



Minutes of ICEE Executive Committee (ExCo) Meeting

21 – 25 October 2013

**Held At The Retreat House of Spiritual Exercises of Our Lady,
Quito, Ecuador, South America**

Day 1 – Mon 21 Oct

- 1.1. Registration of Teams and payment for the accommodation and meals was carried out by the local Quito community.
- 1.2. Opening Mass was celebrated at 4.30pm by Fr Jim Dukowski in the chapel of the retreat house.
- 1.3. Teams adjourned to the conference room, and Introductions were made.

Attendees:

Executive Committee

Team A – Statistics & Communications:

- Jamie & Raquel Martínez from Mexico;
discerned 2012, Term 2012-2015
Married: 25 years with 3 children; EE 26 years.
- Fr. Marco Garcia
discerned 2012, Term 2012-2015
Ordained: 27 years; EE: 22 years.

Team B – Finance & Secretariat:

- Joseph+Terri Kwok from Singapore;
discerned 2009; term from 2010-2013
re-discerned 2012, Term 2013-2016
Married: 30 years with 8 children ; EE: 29 years, since 1984.
- Fr. Paul Staes, CiCm
Was unable to attend due to previous commitments



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Team C – Outline and Resources:

- Herbert+Monica Rubio from Guatemala;
discerned 2009; term from 2011-2014
re-discerned 2012, Term 2014-2017
Married: 23 years with 3 children; EE 16 years.
- Fr James Dukowski, OMI (Oblate of Mary Immaculate) from Peru (originally from Canada);
Invited by Rubios as team Priest; term from 2011-2014
re-discerned 2012, Term 2014-2017
Ordained: 45yrs; EE: since 1988.

The International Executive Team (IET) was unable to be present due to illness. They are:

- Bernard+Ginette Charbonneau from Canada;
discerned 2012, Term 2012-2015
- Fr Kevin Maloney from Canada;
discerned 2012, Term 2012-2015

Board Members (Regional Teams)

- Uriel & Janeth Garcia from Panama;
Team for Central America and Spanish Caribbean.
Married: 33 years with 3 children; EE: 17 years.
- Vicente & Elena Smirglia from Argentina;
Team for South America South (SAS)
Married: 35 years with 4 children; EE 7 years.
- Juan Carlos & Amparo Montoya from Lima, Peru;
Team for South America North (SAN)
Married with 4 children.
- Macedoño & Sandra Garza from Mexico;
National & Regional Team for Mexico
Married with 5 children.
- Fr. Luis
National & Regional Team Priest for Mexico

In Attendance (National Teams and Observers):

- Andres & Cecilia Obregon from Argentina;
National Team for Argentina
Married with a 13-month old daughter (who was present at the meeting).



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- Fr John Henry Bautista
Priest on the National Team for Argentina
Belongs to the “Organisation for Vocations”.
- George & Pat Ziringer from Pittsburgh, USA
Representing the US National Executive Team (NET)
- Alejandro & Veronica Ponce Suarez from Quito, Ecuador;
National Team for Ecuador
Married with 1 daughter.

- 1.4. Joseph y Terri welcomed everyone present especially those who were attending an ICEE Executive meeting for the first time:

Juan Carlos y Amparo Montoya, the recently discerned Regional Team for Sth America (Nth).

Andres y Cecilia Obregon, the Argentinian National Couple, and their Team Priest Fr John Henry Bautista. Joseph y Terri remarked that Andres y Cecilia represented the future of EE / EN as a young couple striving to live the weekend values while giving of their time to be a presenting couple, and also as servant leaders.

- 1.5. Explanation of the facilities was conducted by Veronica y Alejandro Ponce.

- 1.6. Minutes of the Board Meeting in Boston were taken to be confirmed.

- 1.7. Joseph y Terri showed everyone where the Minutes were placed in the ICEE website. They also showed the contact map of the regions, and it was found that some team details were not updated.

- 1.7.1. Teams were requested to check the details of their respective regions, and if an update was required, they had to send the updated details to IET and copy to Joseph y Terri.

Task List 2013-1 – IET & Team B

- 1.8. The theme “Light of the World” was proposed, and we would light a candle in the conference room from which we would light single candles for regions and teams present, including IET.

- 1.9. The Agenda for the meeting was reviewed; and Joseph y Terri explained to all present that one key objective of this meeting is to review and update the Handbook.

