



# PROCEDURE TO BE FOLLOWED IN SENDING APPLICATIONS FOR AGGREGATION AND INSTITUTION

## WHAT IS AGGREGATION?

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"Aggregation marks the full juridical membership of the Conference in the Society" Rule II, Article 6.1

"Aggregation is the visible bond of the unity of the Society. I Art.3.8

This unity is achieved, beyond borders and cultural differences, around a common **way of acting and a common spirit** defined in the Rule.

According to the present Rule (2003) the life of the Conference is articulated around 3 main aspects defined in Part I, article 2.2

- Life of prayer
- Service of the poor
- Fraternal life

These aspects are included in the application form for aggregation.

## THE WORK OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL IN THE AGGREGATION PROCESS

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**BEFORE sending the applications to the Council General**, the National/Assimilated Council must - **Provide training for the Conferences.**

This is required by Article 3.12 Part I, and is repeated in Commentary CR4, Part III

- Review all applications and verify the following:
  - a. Signed forms
  - b. Correctly completed forms
  - c. Correct information
- Delete the following applications:
  - a. Specialized works
  - b. Inconsistent requests (e.g., number of members 160!)
- **Next, draw up a summary list** of the requests for aggregations sent to the Council General (which should be numbered) indicating on this list and for each Conference the following information, **in the following order:**
  - a. Name of the Conference
  - b. Name of the Parish
  - c. City of the Parish where the Conference is located
  - d. Name of the diocese
  - e. Administrative territory
  - f. Date of foundation



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## SENDING APPLICATIONS FOR AGGREGATION TO THE COUNCIL GENERAL

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**Applications can only be sent by e-mail if the country does not have more than 20 applications in total.**

Beyond this number, we thank you to always send your applications by mail.  
This avoids printing errors and saves us time in reviewing each application.

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## THE WORK OF THE COUNCIL GENERAL IN THE ACCREDITATION PROCESS

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1. Locate the Conference geographically (diocese/city/parish)
2. Ensure that the Conference has not been aggregated previously (search records)
3. Ensure that no aspect of the Conference's life is in flagrant contradiction with the Rule, voted in an extraordinary international assembly in 2003.

### The main reasons for refusal

- ✓ **Incomplete form**
- ✓ **Specialized works**
- ✓ **Incorrect name of the Conference** (conform to the Society's customs)
- ✓ **Meetings too far apart** (I article 3.3.1)
- ✓ **Number of active members** (in contradiction with CR 5). The conduct of the meeting according to CR5 is impossible if there are too many members or not enough members.
- ✓ **President is a member of the clergy** (CR.13)
- ✓ **Conference less than one year old** (Comment CR3)
- ✓ **Board members are not Catholic** (art.6.5)

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## APPROVAL OF APPLICATIONS FOR AGGREGATION/INSTITUTION

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The unity of the Council General responsible for approving requests for aggregation and institution is called the Permanent Section.

Meetings of the Permanent Section are held twice a year. Usually:

- In June ("in person" on the annual meeting of the International Council General)
- In December (meeting by correspondence)

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## DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS

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Requests for aggregation/institution must be received by the CGI **at least two months before the date of the Permanent Section meeting:**



For the June meeting:

- ✓ Sending is done until April.

For the December meeting:

- ✓ The sending is done until October.

**Any request received by the General Council after the deadline will be presented at the following meeting.**

This rhythm allows:

- For the National and/or Assimilated Councils, to reduce the waiting time for the reception of diplomas
- For the Secretariat of the Council General, to avoid an overload of work due to a large number of applications arriving at the last minute.

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