

**CALENDAR OF THE PROVINCIAL SUPERIOR
NOVEMBER 2011 - JANUARY 2012**

NOVEMBER

31/10 – 7/11	Turkana – Provincial Council
12 – 21	Marsabit
22 – 25	Nairobi Office
23 – 24	Meeting of the Superiors
26 – 30	Kariobangi

DECEMBER

1 – 16	Nairobi Office
17 – 2 Jan. 2012	Christmas Break
2 - Jan. 2012 -	Nairobi Office

JANUARY 2012

16 – 20	Provincial Assembly
23 – 25	Provincial Council

With  *today*

in

KENYA



N. 4/2011

November

Newsletter

of the

COMBONI MISSIONARIES

P.O. Box 21102 Nairobi 00505 Kenya

Email: keprosup@gmail.com

Birthdays

November

5.11.1940 Fr. Mario Porto

25.11.1982 Sch. Abraham Ang'irotum (Lima)

27.11.1972 Fr. Austin Odhiambo

28.11.1967 Fr. Paolo Latorre (CYOF)

December

14.12.1932 Fr. Agostino Zanotto

30.12.1973 Fr. Onesmas Otieno (Khartoum)

31.12.1940 Fr. Jimenez Santiago

31.12.1975 Fr. John Bliss A. Kudjo

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY
TO ALL CONFRERES
WHOSE BIRTHDAY
FALLS IN THESE NEXT
TWO MONTHS!**



Tuesday: Marsabit Zone
Wednesday: Pokot Zone
Thursday: Turkana Zone
Friday: Nairobi Zone (Mass presided by Provincial Superior)
Confreres away from the province

The following confreres are on holidays:

- Fr. Tomas Herreros, holidays
- Fr. Tony Rivera, holidays
- Fr. Romeo De Berti, medical treatment
- Fr. Felipe Castrejana, medical treatment
- Fr. Bruno Tinazzi, holidays
- Fr. Karloli Mwambi, medical treatment

Fr. Karoli, Fr. Romeo, and Fr. Felipe, we remember you, keep you in our prayers and wait for you back quickly in the Province!

From the Provincial



Dear Confreres,

As we are about to start Advent followed by Christmas, I would like to share with you the following.

The word Advent means “coming” or “arrival.” The focus of the entire season is on the celebration of the birth of Jesus the Christ in his first Advent, and the anticipation of the return of Christ the King in his second Advent. Thus, Advent is far more than

simply marking a 2,000 years old event in history. It is celebrating a truth about God, the revelation of God in Christ whereby all of creation may be reconciled to God. That is a process in which we now participate, and the consummation of which we anticipate.

Scripture readings for Advent will echo this emphasis on the Second Advent, including themes of accountability for faithfulness at His coming.

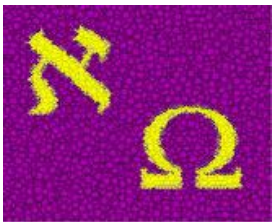
This double focus on past and future, Advent also symbolizes the spiritual journey of individuals and a congregation. So, as the Church celebrates God’s breaking into history in the Incarnation, and anticipates a future consummation in that history for which “all creation is groaning awaiting its redemption,” it also professes its own responsibility as a people commissioned to “love the Lord God with all one’s heart” and to “love one’s neighbor as oneself.” Advent is marked by a spirit of expectation, of anticipation, of preparation and of longing.

So dear Brothers, I would like to wish you all a good preparation throughout this time of Advent in order to be ready to receive, together with the people we do serve, the Lord when he comes.

How about Christmas? We can truly be happy at Christmas despite our inconveniences in life!



December has come and with it all the joys of Christmas. But what is the real meaning of Christmas? Is it the gifts under the tree, the lights in the



windows, the cards in the mail, turkey dinners with family and friends, stockings hanging in the living room, and shouts of “Merry Christmas” to those who pass in the streets? Is this really Christmas?

For many people, Christmas is a time of sorrow. They don't have the extra money to buy presents

for their children, family, and friends. Many are saddened at Christmas time when they think of their loved ones who will not be able to come home for various reasons. Turkey dinners may be only a wish and not a reality for some.

Yet, Christmas can be a season of great joy. It is a time of God showing His great love for us. It can be a time of healing and renewed strength. Christmas is when we celebrate the birth of the Christ child. God sent His Son, Jesus, into the world to be born. His birth brought great joy to the world. Shepherds, wise men, and angels all shared in the excitement of knowing about this great event. They knew this was no ordinary baby. The prophets had foretold His coming hundreds of years before. The star stopped over Bethlehem to mark the way for those who were looking for this special child.

We can truly be happy at Christmas, no matter what may be happening. Look at Christmas in a new way this year. This is the year to invite Jesus into your hearts. You will then have a really merry Christmas. The joy and peace you will receive will last all year as you look to God with a lot of confidence and trust. The gift of life given to you by God is worth the merry making. Celebrate this life with the joy that the new born baby, who is the son of the most high God, brings forth to us. He will make it a fresh new beginning, a life full of joy and jubilation.

So, dear Confreres, allow me to wish you a MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR 2012 FULL OF PROSPERITY AND HOPE.

LET US ALL MEET DURING OUR PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY WITHOUT FAIL. GOD BLESS YOU ALL.

