

SALESIANS OF DON BOSCO

**GENERAL CHAPTER XXVIII**

**WHAT KIND  
OF SALESIANS  
FOR THE YOUTH  
OF TODAY?**

**WORKING DOCUMENT  
JURIDICAL TOPICS**



27 SEPTEMBER 2019

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# 1. Tasks of the Vice Provincial

## 1.1 Situation

The tasks of the Vice Provincial indicated in C. 168 are considered sufficiently clear by a majority of the Provinces.

In the exercise of his role some problems are mentioned, of which the main ones are:

- there is no rule indicating what his specific and essential tasks are;
- the Vice Provincial holds other offices to the detriment of his principal one;
- there is little clarity regarding which are “those matters specially entrusted to him”
- an interpretation of the circumstances in which the Provincial is absent is lacking.

## 1.2 Proposals for change to the articles of the Constitutions or of the General Regulations

a) In article 168 his tasks as “*first collaborator of the provincial*” be clearly specified. There is very considerable agreement on the following:

- the care of religious discipline (with a clear reference to the letter of the Vicar of the Rector Major);
- the initial and ongoing formation of the confreres;
- the care of elderly and sick confreres.

Reasons:

- identify a principal, not discretionary task which is that of the care of religious discipline;
- the fact that the Vicar takes charge of religious discipline allows the Provincial to better maintain a “paternal” tone in his interventions, while at the same time remaining “the last resort” who takes (either alone or depending on the circumstances, with his Council) the necessary and appropriate decisions;
- the Provincial is not obliged to give to the Vice Provincial the office of Provincial Delegate for Formation and for the Salesian Family so as to give him greater freedom of choice.

## 1.3 Proposals for consideration at GC28

a) The Vice Provincial carries out his office full-time.

Reason

- the delicacy of the office and the multiplicity of tasks require a full-time commitment.

b) The Provincial, at the beginning of his mandate, makes known any other tasks assigned by him to his Vicar.

Reason given

- Indicating the tasks is useful for the confreres and for the Vicar himself, giving an official stamp to his actions and interventions.

c) A course of formation should be organized for new Vice Provincials like the one that already exists for the newly appointed Provincials and Provincial Economers.

Reason

- In reference to “the care of religious discipline” special skills are required, also of a juridical nature, and a period of appropriate formation.

1.4 Possible re-formulation of article 168

Constitution 168 (current)		Constitution (modified)
<p>The vice-provincial is the first collaborator of the provincial in everything that concerns the ordinary government of the province, as also in those matters specially entrusted to him.</p> <p>He takes the place of the provincial whenever the latter is absent or impeded.</p> <p>On the death of the provincial and until the Rector Major provides otherwise, the vice provincial assumes and exercises the whole government of the province.</p>		<p>The vice-provincial is the first collaborator of the provincial in everything that concerns the ordinary government of the province, as also in those matters specially entrusted to him.</p> <p><b><i>To him is entrusted in a particular way the care of religious life and discipline.</i></b></p> <p>He takes the place of the provincial whenever the latter is absent or impeded.</p> <p>On the death of the provincial and until the Rector Major provides otherwise, the vice provincial assumes and exercises the whole government of the province.</p>

## 2. Composition of the Provincial Council

### 2.1 Situation

The current composition of the Provincial Council as foreseen in C. 164 is considered satisfactory by a majority of the Provinces. The main reasons given are the following:

- it allows sufficient flexibility, responding to local situations;
- it allows for representation on the basis of criteria not linked to roles or sectors but to other factors such as: different sensitivities, age, experience, geographical areas, or to ensure the presence of a Brother etc.;
- it limits the number of members by right, leaving confreres free to indicate in a consultation process the names of possible Provincial Councillors;
- it is also common practice that among those on the Council are the Provincial Delegate for Formation and the Delegate for Youth Ministry.

There are a good number of Provinces which consider the formulation not satisfactory for various reasons:

- it does not foresee the presence of the Provincial Delegate for Formation as required by *Ratio 247*
- nor does it foresee the presence of the Provincial Delegate for Youth Ministry as likewise required by GC23, 244 and by the Frame of Reference for Salesian Youth Ministry VIII 1.1A.

### 2.2 Proposals to change the Articles of the Constitutions and of the General Regulations

a) Let art 164 of the Constitutions provide that the Provincial Delegate for Formation be a member by right of the Provincial Council.

Reasons:

- the strategic importance of the formation of the consecrated persons for Salesian life and mission, especially in the places where processes of reorganization are in progress;
- he can enlighten the Council on the occasion of assessment regarding the suitability of candidates to the religious life, on admissions to the renewal of temporary profession or to perpetual profession, to the ministries and to sacred orders;
- he has specific skills and a unified view on this aspect which is fundamental for the life of the Province.

b) Let article 164 of the Constitutions provide that the Provincial Delegate for Youth Ministry be a member by right of the Provincial Council.

Reasons:

- the coordination of Youth Ministry is a determining and specific factor for the Salesian mission;
- he can encourage the development of a more organic and unified vision of ministry;
- he can “bridge the gap” between the directives of the Provincial and his Council and the local communities;
- he assists the other members of the Council to understand the challenges and to provide an answer in the context;

- he is the first collaborator of the Provincial in the pastoral animation of works.

### 2.3 Possible re-formulation of art 164

Constitution 164 (current)		Constitution 164 (modified)
<p>The council assists the provincial in everything that concerns the animation and government of the province.</p> <p>It is convoked and presided over by the provincial and is made up of the vice provincial, economer and ordinarily three or five other councillors.</p>		<p>The council assists the provincial in everything that concerns the animation and government of the province.</p> <p>It is convoked and presided over by the provincial and is made up of the vice provincial, economer and ordinarily three or five other councillors, <b>among whom the Delegate for Formation and the Delegate for Youth Ministry.</b></p>

## 3. Provincial offices, secretariats, commissions

### 3.1 Situation

The current provision in Reg. 160 is considered adequate and sufficient by a large number of Provinces. The main reasons given are the following.

- it enables each Province to decide which are the structures of animation and coordination necessary in its own context;
- the General Regulations cannot list all the commissions foreseen by the various documents of the Congregation or in fact existing in the Provinces: Formation, Youth Ministry, Economy, for religious discipline, for the prevention of the abuse of minors, for higher education, for social communication, project and development office (PDO)

A reduced number of Provinces consider the formulation unsatisfactory for the following reasons:

- It does not recognize the obligation to have at least two Commissions: that for Youth Ministry (as foreseen by GC 23, 244 and by the Frame of Reference for Youth Ministry pp. 272-277) and that for Formation (required by the Ratio 274);
- The Identity Card of the Salesian Family also foresees the setting up of the Consultative Committee (*Consulta*) for the Salesian Family.

