



ORDO FRANCISCANUS SAECULARIS

Consilium Internationale

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Circ. N. 3/14-20

Prot. N. 2712/14-20

Rome, February 2, 2015

Feast of the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple

To all National ministers

To all National councils

To all International councilors

To all the members of the Secular Franciscan Order all over the world

My dear Sisters and Brothers!

May the Lord give you his peace!

Not much time has passed since the XIV General and VI Elective Chapter of the Secular Franciscan Order, celebrated in Assisi, on November 1 – 9 – 2014. I am sure that we all keep good memories and profound experiences specially from the fraternal spirit we shared there. We could live this event in a fraternal spirit, that enriched all of us.

With great joy I send you the closing document of the General Chapter. This is the conclusion of the great work of each and every member of the Chapter. And at this point, I would like to give my personal appreciation to the members of the commission, who have worked very hard on completing this document: María Consuelo Núñez (Venezuela), Marion Clorey (Canada), Mary Stronach (USA), Hendro Setiawan (Indonesia) and Fr. Amando Trujillo-Cano TOR General Spiritual Assistant.

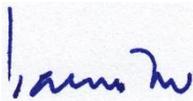
This document includes the priorities of the Order for the next six years. I invite you to conform our formation and action plans so that these priorities will characterize the life of the Order. Our Order has both its charisma and its institution, and these two are inseparable. While we always aspire to the holiness and to deepen the Franciscan spirituality in our fraternities, we have to keep in mind also that we have a structure that has to be managed.

The presentations on the main topic of the chapter "*How to manage and international order like OFS*", and the Conclusion document as well, will be the basis for the study and reflection, and for proposing alternatives, if any, on the guidance and animation of the OFS. Now we open a general dialogue involving each and every sister and brother all over the world. The Presidency will set up a timetable for the work, establishing the dates for returning the reflections. I kindly ask you to follow these instructions and keep the dates, that will be sent out in April this year.

The work we are undertaking now will be the framework of our formation for the next three years, preparing ourselves for a final discussion at our General Chapter 2017, hoping it may also renew our way of thinking.

May our holy heavenly patrons, St. Francis, St. Elisabeth of Hungary and St. Louis help us in letting the light of God guide us.

Your brother and minister



Tibor Kauser



Minister General OFS