



INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF CHRISTIAN FAMILY MOVEMENTS
CONFEDERACION INTERNACIONAL DE MOVIMIENTOS FAMILIARES CRISTIANOS
CONFEDERATION INTERNACIONAL DES MOUVEMENTS DES FAMILLES CHRETIENNES
CONFEDERAZIONE INTERNAZIONALE DEI MOVIMENTI DELLE FAMIGLIE CRISTIANE



ICCFM PRESIDENT COUPLE REPORT ON PERFORMANCE FOR PERIOD 2007-2010 Panama, August 30, 2010

Dear friends and brethren:

Three years ago, we accepted the challenge of coordinating the world-wide work of the ICCFM. We did it in a humble spirit, with great joy and full of hopes, but also with a certain amount of fear because of the great responsibility we were undertaking. We had many expectations, a great desire to work and many plans in our minds. We thought that the great distances and the language would not be obstacles to carry out our work when we have all these modern methods of communication and above all, with our confidence placed in the Lord and His great love for the family and the work which He entrusted to us. So, from the beginning, we organized ourselves with a local Executive Committee and tried to establish communication links with the governing bodies of each Continent in order to achieve an organized effort.

We admit that it has not been easy; but in spite of the difficulties encountered in obtaining replies to our communications and the financial limitations of the World Team, we feel very close to all of you, in this joint task of evangelizing the family at a world level and happy with the organization of the great event which today brings us together.

We know that many people come for the first time to these events and it is necessary that they become aware of the manner in which the Confederation works, because only in this way will they feel a part of it and mutually committed. The Confederation is an organization which assembles Christian Family Movements and other organizations complying with the requisites established in its By-Laws. Its members can be of Full rights, Associates or Collaborators.

Each Continent should have an organizational structure grouping all the countries which are part of it, in order to facilitate communication, the interchange of experiences and work instruments as well as education. Every three or four years, the countries which make up this structure, elect a couple, who must select an executive committee to coordinate the work of that Continent. Each Continent is autonomous, functions in accordance with its own needs, but taking into account the By-Laws and Rules of the Confederation which must be complied with by all its members.

However, we have the impression that not always the Continental President Couples and their work teams know these By-Laws and Rules of the Confederation, which makes it difficult for them to comply with the requirements of this organization. We are going to deliver to each Continental President Couple a copy of these important documents with the request that they multiply them, so that every country has copies, and know and apply them.

Also that this documentation should become an important part of the files which are transmitted to the next President Couple at every level.

We wish to make a special recognition to the ex-World President Couple, Nop and Elma Muangkroot, for their great support in replying promptly to all our communications. We had agreed from the beginning that, due to the great distances and the small financial resources of the ICCFM, we would take care of North America, Canada and Latin America and they would do the same for Europe and Asia. Thank you Elma and Nop. At some moment we had the hope of being able to participate in the Continental

Encounters, particularly those with which we were less familiar. We know the great richness represented by the possibility of sharing experiences with so many families which identify themselves with the great dream of making a better world each day. Sadly, it was only an illusion; the finances were not enough to make it possible.

Thank you also to Latin America, Portugal, Thailand, the Philippines, Hungary, Malta and lately Spain, for their contributions which will be reflected in the Financial Report for these three years.

We will now present to you a very brief report of the events to which we were invited as President Couple of a world organization and to which we could take the presence of the ICCFM during these three years.