### 3.2. Proposals to modify articles of the Constitutions and General Regulations

- a) Let art 160 of the General Regulations confirm the obligation to establish a commission for Formation and a commission for Youth Ministry.

Reasons:

- they are two strategic commissions;
- they refer to the Ratio and to the Frame of Reference for Youth Ministry.

### 3.3 Proposals regarding deliberations by GC28

- a) It is expected that ordinarily in these two commissions members of the Salesian Family and lay people should be present

Reason:

- To promote greater communion in the Salesian spirit and mission

- b) The Provincial and his Council should set out guidelines to regulate the collaboration and the communication between the commissions and the Provincial Council.

Reasons:

- The commissions need to refer to the OPP, to SEPP and to the Provincial Directory;
- There are organizations for study, consultation, coordination which need to hold regular discussions with the Provincial Council;
- The Provincial Council needs to assess the activities of the commissions, their ability to deal with the tasks assigned and to work effectively.

### 3.4 Possible reformulation of art 160 of the General Regulations

Regulation 160 (current)		<i>Regulation 160 (modified)</i>
It belongs to the provincial, after hearing the opinion of his council, to set up offices and secretariats and to establish commissions for consultation or pastoral activity at the provincial level.		It belongs to the provincial, after hearing the opinion of his council, to set up offices and secretariats and to establish commissions for consultation or pastoral activity at the provincial level. <b><i>In every province the commission for Formation and the commission for Youth Ministry should always be set up.</i></b>



## **4. The forbidding of the acquisition, holding of real estate with the sole object of producing income, and every other kind of interest-bearing investment (C. 187)**

### *4.1 Situation*

Over 2/3 of Provincial Chapters mentioned that some of their works were not financially self-supporting, in particular those of a social character or else those requiring high maintenance or modernization costs.

About half of the Provincial Chapters mentioned problems of economic and financial sustainability of the Province, especially covering the expenses of initial formation and for the care of elderly confreres or those no longer self-sufficient.

In various Provinces it is foreseen that the flow of money previously ensured from benefactors will in future be reduced. Also, the provision of state subsidies or private funding can become problematic.

There is the awareness that Providence will not fail to help and at the same time that the situation requires the prudent use of the resources which we have at our disposal in view of the mission.

### *4.2 Proposals for the modification of the Constitutions and General Regulations*

- It is proposed to modify the second paragraph of art 187 of the Constitutions, so that the economic and financial operations forbidden may be indicated with greater clarity.

Reasons:

- the wording used (with the sole object of producing income and every other kind of permanent interest-bearing investment is forbidden) is not immediately and univocally understood;
- general activities of producing income, ethically lawful and with a clear destination for the income, have been considered legitimate both in the past and in the present, without having caused scandal or been seen as a cause for any counter-witness to institutional poverty.

### *4.3 Proposal for the deliberation of GC28*

4.3.1 The General Council with the office of the Economer General (assisted by a commission of experts in the juridical and financial field) should prepare the "Guidelines" on economic and financial questions following the indications of the universal Church in the light of the norms of CICLSAL: *Economy at the service of the charism and of the mission (Guidelines 2018)* and *Guidelines for the management of property in the Institutes of consecrated life and in the Societies of apostolic life (2014)*.

4.3.2 Every Province should prepare and implement a plan for the economic and financial sustainability of the works that takes into account the following issues:

- a) solidarity among the houses as a sign of fraternal communion and the sharing of goods;
- b) seeking assistance from government and non-governmental organizations;
- c) humbly asking help from benefactors, as an expression of poverty and trust in Providence;
- d) the rationalization of costs, expenses and of “spaces” through an economy of scale, bulk purchasing, simplification of structures, determined saving, careful management-control; etc.
- e) attention given to the efficient maintenance of property and its obviously direct use in the mission, with the avoidance of every appearance of luxury and of waste in the use of goods from Providence.
- f) the improved operation of Mission Offices and of Project and Development Offices (PDO)
- g) transparency in the accounting and use of economic resources, with fully documented respect for the intentions of the donors both private and institutional.
- h) the possibility of establishing partnerships with foundations, Past Pupils, companies.
- i) the possibility of finding legal and ethical ways of obtaining resources from our existing activities and structures.
- j) raising real estate income from property belonging to the Congregation or received from an inheritance with the profits having a specified purpose (for houses of formation, homes for the elderly, social work), carefully considering whether or not this could be a cause of scandal or a counter-witness to institutional poverty.
- k) the prudent use of cash surpluses and of financial provisions that make use of methods that reduce any risk to the minimum and do not expose the capital of the Province to possible future loss.

Reasons:

- a plan for the sustainability of the works is required on account of the situation mentioned by 2/3 of the Provinces.
- it would be good if the GC28 were to indicate its contents and criteria.

#### 4.4 A possible reformulation of art. 187 of the Constitutions:

Constitution 187 (current)	Constitution (modified)
<p>The Salesian Society may acquire, possess, administer and alienate temporal goods. This is true for the Congregation as a whole, for individual provinces and for each house. Such goods should not be held in the name of an individual person and should be retained only to the extent that they are directly useful for our works.</p> <p>Acquiring and holding real estate with the sole object of producing income and every other kind of permanent interest-bearing investment is forbidden except in the cases referred to in article 188 of the Constitutions.</p>	<p>The Salesian Society may acquire, possess, administer and alienate temporal goods. This is true for the Congregation as a whole, for individual provinces and for each house. Such goods should not be held in the name of an individual person and should be retained only to the extent that they are directly useful for <b>the mission</b>.</p> <p><b>Every form of luxury, excessive gain and the accumulation of goods is to be avoided.<sup>1</sup></b></p> <p><b>Recourse to speculation in real estate or in financial matters is forbidden.</b></p>

<sup>1</sup> Cf. Code of Canon Law cn. 634 §2.

