



2023 VIRTUAL ASSEMBLY REPORT

ICMICA – MIIC PAX ROMANA

**INTERNATIONAL CATHOLIC MOVEMENT FOR INTELLECTUAL
AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**



WWW.ICMICA-MIIC.ORG

TABLE OF CONTENTS

01 INTRODUCTION OF THE 2023 VIRTUAL ASSEMBLY

02 VIRTUAL ASSEMBLY REPORT

OPENING SESSION

ELECTION OF THE CHAIRMAN AND
VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE ASSEMBLY

PRESENTATION OF THE REPORTS

PRESENTATION OF THE AGENDA OF
THE ASSEMBLY

03 APPENDIX 1: FINANCIAL REPORTS

04 APPENDIX 2: ADMISSION REQUEST FROM THE NEW CORRESPONDING MOVEMENTS

04 APPENDIX 3: VIRTUAL ASSEMBLY PROGRAMME

Prepared by:

Ana Maria Bidegain and Olive Maria HAJAMIHARISOA
ICMICA Council Members

INTRODUCTION OF THE 2023 VIRTUAL ASSEMBLY

The International Catholic Movement of Intellectual and Cultural Affairs (ICMICA MIIC - Pax Romana) is a worldwide community of Catholic intellectuals and Professionals from more than 60 countries committed to the spirituality of action - dedicated to the evangelization of the professional and intellectual milieu. Over the years, Pax Romana has remained faithful to its commitment to building a peaceful and just world. Pope Francis also calls us to build a synodal Church, to walk together as the People of God, to take up the proposal of the Second Vatican Council, and to continue reforming the church to be more effective in the world. His call requires us, the lay faithful, to rethink our commitments, our strategies, and our contributions both in the societies and spaces where we are inserted as well as our role within the Church as professional and intellectual lay movements.

In the process of exploring ways and effective responses to the global challenges, and strengthening our community, the International Council of ICMICA-MIIC Pax Romana has used various strategies, and a series of consultations (surveys, meetings, webinars, etc.). The four regions (Africa, Latin America, Asia, and Europe) conducted several consultations and virtual visits to learn more about the status and context of the national movements. The study session held in November 2022 consolidated all previous efforts and marked the beginning of the work to strengthen the existing Specialized Secretariats or create new ones if necessary.

Issues were discussed and commitments and experiences were shared through monthly webinars (January to May 2023) focused on specific topics such as human rights abuses, civil wars, conflicts, weakening democracies, poverty and hunger, migration and human trafficking, climate change and environmental crisis, as well as evangelization and formation and awareness of the new challenges of the movement and how it is being impacted by the changing times.

The technological developments and communication possibilities after the pandemic have opened up new opportunities for our movement to adopt a new approach as an international community. This Virtual Assembly was organized with the aims to:

- Respond to the call of Pope Francis to build a Synodal Church, renewing and strengthening the document elaborated in the first semester of 2022 and presenting to the synod secretariat and including it as a cornerstone of our fundamental options,
- Present the strategic orientation that will guide the immediate future of ICMICA - MIIC PAX ROMANA (2023 - 2025), emanating from the whole process initiated with the study session in November 2022 and the six webinars held in the first semester of 2023,
- Approve the policy already prepared in 2022, on the protection of children and vulnerable adults. The adoption of the same requires to be presented at an Assembly as it is a statutory document

- Approve the appointment of Engineer Olive Maria Hajamiharisoa as the new Secretary General, made by the International Council, given the resignation of the previous Secretary General.
- Endorse the new rules of procedure of the International Council.

With this framework and purpose, we convened a virtual extraordinary assembly, which took place on 24th June 2023.

With Deep Gratitude

We, the International Council of ICMICA, are most grateful to Ramon Ibeas and Mirena Romero for accepting to preside at the Assembly.

We also thank all the national movements, delegates, interpreters, and friends who participated in the Assembly and during its preparation.

We look forward to continuing the conversation in our upcoming online activities.

On behalf of the International Council, we hope that this report is helpful for you as we look ahead to the future of our movement.

Sincerely,

Ana Maria Bidegain

President

ICMICA-Pax Romana

Virtual Assembly Report

1. Opening Session

Ana Maria Bidegain, International President of ICMICA welcomed all delegates and participants.