- 1.10. Although it was not on the Agenda, Joseph y Terri acknowledged that there is a desire from the Regional Teams present to discuss the 2010 Outline since it has come into use.

- 1.10.1. One key question was: how much of the Outline could national/regional teams change?



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- 1.10.2. And is there a possibility of “tropicalisation” of the content where it is appropriate to the local situation?

Post-Meeting Note (to point 1.10.2)

Clarification of the word “tropicalisation” is that it means to localize the Outline to take into account local cultural differences.

- 1.10.3. Another question was: could they add more material or even have a para-liturgy to Our Lady in countries where there is a strong devotion to Mary?
- 1.10.4. One suggestion was if there were additions to the Outline, then could these revised Outlines be maintained in a library of resources.
- 1.11. Joseph y Terri offered an explanation that the intent (spirit) of the Outline has to always be maintained, and the purpose or integrity of each talk must not be compromised when local communities adapt a talk to suit local needs. When communities are in doubt they should seek clarification from the Executive Committee. And at this meeting we will try to answer the queries and provide clarification.
- 1.12. George y Pat shared that in the past the Outline was made available to many people. However these people made changes and did not follow the Outline but called the program Engaged Encounter (EE). This resulted in complaints about EE. That is why there is a need to protect the Outline and maintain its integrity.
- 1.13. Uriel+Janeth shared that when they began writing to the 2010 Outline, they made some suggestions and proposals for minor changes and these were approved by Steve+Claudia. And also in Panama they included a prayer to Mother Mary at the end of the Betrothal talk.
- 1.14. The meeting then adjourned for dinner after prayers by Alejandro y Veronica Ponce.
- 1.15. After dinner Joseph y Terri suggested that each team including Executive teams would be given in 2 to 3 minutes to share their experience of the 2010 Outline or any suggestions they had.
- 1.16. Team A – Jaime y Raquel
- They had received the 2010 Outline when they were still the regional team for Mexico. They found that the talks were easy to write and that the role of the priest was diminished.
- 1.17. Mexico – Mace y Sandra:
- Weekends in Mexico are always conducted with a priest or the weekend is cancelled. They believe the priest should have a strong participation in all the talks, especially on the Sacrament.



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They suggest that NFP can be delivered by a well developed video presentation.

Mexico is working with a Christian music ministry to write songs that capture the themes of each talk; and they would be happy to share the songs when it is completed.

Fr Luis

He believes that the sacramental aspect of marriage is well presented but not the canonical condition, especially when we say that the couple administer the sacrament to each other, they think they can get married without the priest or without the witnesses.

He also shared that the priest can share part of the Finance talk since the priests in parishes are administrators, especially in financial matters. This will help couples see how the money is used and that it is not going to the priests.

Post-meeting Note (to point 1.17):

IET remarks that a team priest can share about his own financial fidelity but he is not expected to share those of the parish nor the financial workings of a parish.

1.18. South-America (North) – Juan Carlos y Amparo

1.18.1 They shared that some words did not have the proper translation, for e.g. Betrothal is translated to “Commitment for marriage”. They understood that the purpose of the talk is to guide couples to examine where they are in their relationship and to take concrete steps to deepen their relationship to lead to marriage.

1.18.2 But many couples are living together and some already have children. They suggested that the talk help the couple focus on the state of their relationship, and take steps to ‘sacramentalise’ their wedding. They also suggested that a guideline be written that would help couples write their pledge.

Post-meeting Note (to point 1.18):

Remarks from IET: The Betrothal pledge is not a commitment for marriage nor is it to guide the couples to examine where they are in their relationship. It is a commitment to a SACRAMENTAL marriage and to a commitment or a willingness to grow in spiritual preparation to become a sacrament instead of continuing to live together (if they are); or to proceed to be married legally or choose a civil wedding instead of choosing a sacramental union. There seems to be a misconception about this talk. The Betrothal talk also provides an opportunity for those who have discovered that they are not aiming for the same values in their married life to have an option to bow out of a Sacramental union. We may need to do greater education on this topic.

1.19. Central-America & Spanish-speaking Caribbean

1.19.1 Uriel y Janeth shared that the pilot weekend for the region was in 2011, and since then there has been positive response to the Outline.