### *Notes of the Precapitular Juridical Commission*

- C. 187 does not prevent the Provinces from promoting activities that produce an income (objective profit)<sup>2</sup> Such activities on account of their nature, the way they are managed, their size could become a counter-sign to the religious identity of the ones promoting them, or they could be compatible with the Salesian mission. This requires careful judgment and consideration of the choices made. Such activities are undertaken to provide income to be used for specific predetermined purposes such as the support of social works, formation houses, houses for the elderly.
- C. 188 n. 3 permits the accepting of inheritances, bequests or donations to which obligations are attached and this can involve commitments determined by the donor regarding the income, such as that for example of retaining possession of the real estate received;
- C. 188 n 4 permits the establishing of annuities, charitable bodies, foundations that by law need to have their own stable patrimony.

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<sup>2</sup> Non-profit organizations carry out activities that generate income (objective profit) which, however, is not divided among the members (subjective profit). The income is used to finance the activities and purposes foreseen by the statutes of the organization.

## 5. The quantitative and qualitative consistency of the community

### 5.1 Situation

4/5 of the Provinces have indicated that it is difficult to ensure the quantitative and qualitative consistency of the local communities. The most common reasons given are the following:

- reduced number of confreres;
- ageing and health difficulties;
- those leaving;
- the large number of confreres still in formation (in the newer Provinces)

Faced with this situation there has been reaction in the following ways:

- the giving of two-fold responsibilities (e.g. Rector and Economer)
- a plan to re-shape the Province;
- the closure of religious communities and works;
- entrusting works to lay management;
- welcoming confreres from other Provinces.

It is difficult to ensure the implementation of what is required in Reg. 150: *“The number of confreres in a house shall normally not be less than six.”*

### 5.2 Proposals to change articles of the Constitutions and General Regulations

a) Article 150 of the General Regulations should be changed permitting the number of confreres in perpetual vows not in initial formation in the community to be normally no less than four.

Reasons:

- this proposal reflects the real difficulty many Provinces have in establishing communities of six confreres;
- the presence of at least four confreres in perpetual vows not in initial formation can sufficiently ensure common life and allow the house council to function;
- the communion and sharing in the spirit and in the mission of Don Bosco, on the part of Salesians and lay people already now well established in large areas of the Congregation, envisages the management of the works in ways different from the past, and the entrustment to lay people of tasks once exclusively undertaken by Salesians.

b) Article 150 of the General Regulations should be changed permitting in Provinces with a large presence of confreres in formation and vigorous development of works, the number of confreres in perpetual vows not in initial formation in the community to be normally no less than three.

Reasons:

- Some Provinces are in a phase of a large increase in numbers. They need to open new apostolic operations now – although they cannot ensure in every community at least four perpetually professed confreres – because it is foreseen that the current favourable

conditions will not be repeated in the future. Given the large number of confreres in initial formation it is easy to foresee that the community of three confreres today can become more consistent tomorrow.

- This situation can be seen as one stage in the process of growth of a Province. Reg. 20 makes provision for the strictly so-called “missionary residences” that they should have no less than three confreres. This criterion could also be applied in the missionary development phase of a Province.

### 5.3 Proposal to be considered by GC28

a) In the Organic Provincial Plan, care should be taken not only of the quantitative consistency of the communities but also of the qualitative consistency defining the criteria (cf. GC24, 173-174) so that it may be possible to live fraternal relationships, a well-ordered common life, with a well-balanced distribution of tasks and roles, safeguarding the charismatic role of the Rector and active co-responsibility with lay people.

Reasons:

- the charismatic sustainability of a community is not guaranteed merely by the quantitative consistency but also by the real possibility of ensuring interaction between apostolic mission, fraternal community and the practice of the evangelical counsels.

### 5.4 Possible reformulation of article 150 of the General Regulations

Regulation 150 (current)		Regulation 150 (changed)
<p>A member is assigned to a specific salesian house by precept of obedience from his own provincial or other competent authority. The number of confreres in a house shall normally be no less than six.</p>		<p>A member is assigned to a specific salesian house by precept of obedience from his own provincial or other competent authority. The number of <b>perpetually professed confreres not in initial formation</b> in every house shall not be less than <b>four</b>. <b>In particular situations the Rector Major with the consent of the General Council can authorize that the number of perpetually professed confreres not in initial formation shall not be less than three.</b></p>

## 6. Economer in the local community

### 6.1 Situation

Half of the Provinces, (those with younger and more numerous confreres) indicate that there are no particular problems in carrying out what is required in C. 179,m1 and C. 184, which foresee that in every local community there be a religious economer, a member of the local council.

This first half of the Provinces have lay employees with roles involving accounting, book-keeping, assistance who in their work report to the Rector and the Economer.

The other half, (those with older confreres or with declining numbers) are finding it difficult to entrust the role of economer to a confrere, either because of lack of Salesian personnel (destined to be engaged primarily in pastoral roles) or because of the complexity of the works and the high degree of juridical and economic expertise required in the administrative and management fields.

The possibility of “assigning to a layperson the functions of the economer of the local community” was envisaged by GC26, 121. Current experiences have led to a different and more precise wording. It seems more accurate to call such a lay person “coordinator of administrative management”.

In this second half of the Provinces various solutions have been tried.

- appointing a lay person as the coordinator of administrative management of the work, who also attends to the needs of the religious community depending on the Rector and the local council;
- appointing a lay person as the coordinator of administrative management of the work and at the same time having a Salesian economer for the needs of the religious community;
- the office of the economer being taken on by the Rector and delegating to a confrere the daily management and some of the domestic issues.

The solutions adopted have shown the following advantages:

- a new vision of the administration of the work undertaken with greater professionalism and skill;
- more promptness and transparency in giving the accounts to the Rector, the community and to the Provincial economer;
- more respect shown for the civil norms; being more demanding with regard to suppliers and to the carrying out of work;
- direct and continuous contact with Provincial offices;
- lightening of the technical administrative burdens that would otherwise fall on Salesians at the expense of the mission.

The adoption of these solutions has also revealed some problems:

- the lay person coordinator of the administrative management is not a member of the house council (although is invited whenever it is necessary)
- a lack of reciprocal dialogue and trust with the Rector or with the confreres of the house;
- a lack of due competence;

- additional costs for the work's expenses.

### *6.2 Proposals to change articles of the Constitutions and the General Regulations*

a) Article 198 of the General Regulations to expressly provide that the administrative management of the work can be entrusted to a lay person.

Reasons:

- reduction in numbers of Salesian personnel;
- the need for specialized skills;
- appreciation of the role of lay people in their specific fields

### *6.3 Proposal to be considered by GC28*

The Provincial having consulted his Council and at the request of the Rector can authorize the appointment of a lay person as the "coordinator of administrative management" of the work.

