

STATUTES

WORLD ORGANISATION OF THE CURSILLO MOVEMENT (OMCC)

PREAMBLE

01. The Cursillo Movement (Movimiento de Cursillos de Cristiandad), is an ecclesial worldwide movement acting within the pale of the Catholic Church. The movement feels called to actively participate in the great task of evangelisation. Its apostolic purpose consists in carrying the Christian faith into the various environments of life through the living testimony especially through its members. Its specific objective is then evangelising the environments.

02. “The Cursillo Movement is a movement of the Church which by means of its own method makes it possible for people to live what is fundamental for being a Christian, and to live it together; it helps people discover and fulfil their personal vocations, and it promotes the creation of core groups of Christians who leaven their environments with the Gospel.” (The Fundamental Ideas of the Cursillo Movement- p74 Second Edition 1992)

03. The Cursillo Movement was born in Spain, precisely on the Isle of Mallorca, between the years 1940 to 1949. Inspired by the Holy Spirit, several lay people and some priests clearly recognised that, as a consequence of the sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation, even lay people also have an active and peculiar role in the mission of evangelising mankind. This initiators’ group was formed mainly by laypeople lead by Eduardo Bonnín Aguiló, as well as some priests, among whom the then Bishop of Mallorca, Juan Hervás Benet and Mons. Sebastián Gayá Riera.

04. In a very short time the movement spread throughout Spain. From there it was diffused through the countries of the American continent. During the 2nd Vatican Council, numerous Latin-American bishops witnessed the positive experiences they have had with the Cursillo Movement, stressing that it favoured the prizing of lay people in the Church. In the meantime, the Cursillo Movement was spreading to all continents.

05. The Cursillo Movement characteristic is mainly to share a living faith in order to spread it. In doing so all individuals assume their personal responsibility, but their engagement is supported by a group that shares ideas and life. Of particular importance is the harmonious co-operation between lay people and priests. Each has a specific task, each has a personal ‘charism’, but all are together engaged in achieving the same goal: the evangelisation of the environments as leaven.

06. The achievement of this goal is pursued with a unique kerygmatic methodology which consists of three moments: Precursillo, Cursillo, Postcursillo. The themes and contents of the three-day Cursillo Weekend are similar around the world. They are the fundamental contents of the Creed of our Catholic faith: Jesus Christ, the grace, the sacraments, the Church, the apostolate, the study of the truths of faith, the experiences of faith.

07. It is unique to the Cursillo Movement that it has very few structures. The main responsibility lies with the “Diocesan Secretariats” and the “National Secretariats”, as outlined in “The Fundamental Ideas of the Cursillo Movement” The “International Groups” and the “World Organisation of the Cursillo Movement” (OMCC) stand in the service of ecclesial community, unity, information, co-ordination and support.

08. The Cursillo Movement enjoys worldwide pastoral acceptance and recognition by significant Shepherds of the Catholic Church. Many cardinals and bishops around the world welcomed the co-operation of the Cursillo Movement in the evangelisation tasks of their own dioceses. Even the Roman Pontiffs of the last decades have publicly and repeatedly expressed a particular appreciation of the Cursillo Movement.

09. At the first World Ultreya held in Rome, on 28th May, 1966, at St Peter's Square, the Holy Father, Pope Paul VI, said: "Cursillos de Cristiandad: that is the word, purified through experience and affirmed by its fruits, that today travels with citizenship rights through the streets of the world." (AAS 58,1966, 500). The same Pope addressed words of recognition and encouragement to the 40.000 Cursillistas gathered in Mexico City for the second World Ultreya, on 23rd May, 1970.

10. Pope John Paul II personally attended several encounters of the Cursillo Movement and has strengthened the Cursillistas present as well as the entire Movement with words of encouragement. At the third World Ultreya celebrated in Rome, during the Jubilee year, on July 29th, 2000, at St. Peter's Square, the Holy Father thanked the Lord "for everything that the Church had accomplished and would continue to accomplish through the Cursillo de Cristiandad".

11. On the occasion of 1998 Pentecost, at the great encounter of the ecclesial movements and laypeople communities, at St. Peter's Square, in Rome, the Holy Father expressed his hope that the movements would work even more closely together with the appropriate Dicasteries of the Holy See. The Cursillo Movement, now complying with this desire of the Holy Father, presents the Statute of the OMCC to the Pontifical Council for the Laity for canonical recognition.

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Chapter I: Nature and Purpose of the OMCC

Article 1 – The Organismo Mundial de Cursillos de Cristiandad (OMCC) is the coordinating body of the Cursillo in Christianity Movement (CCM) at the world level.

