Le Président

MORAL REPORT 2025

Paris, 31 December 2025

To all members of the Council General,

INTRODUCTION

In 2025, the SSVP was present in 155 territories belonging to our Confederation. A reality of 1.5 million volunteers spread over 50,000 Conferences, supporting some 30 million people a year all over the world.

There have been face-to-face and virtual events in accordance with the Rule and Statutes, maintaining the unity and spirit in our Society, as was the wish of our seven founders. As you will read below, we recorded progress in a number of areas, including training, communication, youth, good governance and institutional relations.

We remain committed to expanding the Society into new regions, despite exceptional circumstances, both locally and globally.

To facilitate the reading of this MORAL REPORT, we have highlighted below the main actions related to the strategic objectives of the International Council General, grouping them into priority themes.

1. ADMINISTRATION

- Four meetings of the Board of the International Council General were held during the year.

- On 14 February, the Board meeting took place in Naples, Italy. Among the topics discussed were reports from the Statutes Commission, the governance framework, the annual budgets, presentations on the SSVP Global Foundation, spiritual formation documents under the program "Growing Together in Faith," and the report on our presence in Baku as guests at COP29 (29th United Nations Climate Change Conference). This presence aims to contribute projects that help alleviate the disasters and poverty caused by adverse climate phenomena affecting the most vulnerable—initiatives aligned with Pope Francis's Laudato Si' encyclical and the care for our common home. Additionally, the document containing the conclusions from the last VPTI meeting, held on January 23-24 in Paris, was shared. A brief report on the most recent FAMVIN Executive Committee meeting in November was also presented.

During the final part of the session, notable topics included the official announcement of the SSVP Global Foundation, scheduled for the end of June. Updates on the organization of the Third

Vincentian Youth Meeting in Rome and the 2025 Youth Jubilee, to be held in Rome from July 28 to August 4, were also discussed.

Other significant events planned for 2025 were also highlighted: the next annual meeting of the Board, the International Executive Committee, and the Permanent Section in Cape Town (South Africa), which would be convened as the Confederation's Board of Directors, and the Ibero-American Congress scheduled in Panama from October 30 to November 2.

- On 31 March a new meeting of the Board took place in Atlanta, United States of America. Among other matters, legal reports were presented regarding the establishment of the SSVP Global Foundation, for which John Berry has been provisionally appointed as Executive Vice President of the Global Foundation until the Foundation is established. On the other hand, the need to develop a Strategic Plan was discussed, a task that has been entrusted to the President of Australia, Mark Gaetani, who has been appointed Deputy Vice President by PGI for this purpose. The preparations for the III Meeting of Vincentian Youth and the Jubilee in Rome, to be held from July 28 to August 4, were also discussed. The PGI announced that, in view of the next presentation of the annual accounts for 2024, Brazil had been nominated as the host country, and that the event will take place in the fourth quarter of 2025. In addition, the dates of the Ibero-American Meeting in Panama, from October 30 to November 2, were announced.

- On 3 to 6 June, the Annual Plenary Meeting took place in Cape Town, Southafrica which included meetings of the Permanent Section, the International Executive Committee and the Board. The meeting of the Permanent Section Convened as the Board of Directors of the Confederation, the agenda, after the prayers and welcome, included various reports from the Secretariat, presented by the Executive Director Paulo Cavaleri in the absence of our brother Secretary Antonio Gianfico due to illness, highlighting that in 2024, 284 Conferences were aggregated (in 2023 there were 153) in 20 countries and 13 new Councils were established (in 2023 there were 10), and also communicating that the aggregation system is being finalised in digital format; it was also indicated that in 2024, the PGI awarded the Charity in Hope Medal to Lions Clubs International. The Ozanam Space located at the Paris headquarters was visited by about 150 Vincentians. As for the treasury report meticulously presented by our brother Alfons Ten Velde, he presented among other documents, the external audit of the 2024 annual accounts without reservations or qualifications, which closed with a surplus of €174,000 and the Budget for 2025. It was approved recommending its approval to the IEC.