In the contract should be specified:

- duties and their contractual framework
- period of employment
- sphere of action, with particular reference to authorization to sign, power of attorney, criteria for management, fields of autonomy in ordinary administration;
- which of the duties proper to the local economer indicated in Reg 199-202 are entrusted to him/her;
- the nature of the control and of the communication with the Rector and the house council.

Reasons:

A religious community that is quantitatively and qualitatively consistent has a Salesian as the economer, who by right therefore is a member of the house council. He can be helped by a lay person who has expertise in some technical matters. It does not seem appropriate that the economy of the religious community – bound by the ties of the vow of poverty should be managed by a person who is not a Salesian religious.

On the other hand, the work in its entirety (especially if it is a matter of a work that is complex and multifaceted) needs a "coordinator of administrative management" who has the specific skills, ability, and enjoys the trust of the Rector and the house council.

6.4 Possible reformulation of article 198 of the General Regulations

Regulation 198 (current)		Regulation 198 (changed)
<p>The administration of the goods of each house is entrusted to the local economer who will act in dependence of the rector and his council.</p> <p>Every financial transaction in any sector of the house, even that of the rector, must be referred back for accounting purposes to the economer's office, which will be organized in a manner proportionate to the importance and complexity of the work involved. Even confreres in charge of works which by statute or agreement have a separate administrative council, must render an account of their administration to the religious superiors. This must be done even when there exist separate administrations for the community and the work concerned.</p>		<p>The administration of the goods of each house is entrusted to the local economer who will act in dependence of the rector and his council.</p> <p><b><i>The provincial at the request of the rector and having heard the opinion of his council, can authorize the appointment of a lay person for the administrative management of the work, to whom may be entrusted some tasks proper to the local economer.</i></b></p> <p>Every financial transaction in any sector of the house, even that of the rector, must be referred back for accounting purposes to the economer's office, which will be organized in a manner proportionate to the importance and complexity of the work involved. Even confreres in charge of works which by statute or agreement have a separate administrative council, must render an account of their administration to the religious superiors. This must be done even when there exist separate administrations for the community and the work concerned.</p>



## 7. Legitimacy of the Rector as the local economer

### 7.1 Situation

The entrustment to the Rector of the tasks of the local economer is now a common practice although not a majority in percentage terms (about 1/3). This is happening above all in parish works and in Provinces with a reduction in the number of confreres.

This solution is considered almost unanimously not to be a positive one for the following reasons:

- having to give attention to administrative and management tasks can take the Rector away from his primary role of animation and government;
- it puts excessive pressure on the Rector;
- there can be a lack of control of the Rector's actions in such a delicate field as that of the administration of material goods (the use of money, drawing up contracts, taking on personnel, etc.);
- there can be a lack of discernment in decisions that can have serious economic consequences for the work in the present and in the future;
- a possible abuse of power;
- a denial of the principle of subsidiarity.

In the face of such situations various Provinces point out the need to:

- make a distinction between the economer of the community (a religious) and the administrator of the work (a lay person);
- see to it that tasks proper to the economer of the religious community can be entrusted to a lay person;
- see whether the vice Rector can be the economer;
- keep clearly distinct the office of the Rector from that of the economer.

### 7.2 Proposals to change articles of the Constitutions or of the General Regulations

- a) It is proposed to change article 172 of the General Regulations in which it can be expressly stated that the Rector is not to be the economer of the community.

Reasons:

- the problems pointed out by the Provinces almost unanimously are considerable and potentially serious;
- the thinking of Don Bosco and constant Salesian tradition have made a distinction between the person of the Rector and that of the economer;
- the charismatic value of the Rector for the confreres, the lay people who share the mission and for the young.

- b) It is proposed to change article 182 of the General Regulations in which it says: "ordinarily the office of vice-rector should not be combined with that of economer" eliminating these words.

Reasons:

- in the smallest communities, the vice-rector can be the local economer without particular increase in his tasks;

- Salesian tradition saw combined in the same person, the Prefect of the house, both the tasks of the vice-rector and that of the economer.

### 7.3 Possible re-formulation of article 172 of the General Regulations

Regulation 172 (current)		Regulation 172 (changed)
<p>The rector should keep himself free from commitments that could interfere with his fundamental duties of service to the confreres.</p> <p>He should not absent himself from the house for any notable length of time without necessity and without an understanding with the provincial.</p>		<p>The rector should keep himself free from commitments that could interfere with his fundamental duties of service to the confreres.</p> <p><b><i>The office of rector should not be combined with that of economer.</i></b></p> <p>He should not absent himself from the house for any notable length of time without necessity and without an understanding with the provincial.</p>

### 7.4 Possible re-formulation of article 182 of the General Regulations

Regulation 182 (current)		Regulation 182 (changed)
<p>It is customary for the vice-rector to be responsible for one of the principal sectors of the educative and pastoral activity of the community.</p> <p><i>Ordinarily, however, the office of vice-rector should not be combined with that of economer.</i></p> <p>The community should be informed of the special duties of the vice-rector referred to in article 183 of the Constitutions.</p>		<p>It is customary for the vice-rector to be responsible for one of the principal sectors of the educative and pastoral activity of the community.</p> <p>The community should be informed of the special duties of the vice-rector referred to in article 183 of the Constitutions.</p>

## 8. Council of the religious community and council of the educative pastoral community

### 8.1 Situation

The picture in the various areas of the Congregation is not the same.

In about 2/3 of the Provinces:

- in almost all the local communities the council of the educative pastoral community has been set up;
- there are more councils of the educative pastoral communities coinciding with bodies already existing (a pastoral council in the parishes; a school or technical training centre council; a social work council etc.)

In about 1/3 of the Provinces:

- the council of the educative pastoral community is only formally present;
- there is no council of the educative pastoral community but there are some active participative bodies as planned for the parish, the school, the technical training centres.

With regard to the relationship between the council of the educative pastoral community and the house council no particular difficulties or problems were mentioned in about half of the Provinces.

In the other half of Provinces some problems emerged, among them the following:

- the lack of a local Salesian educative pastoral plan;
- the absence of Salesians from the council/s of the educative pastoral community;
- lack of communication between the council of the educative pastoral community and the council of the religious community;
- the house council is not functioning;
- the autonomy in decision making by the council of the educative pastoral community with regard to the house council;
- the difficulty in setting up the educative pastoral community itself in multi-religious contexts;
- expectations of economic assistance or a proper salary on the part of the lay people who more directly take part in the Salesian mission;
- unwarranted interference by lay people in the decision-making processes proper to the religious community.