From the desk of your servant Provincial,

Fr. Joseph Maina Mwariri.

3. GUIDELINES ON ALL THE REPORTS

3.1 We ask all the Coordinators of Zones, Secretariats, Provincial Superior and Bursar and interprovincial commitments to write the reports on the topics below and sent it to the Secretary of SEOGF, Fr. Filipe Resende, by email (filiperes@gmail.com) by the 15th December 2011 in order to prepare the booklet of the Provincial Assembly 2012 with all the material needed for the smooth and hasten running of the PA2012.

3.2 Topics to include in the Report

1. Short presentation of the communities of the zone/interprovincial activities/Secretariats (number of members, movement of personnel, main commitments of each community/interprovincial activities/Secretariats)–for written report;
2. Main activities of 2011 (meetings, monthly retreats, main projects undergoing,...)-for written report;
3. Main challenges/needs/plans for 2012-for written report;
4. Feedback on the relevant topics of discernment of the 6YP underlined by the communities of the Zone–to be taken up by PA2012;
5. Position of the Zone on the proposed clustering with South Sudan – to be taken up by PA2012;
6. Calendar of activities for 2012 (comprehensive) – to be taken up by PA2012;

4. OFFICIALS

Moderators: Raphael Wokorach, Antonio Guirao

Secretaries: Eutiquio Mula, Stefano Giudici

Time keeper: Joseph Godinez

Social / Entertainment: Paul Nyahanga

Liturgical coordinator: John Bosco Nambasi

5. LITURGY

Monday Mass – Fr. Claudio, General Bursar

4.30-6.00 pm: Presentation of the Report of the Provincial Bursar (with considerations on TCF after the presentation of Fr. Claudio)

Thursday, 19th – Six Year Plan Discussion

8.30 am: Introduction to the work of the 6YP – Moderators
Presentation on the relevant topics of the 6YP to be reflected in PA 2012 from the zones (previously assembled by Commission 6YP)
9.00 am: Prayer in the chapel over the topics brought forward by Zones
10.00 am: Break
10.30 am: 1st Session on discussion of the topics of the 6YP section by section
12.00 am: Break / Lunch
2.30 pm: 2nd Session on discussion of the topics of the 6YP section by section
4.00 pm: Break
4.30 pm: 3rd Session on discussion of the topics of the 6YP section by section
6.00 pm: Break / Mass / Supper

N.B.: In the next meeting of the Superiors, the participants will be introduced on the methodology and remote preparation for a proper discernment on the 6YP done by the communities and zones beforehand the PA2012.

Friday, 20th (Full day)

- Conclusion of approval of the 6YP, if needed
- Motions to be presented and discussed
- Input of OGF on weekly community day and elaboration
Community Project
- Calendar of the Activities of the Province for 2012
- Evaluation
- Closing Mass of the PA 2012 (evening) – Provincial Superior

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PROVINCIAL COUNCIL

Nakwamekwi, 1-3 November 2011

(Abridged version)

Present: Fr. Joseph Maina, Fr. Raphael Wokorach, Fr. Filipe Resende, Fr. Stefano Giudici, Bro. Dario Laurencig.

The PC met in Nakwamekwi. On Monday 31st October the whole PC participated in half-day recollection and a zone meeting of the confrères of Turkana Zone. The confrères presented their pastoral challenges and their situation as communities and Comboni group. The PC expresses appreciation and gratitude to the confrères for their missionary service in this quite challenging environment. The meeting of the PC in this Zone wanted to be a sign of unity with and encouragement to the two communities.

The PC meeting started on Tuesday 1st November, at 8.00 a.m. with a prayer led by Fr. Filipe, who quoted RL 13-14 and 2009 Chapter Acts on mission.

MIN. 41/2011 READING OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the meetings of the PC held in July were read and approved.

Matters arising

Min. 31.2 A coordinator of the Comboni Lay Missionaries (CLM) is yet to be appointed, but it should fall under MA. A dialogue between the PS and Fr. Austine Odhiambo is going on.

Min. 37.1 The Issue of the composition of the Financial Committee is still hanging, due also to the absence of Fr. Romeo. The PC acknowledge the observations of the 12th General Consulta (3-28 October 2011) with regard to provincial secretariats of finances in the case that a member of the Provincial Council is also a member of the Secretariat of Finance.

MIN. 42/2011 GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Min. 42.1 General Council

The minutes of the 10th (6-20 June and 6-8 July) and 12th (3-28 October) General Consulta are read.

The PC acknowledge the decision concerning the Superior in the CBC. Fr. Maurizio Binaghi is assigned to the Kenyan Province from 1st January 2012. He will most probably attend the Provincial Assembly and then study Kiswahili. He will be assigned at the end of the language course. July - October 2011. Several communications between the Assistant General Fr. Tesfaye and the PS about the developments of the situation of Fr. Kizito, Fr. Antonini, the assignment of Fr. Binaghi, the schedule for his visit to the Province next January- February 2012.

Min. 42.2 Superior General

9th July 2011. Acknowledge receipt of the message, written together with the Mother General of the Comboni Sisters, on the occasion of the declaration of the Independence of South Sudan.

10th October 2011. Acknowledge receipt of the SG's message for the feast of St. Daniel Comboni: "Holiness under the sign of the cross".

