

Guideline for Country/Diocesan Reports for the VII AsIPA General Assembly

* Kindly send this report to AsIPA desk (asipa.fabc@gmail.com) by September 20th, 2015. Please note that if the national team for SCCs exists and several diocesan teams' representatives will be joining the VII GA, we request that a national coordinator takes responsibility for collecting all diocesan reports and send them together along with the national report to AsIPA Desk.

* Kindly prepare the following on a maximum of four A4 pages for submission. It will be shared during the programme of the VII AsIPA GA. Thank you for your cooperation and solidarity in Christ.

Background

The Role and Mission of the Laity comes under scrutiny again as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Second Vatican Council.

The FABC Fifth Plenary Assembly in Bandung, Indonesia in 1990 which was responsible for the new beginning of BECs/SCCs in Asia took place 25 years ago.

AsIPA as a team, as a methodology, as a way of building communion, now celebrates 20 years since the first AsIPA General Assembly in 1996.

In these regards, we hope the VII AsIPA General Assembly can be a platform to look back on, reflect and evaluate the implementation of the vision of the Church in Asia particularly, focusing on BECs/SCCs. We also expect that the VII GA can contribute to strengthen us and BECs/SCCs to move forward towards periphery in "the Joy of the Gospel fills the hearts and lives of all who encounter Jesus" (EG 1.).

Part One – General Figure

1. How many SCCs have you in your country/diocese?
2. Do you have a national team for SCCs? If yes, give its date of establishment, the size of the team, composition (How many priests, Sisters and Laity) and main activities.
3. Give us some information on how the national/diocesan team tries to empower regional/diocesan/parish teams.
4. Give information on how the national/diocesan team has maintained networking with regional/diocesan/parish teams.
5. What are some of the significant areas of growth in SCC formation in the last one year in your country/region/diocese and your areas of focus for the next one year?

Part Two – Reflecting and Evaluation on SCCs (for presenting to the VII GA)

We have spoken about the 50th anniversary of Vatican II and the Bandung Statement. How have SCCs been a way to implement the vision of the Church?

1. How have SCCs been a “starting point”; “seed-bed”; “launching pad” and nurturer of the laity and the whole Church for Communion and Mission?
2. What have been some of the fruits of the SCCs in relation to laity and their participation in the mission of Christ and their growth in the Word?
3. What have been some of the pains – the challenges, major obstacles to developing and sustaining SCCs which can activate laity in the mission of Christ and the Church?
4. In relation to the theme of the VII AsIPA General Assembly, ‘SCCs/BECs Living with People of Different Faiths and Beliefs’, can you provide a few stories of inter-religious dialogue that take place in SCCs and among their neighbours? (Inter-religious dialogue here is referring to the everyday dialogue of life as well as the intentional dialogue on faiths and beliefs between people of different faiths. Inter-religious dialogue at the official level or academic levels is not included here.)

Part Three - Preparation for the VII General Assembly

1. What are your expectations of the VII AsIPA General Assembly as a team?
2. Kindly bring some photos on SCCs at national/regional/diocesan/parish levels and local materials (books, booklet, Newsletter, CDs etc.) to display during the GA.

[Recommendation]

Read again the Final Statement of FABC Fifth Plenary Assembly – Bandung, Indonesia 1990.

As preparation for the VII AsIPA General Assembly, it may be helpful to take a moment to refresh our minds on the dreams of the Bishops gathered in Bandung, Indonesia in 1990 who began the whole project of SCCs and who saw the vision of the “Communion of Communities”. Let us re-read the final statement of that FABC fifth Plenary Assembly and ask ourselves if our dreams have been fulfilled and what still needs to be done.

*The statement is attached.

Report for the VII AsIPA General Assembly

22th (Thur.) to 28th (Wed.) October 2015
Bann Phu Waan Pastoral Training Center, Bangkok, Thailand

Country: _____

Diocese: _____

Reporter: _____

FABC-OLE/ASIPA