The Youth report, presented by Juliana Da Silva, focused on the initiative to promote exchanges and commented on how the preparations are being developed for the next Vincentian Youth Gathering in Rome near the Jubilee of Youth, from 28 July to 3 August 2025.

Meeting of the Territorial Vice Presidents (VPTIs). Our fellow member Julio César Marques de Lima, International Vice President for Structure and Special Projects, opened the Meeting of International Territorial Vice Presidents, which addressed the problems and solutions faced by countries not only to address new forms of poverty, but also governance, leadership and improved management, which ended with group debates. In addition, a manual was presented to facilitate the work of the vice presidencies.

- On October 13-17th, the fourth and last meeting of the Board took place in Singapore. It addressed various topics, including the Twinning report, which noted the need to promote twinning in Sub-Saharan Africa, and the Financial report, which showed the stability of the financial statements and approved, on the one hand, an allocation for the Oceania initiative consisting of a digital transformation plan that could serve as a model for other countries, and, on the other, a campaign to increase contributions to the Concordat. There were updates on the progress of the Global Foundation with respect to its statutory development, on Strategic Planning for the next four years, on the need for training for national presidents and Council presidents, and on news regarding the canonisation of our principal founder, F. Ozanam; on this matter, I announced a visit in November to Cardinal Semeraro, Prefect of the Dicastery for the Causes of Saints, as we hope to receive in April an assessment from the Vatican of the reports submitted. Finally, the report on safeguarding adolescents and young people was presented, together with the conclusions of the meeting of Vincentian youth held last July in Rome, where the upcoming campaign of youth exchanges between the countries of the Confederation was announced.

I announced that the MAPFRE award for the best Social Entity, recently received in Spain, will be allocated to the youth exchange programme and to the CIAD. I also announced the translation of the book by Geisel Junior on the saints who have been members of the Conferences for wider dissemination, and expressed the joy that the canonisation of their patron, Saint Pier Giorgio Frassati, last September, has brought to the entire SSVP and especially to Vincentian youth. With regard to FAMVIN, it was approved to continue with the "13 Houses Campaign."

- It should be noted that between January and December 2025, after the roll out of the new online registration systme 85 conferences were added to the CGI.

2. SPECIAL DATES

- **7 February**: Feast of Blessed Sister Rosalie Rendu

- **23 April**: Anniversary of the foundation of the SSVP and the birth of Ozanam.

- **4 July**: International Day of the SSVP Youth.

- **21 July**: 185th anniversary of the establishment of the International General Council.

- **22 August**: Anniversary of the beatification of Frederic Ozanam.

- **27 September**: Feast of St Vincent de Paul, patron saint of the SSVP.

- **13 November**: World Day of the Poor.

- **8 December**: Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary, patron saint of the SSVP.

3. ALLIANCES, CONVENTIONS & AGREEMENTS

- SSVP activities have continued with the World Union of Catholic Women's Organisations (WUCWO) of the Vatican following the 'Letter of Intent' signed in 2023.

4. INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY

- The **Commission for International Aid and Development** (CIAD) has allocated 375,000 for 28 countries. NB: Figures available as of 10 December.

- The **International Twinning Department coordinated** twinning and project funding at a similar level reported for 2024. We anticipate that reporting procedures have been addressed, which will result in a lower level of funding not being released. We welcomed a new donor, the Hong Kong (Central Council SSVP), who are supporting Indonesian refugees. There were 17 active donors who supported 80+ member countries with aid during the year. Some donors lifted their levels of funding commitment and others have established new twinning relationships. The Strategy 25 project has continued to show further support with both twinned and un-twinned members.

Identifying potential new donors continues and arranging dialogue with them is always on

the agenda. The ITC team are committed to the ongoing reviewing of the twinning mission and are always open to suggestions as to how best we can enhance and strengthen it.A unique general appeal was launched to all member countries to feed the Fund for International Solidarity (FIS)

5. INSTITUTIONAL ACTIONS OF THE PRESIDENT GENERAL

- On 31 January, the International President General issued a circular letter to the entire SSVP detailing his presidential programme, the central themes of which are:Presidential Program:

- **Growing Together in Faith**: In order for this Vincentian mission to give greater meaning to our lives, which is one of the pillars that keep the Conferences alive, the spiritual program led by our spiritual advisor, Father José Francisco Orozco, CM, continues.