Father Luis Maria Goikoetxea, the International Chaplain led the opening prayers.

2. Election of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Assembly

- Candidate for Chairperson of the Assembly: Ramon Ibeas from Basque country, proposed by Felix Grandez Moreno from Peru.
- Candidate for Vice Chairperson: Mirena Romero from Chile proposed by Leon Loukou Kangah from Cote d'Ivoire.

The Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Assembly were elected unanimously.

Ramon Ibeas took the presidency of the Assembly and thanked Ana Maria Bidegain.

3. Presentation of the Reports

President Ramon Ibeas opened the reports stage:

a. Resignation of the Secretary General of ICMICA PAX ROMANA, Mr. Philippe Ledouble.

The council representative Jules Zannou presented the resignation of Philippe Ledouble to the Assembly.

On April 23rd, 2022, Philippe Ledouble, the former Secretary General of ICMICA sent a written communication to the International President of ICMICA, Ana Maria Bidegain stating his desire to terminate his mission with ICMICA. He expressed his desire to move on to something else. He felt it is time to give the position to someone else. Due to this, the council appointed Olive Maria HAJAMIHARISOA from Madagascar to take the interim function until the Assembly. The council appreciated her work during the interim position and proposed her to the Assembly to be officially elected as the Secretary General of the movement.

Olive Maria introduced herself and expressed her desire to continue serving the organization.

KMCP (Kenya Movement of Catholic Professionals) Kenya and MCCP (Movement Chretien de Cadres et Professionels) Madagascar, Newman Association from The United Kingdom, Metanoia Portugal, and CAN (Community Action Network Malaysia) supported the move to elect Olive Maria as the Secretary-General.

b. Request for admission as correspondent members of ICMICA-MIIC Pax Romana by the community of FIU Florida Miami, MIIC Burundi, MCCG Gabon, ICMICA South Africa

Four movements presented their interests to be part of the global community of ICMICA Pax Romana. Their requests were validated by the International Council and were presented to the Assembly for Approval. The 04 movements are:

- Community of Florida International University (FIU) Miami,
- Mouvement International des Intellectuels Catholiques (MIIC) de Burundi,
- Mouvement des Cadres Catholiques de Gabon (MCCG) and
- International Catholic Movement for Intellectual and Cultural Affairs (ICMICA) South Africa.

Ana Maria welcomed the request to join the movement.

The requests from the new movements are shown in Appendix 2 of this report.

c. Integration of the Specialized Secretariats: Human Rights, History, Formation, and Communications

The International Council, through President Ana Maria, expressed their desire to strengthen the existing Specialized Secretariats (Human Rights) and to introduce new ones (History, Formation, and Communications). The intention is to work in an interdisciplinary way. Some groups have already started working such as the history, formation, and communication. For History, Sandra Milena Londono is the Coordinator of the group. For the group on formation, Latina America has started one after the training courses for advisers that are hoped to be expanded to other regions through the international office. Regarding communication, the International Council proposes the re-launch of Convergence magazine. Stefano Cecanti from Italy has accepted to lead the team communication.

d. Budgetary situation

Mr. Eneko Caballero, the ICMICA treasurer, presented the financial report for the years 2021-2022 (cf. appendix 1) and the financial projection for 2024 (cf. appendix 1).

4. Presentation of the Agenda of the Assembly

Chairman Ramon Ibeas opened the AGENDA stage and requested the Assembly to pass to the voting the agenda listed:

a. Presentation of the Internal rules of the International Council of Pax Romana ICMICA

The international council felt the need to have internal rules for the organization due to the following reasons:

- To ensure harmonious operation of the international secretariat and the council
- To help manage the donation made by the couple Helene and Lucien Morren together with the Association of Friends of MIIC Pax Romana. The management of the funds was vested to the association 'Friends of MIIC Pax Romana' in conjunction with ICMICA Council. The internal regulations aim to create a link between that association and ICMICA Pax Romana so that the funds can be properly managed.

The internal regulations are drafted with the framework of the Statute of ICMICA Pax Romana.

The Assembly unanimously approved the internal regulations.