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- 1.19.2 The other comment/suggestion they had was they believed that it would help the participating couples if the timing for the priest sharing be increased so he can provide his inputs and experience.
- 1.20. South-America (South)
 - 1.20.1 Vicente y Elena suggested that the priest can present more on the weekend, especially on the Sacrament of both Matrimony and Holy Orders. They also remarked that it is dangerous to make profound changes. They agreed that tropicalisation of contents should be the way to adapt to local conditions.
- 1.21. Argentina
 - 1.21.1 In Argentina, Andres y Cecilia, shared that they have made only changes to words in order to make the talk clearer.
 - 1.21.2 And in Buenos Aires, they have an NFP (PFN) seminar at a university which they recommend to the couples to attend.
 - 1.21.3 Juan Carlos y Amparo added to the above comment and shared that it is important for the team couples to be congruent with the NFP message with their lives. The NFP talk should motivate or inspire couples to want to get educated on NFP.
- 1.22. USA
 - 1.22.1 George y Pat shared that they were glad to know that ICEE regions remain faithful to the Outline. They were happy that the US was able to share the Outline; and they believed that any changes should also be made for the other communities and should be shared through ICEE. This way every community can benefit from new materials or new ideas.
 - 1.22.2 They remarked that change takes time, but that the US continues to accept feedback in order to change to improve. The Outline Revision Committee (ORC) is a standing committee that continues to receive and review feedback.
- 1.23. Team C
 - 1.23.1 Overall, Fr Jim found that the Guide in each talk tended to be verbose and at times was complicated that it did not serve its purpose.
 - 1.23.2 Fr Jim shared that he felt that the Betrothal talk needed clarification if it is meant to move the couple to marriage or to help them in their preparation for marriage.

Post-Meeting Note (to point 1.23.2):

Remarks from IET:

This is an extension of the Post-Meeting Note to point 1.18.



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The concept of the Betrothal talk should not be about marriage because participants may already be married (by common law if they have been living together for more than a year) or even legally married. Since they are on the weekend, it likely means they are asking for a Sacrament. We need to show them the difference, and for couples to choose this way of life as an informed choice and not just to use the church building and the ceremony for the setting or because of parental or other pressures.

The Betrothal letter/pledge should be where they tell each other of this informed choice of wanting to be or to strive to be a sacramental couple, or not.

The emphasis should not be on writing the greatest love letter to each other nor even as a commitment to each other. It should be about choosing or not choosing to become a Sacrament versus getting married civilly. They have just learned through the sacrament talk and through the implications of Sacrament within the other talks what the call is. Do they plan to attempt to carry this out? Or do they not?

- 1.23.3 For the Stewardship talk, Fr Jim felt that there was too much duplication in saying what needed to be said. And the 1 minute provided to the participants to fill in the parts of Time, Talent and Treasure was simply too short.
- 1.24. Joseph y Terri thanked everyone for their feedback and comments.
 - 1.24.1. They assured everyone that our mission in CEE is to prepare couples for marriage – to be prophets pointing the way to Jesus. There will always be issues and challenges but we must continue to announce the same message, and that is where words can get in the way. An example is how one word in Spanish can mean something so different depending on which country you are in. So, don't get so distracted by the words and forget the message.
 - 1.24.2. They believed that it is a wonderful idea for the priest to be more involved in the weekend and to share more even about managing finances; but be mindful that the priest does not take 30mins to say what he can say in 3mins.
 - 1.24.3. Lastly we are not experts and should not claim to be. Citing two examples: all of us have invested time to learn the principles of NFP and conflict management but we are still learning as we practice these principles.
- 1.25. As there was time, Joseph y Terri went through the following agenda items, ahead of schedule. (Note that the remaining agenda items are covered during the course of the meeting).
 - 1.25.1. Agenda item d) ICEE website.
 - 1.25.1.1 Joseph y Terri opened up the ICEE website for all to view. They explained that the annual cost of maintaining our domain name at "Register.com" is US\$213 pr year.



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1.25.1.2 It was noted that the some names were not updated, and Joseph y Terri apologized for that and requested the present teams update IET and copy their eml to Joseph y Terri.

1.25.2. Agenda item e) Newsletter.

It has been a project to have newsletter for ICEE but this has still not taken off.

1.25.3. Agenda item f) Incorporation

The ICEE incorporation had lapsed. The annual fees were not paid for many years because the responsibility information had not been passed on from one IET to the next for multiple years. Therefore to rectify this, the present IET has renewed the Incorporation of ICEE in Louisiana this year at the cost of \$1,618 mostly due to lawyer's fees. This is now on the "To do" list for the IET to check on a yearly basis.