Min. 42.3 Secretary General

3rd August 2011. Request of information about Fr. Agostino Bertolotti. 2nd September 2011. Communication of the date of the next Intercapitular Assembly (Rome, 2-22 September 2012).

5th September 2011. Communication from the General Secretary requesting an updating of the records of the Institute on the language known by the confrères and their academic qualifications.

Min. 42.3 Central Commission of On-Going Formation

Acknowledge receipt of the Apostolic Letter "Porta Fidei" for the promulgation of the Year of Faith.

Min. 42.4 General Secretariat of Evangelization

17th October 2011. Acknowledge receipt of a letter of the General Secretary of Evangelization on the common reflection on the work of evangelization in the Institute.

PROGRAM FOR THE PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY 2012

1. BASIC TIMETABLE

MORNING

06.00-07.00 am	Personal Prayer
07.00-07.30 am	Lauds
07.30-08.00 am	Breakfast
08.30-10.00 am	Assembly
10.00-10.30 am	Tea Break
10.30-12.00 am	Assembly
12.00-12.30 am	Activities
12.30 am	Lunch

AFTERNOON

02.30-04.00 pm	Assembly
04.00-04.30 pm	Break
04.30-06.00 pm	Assembly
06.00-06.30 pm	Break
06.30-07.30 pm	Eucharist with Vespers
07.30pm	Supper

2. SCHEME OF THE DAYS

Monday, 16th – Arrival

06.30 pm: Opening Mass of the PA 2012 (Fr. Claudio Lurati, General Bursar)
07.30 pm: Supper
08.30 pm: Programming logistics and other considerations (Fr. Filipe)

Tuesday, 17th – Total Common Fund

Morning: Recollection and OGF by Fr. Claudio Lurati on the Total Common Fund (TCF)
Afternoon: 1st Session on the TCF by GB Fr. Claudio Lurati

Wednesday, 18th – Total Common Fund (continuation) and Reports from the Provincial Superior and the Provincial Bursar

Morning: 2nd Session on the TCF by GB Fr. Claudio
2.30-3.00 pm: Resume of the Minutes of PA2011 (Fr. Filipe)
3.00-4.00 pm: Presentation of the Report of the Provincial Superior

NEWS from the Province

SUPERIORS MEETING IN NAIROBI 23 AND 24

Dear Superiors,

May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be always with you and guides you in your noble service to our communities.

Just to remind you about the superiors meeting in Nairobi on 23rd and 24th of November 2011.

I request you to prepare the following:

To share about your role as superior in your community

Do you Plan together about the activities in your community?

Is there good communication in your community

You as superior, do you put in practice what you decide in the community?

The challenges you face in your community as a superior

Each superior will be given 30 minutes for presentation and for questions. While preparing yourself, please pay attention to the rule of life no. 106, 107, 111 and 112.

The 2nd day on 24th will be dedicated for an input.

I wish you all the best until we meet on 22nd in order to start the meeting on 23rd at 9AM.

See you then and God bless you.

Fr. Joseph Maina Mwariri

Provincial Superior

Min. 42.5 Commission on the Rule of Life.

4th September 2011. Communication from Fr. Venanzio Milani on the organization of the work of the Commission.

MIN. 43/2011 LOCAL CHURCH AND INSTITUTIONS

Min. 43.1 Youth United for Kenya. Communications between the PS and Fr. Mariano Tibaldo on the NGO “Youth United for Kenya”.

Min. 43.2 Apostolic Nunciature.

12/07/2011 Communication of the PS to the Nuncio about the GC’s decision of assigning Fr. Kizito to the Province of Italy.

1/08/2011 Letter from the Apostolic Nuncio to the PS acknowledging receipt of the communication from the PS about the GC’s decision to assign Fr. Kizito to the Province of Italy.

21/09/2011 Communication of the PS to the Nuncio about Fr. Kizito’s departure from Kenya.

Min. 43.3 Kenya Episcopal Conference.

14/09/2011 Message of KEC opposing the proposed conference on “Maternal Deaths and Reproductive Health in Kenya in the context of a new Constitution”

21/09/2011 Communication about the procedure for sending donations to Cardinal Otunga Beatification account.

Min. 43.4 AMECEA

6/07/2011 Acknowledge receipt of the final message of AMECEA’s Plenary Assembly – Golden Jubilee

Min. 43.4 Diocese of Kitale

1/10/2011 Communication of the PS to the Bishop on the changes of personnel in Pokot Zone.

Min. 43.5 CUEA

1/08/2011 Invitation to the Cardinal Otunga Scholarship Programme (COS) and Annual Lecture.

Min. 43.6 Koinonia Community

8/08/2011 Invitation to the Koinonia Community Children's Day.

Min. 43.7 Loreto Convent Msongari

16/07/2011 Invitation to the Waumini Pastoral Ministry Programme (Lumko East Africa) 2011.

Min. 43.8 Jesuits Eastern Africa

18/07/2011 Letter of condolences by the Acting Provincial to the PS on the demise of Bishop Cesare Mazzolari.

Min. 43.9 Diocese of Rumbek

Communications between the Administrator of the Diocese of Rumbek, Fr. Fernando Colombo, and the PS.

Min. 43.10 Tangaza College

Invitation to the Convocation Liturgy 2011.

