

Madrid, May 2018

EXECUTIVE COMISSION REPORT

The Executive Commission is the Itaka Escolapios team that, by appointment of the Board of Trustees and the Advisory Board, is responsible for the day-to-day support and coordination of the set of projects and presence sites of Itaka Escolapios from a global point of view and together with the different general, demarcational and venue teams of Itaka Escolapios.

Composition and operation

The Executive Commission continues in the structure given to this body from the Advisory Board of May 2012. It is a small team able to regularly meet by videoconference, as well as with flexibility to include other heads in the meetings depending on the topics to be addressed.

The current composition of the Executive Commission is:

- *Javier Aguirregabiria (Chairman of the Network)*
- *Constanza de la Marinas*
- *Ander Mijangos*
- *Igor Irigoyen (General Coordinator of the Network and of this team).*

The meetings are usually fortnightly (normally on alternate Wednesdays), though when required by the topics to be addressed, they become more regular or extraordinary meetings are called. We also try to hold an extensive extraordinary meeting at least once a year, especially when it is possible to meet in person.

As was previously mentioned, it is the usual practice of the Executive Commission to include heads of other teams of the network in its meetings, depending on the agenda, in order to follow up on their respective scopes. The following in particular usually participate periodically at the meetings:

- The coordinators of the general teams: Berna Arrabal (Management), Jon Sustatxa (Fundraising), Iratxe Meseguer (Training), Cristina Gil (Volunteering), Joseba Alzola (Communication), Jon Ander Zárte (Awareness Raising). In addition to this, from the Executive Commission takes part in the internal dynamics of each of these teams.
- The contact technical heads of the Network with the different demarcations and countries: Pedro Marañón (Brazil, Bolivia, Philippines), Jon Calleja (Central Africa), Laura García Rábago (Indonesia, Venezuela), Jon Sustatxa (Dominican Republic), Ander Mijangos (West Africa, India), Pedro Alonso (Mexico).

- Further, the demarcational heads of Itaka Escolapios or other members of their teams also participate now and again in the meetings of the Executive Commission: when there are visits by these to the Network or by videoconference to hold special follow-up meetings.

Further, every now and again, depending on the agendas (in principle once a year) the Executive Commission meets with the General Congregation of the Order and with the General Board of the Fraternity.

Objectives

The overall function of the Executive Commission is to bring forward strategic lines of the plan of the network for the current period (2015-21), which culminate in general objectives for the entire six-year period and in specific objectives for each year. We attach the annual plan document drawn up by the Executive Commission for the current academic period.

Through the annual objectives, we highlight and specify those aspects of the Strategic Plan that require a greater push and follow-up, and meeting the needs that are put forward by the Piarist mission and our founding entities (Order and Fraternity).

The Executive Commission is also the team that prepares the meetings, raises information and proposals, and is accountable to the most senior bodies of Itaka Escolapios: the Advisory Board itself (meetings every three years) and the Board of Trustees (six-monthly meetings).

We mention the aspects that are the current focus of the work of the Executive Commission in the framework of the general strategic challenges of the Network:

- Progress in the support of countries that make up the Network, especially as Itaka Escolapios is not yet a consolidated organisation: introducing a form of working based on demarcational team and local teams, plans, annual budgets and shared projects.
- Promote from the general teams and strengthen their composition and network vision.
- Special attention on the needs arising at the Piarist Schools: new presence sites, growth of the mission.
- Improve and intensify the formulation and development of projects; search for financing to sustain them.
- Overall, the promotion of the projects of the Order, Fraternity, Calasanz Movement and the actual Itaka Escolapios Network as realities that complement, enrich and support each other to grow together

Large challenges and areas for improvement for the team

1. Broaden and diversify the composition of the Executive Commission by enriching its international vision and that of the Piarist Schools
2. Possibility of creating a contrast space or team of the Network, an intermediary between the actual Executive Commission and the Advisory Board (reflection on the Board of Trustee model).
3. Consolidate the dynamic of liaising with the General Congregation and the General Board, as well as any other instances that are identified as appropriate by the Order and Fraternity.
4. Study the most effective way of supporting Itaka Escolapios in each country and collaborate with the demarcations in the promotion of its projects and in participation at Network: meetings, follow-up trips, specific training...
5. Progress, as far as is appropriate at this level, in the natural visibility of Itaka Escolapios and in its composition as an integrated network of the Piarist Schools and recognized as such by the Order itself (legal integration).

Annex: Annual general plan of the Executive Commission for 2017-18¹

A. MISSION

Contributing to build a more fair and fraternal society through education and evangelization, especially of the poorest and most vulnerable children and youth, being a platform of shared mission and a space of call and participation in the Pious Schools.

