

GENERAL TREASURER: Debora Lattuada (Italy) Jesuits

YOUTH FORUM: Marco Russo (Italy) Jesuits

ASSISTANTS:

Assistant Secretary: Sandra Maritza Zabala (Colombia) Daughters M.^a Auxiliadora

Assistant Treasurer: Laurent Grègoire (France) Jesuits

SECRETARIATS

YOUTH FORUM - Marco Russo (Italy) Jesuits

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS - José Antonio Cecilia Ferrón (Spain) La Salle

SOLIDARITY-SOCIAL JUSTICE: Nelson Moros Santos (Colombia) Salesians Don Bosco



CORRESPONDENTS: Polydor Lokombe (South Africa) Salesians Don Bosco

COMMUNICATIONS - T'ICS: Aaron Caterina (Panama) La Salle

PERMANENT FORMATION - Fabián Jerkovich (Argentina) Sacred Heart

DELEGATES:

HOLY SEE: Federica Rossi Germani

UNESCO: Laurent Grégoire

ACCOUNT SUPERVISORS:

Adolf Sobrevilla Guzmán (Peru) - Marianist

Felix Nangmbathan (Chad) - Minor Capuchin Fathers

In relation to the UNAEC - Africa, the president indicates that after its constitution in Rome in 2017, there is no record of any activity, meeting, assembly report, etc. and despite having requested information from its responsible, Mr. Hubert Dacosta (Senegal), no response has been obtained; for this reason it is proposed to leave the UNAEC-Africa in "observation" status and ask Polydor Lokombe (South Africa) to lead the activation and situation of the same.

Afterwards, each member of the OMAEC Team was given a limited speaking time; all the members thanked the President for his confidence in their appointment and expressed some lines of work for the future.

It is submitted to the approval of the General Assembly with the following result:

Votes in favour: 29

Votes in abstention: 2

Against: 0

The new OMAEC Executive Board is approved by majority.

4- Appointments

By statutory imperative, the following positions are hereby appointed:

- Delegation to the HOLY SEE - Federica Rossi Germani
- Delegation to UNESCO - Laurent Grégoire
- Accounts Supervisor: Mgr Felix Nangmbathan

They were unanimously approved with 31 votes.



5 -Admission of new members to the OMAEC

The Secretary General (acting), José Ramón Batiste, stated that a formal application for membership of OMAEC had been received from the UNION OF FORMER STUDENTS OF THE FRENCH SCHOOLS IN TURKEY.

All the documentation submitted has been analysed and previously sent to all the member organisations for their knowledge and reading.

The President of this Union, Mr. Marc Buker, took the floor to thank the OMAEC for welcoming the Union he represents; he explained that these organisation is made up of former pupils of six Catholic schools in Turkey, founded in the 16th century on the initiative of French Congregations and under the patronage of the Sultans; today these schools are made up of more than 6,000 pupils.

These schools have always played an essential role in the face of different cultures, religions, etc., disseminating essential values such as respect for others in the world, building bridges to achieve a future full of hope and supporting inter-religious dialogue.

The Acting Secretary General indicated that within the OMAEC, this organisation will have the status of a National Confederation, with the right to one vote.

The aforementioned membership was submitted to the Assembly for approval and was unanimously approved with 31 votes.

The whole Assembly was delighted that a new organisation and a new country had joined the OMAEC structure.

6 –Right to speak

- **Giussepe Mariano** wished to make two proposals to the OMAEC:
 1. The elaboration of the "International Alumni/ae Charter of Catholic Education". This is a programmatic document to be addressed to the alumni of the world, young and old, parents, teachers and all other friends who want to establish, maintain or develop links with people who have left these institutions. In this document we want to take into account the many diversities and different points of view coming from people living in different countries and with different experiences. Christians and non-Christians, believers and non-believers, practising and non-practising Christians, all can recognise the fundamental values of the Gospel.
 2. Establish a world day for former students of Catholic education. On this day, all the associations in the world would be invited to take various initiatives on a common theme (if possible in line with the annual theme chosen by the UN or UNESCO), either to become aware of their own role or to raise public awareness of the issues of the Catholic school. As I was thinking about this proposal, a more global idea occurred to me: what if our Day were part of a broader idea, namely a World Day of



Catholic Education? So I think we could make this proposal to the OIEC to study if and how it could be done.

- **Federica Rossi Germani** raises the following question:

How is it that the Lebanese Federation is not among the member organisations of OMAEC and does not participate in this Assembly?

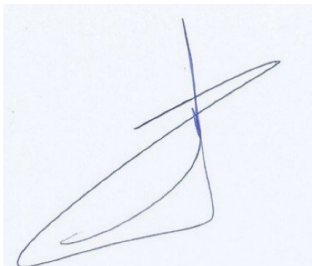
Giussepe Mariano indicated that, according with updated news, this Federation is currently inactive; José Ramón Batiste indicated that our friend Laurent Grégoire is maintaining some high-level contacts for the reorganisation of the Lebanese Federation, given his knowledge of this country and his contacts.

- **Antonio Pires**, wishes to congratulate for this "great renewal project"; he insists that OMAEC must be visible to the whole world. What are we? ...witnesses of the values received in our Catholic education to achieve a better world.
- **Giovani Perrone** - Secretary General of UMEC (World Union of Catholic Educators) thanks you for your invitation to the Assembly and wishes a hopeful future to the whole OMAEC.
- **Monsignor Luis Argüello, Ecclesiastical Assistant**, had to be absent before the end of this Assembly due to other commitments and sends us this message which is read out by the President: *Please see me off from the Assembly; I think you are a good team. I hope that everything will bear fruit. With my blessing*

The General Assembly ended at 8.15 p.m. in Rome.

General Secretary, en funciones

José Ramón Batiste Peñaranda



General Secretary

Vladimir Gómez Escartín