1.25.4. Agenda item h) Expansion to Korea, Ireland

1.25.4.1 Joseph y Terri shared that Bernard y Ginette have tried through web sites and email to contact the couple responsible for Worldwide Marriage Encounter through web sites in Poland, Ireland. No one answers their letters.

1.25.4.2 Joseph y Terri shared that when they were Regional coordinators for East Asia, they tried to outreach to Korea, and were not successful.

1.25.4.3 China has shown interest in knowing more about CEE, and more will be shared during the East Asia report.

1.25.5. The meeting on the first day closed with a prayer by Joseph y Terri.



Day 2 – Tue 22 Oct

- 2.1 Morning Mass was celebrated by Fr Jaime assisted by Herbert y Monica, and followed by breakfast.
- 2.2 When the meeting convened, the teams present acknowledged that the 2010 Outline is a wonderful resource; and that the feedback provided comes from a desire to improve the document.
- 2.3 Report from South-America (North)
 - 2.3.1 Juan Carlos y Amparo expressed their joy at participating in the meeting.
 - 2.3.2 Juan Carlos y Amparo asked for clarification on some of the items listed in the Values worksheet.
 - 2.3.2.1 It was clarified that some items had to be explained to participants; for eg “Television” – how important was watching television in the family we grew up in. Thus if the family considered watching television very important, then it is hoped that the participant would evaluate if this is a positive or negative value – since both would drive our choices in the future relationship.
 - 2.3.2.2 Joseph y Terri also clarified that in the Outline it states that “values and ideals have to be morally good” – and they shared that in Singapore they used the expression “morally correct” as it was less subjective.
- 2.4 Report from Central-America & Spanish-Caribbean
 - 2.4.1 The communities were motivated to adopt the 2010 Outline.
 - 2.4.2 Since finances continues to be a major issue; they have also used SKYPE to keep in touch with the other communities in the region.
- 2.5 Report from South-America (South)
 - 2.5.1 Vicente and Elena shared how the banking system in Argentina is causing a challenge to them. And moreover the regional team does not have any finances; and they clarified that they have not started a a regional fund where the regional team can draw from for regional purposes.
- 2.6 Report from USA
 - 2.6.1 Recruiting team couples remains a challenge. Some communities have tried to let the team to present three talks that they have finished writing as part of a weekend, in order to give them the momentum to carry on writing.
 - 2.6.2 Same-sex couples have asked to attend the CEE weekend.
US CEE has amended their website to state that “CEE is to prepare a man and a woman for a sacramental marriage” and they have re-named their registration form to “application form” so CEE reserves the right to turn down the couple's application to attend the weekend.
- 2.7 Divorced participants



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- 2.7.1 Amparo y Juan Carlos shared that there are occasions that participants who are divorced are getting married again without annulment.
- 2.7.2 Fr Luis clarified that a person whose marriage is annulled can re-marry; and also those in the final stages of annulment can attend to get married.
- 2.7.3 Fr Jim suggested that in one of the talks we share this point that divorcees cannot re-marry as it is an impediment.
- 2.7.4 Joseph y Terri said that the most likely talk would be Sacrament of Matrimony. They also shared that in Singapore and Penang, the priest would explain briefly the pre-nuptial form and the impediments. After all it is the priest marrying the couple who will need to sign the pre-nuptial inquiry.

- 2.8 Prayer was led by Juan Carlos y Amparo, then Lunch and siesta.

- 2.9 Meeting re-convened with the Report from Mexico
 - 2.9.1 Mace y Sandra and Fr Luis shared their joy at being present at this meeting. Each national/regional team will prepare a theme or vision for their 3-year term, and their theme/vision is: place Jesus in the middle (like a flower) and cultivate the family, the domestic church.
 - 2.9.2 They have also developed a handbook listing the work responsibilities of the national/regional team.
 - 2.9.3 Mace y Sandra also shared that since they started using the 2010 Outline they noticed that the contributions by participants had dropped by an estimated average of 10%. This may be due to the Stewardship talk being combined from two talks: 2 by 2 and Vision and hence the emphasis on the participants contributing financially to the growth and outreach of EE may not be as evident.