The internal rules are attached to this report

b. Presentation of the draft of the strategic orientation for 2023 -2025

The representative of the council presented the draft of the orientation for 2023-2025. The draft was drawn from the last Assembly (2021) recommendations, the study session, and the series of webinars, which took place from January to June 2023.

The orientation comprises two thematic areas as detailed below:

Thematic 1: Evangelization, synodality, and formation

- a. Evangelization is the foundation of our existence as a movement, as lay Christians, ICMICA members are called to testify to their faith and know the word of God so that they can be the salt of the earth and light of the world.
- b. The contribution to building a synodal church is the central guideline of our movement from the lived experience in movement practices, and
- c. Ensuring the formation and continuous education of our members and new members is key.

To fulfill this mission, the following activities will be carried out:

1. Create a specific group for evangelization, spiritual and pastoral formation within ICMICA.
2. Reflect on new models of community that are more responsive to the needs of younger professionals but also reflective of the mission of Pax Romana.

3. Organize regular sessions to share the Social Teaching of the Church and document lived experiences.

4. Promote partnerships with other ecclesial and civil organizations to strengthen networks of reflection and action in specific fields such as public policies (health, education, employment), human rights, climate change and environmental action, peacebuilding, etc.".

Thematic 2: Movement Building

1. Support experience sharing in different fields (humanitarian, health, food) through the Specialized Secretariats.
2. Continue to organize online webinars and celebrations (e.g., Pentecost) for members.
3. Develop training programs for new/potential chaplains on our spirituality, mission, and tradition.
4. Develop a strategy for the extension of the movement, especially in North America and Asia.
5. Create a room for young professionals to take up leadership roles in the movement.
6. New membership development.
7. To strengthen the Specialized Secretariats to improve our presence in civil society and the church.
8. To relaunch "Convergence".

The Assembly unanimously approved the strategic orientation.

c. Presentation of Policy for the prevention and attention to cases of exploitation, abuse, or sexual harassment of minors or vulnerable populations

The policy was drafted in response to the call of the Holy Father Pope Francis, through the members of the Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors to the ecclesial movement to ensure that the situation of abuse is addressed and prevented.

The Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors shared tools with movements in 2018 requesting us to adopt an instrument that will support the protection of minors and vulnerable adults from abuse.

From March to August 2022, the ICMICA team collected several opinions from members aimed at coming up with the policy document. The document was drafted in consultation with other documents that have been approved by Episcopal Conferences. While drafting, the team made sure that the structure of the document is easy to understand.

All abuses against children and vulnerable adults must be reported to the council and actions should be taken locally according to the local regulations.

The Assembly unanimously approved the policy protecting children and vulnerable adults from abuse.

The document is attached to this report

d. Approval of the admission of the new correspondent movements

The Assembly unanimously approved the admission of the new correspondent movements

e. Approval of the new Specialized Secretariats

The Assembly unanimously approved the creation of new Specialized Secretariats (History, formation and evangelization, communication).

f. Election of the new Secretary General, Olive Maria HAJAMIHARISOA

Olive Maria HAJAMIHARISOA from Madagascar has been unanimously elected to be the Secretary-General by the Assembly.

5. Closing

Ramon Ibeas, on behalf of the movement, thanked all delegates and participants.

Ramon Ibeas formally closed the Assembly.

Father Luis Maria thanked the Participants and the Presidium (Ramon Ibeas and Mirena Romero) and led the closing prayer.

Appendix 1: Financial Reports

FIGURES IN EUROS

	2021	2022	TOTAL
GENEVA'S OFFICE LOCATION	16.432	15.964	32.396
OFFICE SUBRENT	(9.836)	(9.495)	(19.331)
NATIONAL MOUVEMENTS MEMBERSHIP FEES	14.183	4.400	18.584
INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES	2.909	626	3.536
DONATIONS	255	102	357
VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS FROM MEMBERS	96.914	83.274	180.188
INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT & INTERNATIONAL TEAMS MEETNG EXPENSES	1.092	3.844	4.935
WEB PAGE UPDATE AND MAINTENANCE EXPENSES	2.097	2.086	4.182