Various solutions have been adopted:

- the setting up of as many councils of the educative pastoral community as there are pastoral areas in each work; the house council has the role of linking together the various pastoral areas;
- a single council of the educative pastoral community has been set up in order to ensure a more united approach in the work;
- the members of the house council take part by right in the council of the educative pastoral community, each one representing his own field;
- the members of the council of the educative pastoral community are appointed by the Provincial;
- the Rector always presides at the council of the educative pastoral community or the councils of the educative pastoral community of the work.

Some questions are still unresolved:

- How to understand the council of the educative pastoral community in those works where there already exist participative bodies?
- If the religious community is the “animating nucleus” of the educative pastoral community (Reg. 5) through what means does it effectively exercise that mission?
- Does the Salesian community take part in the decision making, or does it have the final word in the decisions?

### *8.2 Proposals to change articles of the Constitutions or of the General Regulations*

a) It is proposed to change Reg. 5 in such a way as to identify in the Salesians and lay people who share the spirit and mission of Don Bosco the animating nucleus of the educative pastoral community.

### *8.3 Proposal to be considered by GC28*

a) In each Province the relationship between the house council and the council of the educative pastoral community should be defined in reference to GC24 169-174

Reasons:

- practice necessarily has to take account of local situations, but some working models need to be better defined

### *8.4 Possible re-formulation of article 5 §1 of the General Regulations*

Reg. 5 § 1 (current)		Reg 5 § 1 (modified)
The application of the plan requires that in all our works and settings we establish the educative and pastoral community whose animating nucleus is the salesian community.		The application of the plan requires that in all our works and settings we establish the educative and pastoral community whose animating nucleus <b><i>is made up of salesians and lay people.</i></b>

## 9. Council of the work managed by lay people under Provincial responsibility

### 9.1 Situation

Works managed by lay people are a growing phenomenon in Latin America and in Europe. In Asia and Africa, they are almost entirely absent.

From current experience, certain elements have emerged that need to be reflected on:

- the main challenge met with is that of creating and maintaining an educational atmosphere inspired by the Salesian preventive system;
- charismatic and vocational accompaniment of the lay people cannot be reduced to a few occasional visits;
- it has become necessary to draw up a statute for a lay-managed work with a clear allocation of tasks and responsibilities to the council of the work, and a careful assessment of economic sustainability;
- the ongoing formation of the lay people to whom the work is entrusted remains a decisive element;
- times and programmes for joint formation of Salesians and lay people will help the development of a mentality of reciprocal collaboration and service of the mission.

### 9.2 Proposal to be considered by GC28

a) The Rector Major and the Department for Youth Ministry and the General Economist's Office will offer the Provincials guidelines on how to draw up a plan of accompaniment for the works under lay management that remain under Provincial responsibility.

#### Reasons

- practical experiences of the implementation of what is said in GC24 180-181 are already in progress in various Provinces, such as to enable the identification of some common guidelines;
- these offer some interesting possibilities for communion and sharing between Salesians and lay people in the spirit and in the mission of Don Bosco.

b) The Provincial with his Council should draw up a model for the animation and government of these works under lay management that remain under Provincial responsibility.

#### Reasons:

- it is necessary to draw up a stable model for the animation and government of these works, in order to give them continuity and ensure Salesian charismatic quality.



# 1. Change to the articles of the Constitutions 141 and 154; Regulations 136 and 138

## PROPOSAL

It is proposed to put in article 154 of the Constitutions and in articles 136 and 138 of the General Regulations, in place of the words “groups of provinces”, the word “regions.”

### C. 141

§ 1. The members of the General Council are elected by the General Chapter in separate ballots for each one. Each Regional Councillor is elected and chosen by preference from a list presented by the Chapter members **of the respective Region**.

### C 154

In order to facilitate contact with the Rector Major and the General Council and to foster bonds of union among themselves provinces are gathered in **regions entrusted** to a Regional Councillor. The constitution of the Regions is made by the General Chapter. (R 135-138)

### Reg 136

In addition, it is the duty of the Regional Councillors:

1. to further a concrete and creative family sense in the relationships of confreres and Provinces among themselves and with the Rector Major and his Council;
2. to attend diligently to the official business of the Provinces of **the Region** and **of any possible** Provincial Conferences;
3. to foster the efficient functioning of interprovincial structures, where they exist, and the setting up of regional offices of documentation regarding the religious, cultural and social services of the areas of their competence, where this is possible and advisable.

### Reg 138

If particular reasons require that certain Provinces be detached from one or more **Regions**, without an entirely new **Region** entrusted to a Regional Councillor being constituted, the General Chapter may unite them in a delegation, for which the Rector Major with the consent of his Council and after consulting the Provinces concerned will appoint a personal delegate, to whom he will assign such duties as he considers opportune.

## REASONS

In the Constitutions and in the General Regulations reference is usually made to Regional Councillors; it is considered appropriate to harmonize this wording in speaking about Regions and not of groups of Provinces entrusted to them.

In addition, the Regions are a well-established reality that can be identified with a single word without therefore having to use the expression “groups of Provinces”

## General Council

<b>VOTING</b>	<b>Present: 11</b>	<b>IN FAVOUR: 11</b>	<b>AGAINST: 0</b>
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## 2. Form of the Extraordinary Visitation according to Reg. 104

### PROPOSAL

It is proposed to GC28 that it make a resolution to help the Provinces to change their way of thinking about the way the extraordinary visitation is carried out. Article 104 of the Regulations says: "Personally or through others the Rector Major may visit each and every province and local community whenever the need arises. In particular he will arrange for an extraordinary visitation of every province during his six-year term of office. *This may be carried out as he thinks fit, either by the regional councillor or by another visitor delegated by the Rector Major* to whom he gives the powers of jurisdiction required by the nature itself of the visit."

### Resolution

The Rector Major and the General Council at the beginning of the six-year period will review the way of making the extraordinary Visitations. In accordance with what article 104 of the Regulations says, the Rector Major if he so wishes can appoint as the extraordinary Visitor to a Province the Regional Councillor or another Councillor together with another confrere who can assist him. Should the Visitor not be the Regional Councillor of the Region to which the Province belongs, there should be some indication regarding the way in which he maintains contact with the Regional Councillor.

### REASONS

The proposal regarding a resolution is intended to:

- encourage on the part of the Regional Councillors accompaniment of the Provinces with annual visits to the Provincial Council and to the Rectors;
- help change the way of thinking regarding Visitors who do not necessarily need to be General Councillors.