1/09/2011 Letter of the PS to the Principal on the proposal of appointing Bro. Alberto Parise as Director of ISMM.

Letter of appointment of Bro. Alberto Parise as Director of ISMM for a period of three years (1/08/2011 – 30/06/2014).

Min. 43.11 Institute of Social Ministry

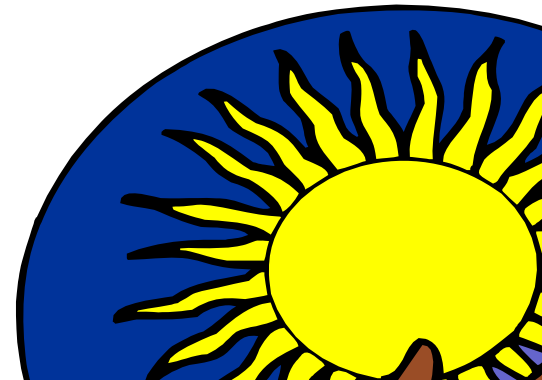
24/10/2011 Report by Bro. Alberto Parise to the PS and PC on the state of the Institute of Social Ministry in Mission (ISMM).

The report is read. The PC thanks Bro. Alberto for the very good work done on the occasion of this report and as a whole in the ISMM. The PC is highly in favour of the proposed new governance structure, especially the Board of Directors, seen as a concrete way to be more involved and informed as Congregation in all decisions of the ISMM. The PC is of the opinion that any further development of the ISMM, included outreach programmes, should be implemented once the new governance structure is put in place and consolidated. The whole issue of ISMM and our sponsorship will be taken to the next APDESAM meeting.

To offer suggestions for drafting the Charter for Mission Promotion in each circumscription.

To take practical steps for collaborating in MP with the neighbouring circumscriptions, as indicated by the General Chapter when it speaks about clustering.

According to the participants, the Assembly did a fine job and the participation of all was good.



possibility of introducing daily information and news about what's happening in our Institute, the visits to our website have increased. Now it is possible to constantly provide material of interest not only for the confreres, but also for all those who wish to know more about our missionary work. The website can be enriched with information from the provinces and delegations. The GC looks forward to even better collaboration.

Continental groups for reflection

In our meeting with the Secretary General for evangelization, Fr. Mariano Tibaldo, we shared information about the continental groups for reflection. Looking at past experiences, it seemed that what had been done so far has produced important material for our formation and reflection on our missionary commitment. At this moment it also seems that in some continent this experience has been somewhat forgotten and that some groups have virtually ceased to exist. As General Council, we invite Provincials and Delegates to take again this experience to heart, as these groups may be helpful in finding out the missionary challenges of our time and give indications on how to better take up our missionary commitment in the different contexts in which we are present. These groups have also been proved invaluable to ongoing formation and we believe that at this time greater reflection would be of great help to live the mission in a more qualified way.

Continental Assembly of America/Asia for Mission Promotion

Fr Jorge O. García Castillo informed us on the continental assembly for Mission Promotion (MP) held in Quito (Ecuador) from July 6 to 12. A very important role in the preparation of this assembly was carried out by Fr. Alcides Costa, in charge of the Superiors of the circumscription for America and Asia in the sector of MP.

The main objectives of the Assembly, starting from the socio-ecclesial and Comboni situations in America and Asia and from the XVII General Chapter, were:

To define in principle what we mean by MP.

To develop a Continental Plan for MP.

Min. 43.12 VIVAT

11/09/2011 Invitation to International Peace Conference.

Min. 43.13 Consolata Missionaries

15/08/2011 Letter of condolences from the PS to the Regional Superior of the Consolata Missionaries for the departure of Fr. Anthony Bellagamba.

Min. 43.14 Diocese of Marsabit

30/09/2011 Letter from Fr. George Guyo requesting the PS for a three-month stay in our Provincial House. The request was kindly declined.

Min. 43.15 Archers Tours and Travels Ltd

21/09/2011 Letter of the PS to the Travel Agency office informing them on the new policy regarding air tickets for Fr. Kizito and the Koinonia Community.

Min. 43.16 Caritas Austria

Various communications between the office of Caritas Austria and the Comboni Missionaries in Kenya regarding financial help for drought and famine in Kenya.

Min. 43.17 RSCK

Various communications on the August regional meeting and the next Annual General Meeting.

Min. 43.18 Archdiocese of Nairobi

5/09/2011 Cardinal's letters of appointment of Frs. Santiago Jimenez and Paul Nyahanga as assistant fathers in-charge in Kariobangi Parish.

MIN. 44/2011 COMBONI PROVINCES

Min. 44.1 APDESAM. Communication of the PS to APDESAM about the coordinators of different Secretariats in the Kenya Province.

12/07/2011 Communication from the PS of South Africa on the dates for the next APDESAM meeting (27/02 – 03/03.2012).

Min. 44.2 20/07/2011. Communication of the PS to Fr. Savoia (Colombia).

Min. 44.3 July 2011. Communications between the PS and Sch. Oscar Anibal (DCA).

Min. 44.4 18/07/2011. Communication to the PS from the Delegate of Eritrea on his visit to the Nairobi Scholasticate.