(Note: Refer to points 4.3 & 4.4 on how Quito and Singapore present their Stewardship talk)
 - 2.9.4 Mexico was asked how much their residential weekend cost was; and they shared that per couple cost average was US\$130.
 - 2.9.5 In Argentina the average cost per couple was US\$45 for residential weekends but the meals were cooked by the community and everything was kept to a minimum to keep costs down.
 - 2.9.6 In order to keep costs down Mexico has non-residential weekends in parishes, where participants bring their own food. The advantage is that the parish priest can get to know the couples getting married in his parish and continue to keep in touch with them.
 - 2.9.7 Fr Luis shared how Mexico recruited priests and sustained them in EE thru a “lazos” (binding / linking) experience.

- 2.10 Enrichment was led by George y Pat.

- 2.11 Report from Canada



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- 2.11.1 Canada continues to face a challenge in recruiting young couples to EE. Teams present asked what is Canada doing to address this?
- 2.11.2 Canada asked if any region or community has a set of team dialog questions based on the new Outline. Panama and Mexico have developed questions.
- 2.11.3 A question was asked if there is a change in the Canadian National / Regional Team. Bernard y Ginette confirmed at the SKYPE call that Don y Sharon Marchand will serve an extension of one year and at the next Canadian National Meeting to be held in August 2014, where discernment will take place.

- 2.12 Report from Europe (Spain)
 - 2.12.1 Spain was requesting powerpoint presentations based on the 2010 Outline. Mexico and Guatemala have and will share with Spain.

- 2.13 Report from India (Mumbai)
 - 2.13.1 There were no comments or questions raised.

- 2.14 Report from East Asia
 - 2.14.1 A Belgian priest from the Scheut Missionary Order (CiCM), who is based in Taipei, and who presents Mandarin ME weekends has gotten in touch with East Asia to try to start EE in China. This is still in the exploratory stage, and more details will be provided.

- 2.15 Report from Oceania
 - 2.15.1 They are facing challenges getting new teams to write as the workshop process is long. A suggestion is to have two couples who have their complete Team A and B talks. Then when new couples have completed three of their talks to have them co-present the weekend in order to sustain their interest. "Small chunks at a time."
 - 2.15.2 Oceania reported their concern over same-sex partners registering to attend the EE weekend. USA shared that they had this concern, and they took these steps:
 - 2.15.2.1 Clearly stated in their brochure and website and materials that the weekend is for a man and woman preparing for a sacramental marriage in Church; and also updated their Handbook.
 - 2.15.2.2 And they amended their "Registration Form" to be called "Application Form" which gave EE the right to reject the application.

- 2.16 Amparo y Juan shared a scenario where present one partner is divorced and does not reveal this in order to get married, and attends an EE weekend.
 - 2.16.1 Fr Luis clarified that persons who had their previous marriage annulled can re-marry and hence can attend EE; or even a person in the final stages of the annulment process can apply to re-marry and hence can attend EE.
 - 2.16.2 Fr Jim suggested that this be stated in one of our talks since being in a previous marriage is an impediment.
 - 2.16.3 Joseph y Terri shared that the previous state of any persons will not be known unless the person reveals it (or is found out). In weekends in Singapore and Penang, the priest goes over the pre-nuptial inquiry form during the Question and Answer session and explains briefly about the impediments; (and the priest also clarifies the promise made by the catholic partner to "do all in my power to raise the children in the catholic faith")



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while the non-catholic partner acknowledges that he is aware of the promise made by the catholic partner).

2.17 Report from English-Caribbean

2.17.1 Herbert y Monica queried the report from Grenada that they had 2 weekends and 1 couple.

2.17.2 Dominica is still not writing the 2010 Outline, and Teams present asked what is English-Caribbean doing to address this?

2.18 Report from Africa

2.18.1 No report or statistics were provided.

2.19 Prayer before dinner was led by Jaime y Raquel & Fr Marco.

Note:

After dinner, the group made a SKYPE call to greet Bernard y Ginette and to send our best wishes.



Day 3 – Wed 23 Oct

- 3.1 Morning Mass was celebrated by Fr John Henry assisted by Vicente y Elena, and followed by breakfast.
- 3.2 Executive Team reports followed after breakfast.

Team A Report – Statistics & Communications

Presented by Jaime y Raquel and Fr Marco

- A.1 Jaime y Raquel presented the statistics they had received.
- A.2 Jaime y Raquel reiterated the importance and necessity of the statistics – it showed what EE/EN was doing. It make our work visible, and would help in the process to wards recognition.
- A.3 The statistics also allowed us to know the health of the community where it is reflected as “0” – and we may be able to offer help to these communities.
- A.4 Jaime y Raquel appealed to all regional teams to be faithful in submitting their half-yearly reports.

