



NEWSBRIEF

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In this issue of Newsbrief we focus not only on actions and agreements for our advocacy efforts but on the deeper level of why we are involved in Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation (JPIC). It is our Gospel spirituality that breathes life into the changes we seek. We take seriously the call from Pope Francis "to enter into dialogue with all people about our common home." (LS 3)

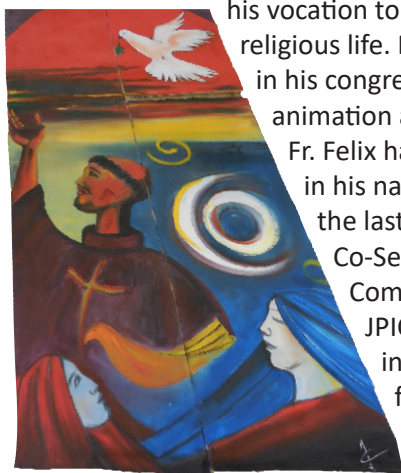
FROM PILGRIMAGE OF PEACE TO FUTURE PLANS

The Spanish/Portuguese speaking JPIC Promoters began their year with a pilgrimage to Assisi to reflect on their theme of "Nonviolence and the Building of Peace." All of the promoter sessions and their prayers in the Church of San Marcello will deepen and enrich this topic. Some of the topics to be explored and reflected upon include the meaning of just peace and the right of everyone to peace. Another, is the importance of care for displaced persons because of the disregard for human life in areas of conflict. Time will be given to consider a peace that includes the concern for the destruction of the planet. All of the sessions will have carefully prepared educational materials to be shared.

The group also celebrated Fr. Felix Mushobozi, CPPS in his 25 years of priestly ordination. For this reason they offered a simple and heartfelt tribute during the October meeting. A PPT presentation, expressed thanks to God for the grace of his vocation to the priesthood and to religious life. He has lived intensely in his congregation and has shown animation and commitment to JPIC. Fr. Felix has done this first of all in his native Tanzania and for the last few years as Executive Co-Secretary of the JPIC Commission USG/UISG. The JPIC promoters joined him in prayer and later in a fraternal toast, wishing him joy in his life, mission and the values he is promoting in religious congregations.



Fr. Juan Carrasquilla, SDS facilitates the development of the theme of nonviolence



Images of St. Francis and St. Clare was painted by Fr. Juan Carrasquilla, SDS for the pilgrimage to Assisi

ANTI-TRAFFICKING WORKING GROUP (ATWG)

Anti-Trafficking working group met with Sr. Gabriella Bottani, CMS, of Talitha Kum to strengthen their collaboration through sharing what each group is doing and to determine ways to work together. Talitha Kum is a member of UISG and serves as a network of networks that promotes collaboration between the conferences of religious and the congregations in order to address issues of human trafficking. Sr. Gabriella spoke about current efforts to develop a training program to help leaders involved in combating this scourge to gain the necessary tools and skills for this work.

The members of the Anti-trafficking WG were enthusiastic about supporting the efforts of Talitha Kum wherever possible. One area of collaboration is to help identify persons willing to establish a network in Africa. The highest rate of persons trafficked is from Africa. The WG will also prepare the prayer for the February 8th feast day of Giuseppina Bakita, the patron saint of persons who are trafficked.

The members of the ATWG will study the results of the survey given to congregations earlier in 2016 to gather information about resources which are already available and share this information with congregations. The working group seeks to help educate congregations and encourage active involvement. Raising awareness and sharing ways to prevent human trafficking are important actions for this working group.



Back: Martin Grenier, Maf, Fr. Felix Mushobozi, CPPS, Marie-Alice Terrettaz, MSLOA.

Front: Gabriella Bottani, CMS and Maamalifar Poreku, MSOLA

Here is a link to a free course on ending slavery. Ending Slavery: [Strategies for Contemporary Global Abolition](#) organized by [The University of Nottingham](#). The course started on Monday 17th October 2016 but it is still possible to register because each one goes at their own pace.

Contributor: Maamalifar Poreku, MSOLA , General Councilor with focus a on JPIC.

DRC COMPASSIONATE RESPONSE TO VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ABUSE IN THE DRC

In 2015 officials from the United Kingdom Embassy to the Holy See approached UISG to inform the religious women about the development of the **International Protocol on the Documentation and Investigation of sexual violence in Conflict**. These officials had heard from the people working on the ground with the protocol that women religious were the most trusted persons in the areas of conflict. The UISG Board entrusted the project to the JPIC Commission: to consider ways of coordinating the efforts of religious men and women in response to these difficult and painful situations.