Min. 44.4 August 2011. Communications between the PS and confrères of DSP as to how to help the people affected by drought and hunger in Kenya. Communication of Br. Grazian (Italian Procura delle Missioni) concerning the same issue.

Min. 44.5 11/05/2011 Communication from Fr. Zordan (Brescia) on health conditions of Fr. Paul Nyahanga.

Min. 44.6 12/07/2011 Communications between the PS and the PS of Italy concerning Fr. Kizito.

Min. 44.7 20/07/2011 Communication of the PS to Br. Jonas (MZ)

Min. 44.8 July-September 2011. Communications with and from the NAP about the service of Fr. Austine and Fr. Kennedy for mission appeals. The NAP is very happy of the experience and they are already looking forward to having someone next year too.

Min. 44.9 21/10/2011 Communication between the PS and deacon Christopher Z'bik (Poland).

Min. 44.10 Communications between the PS and the PS of South Sudan on the Symposium "One Church from every tribe, tongue and people", organized on the occasion of the Independence of South Sudan. Acknowledge receipt of the article "South Sudan: 191 years of struggle for freedom" by Fr. Daniel Moschetti.

Secretariat and should not normally be eligible to vote in the Secretariat.

Meetings of continental councils for Ongoing Formation

The initiative was appreciated and seems to have achieved its purpose: to animate the coordinators of Ongoing Formation (OGF) and to provide them with useful material to carry out their work.

- Europe (Rome, 27-30 June). All provinces were represented, except Poland. The coordinator of the DSP sent a delegate. Initially there was some concern about this, but the diversity made the encounter more rich and vibrant. The atmosphere was very positive, with an exchange of experiences and life. Everyone was happy both for the proceeding of the meeting and its content.

- Africa (Pretoria, 1-6 August). All provinces (English and French speaking) were represented. There were sixteen of them. The majority of the members had been newly appointed coordinators of OGF. The lack of "experience" was offset by the goodwill and enthusiasm. The confreres were actively involved, sharing experiences and life. All deemed the meeting very valuable because it helped and encouraged them in their task.

- America/Asia (Lima, 1-6 September). All the provinces and delegations were present, except for Northeast Brazil. Five circumscription Superiors took part in it. The analysis of the reality of the provinces shocked a bit everyone on account of the difficulties encountered in the missionary and Church life in Latin America. Fr. Gaetano Beltrami and Fr. John Converse worked together in the presentation of the themes. The material that came from Rome was much appreciated and everyone became committed to use it in various ways and to encourage initiatives, together with the people and the communities, to help implement it. The participation of all contributed to interesting ideas and suggestions.

Website "comboni.org"

Fr. Arlindo Ferreira Pinto, in charge of the website "www.comboni.org", has given a report to the General Council about the work he does for the Website and the changes he has made in order to update it. Given the

Lomé. All the invited treasurers were present at both events. The environment was always characterised by great support and attention. Much appreciated was the report on the questionnaire on the juridical personality. In addition to collecting valuable information, it has helped to raise awareness about the importance of the topic. In both assemblies, the issue of the clustering of circumscriptions was also discussed. From the assembly of Bogotá, August 2011, came a strong demand for the revision of the Chart of Accounts in order to adapt to both the Total Common Fund (TCF) and to international standards. There was also a discussion on how to assist the provincial superiors in accompanying the work of local treasurers.

In the assembly of Lomé, September 2011, the debate on the TCF brought out very different ways to implement it. The participants agreed on the need to move towards a common model. There was also a widespread concern on how to provide funds for the activities of the provinces, such as keeping an eye on self-supporting projects.

Observations with regard to provincial secretariats for finances

From the minutes of the provinces we learn that in many cases a member of the provincial council or delegation is also a member of the secretariat for finances. This practice is unusual because the Council and the Secretariat should be two clearly distinct entities. However, the decision is justified by the fact that communication between the secretariat and the council would be greatly facilitated. The Rule of Life does not forbid it, while it categorically rules out that the provincial treasurer be a member of the provincial council (RL 173.1).

This practice can have many positive implications in terms of dialogue and collaboration, but some basic conditions must be met:

That the Secretariat be formed according to the guidelines of the Provincial Directory (General Directory for Finances n. 29, RL 173.1).

That the Secretariat has its operational capacity (i.e. number of members) independently of the presence of the councillor. The councillor lives his collegiality with the Council, not with the

Min. 44.11 Communication from the PS of Khartoum on the participation of three confrères in the Assembly of Formators and Vocation Promoters in Nairobi.

Min. 44.12 3/08/2011 Communication from the PS of Uganda on his participation in the Assembly of Formators and Vocation Promoters in Nairobi.

MIN. 45/2011 MISSION ANIMATION AND VOCATION PROMOTION

Min. 45.1 Meeting of the Secretariat. The minutes of the meeting of the Secretariat (27th September 2011) and Fr. Austine's report are read. The PC makes the following comments:

- (1) Comboni Lay Missionaries in Kenya fall under the Secretariat of MA. The PS will ask Fr. Austine to be in-charge of the CLM.
- (2) According to the Provincial Directory, each Zone should have a representative in the Secretariat, a policy that has to be followed up. Therefore the Zones are invited to suggest names for this Secretariat. The issue will be taken up during the next Provincial Assembly.
- (3) The PC thanks Fr. Austine for the work well done. This year there were many more friends of Kenyan Missionaries who attended the meeting than last year. We feel that this work of Mission Animation is going on well.