Team B Report – Finance & Secretarial

Presented by Joseph y Terri.

- B.1 The Financial Report was accepted as presented, from 1 Sep 2011 to 16 Jul 2012.

The balance in our Wells Fargo Bank Account as at 16 Jul 2012 is US\$23,074

We have received US\$22,716 in contributions.

We would like to put on record our thanks to the US for about 64% of those contributions (amounting to US\$14,740)

- B.2 There was a request for a financial report of ICEE Finances. Joseph y Terri will furnish regional teams a report in Apr of the bank balance, with a reference to the bank balance announced at the meeting in Oct of the previous year.
- B.3 Presently the standing payments are for the incorporation fees to maintain our incorporation status in Louisiana; website hosting, and MSN business email for larger volume.
- B.4 Teams present discussed the US\$2 suggested contribution by regions to ICEE per couple. Joseph y Terri clarified that this remains a suggested amount as each communities and each regions will have differing financial standing. What is key is that we are all making an effort to contribute to the overall financial health of ICEE. They



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shared that some suggestions in the past is for communities have fund-raising activities to raise funds for the community and the region.

- B.5 Joseph y Terri shared that it remains a challenge to receive the contributions from regions due to the bank charging a fee for transfers on both ends – by the sender’s bank and then the ICEE Wells Fargo Bank also charges a fee for an incoming transfer. And hence regions may only contribute to ICEE when they turn up at the Board meeting.
- B.6 Argentina shared that due to the financial restrictions in Buenos Aires, they continue to face challenges in converting their currency into US\$.

Team C Report – Outline & Weekend Resources (O&WR)

Presented by Herbert y Monica and Fr James.

- C.1 The team provided a USB (thumb) drive with the recent translated materials including material shared during the last meeting in Boston.
- C.2 There were enrichment documents from Mexico that were being translated. And Mexico is producing a workbook based on the 2010 Outline.
- C.3 There were enrichment documents from Guatemala that would be translated and added, as well as the weekend book from Africa, Spanish power point.
- 3.3 Prayer before lunch was led by Uriel y Janeth.
- 3.4 After lunch, the delegates went on a guided tour of Quito in the afternoon and dinner in the city (both the tour and dinner was on personal expense).



Day 4 – Thu 24 Oct

- 4.1 Morning Mass was celebrated by Fr. Marco and assisted by Jaime+Raquel.
- 4.2 When the meeting convened after breakfast, the group prayed the prayer to Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos for Bernard's healing.
- 4.3 Veronica (Quito) shared a video they showed to the participants after the Stewardship talk. The video showed pictures of the weekend the participants were attending, and they found that this moved people that they became more generous.
- 4.4 Joseph y Terri shared that in Singapore they split the talk into two parts. After the first part on Stewardship (Time, Talent & Treasure) the team presenting will show their video montage of the family and how they lived out Stewardship. After the montage either Team A or B will continue with the vision of CEE and speak about outreach.
- 4.5 Those present were next divided into English and Spanish speaking groups to discuss the revisions to the Handbook.
- 4.6 The delegates met for Prayer before lunch led by Vicente y Elena, followed by lunch.
- 4.7 After lunch it was agreed that the two groups will continue review the revisions to the Handbook.
- 4.8 Plenary Session
 - 4.8.1 The delegates then came together to discuss the suggestions made by both language groups. Due to time limitations, the meeting had to stop at page 19. The rest of the comments from both groups will be consolidated by Herbert y Monica.
- 4.9 Enrichment was led by Herbert y Monica and Fr Jaime in the chapel.
- 4.10 The three Executive Teams met briefly.
- 4.11 Prayer before Dinner was led by Mace y Sandra and Fr Luis.
- 4.12 Dinner was followed by social with the Quito community at the Retreat House.

Note:

During the social, members of the Executive Committee made a SKYPE call to update Bernard y Ginette on the progress of the meeting.