Consequently, there have been conversations and practical planning through the collaboration between the UK Embassy to the Holy See and the JPIC commission Secretariat. The area of focus became the Eastern Congo. In May an event was co-hosted with the British Embassy and the JPIC Commission in which Baroness Analey, a spokesperson for the protocol and the professional team for the protocol came from London to speak to religious men and women. There were also two compelling testimonies from a religious man and woman describing the deplorable conditions in the Eastern Congo.

A commitment was made at that meeting to convene a working group of interested congregations to consider future possibilities. Action was underway with meetings and communications with persons from the DRC and Rome. In October a proposal has been developed for a capacity building project.

A six day workshop is being planned to help religious men and women already working in ministries where they are likely to be involved with victims of sexual violence in the Eastern DRC. The objective of the project is to help victims to resume an integrated life in their home, church and society. The workshop is comprised of two parts: The Protocol and Pastoral Formation. In Part I, the discussion of the Protocol would include an understanding of sexual violence and the acknowledgment that it is a crime under international law. Participants would also explore the documentation practice including assessments, testimonies and interviewing. Part II, the pastoral response would call the attention of religious people to the necessity of witnessing to the compassionate Jesus. Pope Francis is calling us to put into practice God's mercy. The days of formation will follow the recent teaching for the Jubilee year of mercy, **Laudato Si** and **Vita Consecrata**. There will be opportunities to practice compassionate

listening skills. The role of the Christian Community to counter the stigmatization by the welcome and integration of the victims will be explored. There are already tools developed which can be used during the workshop i.e. the publication "Let us Live", local resources and experienced persons. Since this will be a pilot project, we intend to have a very reflective evaluation of the experience and produce a manual that can be used elsewhere. More information will be forthcoming to the Eastern DRC requesting involvement with this project. We will be working with the religious leader organizations and the dioceses in this area.

All of us are challenged as Christians and consecrated people in particular to make a difference through our compassionate welcome and care of others. The next step is the discussion of the project with the UK Embassy in Kinshasa. Please remember this project in your prayers. The victims of cruelty, their families and those who care for them would greatly appreciate this.



JPIC Promoters Discuss the Project: Fr. David Reid, SSCC, Sr. Sheetal Panpatil, RJM, Sr. Zita Resch, ASC and Br. Craig Franz, FSC

THE CLIMATE IS CHANGING: AGRICULTURE AND FOOD TOO – WHAT KIND OF COMMITMENT? A SIDE EVENT AT FAO

On October 10, The ROMA Forum of Catholic-inspired NGOs organized an event in conjunction with World Food Day. The theme for this year was: "Climate is changing: the food and agriculture too."

The event featured three talks and two concrete experiences: Greetings from Mons. Fernando Chica Arellano, the permanent observer for the Holy See to FAO, IFD, PAM, opened the gathering. An introductory note from the coordinator of the Roma Forum Dr. Vincenzo Conso, emphasized "Our commitment to Address the Problems of Climate Change in the Logic of **Laudato Si**". A Reflection was given by Prof. Alessio D'Amato on "Nutrition and Circular Economy: Some Reflections on Consumption and Wastage of Food". This last talk was particularly interesting, because it touched wastage of food as one substantial source of lack of food security. Some of the issues that were highlighted included a call to consumers to buy food in a sustainable manner caring about what practically are the real needs and the necessity of taking full responsibility of what we buy and consume. He spoke of economic ecology, cultural ecology and human ecology as concepts that are interconnected when considering the common good. Referring to **Laudato Si** (n. 64) he stressed



the fact that we are living in an interdependent world, thus we are obliged to come together to solve our problems and in this case of food security and nutrition. The two practical experience talks were given by - Aurelio Donna *Progetto Mondo Mlal/ FOCSIV on "Agriculture and Nutrition Security in Brazil and Bolivia"*; and Irene Bettina Pueyo who joined Via Skype from the Philippines, who described "*Organic Agriculture / Natural Farming*," a project run by the JOSEFA SEGOVIA Foundation.