-**Formation Plan**: The framework of the Formation Plan "Growing Together in Faith" seeks to continue encouraging members in their personal search for God and His Kingdom through a personal relationship with Christ and service to the poor.

Every two months, practical catechetical reflection sheets on the core themes of this formation plan are published on the international website so that they can be used and worked on by those Conferences that wish to do so.

This year our commitment is to proclaim Frédéric Ozanam as "Precursor of the Social Doctrine of the Church."

- International Vincentian Day. The aim is to raise awareness of our institution and its social action. Last year, on December 4 in Rio de Janeiro (Brazil), the International Report 2024 was presented under the slogan "Your embrace renews the world," because our embrace is meant to be a gesture that strengthens, dignifies, and accompanies, transmitting affection and trust.

The Day was a great showcase of international dimension and, thanks to the communications department, gave us great visibility throughout the world, making our Vincentian mission better known and more authentic. These fruits that we are reaping will undoubtedly strengthen our capacity to obtain greater human and material resources and thus grow the Conferences for the greater glory of God.

- **Support for international twinning and solidarity projects**. To this end, in addition to the mission entrusted to the Commission for International Aid and Development and the Fund for International Solidarity (CIAD and FIS), we are implementing various international cooperation

projects in line with the encyclical Laudato Si', in order to obtain more resources, always with the support of our Conferences and Councils. I hope that we will soon see the first fruits of this work.

An annual appeal is made for the Fund for International Solidarity (FIS). This vital fund, managed by the Commission for International Aid and Development (CIAD), enables the International General Council to act quickly and help our brothers and sisters who are doing their utmost to respond compassionately to disasters and other emergency needs around the world.

- Youth presence at local and international events and activities. In the Jubilee Year 2025, we have had two major gatherings for young Vincentians in Rome: one, the Youth Jubilee Day held in Rome from July 28 to August 3, and the second, during the same dates, the Third International Youth Meeting of the SSVP, which mainly brought together international youth delegates representing young people from 155 countries, with more than 120 young people in attendance.

- New creative forms of financing. In order for Councils and Conferences to address the changing types of poverty we face in our countries, as well as to seek and raise funds to finance these initiatives, the General Council has created a commission that is launching an **International Global Foundation,** based in Geneva (Switzerland), which was presented in Rio de Janeiro. The preliminary work consists of studying its structure, mission, and objectives. The commission was created by the team that forms the Commission for International Aid and Development (CIAD) and is expected to be ready by the summer of this year.

- **Governance, transparency, and unity of the SSVP.** The Vice-Presidency for Structure is working with its team to improve training in the International Statutes and Rules, and the Vice-President for Training is also involved in planning the training of the Presidents of the National Councils.

Furthermore, the new International Audit, Finance and Risk Commission has expanded its scope and is composed of five people for a five-year term.

This year, 2026, its mission is to develop a program to promote and improve the training of national leaders in the different countries of the SSVP. We need to be prepared in administrative, legal, and financial skills, teamwork, and also in obtaining human and financial resources.

- Strategic Plan. The Vice President General for the Strategic Plan, Mark Gaetani from Australia, outlines four fundamental areas for development:

1.-Spirituality, Vincentian identity, leadership, and youth.

2.-Community development and international solidarity.

3.-Strengthening the CGI, governance, and accountability.

4.-Digital transformation.

6. TRAINING

- The International Vice-Presidency for Formation, Luz María Ramírez, from Mexico, held the 4th Workshop for Territorial Formation Delegates in Paris (France) on 23-25 January with the active support of various Board members.

- Promotion of the OZANAM NOVENA in the week preceding 9 September, the liturgical date of Blessed Frederic Ozanam. We thank our dear French member Philippe Menet for the preparation of this novena.