FIGURES IN USD

	2021	2022	TOTAL
GENEVA'S OFFICE LOCATION	14.447	18.263	32.710
OFFICE SUBRENT	(8.648)	(10.863)	(19.510)
NATIONAL MOUVEMENTS MEMBERSHIP FEES	12.470	5.034	17.504
INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES	2.558	717	3.274
DONATIONS	224	116	340
VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS FROM MEMBERS	85.207	95.266	180.473
INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT & INTERNATIONAL TEAMS MEETNG EXPENSES	960	4.397	5.357
WEB PAGE UPDATE AND MAINTENANCE EXPENSES	1.843	2.386	4.229

MEMBERSHIP FEES 2021-2022

	NUMBER OF FEDERATIONS	FEDERATION HAVING PAID	paid 2021	paid 2022	COLLECTED FEES 21/22	OVERALL FEES	Currency
AFRICA	12	1	1.297		1.297	5.600	USD
ASIA/PACIFIC	6	1	800		800	3.200	USD
EUROPE	22	11	9.950	4.200	14.150	22.400	EUR
LATIN AMERICA	8	6	2.200	1.400	3.600	4.000	USD
NORTH AMERICA	1	0			0	1.200	USD

EXPENSES JANUARY TO JUNE 2023

2023 Expenses	Amount UDS
Webinar Translation services	1,979
Website renewal expenses	1,650
Zoom services	80
Communications	360
Council & Assembly Rome Accommodation	2,000
Council & Assembly Rome tickets	7,500
Allowances (SG and assistants)	4,500
Others	2,100
Overall	20,169

BUDGETARY PROJECTION FOR 2024 IN EUROS

Item	Amount in Euro
Personnel costs	
Personnel costs (SG and assistant) for 12 months	12, 816.00
Webinar interpretation for 03 languages for 12 months	5,040.00
Audit cost	1,300.00
Subtotal	€ 19,156.00

Zoom meeting platform for 1 year	170.00
Subtotal	€ 170.00

Website Platform

Website hosting (annual fee)	170.00
Website redesigning	1,000.00
Subtotal	€ 1,170.00

Office & Storage

Office sub-rent in Geneva	600.00
Storage in La Roche	2,400.00
Subtotal	€ 3,000.00
TOTAL RUNNING COSTS	€ 23,496.00

Appendix 2: Requests from the new correspondent movements

FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY MIAMI

Miami, June 16, 2023

Dear Secretary General

International Movement of Catholic Intellectuals

Ref: Application for Affiliation to MIIC-Pax Romana

We are a group of professors and graduate students at FIU (Florida International University), a public university in Miami, Florida, USA. For the past nine years, we have been working on interdisciplinary academic and faith-based initiatives involving predominantly Latin America and the Caribbean. Among the projects undertaken are, on the one hand, LACIIR (Latin America and Caribbean Interdisciplinary Initiative on Religion), which works from interdisciplinary perspectives on education, research, and university extension projects on various religious expressions in the region. Of note in this trajectory is the development of various publications, theses, dissertations, and projects with local communities. DARLAC (Digital Archive of Religion in Latin America and the Caribbean) has become one of the most important projects of this initiative. The digitization of archives seeks to recover the memory of religious experiences in the region. With particular interest, this work has begun with the recovery of documents and testimonies that give an account of the experience of mobilization of the student and intellectual laity in Latin America and the Caribbean. In its work, DARLAC promotes academic work committed to writing a history of Latin American Catholicism and of the Latin American Catholic Church that includes new voices and perspectives.

Around this initiative, DARLAC has successfully convened the joint work of other universities, research centers, and socio-religious organizations in Latin America, North America, and Europe.

With special dedication, we are working on the collection donated by the Uran-Bidegain family, concerning the history of the student movements of JECI and MIEC-Pax Romana in Latin America.

In the development of these projects, which proactively synthesize the academic field and the experience of faith, a recognition of a common identity has been maturing among us that describes us as a community fully identified with mysticism, the vocation of service, and testimony of faith. The Community,' as we identify ourselves today, works in fact in the fields mentioned above, and in an attitude of Christian commitment to the local, regional, and world community. As part of this commitment, during the last four years, we have become part, in practice, of the work of Pax Romana. We have contributed to the strengthening of the Movement of Catholic Students MIEC in Latin America, participated in the recovery of the memory of apostolic and pastoral experiences in the framework of the celebration of the centenary of Pax Romana, and contributed to the Latin American and world sessions of MIIC.