MIN. 46/2011 BASIC FORMATION

Min. 46.1 OGF Course and Assembly for Formators and Vocation Promoters – English-speaking Provinces of Africa and Mozambique 25/04/2011 Letter to the PS informing about the OGF Course and Assembly for Formators and Vocation Promoters – English-speaking Provinces of Africa and Mozambique (Nairobi, 8-28/08/2011). 26/08/2011 Final Document of the Course. The document is read in the PC and commented; it has now to be adapted into the Provincial Directory

of Basic Formation and Vocation Promotion, which will be the task of the Secretariat.

Min. 46.2 General Assembly of Formation (Palencia, July 2011).

Acknowledge receipt of the final letter from the participants addressed to all Vocations Promoters and Formators of Pre-postulancies and Postulancies.

Min. 46.3 Meeting of the Secretariat. The minutes of the meeting of the Provincial Secretariat of Basic Formation and Vocation Promotion (20/09/2011) are read.

Min. 46.3 Guidelines for Missionary Service in the Province of Kenya.

Fr. Raphael presents the guidelines for the missionary service in Kenya, based on those prepared in the Province of South Africa, and in line with the instructions from the General Secretariat of Basic Formation and Vocation Promotion. The PC approves them and invites the Secretary of Formation to make them available to all communities and confreres.

Min. 46.4 Perpetual Vows and Diaconate.

The evaluation for Sch. Isaiah Sangwera Nyakundi has been presented to the Superior General and the GC has admitted Isaiah to the Perpetual Vows and Holy Orders. Isaiah will take his final profession on November 13th, and he will be ordained deacon on November 19th in the Cathedral of Marsabit. The PC warmly congratulates Isaiah and prays for many blessings in this new phase of his life.

Min. 46.5 Scholasticate of Casavatore (Naples).

Communications between the PS, the Sch. Ignatius Mwinamo (Naples) and the Formators of the scholasticate of Naples.

Min. 46.6 Novitiate of Lusaka.

Communications between the Novice Master and the PS concerning the visa for the three Kenyan Novices.

Min. 46.7 Scholasticate of Nairobi.

The PC receives a letter from the Kenyan Scholastics in Nairobi asking for clarification about the issue of

History of provinces and delegations

During this Consulta, we were asked to remind the provinces and delegations, as one of the undertakings decided by the last General Chapter, of the need to complete and update the work on the history of our circumscriptions. This work is important to preserve the memory of our missionary presence and to transmit to future generations the experience of our charism, lived through the history of the confreres who have been witnesses of the Comboni missionary vocation. We invite provincials and delegates to send to the General Secretariat the work they have done.

Assemblies of the Secretariat for Formation

Three assemblies for formators took place during the summer months. From July 10 to 30 the formators of novitiates and scholasticates met in Palencia, Spain, to reflect on the situation of our formation and to deepen some important aspects of the formative process. The meeting has been a fundamental one, due to the exchange of experiences and the search for the criteria that must be common in our formation system. During the assembly, there have been also times of valuable ongoing formation and fraternal sharing among the formators. Heartfelt thanks to the province of Spain and the community of Palencia for organising this assembly.

Two other assemblies for vocations promoters and formators of pre-postulants and postulants took place in Nairobi from 8 to 28 August and in Kinshasa from 1 to 18 September. Also these assemblies aimed at offering a time of ongoing formation to the confreres who offer this service in English and French speaking Africa, where at this time the Institute has the highest number of candidates for the Comboni missionary life. We thank the provinces of Kenya and Congo for the help offered to the Secretariat for Formation in organizing these meetings.

Continental assemblies for finances

In the months of August and September the secretariat for finances held an assembly for the provincial treasurers of the continental group of America-Asia in Bogotá, and another for French-speaking Africa in

GENERAL COUNCIL

GENERAL Notes from the Consulta

Theme of reflection for the year 2012

In line with the programme about the themes of reflection for the whole Institute, for the year 2012 we have chosen the theme of “The Word of God in our missionary life”. Continuing the experience made during 2011, we plan to offer to the entire Institute essays for reflection (testimonies) which may help us to deepen the chosen theme and be used at personal and community level.

With the choice of the theme “The Word of God in our missionary life”, we wish to live this period of time as an occasion when this Word may become the centre of our lives, our reflection, our study and our missionary work.

In addition to the material that will be made available by the General Council, we invite the provinces and delegations to plan events and celebrations that will involve also the people we work with in the mission.

Reflection on the clustering of provinces and delegations

Through the minutes of the meetings of provincial and delegation councils, the General Council has noted the process that is taking place concerning the reflection on the clustering of the jurisdictions in the Institute. We thank the provincials and delegates and also the committees who have been working on this, trying to find possible ways to implement this guideline of the Chapter.

During this Consulta, the General Council has started a reflection on this theme, with a desire to contribute to the study we must continue to do in the hope of arriving at the next Intercapitular assembly with some concrete proposals to help us see more clearly the way forward in the near future.

holidays. The PC sees no difficulties in arranging a two-week period every year to be spent with the family. The logistics are to be arranged with the Formators.

