

## **OMCC STATUTE: PROCESS, APPROVAL, EVOLUTION**

### **Chapter 3**

*In the Church there is a diversity of ministry but a oneness of mission. Christ conferred on the Apostles and their successors the duty of teaching, sanctifying, and ruling in His name and power. But the laity likewise share in the priestly, prophetic, and royal office of Christ and therefore have their own share in the mission of the whole people of God in the Church and in the world.  
(Apostolicam Actuositatem, 2)*

### **The Canonical Recognition and the Statute Approval: a long journey<sup>1</sup>**

The members of the OMCC-EC of Brazil started their task concerning the Canonical Recognition process, by acknowledging the whole job done by the OMCC-EC of Germany, who spare no efforts – both personal (time) and material (money) – towards a target long aimed at by all the Cursillistas of the world: the official recognition of the existence of the Cursillo Movement itself, and of the Movement's endeavour to walk on the same path of the Church.

As it was mentioned in the previous chapter, following the guidance of the Pontifical Council for the Laity (PCL), a thorough revision of the OMCC Statute project was carried out, in Germany, from 24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> April 2003. On that opportunity, the initiative of seeking the OMCC Statute approval was encouraged and praised by Mons. Rylko who stressed two fundamental aspects of the Statute:

- a) Its approval would prove the official recognition by the Church of the existence of the Cursillo Movement itself, even though the Statute dealt with is not of the Cursillo Movement but of an Organism that co-ordinates it.
- b) Its approval would seal the ecclesial communion about which the Pope has repeatedly spoken to the Ecclesial Movements.

---

<sup>1</sup> The content of this chapter is a summary of the text included in the folder given to the participants of the Canonical Recognition Promulgation ceremony (Pontifical Council for the Laity, Rome, 11.06.2004).

The OMCC-EC called the First Ordinary Meeting, to take place in Barranquilla, Colombia, and sent to the four International Groups the respective agenda which included the discussion about the Statute already delivered to the PCL. The meeting was attended by GLCC, APG, GET and some special guests invited by the OMCC. The NACG sent the OMCC a letter justifying their absence. On that opportunity some new additions to the project were made.

In its letter dated 27<sup>th</sup> June 2003, the PCL included a number of remarks about points to be altered or introduced in the Statute, which was immediately implemented. Then, new points for revision of the project arose, including the need of an overall review by an Italian canonist in order to adequate the text both to the requirements of juridical form and language, and to specific points related to the Italian language, the official and original language in which the project had been written. Accepting the suggestion made by the National Secretariat of the CM in Italy, all the relevant material related to the project was sent on to Prof. Mario Colabianchi, from the Diocese of Fermo.

On 17<sup>th</sup> November 2003, Fr. Beraldo attended an audience at the PCL with P. Miguel Galindo, handing him the project revised in Italy. In subsequent e-mail messages, other minor suggestions were sent to the OMCC by the PCL and each of them was incorporated to the project. Eventually, on 12<sup>th</sup> January, the project then incorporating the final revision was handed to the PCL. Again Fr. Beraldo had a long audience with P. Miguel Galindo. Both worked another two hours and a half going over the text delivered, concluding that there were just some minor aspects of numbering and checking some Italian terms still due.

Back in Brazil, the project was submitted to an Italian priest and sent back to Rome, as a final form, but once more the text received another series of remarks (including the recommendation of eliminating the suggestions made by the First Ordinary Meeting previously incorporated). Forwarded back to Rome, on 7<sup>th</sup> April, the text was again the object of another e-mail by P. Miguel Galindo, pointing slight inaccuracies concerning orthography.

Finally, on 12<sup>th</sup> April 2004, the final text of the OMCC Statute project, together with a letter from the OMCC President, Francisco Alberto Coutinho, was faxed to the President of the PCL, Mons. Stanislaw Rylko. And thanks to God and the prayers, sacrifices and dedication of so many, in the morning of 23<sup>rd</sup> April, through a letter from the President of the Pontifical Council for the Laity, Monsignor Stanislaw Rylko, the President of the OMCC Executive Committee, Francisco Alberto Coutinho was communicated of the final and official approval of the OMCC as a “*structure of co-ordination, promotion and dissemination of the experience of the Cursillos in Christianity, with private juridical personality, approving its Statute at the same time.*” Simultaneously, the PCL, with the accordance of the OMCC, established the date of 11<sup>th</sup> June 2004, for the signature of the OMCC canonical recognition, to take place in Rome, at 11 am.

\*\*\* ..\*\*\* ..\*\*\*