This trajectory encourages us to request
Pedro Camacho

**MIIC MOVEMENT INTERNATIONAL DES
INTELLECTUELS DE BURUNDI**

Miami, June 16, 2023

Dear Secretary General
International Movement of Catholic Intellectuals

**Ref: Application for a validation of
corresponding membership of MIIC-Burundi**

Dear Secretary General

In the name of MIIC-Burundi, I have the honor of reiterating our commitment to serve the community and to be witnesses of Christ around us through the apostolate of an intellectual laity.

MIIC-Burundi, therefore, requests validation of its membership as a corresponding member of ICMICA-MIIC Pax Romana.

MIIC-Burundi has been at the service of God and the community for at least ten years and would still like to shine in the world of Catholic intellectuals and professionals. The movement has 60 members.

Thank you for your kind consideration of our wishes.

Hoping to meet again at the Spiritual Assembly on Saturday 24/6, 2023, please accept our fraternal greetings.

Sébastien Manirakiza
MIIC-Burundi Coordinator

**MOUVEMENT CHRÉTIEN DES CADRES
ET DIRIGEANTS DU GABON MCC
GABON**

**Ref: Request to become a corresponding
member.**

Dear Secretary General

I hereby request that the Mouvement Chrétien des Cadres et Dirigeants du Gabon (MCCG) become a corresponding member of MIIC PAX ROMANA, with which we have been working for nearly 5 years.

Our movement, which has existed in Gabon since 2010, brings together intellectuals and people from the public and private sectors who have responsibilities and want to live out their faith where they exercise their responsibilities.

Our mission is to help our members to act according to the Spirit of Christ wherever they are.

We have around fifty members in 3 dioceses in Gabon, which has 6.

In the hope of a favorable outcome.

In Prayer Union.

For the National Office of the MCC Gabon

The President
Idris Roméo EMANE

ICMICA SOUTH AFRICA

Ref: Request to be considered to be a corresponding member.

Dear Secretary General

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

South Africa is in the process of establishing ICMICA in the country. We have towards this end had a pre-launch colloquium in October 2022.

The group - through its organizing committee has established communication with the Bishops Conference who have given it in principle approval towards the establishment, pending the final approval, by the Bishop's conference. We meet monthly as an organizing committee and have also held two sessions on "The signs of the times" as part of our preparations for the local establishment of the movement.

In light of the above, we request to be admitted to be a corresponding member of ICMICA Pax Romana.

We trust that our above request will be seen in a favorable light.

Yours in Christ!

Sonja Martin

Obo SA Organising Committee



Appendix 3: Virtual Assembly Programme
" A Synodal Movement Toward a Synodal Church"

Time in GMT	Duration	Activities
14:00 - 14:05	05 min	Ana Maria Bidegain, President of ICMICA welcomes all delegates. Prayer: Father Luis Maria
14:05-14:10	05 min	Election of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Assembly.
14:10 -14:30	20 min	The President opened the REPORTS stage: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Resignation of the Secretary General of ICMICA PAX ROMANA, Mr. Philippe Ledouble. 2. Request for admission as members of the community of FIU Florida Miami, MIIC Burundi, MCCG Gabon, ICMICA South Africa. 3. Work of teams that will integrate Specialized Secretariats: Human Rights; History; Formation; Communications. 4. Budgetary situation
14:30 -15:50	80 min	The Chairman opened the AGENDA stage: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Rules of Procedure of the International Council 2. Strategic orientations of ICMICA PAX ROMANA for 2023-2025. 3. Policy for the prevention and attention to cases of exploitation, abuse, or sexual harassment of minors or vulnerable populations. 4. Nomination of the new Secretary General, Olive Maria HAJAMIHARISOA.
15:50 -15:55	05 min	Resolutions
15:55 -16:00	05 min	Vote of thanks from the President of the Assembly and closing prayer by Father Luis Maria.