Article 2 – The OMCC is a service organisation and exercises its authority over the International Groups, the National and Diocesan Secretariats within the limits of what is provided by this Statute and prescribed by the Code of Canon Law

Article 3 – The objectives of the OMCC are:

- a) promoting unity of understanding of the essence of the CCM at the world level
- b) maintaining the CCM in its faithfulness to the Church and its teaching
- c) preserving the CCM in its faithfulness to its charism and the book “Fundamental Ideas of the Cursillo Movement” (FICM), fruit of the World Encounters and official expression of the Cursillo movement, and to the conclusions of the World Encounters;
- d) facilitating the mutual exchange of information, initiatives and ongoing reflections of the IG;
- e) encouraging the IG to fulfil their responsibilities towards their National Secretariats.
- f) promoting unity and co-operation among the IG;
- g) assisting the IG so that they achieve their objectives;
- h) promoting reflection and study upon the role and mission of the CCM at the worldwide level;
- i) assisting the introduction of the CCM in countries where it is not yet established.

Chapter II : Composition and Role of the OMCC

Article 4 – The OMCC is composed of all duly recognized IG. In performing its tasks, the OMCC should take into consideration the pastoral plans of the Universal Church and the guidelines of the Holy See while remaining faithful to the particular charism of the Cursillo Movement. According to the existing rotation system, the headquarters of the OMCC is entrusted to a different IG every four years.

- a) the designated IG may or may not accept this responsibility. In case of non-acceptance, the existing rotation system continues.
- b) the IG elects the country where the headquarters of the OMCC is to be located by a majority of votes of its National Secretariats.
- c) the country coordinating the IG will be ineligible to be the headquarters of the OMCC

Article 5 – The services of the OMCC will be coordinated by an Executive Committee, consisting of a President, Vice-President, Spiritual Advisor, Secretary, and Treasurer. This Executive Committee will be nominated by the National Secretariat of the country designated as the Headquarters of the OMCC. The role of each member of the Executive Committee is as follows:

- a) The President shall officially represent the OMCC Executive Committee and World Cursillo Movement, and will call world-level meetings, prepare the meeting agenda, chair all OMCC meetings and World Encounters.
- b) The Vice-President assists the President and will substitute in his/her absence.
- c) The Spiritual Advisor shall assist the Movement to reach its spiritual objectives through the celebration of the sacraments, supporting the life and prayers of its members, invigorating its evangelizing activity and promoting ecclesial communion.
- d) The Secretary is responsible for the minutes of all OMCC meetings and World Encounters and, in co-ordination with the President deals with all correspondence.
- e) The Treasurer shall manage the contributions of the IG's, prepare an annual budget

and keep financial statements to record the income and expenditure and report to the IG and their National Secretariats.

Chapter III: Composition and Role of the International Groups

Article 6 – International Groups can be constituted at regional, continental or linguistic level, by the National Secretariats recognized by their respective Episcopal Conferences and approved by the OMCC.

- a) The services of each IG will be provided by its own Executive Committee consisting of the President, Vice-President, Spiritual Advisor, Secretary, and Treasurer. This Executive Committee is appointed by the National Secretariat of the country elected to be the co-ordinating country of the International Group.
- b) The co-ordinating country for each International Group will be elected every 4 years (coinciding with the election of the seat of the OMCC) by an absolute majority of the National Secretariats which it represents.
- c) Each National Secretariat or group may only belong to one International Group and is entitled to one vote.
- d) Each International Group shall prepare a report on activities accomplished and planned every 2 years to present at the ordinary meeting of OMCC
- e) The objectives of the International Groups are to:
 - i. promote unity of understanding of the essence of the CCM among the National Secretariats that form them;
 - ii. assist the National Secretariats to achieve their objectives;
 - iii. promote the Movement in countries where the CCM does not exist or is dormant;
 - iv. distribute all information from the OMCC activities to all the National Secretariats.
- f) Any new International Group will only be eligible as the OMCC headquarters three years after being instituted and officially recognized by the OMCC
- g) Those countries or group of countries where the Cursillo Movement exists but, for valid reasons in the judgement of the OMCC, do not belong to an International Group, will receive temporary co-ordination services directly from the executive committee of the OMCC until they incorporate into an International Group.