Min. 46.8 Presence of postulants, brothers and scholastics in the communities for pastoral experience. It seems there are some difficulties in our communities about the presence, at the same time, of postulants and scholastics/brothers, for the pastoral experience. The PC agrees that the Secretariat of Basic Formation and Vocation Promotion, every year, will collect the number of candidates available for pastoral experience and the number of the communities available to receive them; it will then distribute the candidates to the different communities.

Min. 46.9 Postulancy. The PS visited the Postulancy from 20th to 24th September and wrote an evaluation. As a whole the atmosphere in the community is good, people are serene and committed. The Comboni community (Frs. Wanjohi and Porto) shared with the PS few points, especially the urgent need for maintenance of the house, the need for a second formator and need of having the Postulancy on our own land.

MIN. 47/2011 EVANGELIZATION AND ONGOING FORMATION

Min. 47.1 Meeting of the Secretariat. The minutes of the meeting of the Secretariat are read. They include a short evaluation of the course/seminar “Mission in Kenya Today”; a report on the Continental Council of OGF held in South Africa; a proposal to the PC for the 2012 Provincial Assembly.

Min. 47.2 Informal Group of Reflection. The PC agrees on the necessity and urgency of reviving the Group as a means of animating the confreres on issues concerning their field of action. The Group could help in systematizing the material of the personal and community reflection on the missionary experience, and then could put this material to the disposal of all confreres within and beyond the Province.

Min. 47.3 The work of the Secretariat. Due to the increase of material coming from the Central Commission of On-Going Formation, it is becoming more and more difficult to follow both sectors of Evangelization and OGF. In a near future there might be the need of separating the two sectors.

Min. 47.4 Provincial Assembly 2012: planning. The PC considers the proposal of the Secretariat of Evangelization and On-Going Formation concerning the next 2012, and makes the following decisions:

1. It is better to have few topics during the Assembly, so to leave enough time for discussion. The two main points on the agenda will be the Total Common Fund, which will be presented by the General Bursar, Fr. Claudio Lurati at the beginning of the Assembly; the Six Year Plan, with a special attention to the issue of clustering of Provinces.
2. For this reason the PC decides that the reports from the Zones will be inserted in a booklet to be distributed to the confreres before the Assembly, but they will not be read during the Assembly.
3. The proposed timetable is the following: see it below in this Bulletin
4. The Zones have to come to the Assembly with some 3 or 4 main points of the Six Year Plan which they want to discuss. They also have to send their zonal reports which must include: a report on the 2011 activities of the Zone; calendar of the 2012 activities; main issue of the Six Year Plan to be discussed in the Assembly; opinion of the Zone on the issue of clustering of the Province of Kenya with the Province of South Sudan.
5. The proposal will be presented and discussed during the next meeting of the Superiors (23-24 November).

Min. 47.5 Six Year Plan. The II draft of the Six Year Plan is read and commented. In general the PC appreciates the work done by the Commission and the confreres in these first months of discernment. The comments and changes done by the PC are included in the final draft of

Min. 52.3 OFFICE OF THE PROCURE.

The PC reminds all confreres that no document can be released from the office of the Procure without the knowledge of the PS or the Procurator and this has to be communicated to the secretary (Rose Mary) and John, the one in charge of Documents.

NEWS

PERPETUAL VOWS AND ORDINATION OF ISAIAH SANGWERA

NYAKUNDI, 13th and 19th November 2011 respectively

“Lord you called me and I heard your voice”. This was a great response from the Our Lady Consolata Parish in Marsabit Diocese where the Comboni family enjoyed the reward of their presence and hard work in the diocese through the Perpetual Vows and Diaconate ordination of their son Isaiah Sangwera Nyakundi.

The vows that took place during the second Mass in the cathedral saw a great number of the faithful rejoicing for this great gift. It was the first such fruit since the Comboni family arrived in this diocese. The Provincial Superior invited the young people and their parents to take this opportunity to pray for vocations and be willing to embrace the call as a God given gift. In his homily, he challenged the youths who were present in a great number, to take the opportunity to look unto their moral and spiritual life, willing to go out to spread the gospel, either as diocesan priests or missionaries.

In his sermon, during the ordination, Bishop Peter Kihara, emphasized the need to serve the people of God. He thanked the Comboni family for their hard work and presence in the diocese of Marsabit. The diaconate ordination of Isaiah took place in this parish six years after the last one. We hope and trust in the God of the harvest to touch the hearts of many young people to embrace this prophetic call. All the Comboni family in this diocese and the deacon's family were present.

Min. 49.8 Fr. Guido Oliana is still continuing with his sabbatical year and will come back to Kenya from the middle of November till January 2012.

Min. 49.9 Fr. Paulino Mondo has been invited to Italy by the Italian Christian Life Community for a workshop (25.10 – 10.11).

MIN. 50/2011 COMMUNITIES

Min. 50.1 Appointments of Superior/Bursar

- (1) Fr. Filipe Resende is appointed superior of the community of Kacheliba from 1st Nov. 2011.
- (2) Fr. Eutiquio Mula is appointed bursar of the community of Kapenguria from 1st Nov. 2011.

Min. 50.2 Amakuriat. The bursar of the community will be appointed after the next visit of the PS to the community. For the time being Fr. Guiducci can be the acting bursar.