- **San Salvador, El Salvador, November 2007. XXIII Latin American General Assembly (AGLA).** A very important event in the life of the CFM in this Continent which assembles all the President Couples and Chaplains of the countries where the CFM is active and the Executive Committee for Latin American (SPLA). This Assembly has the responsibility of coordination of the Continental CFM. At the Assembly's request, we acted as Coordinators of the Assembly.
- **San Antonio, Texas, July 2008. National Convention of USA MFCC.** A beautiful and formative event with a large participation of Christian Families members of the organization. We took advantage of the opportunity to meet with members of the ICCFM Executive Committee who were present in the event to discuss the Tentative Work Plan for the Goa Encounter. We exchanged ideas, hopes and expectations.
- **Cartago, Costa Rica, October 2008. Latin American Day of the CFM and 50th Anniversary of CFM in that country.** A different celebration, centered around an Artisans' Fair promoting national products. A lovely reunion of CFM members, their families and visitors. Recognition was made to outstanding CFM members.
- **Mexico, Mexico, January 2009. VI World Family Encounter.** We were invited by the Vatican and participated in the event where we made a small presentation as part of a Panel. We wish to point out that we have received a very nice welcome from the Papal Nuncio in our country, facilitating our communication with the Vatican.
- **Toronto, Canada, July 2009.** We took advantage of the vacation trip to Canada of Cyril and Carmen D'Sousa, President Couple for India, to meet with them and the Continental President Couple for USA and Canada, who are members of the ICCFM Executive Committee, to work on the Program of this XI World ICCFM Encounter in Goa. We also visited the Coordinators of the CFM in Hamilton and their work team.
- **Queretaro, Mexico, October-November 2009. XIV Latin American Encounter (ELA) and XXIV Latin American General Assembly (AGLA).** The Encounter was a very large event with participation of most of the countries where the CFM is present and based its formative work and reflections on the very important Document of Aparecida, product of the V Conference of the Latin American Episcopate: "The Family, committed with the Church, Nature and Society in the light of Aparecida". In the AGLA, among many important subjects which were debated, were elected as the new Continental President Couple, Luis Carlos and Martha Pinilla of Bucaramanga, Colombia, for the next four years. We invited them to participate in the XI World Encounter in Goa.
- **Los Angeles, CA, USA, January 2010. Annual Recognition to the CFM Chaplains.** A very significant event in which the CFM recognizes and shows its appreciation for the work and support of the ecclesiastic Chaplains.
We used the opportunity to meet with the CFM President Couple, Wilbur and Juanita Hooker and their work team: a group of young and dynamic couples with great enthusiasm in the work for the families.
- **Juárez, Mexico, April-May 2010. National Assembly.** The organization of the CFM in this country and their work of evangelization is really impressive. New National President Couple, Ricardo and

Lucy Araujo of Monterrey were sworn in. We met with them and with Jorge and Rosy Carrillo, ex-Latin American President Couple and candidates for the ICCFM World President Couple's position, to discuss the support given by Mexico to the Mexican CFM members residing in the USA and the convenience of forming their leaders so that they may operate without intervention from the CFM of Mexico.

We greatly appreciate the excellent communication and solidarity of the Christian Family Movement in the

United States: The MFCC coordinated by Juan and Teresa Rodríguez, the MFC of Los Angeles coordinated by Wilbur and Juanita Hooker and the ICCFM previously coordinated by John and Lauri Przybsz and now by Bob and Anne Tomonto, who accepted the suggestion made by the Muangkroot when they were World Presidents to the effect that each country should contribute to ICCFM a dollar (\$1.00) per annum, for each of its members, and punctually effected their contributions. Thank you Gary and Kay, Continental President Couple for North America and Canada and Candidates for the ICCFM World President Couple's position

We are aware of the fact that participation in international events is becoming more and more difficult every day, due to the high cost of air travel and the accompanying expenses which they involve. However, it is imperative for each country to organize itself and be conscious of the fact that the CFM will grow as much as each one of its members feels as part of it and becomes responsible therefore, not only financially which is very important, but also with respect to all the work demanded by an evangelizing and missionary movement.

We are convinced that nothing occurs by chance. All of us here have been chosen by the Lord to help His Kingdom grow and we are all aware that we are living in very difficult times, in which everything seems to work against the Church and the Family. But do not forget that we are not alone. We are simple instruments of the Lord and He will guide our work. To be His followers presupposes a different optic of life, in which to have success and richness does not consist in becoming winners and accumulators, but rather in serving others and sharing with them.

Friends and brethren in the Lord. Blessed is He who takes us into account to serve Him! Let us joyfully accept his call to work for our dear CFM and let us do it as stated in (traducer) Philippians 4, 4-7: "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

We deeply thank from the bottom of our hearts, the National President Couple of the CFM in this country, Cyril and Carmen D'Sousa, for their generosity and responsibility in accepting the challenge of being the hosts for this event. For them and their work team, we request a strong applause. May the Lord fill them with His blessings for their sacrifices and dedication.

To all the members of the different Movements or organizations present in this event, to all members of our local Executive Committee, our sincere gratitude for your support, solidarity and love.

We love you very much. God Bless all of you and your families!
William and Esilda Cheng.