

BACKGROUND

A Motion was approved at the General Chapter 2007 (motion no. 16) on Revising the Constitution and the General Statutes. After a combined work of the Ad Hoc Committee presided by Fr. Jesus M. Ruiz Irigoyen, the Consulta and the (Vice) Provincials and Delegates, a revised version of the Constitution and General Statutes has been forwarded to all the communities to be discussed. Each community or each individual was asked to express opinions on the proposed changes.

In preparation for the extra ordinary Provincial Chapter of the Vice Province of India, Local Chapters were celebrated at zonal levels earlier, and based on the observations and suggestions of the Local Chapters an *Instrumentum Laboris (IL)* was prepared, and the Chapter discussed it. Some of the articles were approved as in the *Instrumentum Laboris*, while the other articles were approved as proposed by the General Consulta.

The Chapter also had as its agenda, the discussion on the Vice Provincial Statutes *Instrumentum Laboris*, and approved it as an *ad-experimentum* document of the Vice Province for the coming years. Here *Vartha* presents to you the summary of the report of the Provincial Chapter 2010, and its proposals.





Subject: Revision of the Constitution and the General Statutes

CONSTITUTION

- Art. 1 : The chapter favoured the inclusion of the word **'merciful'** in the article. [*The gift of reliving...the ever present **merciful** love of Christ for the sick and bearing witness to it to the world.*] (23/23 votes)
- Art. 22 : Use of the term **'carries out'** instead of **'perform'** was favoured. [*In the community the superior **carries out** his mission in a spirit of love and service*]. (19/23 v.)
- Art. 35 : The chapter has two suggestions:
- Find an alternate word for **'sober'** (19/23 v.)
 - Instead of **'wasting of money'**, use of **'and promote diligent use of money'** is favoured. [*Therefore, we avoid luxury, excessive gain, the accumulation of goods, **and promote diligent use of money, and.....***] (21/23 v.)
- Art. 47 : Two suggestions:
- Delete the second **'with'** from the statement, [*we accompany them with our presence and prayer.*] (unanimously favoured)
 - The second part of the art.47 regarding sacramental ministry should be a separate article, emphasizing the evangelical aspects. (20/23 v.)
- Art. 53 : Instead of **'mourning'**, **'for those in grief and bereavement'** was suggested. [*We take a human and pastoral interest in the families of the sick, **for those in grief and bereavement, sharing.....***] (21/23 v.)
- Art. 79 : Instead of **'who are able respond'**, **'who are able to respond'** (unanimously favoured)
- Art. 88 : Instead of **'handbook'**, use **'Reference Handbook of the Order'** (23/23 v.)
- Art. 103 : use of the term **'Provincial of the Vice Province'** instead of **'Vice Provincial of the Vice Province'** is suggested (18/23 v.)
- Art. 117 b: **'General Statutes of the Province'** to be changed to **'The Provincial Statutes'** (22/23 v.)

GENERAL STATUTES

Art. 11 : The words '**recompense**' and '**subsidies**' to be replaced with '**compensation**' and '**grants**'. [*.....suitable economic **compensation** andthey can receive **grants**.*] (21/23 v.)

Art. 14 : The word '**press**' to be replaced with '**media**'. [*....to cooperate with the **media** regarding issues connected with.....*] (22/23 v.)

Art. 15 b : The term '**Lay Congregations**' to be clarified. (16/23 v.)

Art. 17 : Instead of using the term '**religious sisters**', use of '**members of other religious institutes**' is favoured. [*our religious value, the presence and action of **members of other religious institutes** who carry out...*] (17/23 v.)

Art. 23b : Use of the '**Identity Document**' instead of '**Identity Card**'. (16/23 v.)

Art. 32b : Instead of Art. 32b the following formulation is suggested:

"In addition to the Solemnity of St. Camillus, the following days are suitably celebrated: February 2 – memorial of the conversion of St. Camillus; May 25 – birth of St. Camillus and memorial of the martyrs of charity; feasts of Camillian religious and sisters who are raised to the honour of the Altars." (18/23 v.)

Art. 33 : Instead of this article we prefer the old one, because the present one is confusing to say '**spiritual retreat every month**'. (22/23 v.)

All other articles of the Constitution and the General Statutes proposed by the Consulta for revision are passed unanimously by the Chapter.

GENERAL SUGGESTION

The Chapter members generally felt that the language of the translation has to be fine tuned (unanimously favoured)





Subject: Vice Provincial Statutes

The Chapter discussed the Vice Provincial Statutes and voted unanimously as an **ad-experimentum** document for the Vice Province of India. The Chapter also decided the next steps that are to be followed during this phase:

1. The Chapter approved the present document as the Vice Provincial Statutes **ad-experimentum**.
2. The Statutes will be discussed and studied in the local communities including the expatriate religious.
3. The next administration will call a General Gathering specifically to discuss this document with the suggestions coming from the communities and the expatriate religious.
4. A Drafting Committee shall be formed by the next administration to consolidate the suggestions and revisions in the draft.
5. This draft will be finally discussed and voted in an Extra-ordinary Chapter before the end of the term.

Subject: Response to the Consulta's suggestions on the Formation Guidelines

Two of the major suggestions of the General Consulta were discussed in the Chapter:

1. "Regarding the admission of candidates to our seminary, the minimum qualification will be 10th Standard, but preference will be given to those who have completed Plus-Two."

Chapter accepted this change unanimously.

2. Chapter discussed the second suggestion regarding the re-introduction of the *Regency* year into the existing formation programme.

Chapter voted to keep either the Pre-philosophy year or the Regency year (not both years) before the Novitiate. (20 members in favour, 1 abstained).

Chapter decided (11 in favour, 10 against) to entrust the next administration to study the advantages and disadvantages of both the programmes (Pre-philosophy and Regency) and eventually to decide on the matter in a General Gathering.

All other suggestions of the General Consulta are already incorporated in the Formation Guidelines.