



**International Confederation
Society of Saint Vincent de Paul
Council General International**

MORAL REPORT 2021
PRESIDENT GENERAL INTERNATIONAL
International Thematic Year of Jules Devaux

FOREWORD

In **2021**, although still suffering from the harmful effects of the widespread health, social and economic crisis, caused by the pandemic, thank God, the Society continued its commitment to its charitable and humanitarian work, in a Christian spirit, throughout the world.

Covering 153 countries it is a wonderful witness to Christ for those most in need and struggling, whom we serve and assist both materially and spiritually.

This work would not be possible without our 800,000 Vincentian active members, and we also have nearly 1.5 million associates who come to the aid of over 30 million people every year. We constantly seek opportunities to expand the Society into new regions, despite the exceptional circumstances both locally and globally in managing this situation.

To make this **MORAL REPORT** easier to read, we will highlight below the main achievements for each of the Council General's strategic goals.

Administration

- 5 Board meetings.
- Publishing of the "Safeguarding Protocol for Children and Vulnerable Adults".
- CGI Annual Meeting 2021 in Madrid, Spain, in September.
- "Terms of Reference" of all Structure positions, duly updated.
- Review of the Strategic Planning.
- Creation of the Governance Department and drafting of proposed Governance Framework.
- Ombudsman General lots of activities
- 2 new staff members to strengthen the team
- Beginning of RISK MANAGEMENT studies.
- Preparation for the CGI International Head Office official inauguration.
- Notre Dame de Paris Ceremony with head of the French Government for the reconstruction.

Communication

- Declaration against euthanasia and on ending nuclear weapons.
- Talk Show (2).
- Various TV interviews and podcasts.
- Ozanam Network Magazine (3 issues).
- President General's Christmas message.
- Website updated weekly.

Institutional

- Brother Renato Lima received the "Title of Citizenship" in Taubaté, Brazil.
- Solemn Session of the Vincentians Day in Brasilia, Brazil.
- MISEVI Agreement, signed in Madrid, Spain, in September.
- Medal "Charity in Hope" given for the Aid to the Church in Need (ACN), in Madrid, Spain, in September.
- Visit of Father Motto to Brasilia.
- Order of Malta France meeting and discussion for partnership agreement.

Structure

- Countries visited (7): Gibraltar, Mexico, Spain, Brazil, Portugal, France, and Paraguay
- The ITVPs held two virtual meetings and lots of online trainings.
- SSVF Plus: new country (Cape Verde)
- Launching of the "Manual SSVF PLUS", written by brother Julio Cesar Lima, manager of the project.

Relations with the Vatican

- Attendance in many events - in person and virtual – about refugees, migrants, children, etc.
- President General International, brother Renato Lima de Oliveira, was appointed by Pope Francis, as member of the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development (former "Cor Unum").

FAMVIN

- Statement in support of Ozanam's canonization.
- Statement in support on sending vaccines to the poorest countries.
- Two meetings of the International Executive Committee, plus several virtual events of formation and spirituality.

United Nations

- Attendance in many events in Paris, Geneva and New York (virtual and in person) about environment, poverty, health, women, homelessness, human rights etc.

Formation

- Circular Letter 2021 (31st January).
- 2 Webinars held by the International Vice-Presidency for Formation, on the pandemic, poverty and the future.
- Book launched: "CRÔNICAS VICENTINAS 5" (Vincentian Chronicles 5), in Portuguese.
- Day of the Poor booklet, prepared by Father Andrés Motto, CM, our Spiritual adviser.
- Discovered an historic book written by Félix Clavé.
- Lecture about the Rule made by brother Renato Lima to Portuguese and Spanish speaking countries.
- Launching of the Song Contest about the Seven Founders in 3 languages (Italian, French and English).

Seven Founders

- International Thematic Year 2021 dedicated to Jules Devaux.
- Visit of Félix Clavé grave and other places related to him at Pau (December 2021).
- Launch of Jules Devaux stamp.

Solidarity

- Monthly appeal, since January, a different project in different parts of the world (in addition to actions during natural disasters such as Haiti and aid in times of pandemic).
- Solidarity area: International Twinning Commission (ITC), Fund for International Solidarity (FIS) and Commission for International Aid & Development (CIAD).
- Twinning: 2.5 million € to 50 countries.
- CIAD: 380.000 € to 31 countries.

Youth

- Launching of the Guide "Foundation of Youth Conferences in Universities and Colleges".
- Special Letter signed by the President General for the youth on 4th July.
- Celebrations on 4th July, International SSVP Youth Day.
- Completion of the youth census: 30% young members in SSVP.
- Salamanca Digital Meeting, with the National Youth coordinators.
- International Network of Friends: project to get closer all young SSVP members.

Spirituality

- Launching of the “Novena for Ozanam”, to be held between September 1 and 9 every year (gratitude to brother Philippe Menet).
- Cause of Ozanam's canonization - well on track (medical evaluation stage) submission of the file to the commission of saints for the second miracle of Ozanam
- Creation of the “Ozanam Fast” every 23 of each month, to reinforce our faith.

Special dates

- 4th July: SSVP Youth International Day.
- 14th August: Day of the SSVP Women (tribute to Amelie Ozanam).
- 21st July: Anniversary of the Council General International.

CONCLUSION

We thank God for the many blessings he has granted to the Society and its members through the intercession of our Blessed Mother Mary, Saint Vincent de Paul and Blessed Frédéric Ozanam.

We hope to continue our Vincentian mission, showing the same spirit, charism, and devotion as our first founders, putting into practice the Vincentian virtues of simplicity, humility, zeal, passion, and holiness.

My warm thanks go to the members of the Board, international structure, National Councils, and the staff team in Paris, for their excellent work serving the Society.

We trust in God, and we are his servants. May God bless us all. In humble service in Christ, fraternally yours,



Brother **Renato Lima de Oliveira**
16th President General International
Paris, January 1st, 2022