7. COMMUNICATION

- Annual Report of the International General Council. In order to demonstrate the global impact of the SSVP in the world, to increase its credibility and to obtain more material and human resources, the 2024 Annual Report was presented on December 4 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, to the media and attendees in general, highlighting the impact of more than 5,000 special projects and 18,000 social projects in 155 countries and five continents, with a global figure for social action of €1,650,000,000. The event highlighted our institution's 192-year history and its ability to transform lives.

The presentation offered an overview of the SSVP's work on five continents, supported by the commitment of 1.5 million volunteers and 800,000 members. In America, the combination of home visits with soup kitchens, food banks, shelters, and reintegration programs was highlighted; in Europe, emotional support, mental health care, and actions against loneliness; in Asia and the MENA region, educational, health, and immediate disaster response initiatives; in Africa, daily support for vulnerable families and minors in the 42 countries where the organization is present; and in Oceania, programs for homeless people, support for the elderly, and intervention in remote islands with significant geographical obstacles.

The event concluded with the presentation of various projects included in the Report that show the impact and diversity of Vincentian work: the network of solidarity pharmacies in the United States, the “13 Houses” Campaign to provide decent housing solutions, the Solidarity Bathrooms in Brazil, child support programs in Peru, the improvement of basic infrastructure in Sri Lanka, the floating school in Benin, university education promoted by young people in Syria, The Home in Fiji, and work with indigenous communities in the Philippines. Initiatives in Europe, such as the national meetings held in France, recalled the importance of human connection as the cornerstone of the SSVP's mission, which adapts its actions to each territory and maintains personal closeness as the essence of its global service.

8. YOUTH

- In the Jubilee Year 2025, we had two major events for young Vincentians in Rome: one was the Youth Jubilee Day held in Rome from July 28 to August 3, and the second, during the same dates, the Third International Youth Meeting of the SSVP, which mainly brought together international youth delegates representing young people from 155 countries, with more than 120 young people in attendance.

Over the three days, the young people took part in lectures and debates on subjects fundamental to strengthening the Vincentian Movement. Among the topics addressed were:

- Manual of the International Youth Commission

- Recruiting and Evangelizing: Young People Who Embrace the Vincentian Call

● Saints or Nothing: Faith that Inspires, Love that Transforms

● War and Hope: The Power of Solidarity in the SSVP

● Charity Is Also Shared: Making Visible the Invisible of Vincentian Charity

● A Mind that Plans, a Heart that Serves: The National Coordinator as an Inspiration for Vincentian Youth

One of the most noteworthy moments was the round table with the SSVP President General, where young people were able to engage in dialogue, ask questions, and share their realities with the principal leaders of the movement. It was also possible to offer the territories moments to share and to define an action plan for the next steps.

9. THE VINCENTIAN FAMILY

-The Vincentian Family wanted to celebrate the Jubilee of Hope 2025 together with some of those most in need: the homeless. This shared dream gave life to the "13 Houses Campaign."

On the Day of the Poor, November 16, coinciding with the 400th anniversary of the Congregation of the Mission, Pope Leo XIV presented 13 symbolic keys to 13 beneficiary families from different countries around the world. These keys represent more than 130 projects in 79 countries, with 2,786 homes built and more than 11,030 people benefiting since 2018.

The ceremony was presented by the Superior of the Congregation of the Mission, Father Tomas Mavric CM, and all the branches of FAMVIN were represented. I represented the SSVP together with our brother Pat García from Australia.

After the Angelus, offered by FAMVIN in collaboration with the Italian SSVP, the Pope held a lunch with 1,300 poor people in the Paul VI Hall.

10. HOLY SEE & CANONISATION

Following the death of Pope Francis, Cardinal Robert Francis Prevost was elected as the new Pope on May 8, taking the name Leo XIV. Born in Chicago in 1955, he becomes the first American pontiff in the history of the Church. His election has been greeted with enthusiasm, especially in Latin America, where he spent much of his pastoral life.