B. VISION

Being an established international network with local roots, integrated in the life and mission of the Demarcations and Fraternities of the Pious Schools, promoter of the Piarist Christian community and its evangelizing, educational and social work updating the steps of St. Joseph of Calasanz.

C. PRINCIPLES AND VALUES

- i. **Christian and piarist identity.** Taking the Gospel as fundamental inspiration, Itaka-Escolapios participates in the Church from the charism of Calasanz and specific mission of the Pious Schools, to which it belongs.
- ii. **Option for the poor.** Itaka-Escolapios responds to the reality of impoverished people and works to eliminate the causes of poverty and exclusion, with special attention to the needs of children and youth.
- iii. **Integral Mission.** Itaka-Escolapios acts on the three dimensions of the piarist mission (education, evangelization and social transformation), from the conviction that they enrich and provide feedback to each other.
- iv. **Voluntary commitment.** Itaka-Escolapios bases its action on volunteer work, opening spaces and giving it priority and promotion in all its projects, for its educational value and as an expression of generous commitment to others.
- v. **Responsible management.** Itaka-Escolapios is committed to teamwork, building trust and austerity in performance, as well as to long-term sustainability (people, identity and economic resources) of its projects.
- vi. **Networking.** Itaka-Escolapios understands itself as a piarist network operating with criteria such as solidarity, interdependence and shared responsibility.

D. STRATEGIC LINES

I. To contribute to the strengthening of the Pious Schools and the growth of those participating in them.

- 1. To Support the Calasanz Movement, globally and in specific places, providing human resources, knowledge, organization and training, as well as helping to settle the vocational culture.*
- 2. To assist in the implementation and development of Piarist presences.*

¹ In black, Strategic Plan 2015-21; in green, objectives of the 2016-17 academic period; in red, points of the past academic period to be taken up again or taken into account; in blue, objectives of the 2017-18 academic period.

3. *To promote the initiation and consolidation of the Fraternities, offering collaboration with their learning processes and those of the piarist religious life.*
4. *To promote new initiatives to expand and strengthen the social base of Itaka-Escolapios (volunteers, collaborative partners, etc.) in conveying attitude towards shared mission and the Piarist Christian community.*
5. *To provide Piarists, members of Fraternities and participants of shared mission and discernment stages with a significant and demanding commitment space, adapted to different life situations and which can gradually grow.*

Specific objectives 2016-17

- (I.2) Maintain continuous attention on the processes of the new Piarist foundations, with availability to support on the part of the network, especially where there is no affiliation (Indonesia, RD Congo, Mozambique...).
- (I.3) Draw up a **general Itaka-Escolapios training plan**, starting from the needs detected at a local level and in the network, and making use of existing resources. Putting itself at the service of the training team of the Order to collaborate as appropriate, as well as with the General Board of the Fraternity.
- (I.4) Start a **collaborating associate campaign**, enabling us to arrive at our social base in a renewed manner and significantly broaden current supports.
- (I.5) Promote the network identity in the volunteering field: greater knowledge of the global reality, undertake an initiative to create awareness as a Piarist volunteer (common training topic, an initiative as a result of the Piarist jubilee year ...)

Specific objectives 2017-18

- (I.1) Start from the general Calasanz Movement team of the Itaka Escolapios Network, in coordination with the existing team in the Order, as a way to progress and contribute more in this field.
- (I.2) Continue supporting from the Network with special attention on new presences or those that recently joined Itaka Escolapios: Philippines, West Africa, starting in RD Congo.
- (I.3) Draw up the planned training modules on Itaka Escolapios from Training and make them available to the members of the team in the network, religious communities and Fraternity.
- (I.3) Establish a strategy to provide more information and at the same time promote the Calasanz Movement, Fraternity and Itaka Escolapios as three realities of the intensively interlinked Piarist Schools.
- (I.4) Launch of the collaborating associates campaign drawn up last academic period ("400 more years with your help") from October, coinciding with the end of the Jubilee Year.
- (I.5) Proceed with the celebration of 9th March as Volunteers Day at Itaka Escolapios, promoting the different fields and modalities of volunteering in the network.

II. To enrich the piarist mission in its educational, pastoral and social transformation dimension, in response to identified needs.