Min. 50.3 Marsabit Pastoral Centre. In the Pastoral Centre, the new appointment of Superior and Bursar will be decided in the Provincial Council of January 2012, after having given the community enough time to settle down as two members are new.

MIN. 52/2011 A. O. B.

Min. 52.1 Communications from the PS to all the confreres about the situation of the Procure during the absence of Fr. Romeo, and the movement of personnel in these last months of September and October.

Min. 52.2 Services of the garage in the Procure. There are some complaints about the quality of the services delivered in the garage of the Procure. When Fr. Romeo comes back we request him to talk to Fred, the coordinator of the garage.

the Six Year Plan which will be distributed to each confrere and which will be discussed and approved during the Provincial Assembly.

MIN. 48/2011 FINANCES

Min. 48.1 The GC has given the permission to buy the land for the future development along Ongata Rongai Area. The PS with the Procurator will continue the search for the place and finalize the purchase.

Min. 48.2 New Postulancy. The PC receives a letter from the community of the Postulancy in Ongata Rongai concerning the issue of building a new Postulancy on our own land. At the same time the community prepared a Bill of Quantities for maintenance works in the house.

- (1) After a survey of Bro. Dario, the PC thinks that there is no urgent need for all the maintenance works mentioned in the proposal. Some of them are ordinary maintenance and should be done without any special permission. Extraordinary maintenance works will be established by the community together with Bro. Dario.
- (2) Concerning the issue of building a new Postulancy, the PC asks the Secretariat of Formation to study, together with the community of the Postulancy, how the present situation affects the formation of the postulants and what could be achieved by moving to another place. Fr. Raphael will report to the next PC. At the same time, the PS will approach the Diocese of Ngong officially, to know the real expectations and future plans about the location of the Postulancy.

Min. 48.3 Acknowledge receipt of the feedback of the G. Bursar on the 2010 Provincial Financial Report. The report is correct and clear, the financial situation is very good and stable. There is however a discrepancy with the previous reports concerning the Project Funds. The confreres are invited to write as opening balance the balance brought forward from the previous year.

Min. 48.4 Renovation of Maris Stella (Mombasa). The tenant is continuing with the renovation, which is due to be finished by the end of November. The Province will pay for the reconstruction of the perimeter wall of the house and for the permanent work done in the house. The Tenant is expected to clear all the balance he has by December 2011 and if he fails to do so the action has to be taken through our Lawyer.

Min. 48.5 Southern Sudan. The Province of South Sudan requested a financial contribution to cover the expenditures of the Symposium organized with the Episcopal Conference last August. The PS granted a contribution of 5,000 USD.

Min. 48.6 Request of school sponsorship. The request by Bernard Dimba, a former Comboni candidate, is kindly declined. The PC reaffirms the policy of the Province concerning former Comboni candidates: they receive a financial support when they leave the Institute, according to the Provincial Directory, and this is meant to be the only financial help.

Min. 48.7 Project from Lokichar Parish to NAP for catechists. Due to the little time to present the project, it was approved by the PS himself.

Min. 48.8 Project from Lodwar Diocese for apostolate to the nomads'. The project is approved.

Min. 48.9 Request from the Bishop of Nyeri. The Bishop of Nyeri presents a project to buy a car for the Companions of the Little Flowers Sisters and asks our participation in a fundraising with this objective. The PC agrees for a contribution of 50,000 Kshs.

Min. 48.10 Request for assistance to St. Austin's Social Ministry for feeding the hungry children in Slums. The request is accepted. We will buy 50 sacks of maize, 25 sacks of beans, and 10 jerry cans of oil, through the special Fund created in the Procure for drought and hunger.

Min. 40.11 Project of Fr. Tomas Herreros (Amakuriat) to Economia Alternativa. The project concerns the purchase of a tractor and a plough

for the Women Group "Sunflower". The PC is in favour but requests Fr. Tomas to inform and obtain the agreement of the Pokot Zone.

MIN. 49/2011 PERSONNEL

Min. 49.1 Assignments to communities

- (1) Fr. Ampelio Cavinato is assigned to the community of Marsabit Pastoral Centre from 1st November 2011. He will collaborate with Fr. Alazar, diocesan responsible of the same Centre.
- (2) Fr. Lauro Betancourt is assigned to the community of Kacheliba from 1st November 2011.
- (3) Fr. Giancarlo Guiducci is assigned to the community of Amakuriat from 1st November 2011.

Min. 49.2 Fr. Felipe Castrejana is still in Spain for medical reasons.

Min. 49.3 Fr. Antonio Rivera has left the Province for his holidays and will have prolonged holidays in agreement with PS.

Min. 49.4 Br. Alberto Parise has been appointed Director of the Institute of Social Ministry in Tangaza College.

Min. 49.5 Fr. Antonio Dolzan, Fr. Karloli Mwambi and Fr. Romeo De Berti are still in Italy for medical reasons. Fr. Romeo might come back around the middle of November.

Min. 49.6 Deacon John Bosco Mubangizi: He will be ordained priest on 3rd December; the VP will attend the event representing the Province of Kenya. The community of Kacheliba will also attend the ordination with some Christians from the parish.

Min. 49.7 Fr. João Luís Rodrigues has been refreshing his Kiswahili in Korogocho in the months of September and October.