Follow the link below to read the Message of Pope Francis prepared for World Food Day and delivered by Mons. Fernando Chica Arellano, Permanent Representative of the Holy See to the UN Agencies in Rome, FAO, WFP and IFAD at FAO during the event marking World Food Day on 14 October.

https://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/food/documents/papa-francesco_20161014_messaggio-giornata-alimentazione.html

REPORT ON COMMITTEE ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY (CFS) SESSION 43 AT FAO HEADQUARTERS, ROME, 17-21 OCTOBER 2016

As happens each year Pope Francis offered a reflection to the FAO events marking World Food Day (16 October each year). Francis began his MESSAGE FOR WORLD FOOD DAY 2016 with these words: "The fact that the FAO has chosen to devote today's World Food Day to the theme *Climate is changing. Food and agriculture must too*, leads us to consider the struggle against hunger as an even more difficult objective to attain in the presence of a complex phenomenon such as climate change." Pope Francis referred to **Laudato si'**, n. 25 and said he puts his reflection in the context of 'the challenges that nature' poses to humanity and that humanity poses to nature. He said: "We must question our individual and collective responsibilities" and put this into the historical context we all know. The recent COP 21 promises country states made on climate in December 2015 in Paris and the coming COP 22 implementation response plans of country states will be unveiled at Marrakech, Morocco in November. This requires, Pope Francis says, "courageous decisions able to make solidarity not only a virtue but also a working model in economics, and fraternity no longer an aspiration but a criterion for domestic and international governance." In other words, I believe, Pope Francis repeated what he has often said: "The hungry are people, not statistics; we must see ourselves in them and them in us, and act accordingly."

Last week as Representative of the JPIC Secretariat ICR at FAO Working Group and Delegate to FAO of the International Congregations of Religious (ICR) I attended the rich and full five day CFS (Committee on World Food Security) Session 43 at FAO Headquarters in Rome. CFS was formed in 1974 at a time of the world food crisis to serve as a forum of food



Contributor: Fr. Ken Thesing, MM, ICR at FAO Working Group

security policies. In 2009 a reform of CFS was made to ensure that not just government delegations but a broad inclusive range of stakeholders were heard in the debate on food security and nutrition. And so there are full participatory voices from civil society organizations and movements, the private sector movement, other intergovernmental organizations, observers from NGOs, educational institutions and groups like our ICR. This year a record number of more than 1500 participants were registered. The five day event presents a rich diversity of food security and nutrition topics. And the CFS is a 'living' committee. That is, its work continues throughout the year through such means as online discussions and development of policies. Open ended working groups (OEWG) also meet periodically and work to bring to completion the various 'working streams' of ongoing issues. There are also meetings held in Regional and National Offices and events. The government delegation representatives have responsibility to endorse completed documents each October at the CFS annual Session at FAO headquarters in Rome.



FAO headquarters in Rome

The CFS holds itself accountable for World Food Security for all. 'Zero Hunger' is the term now used. Food is a human right. And this is the challenge: "Food security exists when all people, at all times, have physical, social and economic access to sufficient safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life."

To appreciate more fully and learn more about the work of the CFS go to the website: www.fao.org/cfs/cfs43/en You can click to read everything in English, Spanish or French (or also in Russian, Chinese or Arabic).

Contributor: Fr. Ken Thesing, MM

MEETING WITH THE PONTIFICAL COUNCIL OF JUSTICE AND PEACE (PCJP)

On October 24 a meeting was held with Cardinal Turkson and Archbishop Tomasi, C.S., to discuss what has been happening with the efforts of the Catholic Nonviolence Initiative (CNI), the follow-up group from the Nonviolence Conference in Rome held this past April. Many ideas and practical possibilities resulted from this fruitful dialogue with the PCJP. The JPIC Secretariat, as a member of the leadership team of CNI, was happy to participate in this extremely positive meeting.

Marie Dennis, Co-president of Pax Christi International described the many resources CNI, has been developing to promote nonviolence. These include prayers, articles, reflection questions, videos and webinars. There have been a number of speaking engagements in such countries as South Sudan, Kenya, Pakistan, Philippines, Japan, Australia, United Kingdom and the United States. Members have spoken at colleges and universities, with faith communities and bishops conferences.

Currently, resources are being developed to enhance the World day of Prayer theme: "Nonviolence: A Style of Politics for Peace". Information will be placed on the PCJP and CNI websites with links on www.jpicroma.org.

