

CLC Asia-Pacific Youth Formation Gathering

6-9 August 2017, Yogyakarta

Final document and recommendations

To our dear sisters and brothers in the Asia-Pacific community, we are pleased to share news of the outcome of our reflections at this gathering.

The last Asia-Pacific Regional Assembly held in January-February 2015 in Taipei concluded with mandates to the Asia-Pacific Animating Team relating to Youth and to regional community-building and communication. Informed by these mandates we called this gathering in Yogyakarta to coincide with the 7th Asian Youth Day.

Participants in the gathering came from seven national communities: Australia, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Singapore and Taiwan and were accompanied by our World Vice-EA Fr Herminio Rico SJ for three days of workshops. National delegations consisted of experienced CLC members and younger CLC members.

The gathering immediately followed the Asian Youth Day at which CLC provided service to the AYD steering committee by facilitating simultaneous sessions at the venue.

At this gathering we

- 1) revisited our own personal graced histories in CLC;
- 2) shared about current youth initiatives in each of our national communities;
- 3) had input from Fr Herminio on Ignatian Spirituality and youth;
- 4) discussed specific priorities that we will each take back to our national communities;
- 5) shared about how we can attract young people to CLC and how we can provide better formation for them;
- 6) discussed priorities for national communities to consider with respect to youth formation.

Our recommendations

From our discussions we reiterate the conclusion of both the 2013 World General Assembly and 2015 Asia-Pacific Assembly that national communities need to be bolder in proposing the CLC way of life to youth because Ignatian Spirituality continues to be particularly relevant to younger people searching for meaning in their lives especially in this era. This gathering proposes that national communities and the Asia-Pacific animating team consider the following in their future planning:

- 1) **Outreach to young people: That National Communities reach out to young people to introduce them to the CLC charism through collaborations, projects or meetings**
- 2) **Guides Formation for Youth in CLC Groups: That National Communities develop concrete plans for formation of guides who can be the companions of young CLC members**
- 3) **Youth Formation: That National Communities have a formation program specifically for young members joining CLC, with materials that are relevant and meaningful to a younger audience**

Conclusion

We express our deep thanks to all the participants and to CLC Indonesia for their generosity in hosting this event as we head back to our sending countries to share the fruits of our time together. May the Holy Spirit which has been with us in the Asian Youth Day and in our gathering continue to guide our national communities as we discern our best way to reach out to and provide formation to young people.

Yogyakarta

8 August 2017