

USCMA 2003 Resolution A Mission Response to Globalization

Let it be resolved that:

As missionaries we re-commit ourselves to examining the ways in which we do mission in today's interconnected globalized world. In doing so, we seek to develop missionary responses appropriate not only to the new areas of mission (Mega cities, youth, migrants and refugees, mass media, and areas such as justice and peace, and care for the environment) raised in Pope John Paul II's mission document, *Redemptoris Missio* (RM), but to do so in a manner that engages the process of globalization with the truth of the Gospel message.

Rationale:

It is appropriate for us as Catholic missionaries, who have been called to live in the world as witnesses of Christ's love and teachings to continue our reflection upon our understanding of Mission. At *Mission Congress 2000* in Chicago, we were presented with a wholistic vision of mission. As an Association we have examined several elements of mission in greater detail in the following years. These examinations have led each of us to a deeper level of awareness which has challenging us to examine our missionary structures and activities.

However, as missionaries we need to be aware not only of the nature and form of our calling, but the context in which we are called to live out our response. The context for mission today is an intensified arena of global interconnectivity. Like all members of the Church in the United States, we need to seek ways to engage in the process of globalization which are constructive and supportive of the common good. Yet, as missionaries our positions and experiences also provide us with the additional responsibility of giving voice to people from those parts of the world that usually are not heard on a global scale.

Call for Specific Actions:

We commit ourselves to:

- 1) A "quality of being" that is rooted in charity. We are reminded of Pope John Paul II's words that challenge us to let charity be "the sole criterion for judging what is to be done or not done, changed or not changed." (RM 60)
- 2) Examining and evaluating our current missionary structures and responses in light of each of the key elements of mission as highlighted at Mission Congress 2000, and subsequent USCMA annual conferences. (Proclamation, Interreligious Dialogue, Social Transformation (Human Promotion), Witness, Peace and Justice, and Reconciliation)
- 3) Examining and evaluating our missionary structures, so that, we can re-design structures that ensure our constructive engagement with the architects and forces building this new globalized world. As missionaries we realize it is our calling to provide an ethical compass that orients the process of globalization toward a more humane, sustainable, peaceful globalization.¹

¹ Vittorio Falsina