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Day 5 – Fri 25 Oct

- 5.1 The Executive Committee met in closed session before breakfast from 7 to 8am; and included Bernard y Ginette on SKYPE.
- 5.2 The three executive teams met in a private session with Vicente y Elena, the Sth-America (Sth) team and Andres y Cecilia and P. John, the Argentine National team.
 - 5.2.1 The purpose was to explain the decision about outreach funds, and to suggest to them to focus their efforts to strengthen EE/EN in Buenos Aires and build and grow from there.
 - 5.2.2 The meeting was fruitful and open. One key point from the meeting was the proposal by Vicente y Elena that they would try to expand EE/EN from a city closer to them instead of from Buenos Aires.
- 5.3 Minutes of the closed and private session are maintained separately.
- 5.4 Morning Prayer (after breakfast) was led by Joseph y Terri when the meeting convened. They used the prayer that was written by Bernard y Ginette; and was prayed in English and Spanish.
- 5.5 These remaining Agenda Items were completed.
 - 5.5.1 Agenda item a) Next sites for meeting in 2014 (in Dominica), and in 2015 (in Panama).
 - 5.5.1.1 Regional teams had already been provided with the information from Dominica.
 - 5.5.1.2 It was noted that there were not many commercial flights into Dominica, and so it was suggested that teams share with each other what flight or travel arrangements they had found out.
 - 5.5.2 Agenda item b) Expansion Funds Request Form
 - 5.5.2.1 All teams would need to submit their request for outreach funds using the new form that is now an Appendix in the Handbook.
 - 5.5.3 Agenda item c) Next US CEE convention in Chicago in 2014
 - 5.5.3.1 Joseph y Terri explained that since the decision was taken at the Board meeting in 2009 in Cuernavaca that our ICEE meetings would be held in the USA once every six years that ICEE presence would only be apparent at US National Conventions once every six years. And at the next Convention in Chicago ICEE would not be present. So they proposed that teams present take a vote as to whether ICEE would pay for the travel and convention fees for the IET to attend.
 - 5.5.3.2 The vote was unanimous by all present that ICEE pay for IET to travel to Chicago and pay for them to attend the Convention.



5.5.4 Agenda item g) – Vatican recognition

5.5.4.1 This is not a simple matter. There is also a cost to engaging a Vatican lawyer. However the consensus is that we should continue to pursue recognition from Vatican.

5.5.4.2 Vincente y Elena shared that the secretary in Fr John Henry's parish (In Argentina) has a nephew who is a priest who works as one of the staff for Pope Francis, and they will try to seek some assistance from him.

5.5.5 Agenda item i) – same sex partners attending EE weekends.

5.5.5.1 This was discussed during the report by Oceania and also during the USA report.

5.5.6 Agenda item j) – e-mail response

5.5.6.1 All teams were urged to provide a response to any email they had received; and to respond to the request for info in a timely manner.

5.6 Here are the decisions of Executive Committee on the 2010 Outline, ICEE Handbook and approved Outreach Requests.

5.6.1 2010 Outline:

5.6.1.1 Joseph y Terri acknowledged that during the week, there had been informal discussions on the 2010 Outline. The Spanish-speaking regions have also had the opportunity during the week to listen to each other about the differences in the language particularly in the translation.

5.6.1.2 Another point that was noted by the Executive Committee was that the purpose of the “stewardship” / “servir” talk is to share a brief history of EE and to motivate the couples to share their talents, time and treasures with others and support outreach projects of EE. The content of the presentation is not dogmatic nor is it related to the essence of married life and so could be adapted according to local needs and the purpose of the talk.

5.6.2 ICEE Handbook

5.6.2.1 As there was not enough time to complete the review, Joseph y Terri proposed that they will send to Herbert y Monica the suggestions from the English-speaking group to be consolidated with the suggestions from the Spanish-speaking group and then sent to all for comments and then for final edit.

5.6.3 Outreach Requests.

5.6.3.1 The table below provides the summary:



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Region	2013 requested	Amount Approved	Rationale & Note
Africa	12,000 (for a weekend in Cameroon, for a full team from Kenya to travel to present)	Not Approved	The Executive Committee needs more details; and we will propose to Africa that a team from Cameroon be identified to begin EE after experiencing a weekend in Kenya
South-America (South)	1,600 (to Cordoba, Mendoza & Zarate-Campana)	600	There are limitations that exist in the banking situation in B.Aires; hence a decision was made to provide an extraordinary advance of US\$300; the regional and national team will sign an acknowledgement and an undertaking that the expenditure of the funds will be supported by receipts.
	1,100 for expansion to Chile & Brazil	Not Approved	The South America (South) were advised to focus their efforts on one country.
South-America (North)	400 (for 2 residential weekends)	400	There were encouraging signs of growth.
Central-America & Spanish-Caribbean	Cuba 1,200	1,200	The regional team was encouraged to conduct the Outreach.
	Nicaragua 1,500	1,500	