Chapter IV: The Services of the Executive Committee of the OMCC

Article 7 - The Executive Committee of the OMCC will render the following services:

- a) arrange periodic meetings at least every two years with representatives of the International Groups
- b) facilitate the inter-communication between the International Groups
- c) organize a periodic World Encounter or World Ultreya
- d) publish an information bulletin
- e) officially represent the CCM, at the world level, particularly at the Pontifical Council for the Laity and before other Movements and Lay Associations world wide
- f) implement resolutions and recommendations made at a World Encounter
- g) receive and administer royalties of the OMCC

Chapter V: Meetings of the OMCC

Article 8 – The OMCC will meet at least every two years. Such meetings will be attended by the Executive Committee of the OMCC and representatives of each International Group

- a) Topics to be discussed will be previously agreed upon by the International Groups.
- b) The Executive Committee of the OMCC will submit a report of activities accomplished and planned
- c) During the meeting each IG will present a report on their activities accomplished and planned.

Article 9 – Extraordinary meetings of the OMCC may be called when required, either by half the International Groups, or if the Executive Committee of the OMCC finds it necessary after prior consultation with the International Groups. In both cases the Executive Committee will send a notice to the International Groups explaining in full the matters to be studied.

Article 10 – In order that the conclusive recommendations of the ordinary and extraordinary meetings of the OMCC be adopted, all decisions should be made by consensus. In those cases where voting is necessary an absolute majority of the IGs is required.

- a) For voting to be valid, half plus one of the summoned must be present.
- b) Each International Group will have the right to only one vote.

Chapter VI: World Encounters

Article 11 – The OMCC will periodically organize a World Encounter after consultation with the International Groups. The President of the OMCC will summon:

- a) all countries having National Secretariats recognized by the respective Episcopal Conferences and registered at their respective International Group;
- b) countries which have the Cursillo Movement, even though they do not as yet have a constituted National Secretariat; In such case they shall be requested to present written authorisation from the respective Episcopal Conference which states that the chosen delegates represent all the Diocesan Secretariats of that country. In this case no vote is permitted;
- c) those persons and countries considered appropriate after consulting with the OMCC; however, in this case, no vote is permitted.

All resolutions of a World Encounter are to be reached by consensus; however, in those cases where voting is necessary the absolute majority of the votes of National Secretariats attending is required.

Article 12 - World Encounters have the following purpose:

- a) to facilitate reflection on the CCM at the world level;
- b) to seek unity of understanding of the essence of the CCM;
- c) to promote the CCM to a more incisive and vital presence in the contemporary world and circumstances;
- d) to share experiences;
- e) to promote the spreading of the Christian message in the world by means of the CCM;
- f) to authorize the review of the book Fundamental Ideas when necessary and to approve the revised edition
- g) to approve changes to the present Statute.

Chapter VII: Publications and Publishing Rights and Revisions

Article 13 – For the efficient and regular information of the National and Diocesan Secretariats, the Executive Committee of the OMCC will publish a Bulletin which will contain:

- a) minutes and documents pertinent to the Movement;
- b) relevant reflections upon Papal, Episcopal and Pontifical Council for the Laity documents;
- c) the most important and relevant information on the events of the Movement and the Church;
- d) discussion about texts with relevance to the CCM and encourage their study.

Article 14 - In order to insure authenticity in its publications, the OMCC through the President of the Executive Committee:

- a) retains the right to authorize, review and approve any translation of official documents of the World Encounters or of the book FICM whether in the original language or any translation.
- b) will authorize only one official translation in each language.
- c) will grant copyright in order to publish an edition of FICM requested by a National Secretariat. Both author's or country's copyrights must be respected.
- d) reserves the right to collect royalties for the sale of all editions and translations of FICM

Article 15 - Revision of the book FICM will proceed as follows:

- a) The appointment of a Commission comprising a male, a female and a Spiritual Advisor from each International Group to draft revisions.
- b) Dissemination of the revised drafts to the following for their suggestions
 - i) The Commission to the International groups
 - ii) The International Groups to the National Secretariats
 - iii) The National Secretariats to the Diocesan Secretariats
- c) Review of the resulting suggestions by the Commission
- d) Production of a final draft.
- e) Approval of the final draft by the International Groups.
- f) Non-approval will necessitate going through the process again.

Chapter VIII: Financing of the OMCC

Article 16 – The International Groups will share equally all expenses of the yearly budget of the OMCC. At the end of the four-year term, the Treasurer of the outgoing Executive Committee of the OMCC will submit a Financial report of the income and expenditures with supporting documents. This report will be examined by the OMCC for approval.

Chapter IX: Amendments to the Statute of the OMCC

Article 17 – Amendments to this Statute are reserved as the exclusive responsibility of the World Encounter of the Cursillo in Christianity Movement.

- a) The proposal for such amendments shall be suggested by the International Groups after discussion with the National Secretariats under their jurisdiction.
- b) The proposed modified Statutes are submitted to the Pontifical Council for the Laity for approval.
- c) The approved modified statutes are presented to the World Encounter for its approval. This approval requires a two-thirds majority of the National Secretariats present at the World Encounter.