



Missionary Society of St Columban

聖高隆龐傳教會

General Council

21 January 2024

CA G2: CA F3: Principal Report – External Reviews – GA 2024

Dear RMU Leaders,

Greetings from the General Council !

I am pleased to inform you that the Principal Report concerning the external review of the Society and of its vocations programs has been completed by Dr. Carolyn Evans and her team, Think Evans Pty Ltd. Please forward that Report, which can be found in a separate attachment, to ordained members, lay missionaries, students and co-workers in your RMU.

This Principal Report seeks to address two of the six recommendations that emerged from the IRMU Meeting in Korea in March 2023.

To conduct a strategic, independent review of the Columban Society in the light of mission priorities (JPIC/ IRD, etc.) and to create a strategic plan of action based on the review.

To facilitate an independent review and assessment of the vocation programs based on internal and external data, trends, and other congregational plans with a view to creating a strategic plan based on the outcomes.

However, the Principal Report deals only with the first part of the above recommendations by seeking to provide ‘a reality check’ which might form the basis for strategic planning at the upcoming General Assembly.

During the next four months leading up to the General Assembly, GC and CLT ask that you encourage everyone in your RMU to read and prayerfully reflect on the Principal Report. We also hope that you will facilitate some opportunities for group reflection within your RMU – for example, in the dialogue circles that were set up six months ago; zoom sessions; one-day assembly.

Moreover, next month the General Assembly Preparatory Committee (GAPC) will host two virtual gatherings (20 February from 9am and from 5pm Hong Kong Time) to which all ordained members, lay missionaries, students and co-workers are invited to discuss the Principal Report. Details of these online meetings will be provided by the GAPC during the coming weeks.

It will be particularly important that participants of the General Assembly engage with their own RMU and with the international Society with regard to responses to this Principal Report during the next few months.

GC and CLT hope that this Principal Report will stimulate prayerful reflection and discussion on the Society and on its missionary endeavours before and during the General Assembly as we seek to discern together God's will for our ongoing participation in his mission.

Fraternally in Christ,

Jim Mulroy