



# MISSIONARI OBLATI DI MARIA IMMACOLATA

37<sup>TH</sup> GENERAL CHAPTER \*\*\* 37<sup>E</sup> CHAPITRE GÉNÉRAL  
37° CAPÍTULO GENERAL

[capitolo2022@omigen.org](mailto:capitolo2022@omigen.org)

November 11, 2021

## *Pilgrims of Hope, in Communion*

Dear Presidents of OMI Regions and Superiors of Provinces, Delegations and Missions,

We have arrived at the one-year mark before the start of our 37<sup>th</sup> General Chapter by way of the pandemic. We trust that the solitude and silence of this period have afforded us time for prayer and reflection, time to listen to what the Spirit might be saying to us, and time for greater awareness of what is happening in our world.

Each one of us has his own way of describing and judging the context in which we live and in which our Chapter will soon take place. Several realities mark the context of our General Chapter: on the positive side, the growth of our Congregation in many parts of the world, the wealth of information concerning our charism and traditions, a new awakening among our laypeople who desire to be part of our family. At the same time, many ills run rampant around our globe.

The Oblates are called to be in communion with one another and offer signs of hope in and through the living out of our charism and mission.

With the convocation of our 37<sup>th</sup> General Chapter, we want to prepare the Congregation, making all of us aware of this crucial moment in our Oblate history and thus allowing each Oblate to contribute to its success. The Pre-Chapter Commission and the Central Government have already been at work trying to solicit such engagement. Today we enlist your cooperation with some further groundwork that will help with the work of the Chapter.

### **REPORTS:**

The reports from the Regions and Units on their present and future status are of utmost significance for the Chapter.

Together with the Report of the Superior General, your reports are essential to the Chapter's business and add to the spirit of the Chapter and the directions to be determined. This contribution of significant data will allow the Chapter to draw out its agenda, process, and priorities.

### **CONTENTS OF THE REPORTS:**

**NB:** *The following instructions refer to the first two parts of the report. Each Unit superior will submit these reports to the President of the Region as outlined below. The President will synthesize the reports from the Units of the Region and incorporate them into a Regional Report to the General Chapter. The reports from the Unit Superiors will not include Part III as outlined below.*

*To facilitate comparisons and unity of structure, each writer of a Unit report is asked to provide a brief response to a statistical report on the form included with this letter. The responses should be attached to the report and will not be considered if there is more than a three-page response.*

**Part I:** The Unit Superior will submit a short description of the context (social, cultural, political, and ecclesial) of their Unit. These will be sent to the Chapter Commissioner and the Regional President. The Regional President will make a synthesis of the context of the entire Region. The synthesis will be posted by the Pre-Chapter Commission on the General Chapter webpage: [www.omiworld.org](http://www.omiworld.org)

**Part II:** Keeping in mind the theme of the 2022 Chapter, *Pilgrims of Hope in Communion*, the Unit Superiors will prepare a short written report (up to three pages) which includes the following:

- Since the 2016 Chapter, and concerning its calls and directions, what have we accomplished, and what do we still need to do? (Mission and the New faces of the Poor, Mission with Youth, Formation for Mission, Mission and Interculturality, Mission and Social Media, Mission and Finances)
- Describe your Unit following these two main headings:
  - **Pilgrims of Hope:** Renewed by the action of the Holy Spirit, what path must the Congregation and your Unit take - as we listen carefully to those close to us, thus able to offer Signs of Hope to society and the world?
  - **In Communion:** As we journey together in Communion, sent on Mission, what will be the signs that we are engaged in a discernment process that leads to the renewal of our communal life for the sake of a fruitful mission?
- What are the main issues which your Unit wants to bring to the attention of the General Chapter?
- Anything else you may wish to add:
  - √ Parts I and II of the Reports will be forwarded in one of the three official languages of the Congregation (French, English, Spanish) to the Chapter Commissioner and the Regional President by the Units no later than March 1, 2022.
  - √ The Regional Presidents will see that a synthesis (not merely a compilation) of these reports is made and forwarded to the Chapter Commissioner in one of the three official languages (French, English, Spanish). This synthesis should be sent to the Chapter Commissioner by April 20, 2022. The Commission will see that they are translated into the two other languages.
  - √ These syntheses of the Regional Reports will be sent to the Capitulars by June 14, 2022.