### General Councillors

VOTING	Present: 11	IN FAVOUR: 8	AGAINST: 3
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### 3. Change of Reg. 135

A request for periodic meetings of Regional Councillors with the Provincial Councils of each Province, substituting the word “may” with the word “should” A request for an annual meeting together with all the Provincials of the Region and links with the Regional structures.

#### PROPOSAL

##### Reg. 135

The regional councillors will keep in touch with the individual provinces. They **should** visit them **periodically, bringing together the provincial councils; in agreement with the Provincials, they may meet the Rectors and other groups** of confreres, to point out to them whatever they consider more opportune for the welfare of the Congregation and for a better service of the Province and the local Church. **They will have an annual meeting together with all the Provincials of the Region and maintain links with the regional structures, the “Curatorium” of the inter-province formation communities, and any Provincial Conferences.**

#### REASONS

By the Regional Councillor meeting with the Provincial Councils of each Province, it is intended to facilitate the accompaniment of the Provinces, especially to assess and to ensure the implementation of the General Chapter and of the guidelines of the letter of the Rector Major after the extraordinary visitation.

This change in the article will be made possible if what is said in article 104 of the General Regulations is implemented, in other words, that the Extraordinary Visitations are not made solely by the General Councillors.

To the article are also added the other tasks of the Regional Councillor which are undertaken at Regional level or of any possible Provincial Conferences.

#### General Councillors

VOTING	Present: 11	IN FAVOUR: 10	AGAINST: 1
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## 4. New article of the Regulations on the youth ministry sector

A request to introduce a new article of the Regulations that is intended to give a more stable structure to the youth ministry sector.

### PROPOSAL

It is proposed to insert the following new article in the Regulations as article 135 and the current article 135 become 135 bis. The articles from the new 135 to 142 will have as their title: Structures of Sectors and of Regions”

### New article 135

“Consistent with the articles of the Constitutions 42 and the Regulations 11-17; 25-30 the Youth Ministry sector of the General Council is organized in the following offices:

- 1 oratories and youth centres;
- 2 schools and vocational training centres;
- 3 higher education, hostels and university residencies;
- 4 vocational services;
- 5 social services and works;
- 6 parishes.”

The title of the Regulations ought to be “Councillors of Sectors and Regional Councillors” and not “Regional Structures” After the new article 135, the current article 135 follows.

### REASONS

In the Regulations there are three articles that regard the General Councillors (135-137), which specify the way of carrying out their tasks, while there is no specification regarding the tasks of the Councillors of Sectors. This specification is necessary at least for the Youth Ministry Sector.

In the second paragraph of article 107 of the Regulations it says: “The members of the General Council in charge of special departments can avail themselves of the services of technical offices and consultant boards in carrying out the duties confided to them.”

With the introduction of this new article it is intended to give a stable structure to the Youth Ministry sector, specifying what the Constitutions say in article 136 about the Councillor for youth ministry: he “animates and gives direction to Salesian educative and apostolic activity in its different expressions.” Indicating the offices of the sector specifies which are the expressions of the Salesian educative and apostolic activity.

The offices also help to identify the members of the team of the Sector, who ought to ensure the achievement of the objectives of the offices themselves. The introduction of the Sectors also gives a concrete expression to the areas of the Project of the Rector Major and the General Council, which is then subdivided into the same areas indicated by the offices.

### General Councillors

<b>VOTING</b>	<b>Present: 11</b>	<b>IN FAVOUR: 11</b>	<b>AGAINST: 0</b>
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## **5 Two new articles of the Regulations on the Youth Ministry Sector of the General Council which present the Social Works and Services**

A request to introduce two new articles in the Regulations intended to give visibility to the sector of social works and services.

### **PROPOSAL**

It is proposed to insert the following two new articles in the Regulations after the articles that present the various sectors, after article 17.

#### **New article 17 bis**

The charismatic acceptance of the priority commitment to young people who are poor and needy and to poor people in general (C. 29) following the example of Don Bosco on the outskirts of Turin, concerns the whole of Salesian Youth Ministry.

The Province should ensure in its educative pastoral plan this commitment in all the works and in all presences. Anticipating and facing up to possible situations and needs of the young and of the working classes in every area and, in particular, in the works and services specifically aimed at poverty and social exclusion is an all-embracing choice typical of our being educators and pastors of the young.

Following the model of the Valdocco Oratory, we offer, especially to youngsters in family and social difficulties and abandoned young people, an educative pastoral community that in a family spirit prepares them for life. The way this community experience is lived out bears witness to the centrality of the individual young person; welcoming and at the same time protecting him/her, it promotes him/her as a person with rights and facilitates his/her integration as an active citizen committed to justice and to the transformation of society.

#### **General Councillors**

<b>VOTING</b>	<b>Present: 11</b>	<b>IN FAVOUR: 11</b>	<b>AGAINST: 0</b>
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#### **New article 17 ter**

The Province is committed to ensuring strategies and interventions that guarantee the charismatic identity in the light of the Preventive System, updating it to daily life situations through an ongoing formation in the social dimension of charity.

The Province also ensures the necessary professional skills, together with the quality of the proposal, in the face of the complexity of the situations.

Evangelizing implies closeness and sharing, humanization and the proposal of new horizons.

It is an inalienable process even when it does not arrive at the explicit gospel proposal for everyone and with the same intensity. Drawing inspiration from gospel values, let us involve ourselves totally in the social situation, opening up horizons of full humanization.

## **REASONS**

In the Regulations, there are no articles that deal directly with social works and services neither as works nor as across-the-board choices.

With the introduction of these two new articles, it is intended to offer a clear charismatic clarification of this preferential option as regards both works and across-the-board choices that the model of the EPC takes up.

In addition, the Province are invited to think about strategies and interventions regarding suitable formation in this field.

Finally, we remind ourselves that the call to evangelization is a fundamental part of our response to poor and abandoned young people.

## **General Councillors**

VOTING	Present: 11	IN FAVOUR: 10	AGAINST: 1
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## **6. New article of the Constitutions on the Councillor for the Salesian Family**

Request to introduce in new article of the Constitutions

### **PROPOSAL**

It is proposed to insert a new article of the Constitutions 138bis about the Councilor for the Salesian Family. If this proposal were to be accepted article 133 of the Constitutions about the composition of the General Council would need to be changed and a new specific article about the Councillor for the Salesian Family formulated.

