



## Fatima 2008

Dear friends,

Warmest greetings from the new Executive Council of World CLC!

About one month ago, we concluded with deep gratitude and joy the XV CLC General Assembly in Fátima. Meanwhile, the delegates of 59 affiliated and seven observer communities have started to share with you about the graces received, the process lived during our ten days meeting... and the many mages in the hearts, minds and memories of all of us who could live this assembly together. The Fátima website [www.fatima208.org](http://www.fatima208.org) will continue to be online and invites you to catch a bit of the colours, the taste and the "Spirit" of Fátima!

A General Assembly is somehow a pause in the pilgrimage of our world community: the delegates have gathered in the name of their journeying national communities, to take stock of the journey, to rest and to become fully aware of grace, and to gather strength to resume the journey. For us in Fátima, this metaphorical 'pause' comprised three sequential experiences:

The **first** experience (Days 1, 2 and 3) consisted in settling into Fatima's restful atmosphere under the loving gaze of God, exchanging stories about the journeys undertaken by the national communities between Nairobi and Fatima, and finally exploring the broader 'landscapes' outside CLC as well as within us – our inner dispositions, attitudes, desires and hopes.

The **second** experience (Days 4 and 5) consisted in an application of Open Space methodology to draw the World Community's attention, in hope, to the opportunities and possibilities lying before it. With the help of Open Space we were able to generate ideas, initiatives, challenges and commitments that could deepen the World Community's character as a journeying, apostolic body.

The **third** experience (Days 7, 8, 9 and 10) was the time to help the World Community, regions and national communities to prepare to resume our common journey as an apostolic body, in ways that are practical, realistic, consistent with the election in Nairobi to be a lay apostolic body that shares responsibility for mission in the Church, and with our community's General Principles. This process concluded with the approval of the Assembly's recommendations and the election of new Executive Council:

President	Daniela Frank (Germany)
Vice-President	Chris Micallef (Malta)
Secretary	Lois Campbell (USA)
Consultors	Mauricio López (Mexico)
	Edel Churu (Kenya)
	Chris Hogan (Australia)
	Rita El Ramy (Lebanon)
	Fr. Adolfo Nicolás SJ
Ecclesiastical Assistant	Fr. Alberto Brito SJ
Vice-Ecclesiastical Assistant	Guy Maginzi
Executive Secretary	

In our final Eucharist not only the new ExCo, but all the delegates were sent on mission... as now it is the time to continue our pilgrimage, strengthened by the graces received and by the deep experience of being one world apostolic body. Now it's time to implement what we have lived and decided together as world community.

With this *Projects*, we want to share with all of you the Final Document of our Fátima assembly. As we did after the Nairobi assembly, we would like to invite again the "preparation teams" formed in the different national communities, to continue as "implementation teams" to support the groups to discern together the next steps to be taken to be faithful to the graces received in Fátima. The next Supplement of Progressio will offer a complete documentation of our assembly to help us so that "all members of the World Community (may) 'store up all these things in their hearts' (Lk 2,51), that we might live more deeply and act more effectively as an apostolic body journeying with the poor and humble Christ through human history, and become ever more closely identified with his mission (GP 8)." (Final document 4.2.)

The newly elected ExCo will meet between February 12 and 22, 2009 in Rome for our first meeting. Please accompany us in your prayers, so that we will be able to fulfil the mandate entrusted to us by the world community!

United in our Lord

For the World Executive Council

Daniela Frank  
President