

8th PLENARY MEETING OF CAP-ESW
Makati, MM, Philippines, February 5 – 12, 2012

F I N A L M E S S A G E

The 8th Plenary Meeting of the Society of St. Paul's CAP-ESW Group was held at the Provincial House of the Society of St. Paul, Makati City, Metro Manila, Philippines, from 5 to 12 February 2012. Participating in the meeting were the Major Superiors and Directors General of Apostolate of five of the seven circumscriptions of CAP-ESW. The Superior General, Fr Silvio Sassi, was present along with the Vicar General, Fr Celso Godilano, and Fr Ciro Monroy, General Councilor and President of CTIA. General Councilors, Fr Salud Paredes and Br Blaise Thadathil, who are in the Philippines for a verification visit, were also in attendance. The participants gratefully acknowledge the warm welcome and the wonderful hospitality provided by the Provincial and members of the Philippine-Macau Province.

In his Opening Address, Fr Silvio Sassi spoke of the importance of organization. This has become even more necessary in the era of information technologies. He spoke of the need to rewrite the Statutes of the continental groups, such as CAP-ESW, to organise better the apostolic activities, and also to integrate into the project the work of formation. The review of the Statue of CAP-ESW was a major task that was taken up and completed by the meeting.

In the area of apostolate, proposals were approved to stimulate greater collaboration in the biblical apostolate as part of a coordinated Bible Project of the Congregation (*Cf, Operative line 1.2.2. of the 9th General Chapter*). Various proposals for increasing collaboration in the three phases of the apostolate – editorial, technical and diffusion – were agreed upon.

In the area of vocation promotion and formation, it was agreed to conduct an English language charism course of 21-28 days duration in Rome and Alba after Easter in 2013. The course is intended principally, though not exclusively, for members of the Society of St Paul who have been perpetually professed for about ten years. A minimum of fifteen participants will be required for the course to go ahead. As well, it is proposed to have a 2-3 month program of preparation for perpetual profession for the CAP-ESW Region, also commencing in 2013.

Conscious that we are in the first year of the Triennium of preparation for the centenary of the birth of the Pauline charism, participants informed one another of projects already underway and projects planned for the lead-up to the centenary. A

collaborative project to be explored is the publication, in both print and electronic form, of the story of Blessed James Alberione and the unfolding of the Pauline charism. Bible diaries, already being planned for 2014, will highlight the centenary.

The CAP-ESW Region covers very different linguistic and cultural backgrounds and varying economic and social situations. But, as Fr Sassi noted at the end of the proceedings, this meeting will be remembered both for the outcome of the deliberations and for the sense of community we experienced as participants, a reminder of our oneness in embracing the same Pauline ideal handed on to us by our charismatic founder, Blessed James Alberione. It is this sense of unity that inspires us to continue to seek ways of collaborating in formation and apostolate, for the enrichment of the Pauline life and mission in each of the circumscriptions of CAP-ESW.

(Sgd) Fr Jose Aripio
CAP-ESW President

(Sgd) Fr Michael Goonan
CAP-ESW Executive Secretary