

# **THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION FOR A RENEWED CATHOLIC MINISTRY**

## **CONSTITUTION**

### **I. Definition and Aims**

- I.1 The **International Federation for a Renewed Catholic Ministry** is an association of groups concerned with the renewal of all forms of ministry in the Catholic Church.
- I.2 The mission, goals and objectives of the IFRCM are the renewal of the Church. This means
- participating with the People of God in the guidance and the leadership of the Church
  - resisting clericalism by the creation of equitable and inclusive structures and policies
  - reformulating morality in accordance with Gospel norms and contemporary pastoral needs
- I.3 The IFRCM is a concrete expression of the subsidiarity and collegiality at the heart of a renewed church.

### **II. Goals and Membership**

- II.1 The IFRCM seeks primarily the reform of ministry and priesthood in a renewed Catholic Church, by addressing concrete pastoral needs.
- II.2 The IFRCM is open to all groups which, in the judgement of the Executive Committee, share essential goals of the Roman Catholic Church.
- II.3 The IFRCM convenes a General Assembly every three years composed of mandated delegates and non-voting observers and organises conferences and seminars open to interested people.
- II.4 English is its official language.

### **III The General Assembly**

- III.1 Each member group has three votes in the General Assembly, which may be cast by one or two voting delegates if three cannot be present at a General Assembly.
- III.2 Decisions are normally reached by consensus; failing this, a simple majority of mandated delegates is sufficient
- III.3 Changes to the Constitution require a two-thirds vote of voting delegates present at the General Assembly; at least four weeks' advance notice shall be given to member groups of such proposed changes.

### **IV Officers**

- IV.1 The IFRCM has a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary and a Treasurer, elected by the General Assembly, each having one vote at executive meetings: where more than one

- person is elected to share an office each has a vote.
- IV.2 The President is the spokesperson for the IFRCM. The Vice-President acts as deputy to the President and chairs meetings in the absence of the President. The Secretary maintains records, minutes, and correspondence. The Treasurer maintains financial accounts.
- IV.3 The list of officers should be as inclusive as possible.
- IV.4 Officers are elected for three-year terms of office and are eligible for re-election. They are subject to recall by a two-third vote of all members of the Executive Committee.
- IV.5 If in the opinion of the Executive Committee it is considered desirable, election of officers and members of the Executive Committee shall be conducted by e-mail. Nominations shall be requested at least **twelve weeks** before the date of the General Assembly to be submitted to the Secretary at least **eight weeks** before the General Assembly. The Secretary shall then circulate the list of candidates to all member groups at least **six weeks** before the assembly to be returned to the Secretary **two weeks** before the General Assembly. Each member group shall be entitled to three votes for each position on the Executive Committee and shall clearly indicate on the voting papers how these votes are to be distributed.

## **V. Executive Committee**

- V.1 The Executive Committee consists of the holders of the four offices and an appropriate number of persons at large/without portfolio, as proposed by the Executive Committee, elected by the General Assembly. The Executive Committee should be as inclusive as possible.
- V.2 The Executive Committee is responsible for the management of the IFRCM between General Assemblies, to which it is accountable.
- V.3 Executive Committee Members serve for three-year terms of office, are also eligible for re-election, and are subject to recall by a two-third vote of all members of the Executive Committee.

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