An event before the end of the year is also being considered for Pax Christi Bishops, and other bishops and representatives involved in nonviolence and just peace. This would be a way of connecting the world Day of Peace message on nonviolence to what is happening around the world.

There was a discussion about a series of small roundtables to shed more light on the different dimensions of the issues related to nonviolence. These would take place in the second half of 2017 after much of the transitioning has taken place in the new dicastery for promoting Integral Human Development.

Even with our enthusiasm, Cardinal Turkson reminded the group that this process to promote nonviolence needs to be fairly slow and careful so as to engage as much of the church as possible.



Participants of PCJP Meeting: Archbishop Silvano Tomasi, C.S. Sr. Sheila Kinsey, FCJM, Cardinal Peter Turkson, Marie Dennis and Fr. Felix Mushobozi, CPPS

WEBINAR #4

"AN APPEAL TO THE CATHOLIC CHURCH" AND OUTCOMES FROM THE CONFERENCE

The fourth and final webinar on this landmark Vatican conference will discuss the outcomes of the nonviolence conference and particularly the consensus document, "An Appeal to the Catholic Church to re-commit to the centrality of Gospel nonviolence" that has been endorsed by over 1,500 organizations and individuals. The four presenters on the webinar will offer their insights into the significance of the Appeal and other outcomes of the conference, as well as suggest ways that listeners can become involved in the spirituality and practice of



nonviolence in the Church through this movement of the Catholic Nonviolence Initiative. For more information go to:

<https://nonviolencejustpeace.net/>

Moderator: Judy Coode, project coordinator, Catholic Nonviolence Initiative
"The Significance of the Appeal/follow up": Pat Gaffney, general secretary of Pax Christi United Kingdom
"Vatican participation & view of Conference": Sr. Sheila Kinsey, FCJM & Felix Mushobozi, CPPS, Executive Co-Secretaries JPIC Commission
"Why this is important for the Church/bishops' response": Archbishop Antonio Ledesma, SJ, Archbishop of the Metropolitan Archdiocese of Cagayan de Oro.
"Peace Education": Jasmin Galace, executive director, Center for Peace Education, Miriam College; Pax Christi Philippines

IMPACTS OF MINING AND THE IMPORTANCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS

The impacts of mining on our concerns for human rights continue to capture our attention. Br. Rodrigo Peret, OFM has been keeping in contact with the JPIC Office and the Integrity of Creation Working Group (ICWG). Now he is working with Franciscans International (FI) as an advocate for human rights. In October he was in London where there was a board meeting for the multi-national corporation, BHP Billiton. Vale and BHP Billiton are partners of the Samarco mine which had a dam located on the Dolce River in Minas Gerais. On November 5, 2015, the dam burst creating the worst mining disaster in Brazilian history. The recovery has been slow and complicated with the conflicts within the government. Horrific conditions still remain resulting from that disaster.



Samarco Mining Disaster

At issue is also the importance of safeguarding and promoting respect for human rights. Work continues to gain support for a UN binding treaty on international corporations for human rights. Many religious groups and civil society organizations are behind this effort.

Br. Rodrigo will also participate in COP22 where he will present our issues and engage in dialogues to address our concerns.

Here Br. Rodrigo delivers a Franciscans International statement on extractives at the Intergovernmental Working Group on Transnational Corporations and Other Business Enterprises, UN Geneva, on Oct 25.

[Oral Statement Franciscans International Rodrigo Péret](#)

COP22 IN MOROCCO

The 22nd session of the Conference of the Parties (COP22) is scheduled to take place in Marrakech, Morocco November 7-18, 2016. During the days the parties will begin the preparation to bring into force the following Paris Agreement made by governments at COP21:

- a long-term goal of keeping the increase in global average temperature to **well below 2°C** above pre-industrial levels;
- an aim to limit the increase to **1.5°C**, since this would significantly reduce risks and the impacts of climate change;
- the need for **global emissions to peak as soon as possible**, recognizing that this will take longer for developing countries;
- to undertake **rapid reductions thereafter** in accordance with the best available science.

Two venues within the COP22 village are dedicated to host events and meetings. The Blue Zone is for the United Nations official sessions and the Green Zone is for Innovation and Civil Society.

Both areas will integrate these themes into their dialogues: youth, capacity building, forests and land degradation, resilience, energy, ocean, transport, cities & territories, gender, education, innovation, agriculture and finance.

