



Activity Report – 2019 CGI's Highlights

- President General launches the Circular Letter on January 31st, 2019.
- In January, President General attended the annual meeting of the Vincentian Family's International Executive Committee, which was held in Philadelphia.
- In January, a large number of SSVP youth actively took part in the "Vincentian Family's International Youth Meeting" and the "World Youth Day with the Pope"; both events were held in Panama City. President General attended the former.
- In remembrance of the death of our 12th President General, Amin Tarrazi, there were two declarations made in his honor: firstly, the President General's office was named the "Amin Tarrazi Room"; and secondly, the "Amin Tarrazi Commission for the Canonization of Ozanam" was established.
- The 2019 International Themed Year was dedicated to founder Paul Lamache. The themed year began on February 8th and concluded on December 8th.
- The "International Essay Contest - The First Conference - Paul Lamache" was held, with first-, second- and third-prize winners.
- The official Paul Lamache Seal was launched.
- In 2019, the SSVP celebrated the 180th anniversary of the founding of the Council General International, with the release of a special logo.
- Changes were made to the Council General's international board, increasing governance and representation.
- In close agreement with the Congregation of the Mission, Father Andrés Maria Motto has been appointed as the new Spiritual Advisor of the Council General International.
- Four Board meetings were held: February (Paris), June (Porto), September (Paris) and November (Milan).
- During the Board meeting in Milan, the most important Ozanam-related places were visited, such as the house where he was born and the parish where he was baptized.
- The Council General International Annual Plenary Session was held in June in Porto (Portugal), with the unanimous approval of 16 resolutions.
- Also, in Porto, there was a working meeting of the ITVPs and their respective Zone Coordinators. This was an event which hadn't been held for many years within the General Council.
- The "Charity in Hope" medal was awarded to the International Scout Movement.
- Launch of the song "The Seven Founders" in Portuguese and Spanish.
- The 1st International SSVP Workshop on Thrift Shops was hosted, sharing experiences from Australia, the United States, New Zealand, Ireland and England/Wales.
- In June 2019, an SSVP "International Cooperation Agreement" was signed in Porto with the Religious of St. Vincent de Paul (RSV).
 - Approval of the "Ethical Use of Social Media", to be adopted by National Councils.
 - Approval of the "Crowdfunding Protocol", to be adopted by National Councils.
 - Launch of four new books regarding formation / training: "Handbook for Conferences", "Holiness at Vincentian Conferences", "Vincentian Reflections on the Gospels" and "Frédéric Ozanam: chronological outline".
- The Film Festival 'The Seven Founders' was held.

- In June, presence of the Council General International at the Vatican, represented by brother Mauricio Ceste, at the annual meeting of the “Dicastery of Laity, Family and Life”, to discuss the “Church's Care for Minors”.
- Visit of the President General and Vincentian delegation to the United Nations in New York (July 2019).
- On July 4 (liturgical feast day of Blessed Peter Jorge Frassati), a special collect was organised by many countries at the suggestion of the General Council to support Vincentian youth initiatives.
- Starting to work on Council General International’s web revamping.
- The General Council published the “Three-Year Activity Report” (2016/2019), available in four languages.
- The ‘2nd International Youth Meeting (Salamanca 2018)’ was published in four languages.
- The special Commission set up to study the prospective international logo launched a logo-design contest.
- Working meetings organised by the special Commission for amendment of International Statutes.
- The ongoing process for producing “Letters of Aggregation” has been sped up. This has allowed for a more efficient submission to countries.
- SSVP-Plus-Project initiatives are being undertaken to expand the SSVP, so that it’s present in 15 new countries by 2022. The first steps were taken, in partnership with Italy’s Council, to found St. Peter's Conference at the Vatican.
- The Communications Department has launched the new Council General’s institutional video.
- Logo Usage Manual to be consulted by all National Councils.
- The quarterly digital magazine ‘Ozanam Network’ was published in the four official languages.
- Talks at the Vatican to declare Blessed Frédéric Ozanam "Doctor of the Church".
- The Council General, through the PGI, was bestowed the status of ‘Honorary Citizenship’ by the cities of Itapetininga and Marilia (both in Brazil).
- The 2nd ‘All Africa’ Assembly Meeting to be held in Nairobi in June 2020 is being organised.
- The 1st French-speaking SSVP Meeting, to be held in 2020, is being organised.
- Vice-postulation for the cause of Ozanam’s canonisation in the city of Mariana (Brazil), where the possible miracle occurred. The Council General is presenting the officially recognised cure as a miracle to the Vatican.
- Facebook Live hosted two Talk Shows in which the President General answered questions raised by Vincentians from around the world on August 10 and October 27.
- ITVP representing America 2 held their 2nd Territorial Meeting in Mexico, in July, with the presence of leaders from the National Councils making up that region.
- The “SSVP Caribbean Meeting” was held in Antigua in August, under the coordination of ITVP America 1.
- “Formation and Training Meeting” for the Vincentian leaders of ITVP Africa 2 - Zone 2, in Botswana.
- In October, the National Council of England and Wales hosted a conference for the ITVPs on “Safeguard Policies” at the Council General’s office in Paris. After the event, it was decided to draw up a protocol on the subject to be approved in Nairobi 2020.
- Working meeting with Father Tomaz Mavric, Superior General of the Congregation of the Mission and Daughters of Charity, in Curitiba (Brazil), on September 21st.
- In September, the Board of the Council General visited Paul Lamache's tomb in Grenoble (France).
- The International Headquarters held a “CGI Open Day Meeting” on September 27 and 28, in celebration of St. Vincent de Paul feast day.

- The Council General took part in several institutional meetings, which were held in Rome, in September and November, alongside the Italian SSVP President Antonio Gianfico.
- Missionary institutional trips made by the President General to the following territories: Panama, the United States, Brazil, Hong Kong (China), Indonesia, the Philippines, South Tyrol (Italy), Portugal, Argentina and Canada.
- “Panasco 9” meeting had to be put off due to political and social issues in Hong Kong (China).
- Dissemination of Council General’s “Christmas Message” through video recorded by the President General.
- Change of international headquarters, from #6 rue de Londres to #65 rue de la Glaciere. Decision approved and countersigned at the Annual Plenary meeting in Porto.
- Vincentian statistics updated: 149 territories; 47,000 Conferences; 800,000 members; and 30 million people assisted each day.
- The National Councils served by CIAD (41 countries) and Twinning International (78 twinned countries), totaling 800,000 euros donated.
- ITVP Oceania: meeting of National Presidents and Youth Delegates in Brisbane (Australia), in May 2019, to focus on governance, formation / training and youth inclusion.
- German- and Dutch-speaking countries annual meeting, which was held in Wavreumont, in October 2019: Austria, Belgium, Germany, the Netherlands, Switzerland and South Tyrol.
- Europe I ITVP meeting, to be held in autumn 2020, is being organised.
- 50 letters.
- Special thanks to the Central Council of Phoenix (USA) for donating 20,000 USD to support PGI's budget for institutional visits in South America.

Renato Lima de Oliveira
16th President General