

# **Statutes of the International Council of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (Revised February, 2010)**

- 1) As of October 25, 1996, the International Council of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is established, with its base in Rome, at Via degli Orsini 34.
- 2) The International Council of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is a sign of the unity of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd which is present in various countries through formally established associations.
- 3) The International Council of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is an instrument for maintaining unity among the catechists and the identity of the Catechesis as described in The Characteristics of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (the 32 points).
- 4) The International Council of the Good Shepherd meets every four years and is made up of the two catechists/representatives from each association, the Executive Committee, and the honorary members that include: Sofia Cavalletti, Silvana Montanaro, Adelaide Balmas, and Luigi Capogrossi.
- 5) The representatives of the associations to the International Council of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd are two catechists from each country where the following requirements have been met:
  - The existence of a formally established association for the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd.
  - Engagement in the work with the children in the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd for at least seven years.
  - A complete vision of the catechesis, meaning knowledge of all three atrium “levels” and the means to insure formation of catechists at all three levels.
- 6) The representatives from the associations to the International Council must be chosen according to the following requirements:
  - They must be catechists who have a solid, lengthy experience working with children in the atrium (in all three levels) and a complete vision of the catechesis.
  - They must be in cooperation and communication with their association’s board or equivalent governing body so as to have as complete a vision as is possible of the development and needs of the catechesis in their country, and they must be willing and able to communicate to their association what transpires at the Consiglio gathering.
  - At least one of the two representatives must be currently working in an atrium.
  - In countries where there are catechists of different Christian confessions, the association’s choice of Consiglio representatives must reflect the ecumenical situation of that country.

7) The tasks of the International Council are as follows:

- Communication: to facilitate communication and the exchange of experiences at the international level.
- Formation: to reflect on proposed programs in the formation of children and adults.
- Research: to call forth research and a deepening of understanding regarding both aspects of the Christian message (the doctrinal content) and the methodology pertaining to the themes of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
- Materials: to respond to observations and questions regarding the materials in use
- To approve the requests of new associations to become part of the International Consiglio.
- To make all decisions regarding the assurance of the correct application of the method of the catechesis.
- To elect from among the associations' representatives (the members of the Consiglio) those who will constitute the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee will consist of up to 7 members, at least one of whom must be Montessori trained.

8) The Executive Committee:

- Elects its own coordinator.
- Has the task of executing the decisions made at the Consiglio meeting and dealing with other concerns [that arise between Consiglio meetings and] that will then be ratified at the next Consiglio meeting.
- Is responsible for communicating directly with the boards of the associations [or the equivalent governing bodies] in preparation for the next meeting of the International Council.
- Can invite one or two guests to the Consiglio meeting, according to the needs/interests that arise pertaining to the themes to be addressed at a particular Consiglio meeting.

9) It is the responsibility of each association to implement the decisions of the International Council in its own country.