I had two audiences with the Holy Father. On one occasion, I gave him a bust of Frédéric Ozanam, commenting on Frédéric's commitment as a "precursor of the Social Doctrine of the Church." On the second occasion, he asked for his support in promoting Frédéric's process of canonization and gave him a bottle of wine produced by our Brazilian partners with the image of Ozanam and the corporate logo, as well as Ozanam's letters in English, translated and published by our brothers in the United States.

Canonization of Frédéric Ozanam:

Accompanied by the Executive Director, I had on 12 November an audience with His Eminence Cardinal Marcello Semeraro, Prefect of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints. The cardinal, accompanied by Monsignor Giampaolo Rizzotti, head of the office of the secretary "Studium," after

recalling the great Christian virtues of the blessed, shared the canonical file of the cause, from which it can be deduced that the process for his sanctification remains open but has slowed down.

In discussing the different strategies to be adopted, the cardinal encouraged us to submit a request for review of the first miracle, provided that the doctors involved were experts in this type of case. In addition, he suggested that we could submit a second miracle at the same time.

The General Council requests prayers for the attainment of holiness by Federico Ozanam.

A new Vincentian saint, Pier Giorgio Frassati was canonized on September 7, 2025. Pier Giorgio is "one of us" as he joined a Conference at the age of 17 and, until the end of his life, made home visits, financially supported specific families, and encouraged other young people to serve those who suffer most.

He promoted the Social Doctrine of the Church and organized direct assistance to working families and sick people in Turin. He died at the age of 24 from polio and was beatified by Saint John Paul II in 1990.

Saint Pier Giorgio has been the patron saint of the SSVP's Vincentian youth since 2017.

11. UNITED NATIONS

- Commission meetings: two online meetings were held in 2025 for the NY team in March and October. Still for ECOSOC but in collaboration with FamVin, further online meetings took place in April and December. For the Paris team, one online meeting was held in April.

- Participation in various meetings in New York: ECOSOC, Civil Society Forum, Catholic Club, Vincentian Coalition and Conference for Social Development.

- Attendance at various activities at UNESCO (Paris) and the Human Rights Council (Geneva).

12. ACTIVITIES OF THE TERRITORIAL VICE-PRESIDENTS

- - The Territorial Vice Presidents attended two face-to-face working meetings throughout the year, under the coordination of the International Vice-Presidency for Structure:

23 to 25 January - Special Training Session in Paris - France

3 June 2025 - Face-to-face meeting at Cape Town CGI Annual Meeting

- Throughout the year, the Territorial Vice Presidents, together with the Zone Coordinators, coordinated support for the National Councils. In particular, they were dedicated to supporting the regularization of pending issues for some countries regarding their legal membership status in the SSVP Confederation.

CONCLUSION

In accordance with 3.2.1 of the Statutes and its commentary, this Report is written for all members of the Council General, reflecting the state of the Society during the previous year and the aspirations for the recent future, the year 2026; this Report is complemented by the circular letter. This report is disseminated as widely as possible by translating it into the four languages and is

published on the corporate website open to the public on the same date. The General Assembly will express its opinion on the content of this report at its meeting scheduled for 15-19 June 2026 in Lisbon.

I am also pleased to report that the finances of the General Council are in excellent shape. The generous financial support of the Concordat countries has ensured that the finances of the General Council have remained on a sound footing and that the Council has been able to fulfil its institutional role adequately, enabling the Structure to function well throughout 2025.

For a fuller account of all that is expressed in this Report, please see our corporate website: ssvpglobal.org.

We thank the Lord for all the benefits he has granted to the Society and its members and persons assisted, through the intercession of the Immaculate Virgin, Saint Vincent de Paul and Blessed Frederic Ozanam.

I thank the Superior Councils, the members of the Concordat, the members of the International Structure and the Bureau who, with the support of the Paris staff, have assisted me in carrying out this service during 2025. I congratulate them for their excellent work in the service of the SSVP. May God bless you all.

In the Vincentian spirit that unites us, receive a warm and fraternal embrace.

Juan Manuel Buergo Gomez

President General International