### **REASONS**

This proposal to insert a new article of the Constitutions to introduce into the General Council a Councillor for the Salesian Family presupposes an assessment of the Secretariat for the Salesian Family, a summary of which is presented here.

The Secretariat for the Salesian Family, with a full-time Delegate of the Rector Major, has meant a major team effort among the members of the Secretariat itself because he was dedicated to that task alone; however there is a need for greater coordination through the authority of a General Councillor.

Without the presence of a Councillor for the Salesian Family within it, the General Council becomes weaker both in its knowledge and in its animation of the Salesian Family itself at Province and Region level. In the future, the Salesian Family will assume greater importance and therefore needs to be better linked with the Council.

The difficulty that the team of the Secretariat has had the Rector Major as its point of reference has been noted. He had to consult with the individual members of the Secretariat, which involves much time; this does not happen with the teams of the other General Councillors. In addition, the various groups of the Salesian Family would like to have the presence of the Rector Major at all the important events of their lives; this involves spending a great deal of time.

It is not considered appropriate to return to the situation in which the Salesian Family has as its point of reference the Vicar of the Rector Major.

Should the GC28 not consider it appropriate to introduce a Councillor for the Salesian Family, the decision of GC27 about the Secretariat (GC27 79) ought to be reconsidered in view of its better functioning.

### **General Councillors**

<b>VOTING</b>	<b>Present: 13</b>	<b>IN FAVOUR: 7</b>	<b>AGAINST: 6</b>
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## 7. Addition to article 197 of the Regulations

To add in article 197 of the Regulations a paragraph that offers criteria to interpret the following formulation of C. 187 which is to be retained:

### PROPOSAL

To insert in article 197 of the Regulations, after the second paragraph, the following text: "The provincial with his council will identify alternative forms of funding to guarantee the sustainability of Salesian works, ensuring the gospel witness to poverty, the legality and morality of such forms, respect for the environment. He will then submit them to the Rector Major and the General Council to obtain approval for them."

### REASONS:

We are witnessing a slow but unrelenting decline in the proceeds from donations through bequests and wills.

Some Provinces do not have sufficient resources to cover the costs of formation, the care of elderly and sick confreres and the support of some works and services for poor young people. Development of Salesian works requires a strategy to ensure the sustainability of educative and pastoral activities and works.

*The Document of CICLSAL "Economy at the service of the charism and of the mission" n. 84 observes: "In the efforts made concerning the commitment in the management of financial resources necessary for the mission, the legality of such procedures and the morality of the investments should be properly assessed"*

These alternative forms of funding will make it possible to support in particular:

- social works and those on behalf of the poorest and abandoned young people;
- the formation of the confreres;
- the management of care homes for elderly Salesians.

### General Councillors

<b>VOTING</b>	<b>Present: 13</b>	<b>IN FAVOUR: 13</b>	<b>AGAINST: 0</b>
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## 8. Reformulation of Reg. 182, 198.

Three proposals that can help to better define the situation of the Salesian economist and of the lay coordinator of administrative management.

### PROPOSAL 1

#### Reg. 182

Remove the second sentence of art. 182 of the Regulations that says: “**Ordinarily however the office of vice-rector should not be combined with that of economist**”

#### REASONS

One cannot see the reason why the vice rector of the community cannot also be the economist, at least the economist of the Salesian community (cf. Reg 182), since often Salesians to be the economist cannot be found and there are a good number of situations in which the Rector is seen also to be the economist.

#### General Councillors

VOTING	Present: 13	IN FAVOUR: 13	AGAINST: 0
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### PROPOSAL 2

#### Reg. 198

The first paragraph of art 198 of the Regulations that describes the functions of the Salesian economist excluding the fact that he be the Rector, to be reformulated with the following expression added: **The office of the local economist should not ordinarily be combined with that of Rector.**

#### REASONS

If the Rector also takes on the role of the local economist, it creates difficulties because the Rector who has responsibility for the control of the economy is not controlled by anyone.

#### General Councillors

VOTING	Present: 13	IN FAVOUR: 11	AGAINST: 2
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<b>PROPOSAL 3</b>
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**Reg. 198**

The third paragraph of art. 198 of the Regulations to be reformulated, requiring explicitly that the administration of the community and of the work be separate.

“Even confreres in charge of works which by statute or agreement have a separate administrative council, must render an account of their administration to the religious superiors. **There should be separate administrations for the community and for the work.**”

**REASONS**

With this separation, it will be easier to see how to distribute the tasks of the present Salesian economer. It will also be possible to calculate the income and expenditure of the community in view of a consistent practice of community poverty.

**General Councillors**

<b>VOTING</b>	<b>Present: 13</b>	<b>IN FAVOUR: 11</b>	<b>AGAINST: 2</b>
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## **9. New article of the Regulations on the process of discernment for the election of the Rector Major and of the Vicar of the Rector Major**

A request to introduce a new article of the Regulations regarding the process of discernment for the election of the Rector Major and of the Vicar of the Rector Major.

### **PROPOSAL**

It is proposed to insert the following new article in the Regulations after article 127.

#### **New article 127 bis**

“The election of the Rector Major is to be preceded by a discernment process by the confreres of the Chapter. First of all, each chapter member indicates to the leader of the discernment process one candidate; the list of the names proposed will be presented to the Chapter Assembly without any indication of the numbers involved. In a second stage, the confreres of the Chapter, divided according to the Chapter Commissions, will undertake a discernment limited to those on the list. Within the Commissions there is then a secret ballot for a single name. At the end of this discernment process in the Commissions, the names of those proposed, with the relevant numbers, are given to the leader of the discernment process. Finally, the list of the confreres voted for with the total numbers from the Commissions will be presented to the Chapter Assembly. A similar discernment process will be followed for the Vicar of the Rector Major.”

### **REASONS**

It is considered appropriate that the candidates for the election of the Rector Major and the Vicar of the Rector Major should emerge in a transparent manner. It is not advisable that the discernment process regarding these two roles be undertaken in the Regions, but rather that it be carried out in groups of Chapter confreres established for the purpose.

### **General Councillors**

<b>VOTING</b>	<b>Present: 13</b>	<b>IN FAVOUR: 11</b>	<b>AGAINST: 2</b>
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## **10 A change to C. 128 regarding the re-election of the Rector Major for a second six-year term**

A request to make a change in the Constitutions regarding the eligibility of the Rector Major for a second six-year term.