5.6.3.2 As there were no objections from any Teams the allocation of funds would be recorded as such.

5.7 Evaluation

5.7.1 All those present were asked for their feedback of the meeting.

5.10 Closing Mass celebrated by Fr Ivan Sari, assisted by the Quito community.

- a. Tokens of Appreciation were presented to Alfredo y Bati and Alejandro y Veronica for organizing the meeting; and to Joseph y Terri at the end of their first term (2010-2013).

5.11 Lunch & Farewells.

*Minutes recorded by Joseph+Terri Kwok
 Vetted by Executive Committee members*



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Post-Meeting:

1. The four Spanish-speaking regions that were present in Quito – Mexico, Central-America & Spanish-Caribbean, Sth-America (Nth), Sth-America (Sth) – met on their own initiative to discuss the 2010 Outline and the common points in the Outline.
2. Appended is the task list that remains unchanged.



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Task List – from Oct 2010

Status: Open

Note: No actions or review were carried on the existing Task List, and all items remain status quo.

S/No	Team	Task
2010-1	IET	To continue following up possibility of Vatican recognition with the Pontifical Council for the Laity;
2010-2	IET	To send the latest statistics to the Pontifical Council for the Laity as a follow-up to our application. Note: A copy of the letter to the Vatican and the reply from the Vatican was given to the team from South America North (Alfredo+Bati) for them to seek the assistance of their Archbishop in following up on our application.

Task List – from Oct 2011

Status: Open

S/No	Team	Task
2011-1	IET	To contact the respective S. American National Teams to get an update from them; and to get clarification from the S. America North Regional Team about unification of S. America North and S. America South.
2011-2	IET	To inform the respective National Teams in South America (S.A.) about the decision made in Boston, to maintain two separate regions (S.A. North and S.A. South); and that Argentina will chair the S.A. South (SAS) region.
2011-3	IET	Will review and revise (update?), if necessary, the document on the role of the priest and send to all regional coordinators.
2011-4	IET	Will obtain any updates on the role of the priest since the release of the revised Outline and send to all regional teams.
2011-5	Team A	To send to IET the French translation of the Revised Outline to be included as a resource document.
2011-6	Team A (Charbonneau)	To send to Team C the French translation of the Revised Outline to be included as a resource document.
2011-7	Team A	To request Regional Teams to send their “skype” addresses for distribution; to facilitate contact.
2011-8	Team A	To include the “skype” addresses from the regional teams in the contact list, as well as their telephone/mobile numbers.



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Task List – from Jul 2012
 Status: Open

S/No	Team	Task
2012-1	IET	To seek an open dialog with ME; which would promote cooperation, and collaboration in Ministry; And to share the letter and brochure that was produced in 2004/05 by these three Ministries. <i>Note: When EE receives the approval from the Pontifical Council for Laity, we will inform ME and RTV.</i>
2012-2	IET	Enter into a discussion with US NET about a possible way to ensure distribution of the Outline and the intellectual property rights.
2012-3	Central America & Spanish Caribbean	Central America & Spanish Caribbean to share the questions they use for team dialog.
	Team C	Team C will translate and post as a resource document.
2012-4	Central America & Spanish Caribbean	To contact Fr Adonis in Puerto Rico, and outreach to Puerto Rico.
2012-5	IET	To include an explanation on collecting the statistics on types of weekends conducted in the Handbook, and the glossary of terms used in the statistics.
2012-6	Team A	To use “1” if such weekends are conducted and “0” if these weekends are not being conducted; as inputs for the template that collects statistics on type of weekends, and include an explanation on collecting this statistics.
2012-7	IET	To post the updated library list on the website.
2012-8	IET & Team A	IET & Team A to prepare a standard form for regions to submit their regional reports to ICEE, and the form to include a column to indicate amount of funds contributed.
2012-9	East Asia	To follow-up with Korea if they wish to join ICEE, in order to avail of the revised Outline,
2012-10	East Asia	To follow up with Thailand, their progress.
2012-11	East Asia	To follow up with Penang and their implementation date for the revised Outline.
2012-12	Team C	To translate the personality powerpoint from (Mexico?)