

## **Missionary Families of Christ**

### **INTERNATIONAL CORE OF SENIORS**

MFC is a worldwide lay association with communities in different countries throughout the world. In order to further the international mission of MFC and strengthen the fraternal bonds among its top leaders, we have a body called the International Core of Seniors (ICS). The ICS is a top-level advisory body to the Servant General (SG).

What is the basic rationale for the ICS?

- 1) This reflects the universality of MFC.<sup>1</sup>
- 2) This enables MFC in the different countries, through Country Servants and also top non-Filipino seniors, to participate in our overall life and direction.
- 3) This reflects the co-responsibility of top seniors of the different countries in promoting and preserving the authentic charism of MFC.
- 4) This provides an important component in the interconnection among the different MFC communities in the different countries of the world.

Composition of the ICS:

- 1) Continent Coordinators and Diaspora Coordinators.
- 2) Country Servants.
- 3) The top senior<sup>2</sup> in every country who is not Filipino in origin.<sup>3</sup>
- 4) Region Coordinators (irrespective of race or nationality).<sup>4</sup>
- 5) Members of the Servant Council (SC) in the Philippines.
- 6) MFC Section Coordinators in the Philippines.
- 7) Anyone else that the SG in his discretion will appoint.

Role of the ICS:<sup>5</sup>

- 1) Helps promote the MFC evangelization and mission throughout the world.<sup>6</sup>
- 2) Gives inputs, whether as ICS or as individual members of ICS, at anytime to the SG on the life and mission of MFC.
- 3) Gives inputs on matters brought by the SG to the ICS.
- 4) Reviews and makes recommendations regarding the life and mission of MFC during the regular ICS meetings.
- 5) Freely interacts and gives inputs to each other through e-communications in the furtherance of the MFC mission.

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<sup>1</sup> The Catholic Church, of which MFC is an integral part, is universal. While dioceses are autonomous, the spiritual center is in Rome. This is the place of Manila within the worldwide MFC family.

<sup>2</sup> A senior is one who is a Chapter Servant or higher in pastoral service.

<sup>3</sup> This reflects the reality that MFC is not a Filipino movement but a movement within and for the universal Church. This top senior could be the Country Servant.

<sup>4</sup> Region Coordinators (RC) are those who are assigned to help oversee our life and work in groups of countries.

<sup>5</sup> The ICS is not a governance body and is not involved directly, as a body, in the day-to-day affairs of MFC.

<sup>6</sup> Basic responsibility for evangelization and mission lies with the territorial seniors.

Meetings:

- 1) The whole ICS meets once every three years.<sup>7</sup>
- 2) The basic objectives of this meeting are:
  - (a) to evaluate the life and mission of MFC;
  - (b) to help define and make recommendations regarding the directions and strategies for the next 3 years; and
  - (c) to strengthen fraternal bonds among the concerned seniors.
- 3) Regional ICS meetings (for ICS members within a region) may be held in any year, generally coinciding with and at the venue of the regional annual Conference (if there is one).
- 4) E-meetings may be held regularly.
- 5) Other meetings can be called as needed by either the SG or by a third of the ICS membership.

(SG. Oct 7, 2019)

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<sup>7</sup> These meetings started on 2009 and are held every 3 years thereafter. These meetings would normally be in June in Manila, as part of the anniversary events.