### **PROPOSAL**

It is proposed to change art. 128 of the Constitutions eliminating the word “consecutive”

### **Change to article 128**

“The Rector Major is elected by the General Chapter for a term of six years and may be re-elected only for a second six-year period. He may not resign his office without the consent of the Apostolic See.”

### **REASONS**

It is considered appropriate to make clear that the Rector Major can be elected as Rector Major for no more than two six-year terms, keeping in mind the general indication of the Code of Canon Law concerning the temporary nature of offices in Institutes of consecrated life, as also the norm already adopted in our own law for superiors at Province and local level; and considering furthermore on the one hand the heavy commitment called for by responsibility at such a high level, and on the other the increased pace of history and the complexity of the present time (cf. GC25 131).

Eliminating from article 128 of the Constitutions the word “consecutive” helps to clarify better the meaning of the norm and removes every ambiguity from the article itself.

### **General Councillors**

<b>VOTING</b>	<b>Present: 13</b>	<b>IN FAVOUR: 12</b>	<b>AGAINST: 1</b>
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# **11. A change to C. 142 §1 regarding the re-election of the General Councillors for a second six-year term**

A request to make a change in the Constitutions regarding the eligibility of the Vicar of the Rector Major, the Departmental Councillors and the Regional Councillors for a second six-year term.

## **PROPOSAL**

It is proposed to change art. 142 §1 of the Constitutions eliminating the word “consecutive”

### **Change to article 142 §1**

“142. The Vicar General, the Departmental Councillors and the Regional Councillors remain in office for six years and may be re-elected only for a second six-year period in the office of Vicar General, Departmental Councillor or Regional Councillor respectively, except for the case referred to in art. 143 of the Constitutions.”

## **REASONS**

It is considered appropriate to make clear that the Vicar of the Rector Major, the Departmental Councillors and the Regional Councillors can be elected in the same office for not more than two six-year terms respectively as the Vicar of Rector Major, the Departmental Councillors and the Regional Councillors, keeping in mind the general indication of the Code of Canon Law concerning the temporary nature of offices in Institutes of consecrated life, as also the norm already adopted in our own law for superiors at Province and local level; and considering furthermore on the one hand the heavy commitment called for by responsibility at such a high level, and on the other the increased pace of history and the complexity of the present time (cf. GC25 132).

Eliminating from article 141 §1 of the Constitutions the word “consecutive” helps to clarify better the meaning of the norm and removes every ambiguity from the article itself.

## **General Councillors**

<b>VOTING</b>	<b>Present: 13</b>	<b>IN FAVOUR: 12</b>	<b>AGAINST: 1</b>
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## **12. Insertion of a paragraph in Reg. 127 about the re-election of the Vicar of the Rector Major and of the General Councillors**

A request to introduce as **a paragraph in article 127** of the Regulations the practical interpretation given by GC25 regarding the number of six-years terms for which the Vicar of the Rector Major and the General Councillors may be elected.

### **PROPOSAL**

It is proposed to introduce **a paragraph in article 127** in the General Regulations, that refers to the interpretation given by GC25 to article 142 of the Constitutions so that it is not lost in the Chapter documents but is codified by the Regulations (cf. GC25 132 in the note). At the same time, for the sake of completeness, there is also added the case of the possible election of the Vicar of the Rector Major, of a Departmental Councillor or of a Regional Councillor as Rector Major.

### **Reg. article 127**

To add as a third paragraph in article 127 of the General Regulations the following text:

“A Regional Councillor cannot be elected for a third term as a Regional Councillor, even in the case of a Region other than his previous one, but he can be elected as a Departmental Councillor or as the Vicar of the Rector Major or as Rector Major.

In the same way a Departmental Councillor cannot be elected for a third term as a Departmental Councillor, even in the case of a Department other than his previous one, but he can be elected as a Regional Councillor or as the Vicar of the Rector Major or as Rector Major.

Finally, the Vicar of the Rector Major cannot be elected for a third term, but he can be elected as a Departmental Councillor or as a Regional Councillor or as Rector Major.”

### **REASONS**

It is considered appropriate to make clear that the Vicar of the Rector Major and the other General Councillors can be elected to the same office for no more than two six-year terms, consistent with what is stated in article 142 §1 (changed) of the Constitutions.

### **General Councillors**

<b>VOTING</b>	<b>Present: 13</b>	<b>IN FAVOUR: 11</b>	<b>AGAINST: 2</b>
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## 13. Change to Reg. 78

Request to introduce a change to the article with the intention of improving, in the formation guides, the adequate knowledge of the Preventive System and guaranteeing, to the confreres in initial formation, the freedom to choose their spiritual guide.

### PROPOSAL

#### Change to Reg. article 78

“The formation communities must have a rector and a team of formation personnel **with an adequate knowledge of the Preventive System and** who are specially prepared, above all as regards spiritual direction”.

### REASONS

The reason for the change is the need to ensure freedom of choice of spiritual guide for our confreres in initial formation.

In the text of our Constitutions and Regulations (and the *Ratio*) there can be observed the care taken to ensure the freedom of choice of spiritual guide, but the language used tends to give weight to the choice of the Rector of the community as the spiritual guide: the Rector is “ordinarily” the guide; he is proposed not imposed; his role is like that of the director of novices... Above all, in areas in which a model of formation prevails that – concentrating excessively on behaviour and external conformity – easily leads to fear and to a lack of sincere openness, this tends to be interpreted badly both by those who exercise the service of authority as by the person living the experience of initial formation, creating forms of pressure not obvious but quite influential, that reduce the freedom of choice of one’s spiritual guide. This has been one of the points to emerge with greater clarity in the research into Salesian personal accompaniment conducted in 2017.

The change proposed does not in the least change our venerable Salesian tradition. The Salesian Rector remains the spiritual guide of the community; he has a special responsibility for each confrere whom he meets for a friendly talk (C. 70, Reg. 79); he can certainly offer the service of spiritual guide to whoever asks him for it. The Preventive System invites him to gain the confidence and the trust of those entrusted to him, without him having to demand them on the basis of a norm. Having trust and being worthy of trust do not come from any rule or role, but from the quality of our being, from our human and spiritual authenticity.

We want to move towards a more courageous and generous incarnation of the spirit of the Preventive System, a spirit that is wonderfully incarnated in the Letter from Rome of 1884, and in the phrase engraved on the perpetual profession cross: *Strive to make yourself loved.*

### General Councillors

<b>VOTING</b>	<b>Present: 13</b>	<b>IN FAVOUR: 12</b>	<b>AGAINST: 1</b>
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