**Part III:** During the first days of the General Chapter, representatives from each Region will have time to offer observations on their report to the assembled Capitulars and invite questions and comments. The Region may create a brief audio/visual or PowerPoint presentation to be used at this time. There

will be 20 minutes for this presentation, followed by a process of reflection and discussion. We need to remember that the Capitulars will have already seen Parts I and II.

We also suggest that the Capitulars bring with them stories from their Units along with artifacts, brochures, and pictures that illustrate the life and ministry of their Regions and Units.

**ANIMATION INSTRUMENTS:**

In February, we will send you some documents that will help you and the members of your Units to prepare for the Chapter. Of course, not every Oblate can be present in Nemi when the Chapter begins. Nevertheless, it's been a long-standing tradition that all the Oblates will participate in the preparatory process as they reflect on the Chapter Theme and pray for the Chapter's success.

With this letter, we also invite all Oblates to continue making suggestions or sharing concerns or specific proposals that might be treated at the General Chapter. Communities or individuals may forward their concerns or proposals to their Provincial, Delegation/Mission Superior, or even the Pre-Chapter Commission at [www.omiworld.org](http://www.omiworld.org)

We ask that you pass this invitation to all the members of your Unit so that each Oblate can have a part in suggesting ideas to the Chapter as requested by canon law. We also hope that you will make the animation tools and Chapter Prayer available to the Oblates of your Unit so that we all might enter "the spirit of the Chapter".

**GRATITUDE IN UNITY OF PRAYER:**

The Pre-capitular Commission understands that you are extremely busy with many concerns in community life and mission. Therefore, we are most grateful to you for the extra efforts you are making in preparation for the 37<sup>th</sup> General Chapter.

In thanksgiving and with a promise of prayers,  
Fraternally in Christ Jesus and Mary Immaculate,



Thomas Ovalle, OMI  
Commissioner

Pre-Capitular Commission:

Louis Lougen, OMI	Superior General
Thomas Ovalle, OMI	Commissioner
Alberto Gnemmi, OMI	Commission Member
Constant Kienge-Kienge, OMI	Commission Member
Arun William Rozario, OMI	Secretary

## STATISTICS FOR UNIT REPORT FOR 2022 GENERAL CHAPTER

UNIT NAME:

DATE:

SUPERIOR'S NAME:

**MEMBERS:** *(Numbers only for this Unit. Delegations and Missions will have their own reports.)*

Priests:  Brothers in perpetual vows:  Brothers in temporary vows:

Scholastics in perpetual vows:  Scholastics in temporary vows:

Novices:  Pre-novices:

**FORMATION HOUSES WITHIN THE UNIT:**

Pre-novitiates/Juniorates:  Number of OMI formators:

Novitiate:  Number of OMI formators:

Scholasticates/Post-novitiates:  Number of OMI formators:

NUMBER OF OBLATES IN FULL-TIME VOCATION MINISTRY:

NUMBER OF RETREAT CENTERS/SHRINES UNDER THE UNIT'S CARE:

NUMBER OF OBLATES IN FULL-TIME PREACHING MINISTRIES:

NUMBER OF PARISHES UNDER THE UNIT'S CARE:

NUMBER OF OBLATES IN PARISH MINISTRY:

NUMBER OF OBLATES IN EDUCATION (secondary or higher):

NUMBER OF OBLATES IN YOUTH MINISTRY:

NUMBER OF OBLATES IN MEDIA MINISTRY:

NUMBER OF OBLATES IN ECUMENICAL AND/OR INTERRELIGIOUS DIALOGUE:

NUMBER OF OBLATES IN JUSTICE/PEACE/INTEGRITY OF CREATION MINISTRY:

NUMBER OF ACTIVE OBLATE LAY ASSOCIATES:

**OTHER SPECIALIZED MINISTRIES:**

Attach the completed report to Parts I & II of your Unit report and e-mail them to the Chapter Commission ([capitolo2022@omigen.org](mailto:capitolo2022@omigen.org)) and to the Regional President.