COP22 provides an opportunity to present best practices, develop partnerships, and formulate proposals that advocate in favor of the climate. We look forward to hearing from the JPIC promoters who are able to participate in these important experiences.



The program of side events in the Green Zone will be published on the COP22 website.

For more information:

<http://www.cop22.ma/en/side-events>

<http://www.cop22.ma/es/side-events>

<http://www.cop22.ma/en>

<http://www.cop22.ma/es/cop22-una-omunicaci%C3%B3n-digital-eficiente>

Breathtaking light show at the Vatican “Illuminating Our Common Home”. <http://ourcommonhome.world>

NOVEMBER INTENTIONS OF POPE FRANCIS

Universal: Countries Receiving Refugees That the countries which take in a great number of displaced persons and refugees may find support for their efforts which show solidarity.

Evangelization: Collaboration of Priests and Laity That within parishes, priests and lay people may collaborate in service to the community without giving in to the temptation of discouragement.

A video on the intention becomes available the first Friday of the month. <http://apostleshipofprayer.org>

INTERNATIONAL DAYS OF OBSERVANCE

6 November: [International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict \(A/RES/56/4\)](#) “We must use all of the tools at our disposal, from dialogue and mediation to preventive diplomacy, to keep the unsustainable exploitation of natural resources from fueling and financing armed conflict and destabilizing the fragile foundations of peace.” (Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon)

10 November: [World Science Day for Peace and Development \(UNESCO 31 C/Resolution 20\)](#) Science will be essential to reach many of the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and, thus, to ensure a sustainable future.

16 November: [International Day for Tolerance \(UNESCO 28 C/Resolution 5.61; A/RES/51/95\)](#) Strengthens tolerance by fostering mutual understanding among cultures and people.

20 November: [Universal Children’s Day \(A/RES/836 IX\)](#) promotes and celebrates the rights of children.

25 November: [International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women \(A/RES/54/134\)](#) aim to raise public awareness and mobilizing people everywhere to bring about change that eliminates violence against women.

29 November: [International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People \(A/RES/32/40B\)](#) reaffirms the commitment to support just peace for the people of Israel and Palestine.

MEETINGS OF JPIC PROMOTERS

3 November: JPIC Promoters Spanish and Portuguese-- Violence, Root of all the Problems from 9 am to 12 pm at UISG

7 November: English Speaking CORE Group from 3 pm to 5 pm at the Fratelli

8 November: Anti-Trafficking WG (ATWG) 3 pm to 5 pm at the Fratelli

9 to 12 November: Formation Workshop at Casa per Ferie Enrico De Osso, Via Val Cannuta, 134 for more detailed information go to www.jpicroma.org

12 November: Welcoming of English and Spanish Promoters 9 am to lunch at 1:15 pm Promoters share best practices/Animation/How to Animate at Casa per Ferie Enrico De Osso, Via Val Cannuta, 134

17 November: Refugees and Migrants Working Group (RMWG) 3 pm to 5 pm at the Fratelli

18 November: Catholic Nonviolence Initiative (CNI) Webinar
<https://nonviolencejustpeace.net/>

18 November: Interreligious Pilgrimage to the Holy Door of St. Peter in reparation for the sins committed in the name of religion (Departure from Castel Sant'Angelo at 5 pm)

22 November: International Congregations of Religious at Food and Agriculture Organization (ICR at FAO) 3pm to 5pm at the Passionists

24 November: Collaboration WG 3pm to 5pm at UISG

25 November: Prayer-- Violence, the root of all the problems at 7-8 pm at San Marcello

28 November: JPIC Commission Meeting 9am to 12 pm at UISG

2 December: A conference--Dreaming a New Future for Women in the Church at 4pm at UISG (Translations in English and Spanish) Organized by the Collaboration Working Group

3 December: Workshop-- A Time for Fruitfulness and Mercy for Women and Men 9:30 am to 5 pm a Via Val Cannuta, 136 (Translations in English and Spanish) Organized by the Collaboration Working Group

27 January: An International Conference on Divestment from Fossil Fuels and Investment in Clean Energy at the Pontifical Lateran University, Rome. JPIC Commission of USG/UISG is one of the key conveners. (Translations in English and Spanish)



JPIC Promoters: Preparing the prayer for San Marcello about "Violence, the root of all the problems": Andrea Calvo, HSC, Raquel Diaz, CM nd Giovanna Monastero, ASM.

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