6. *To boost the resources provided to schools in order to advance as a comprehensive full time school: values education, awareness campaigns, social and educational initiatives, pastoral training, promotion and support of volunteering.*
7. *To encourage the link of Itaka-Escolapios with the educational and parish community (families, teachers and staff, alumni, neighborhood) through communication actions and specific proposals.*
8. *To strengthen the institutional alliance between each piarist work with the headquarters of Itaka-Escolapios, inside the demarcational chart and the local piarist presence.*
9. *To implement initiatives to address the new needs that arise in each place, especially those which place us as a reference entity in the socio-educational field.*
10. *To enhance the quality of our projects looking after the different phases: identification, implementation and evaluation, using tools that help the continuous improvement of processes.*
11. *To improve the economic sustainability of the projects, using both local and network resources, promoting public, private and church financing and exploiting the possibilities of the where places we work.*

Specific Objectives 2016-17²

- (II.6) Consolidate the awareness raising team of the network, as well as the international dimension of the campaigns (especially that of common solidarity). For this, make use of the Educa renewal project.
- (II.7) Improve and broaden the communication actions of the network: annual report at the start of the next academic period, information bulletins on the network, more updating and diversity in news of the website, setting of spaces, videos on our projects...
- (II.8,10,11) Have from the start of the financial year the annual agreements (development of the Programmatic Letter) for each of the demarcations and countries, that include the areas shared at Itaka Escolapios, annual objectives, teams and annual budget.
- (II.10) Insist on the shared responsibility of all the countries and venues of the projects of the network, considering the structure as an essential project within Itaka Escolapios.

² In black, Strategic Plan 2015-21; in green, objectives of the 2016-17 academic period; in red, points of the past academic period to be taken up again or taken into account; in blue, objectives of the 2017-18 academic period.

Help to understand from the guidelines of Itaka Escolapios the management tasks, relativizing as far as possible those that create more tension.

- (II.11) **Strengthen our fundraising structure and broaden our source of financing**, in order to meet the growing needs of the network (incorporation of more countries and new projects).

Specific Objectives 2017-18

- (II.6) Implement the updating and expansion of Educa and make use of it for the repromotion and renewal of the awareness raising actions in the network.
- (II.7) Improve and increase the communication of Itaka Escolapios to the set of the Piarist Schools (demarcations, fraternity) through the inherent channels and resources and in coordination with those of the Order.
- (II.8) Consolidate at all the demarcations the work model from the Programmatic Letter and culminating in the annual agreement and budget, having these documents from the start of the academic period at each place and monitoring them throughout the year.
- (II.10) Approach from this academic period (and continuing in the next one) the processes relating to the design, implementation and certification of a quality assurance system, and the design and implementation of an equality plan at the Itaka Escolapios Foundation.
- (II.10) Proceed with the process started in the last academic period in the area of data protection, with regard to auditing and adaptation to the legislation applicable to the Itaka Escolapios Foundation.
- (II.11) Continue and establish the effort in the fundraising team in order to better meet the financing needs of the projects of the network and, in general, of the Piarist Schools (new Secretariat of Project Management and Sustainability).

III. Trabajar y compartir en red escolapia, así como también redes eclesiales y sociales.

12. *To introduce the reality of Itaka-Escolapios and the possibilities it offers to Demarcations, Fraternities and priest mission to grow.*
13. *To strengthen the Itaka-Escolapios network in the existing sites, especially in identity, participation in the network and local presence.*
14. *To generate the international teams needed to attend the network, in connection with reinforced demarcational and local teams, all of them having their own managers, planning and targets.*
15. *Promote and participate in alliances with like-minded church, educational and social networks*

Specific Objectives 2016-17

- (III.12,13) Maintain constant communication with the General Congregation of the Order, with specific meetings times, as well as with the General Fraternity Board.
- (III.13) Appropriately support from the teams and venues the professionals hired at Itaka Escolapios, with special attention on the application of criteria approved by the Board of Trustees.
- (III.14) Broaden and strengthen the **Executive Commission**, as well as the **team supporting** the different countries **from the network**, considering those that recently joined the network (Mexico, West Africa, Chile...) and any others that could be added.
- (III.14) Make significant progress in the **internationalisation of the general teams of the network**: there should be at least one member from each of these teams that is not from Spain. Work from these teams to strengthen Itaka Escolapios at a demarcational and local level, aligning the priorities of the different areas.

Specific Objectives 2017-18³

- (III,12,13) Organise the 3rd Advisory Board in May 2018, with the purpose of it being a key moment in the promotion and consolidation of the Itaka Escolapios network.
- (III,14) Implement throughout the academic period changes in the organisation of the network teams (Approved by the Board of Trustees of 23rd June), in accordance with the result of the Advisory Board: Board of Trustees, Executive Commission, international team of the network, general teams.

³ In black, Strategic Plan 2015-21; in green, objectives of the 2016-17 academic period; in red, points of the past academic period to be taken up again or taken into account; in blue, objectives of the 2017-18 academic period.

(III.14) Continue incorporating new members into the general teams of the network, in order to progress in its international goal, especially in those teams currently with a less diverse composition (Management, Communication, Formation).