

## CORPORATE STANCE PROCESS

### SISTERS OF CHARITY OF THE INCARNATE WORD

1. Any individual Sister, Associate or Incarnate Word Missionary (IWM) or group of Sisters, Associates, or IWMs may request that the International Justice and Peace Committee (IJPC) consider an issue for a corporate stance. Requests will be presented using the format of the *Corporate Stance Request Form*.

The person (s) making the request is (are) responsible for researching the issue and forwarding the background information for review to the IJPC.

There must be sufficient information available to enable the Sisters to make an informed and responsible decision.

Examples of reliable sources of information which can be reviewed are:

- Reports from reputable sources of information (CCVI documents; CLAR in Latin America; CIRM en México and CONFER en Perú [both are members of CLAR]; ZAS [Zambian Association of Sisters]; AXWECA [Association of Consecrated Women in Eastern and Central Africa]; LCWR and NETWORK in US, etc.)
- People involved in the issue
- Members of the congregation having specific expertise

2. The IJPC will determine if the issue meets the following criteria:

- Is consistent with gospel values, social teachings of the church, and the CCVI Mission and Charism
- Is current
- Is external to the Congregation
- Has global/national or major importance and concern
- Is not directly based in partisan politics

If the issue submitted does not meet the criteria or if the information is incomplete, the proposal will be returned to the sender (individual or group), stating the reasons for the decision.

3. If the issue meets the basic criteria, the IJPC will send it to the General Leadership Team (GLT). The GLT will pursue further information, as necessary.

If the GLT approves the proposal for circulation, it will be sent to the Sisters through a Life and Mission Group Cycle for reflection and response. At the same time it will be sent to the Directors of Associates and IWMs to process through their respective groups for reflection and response.

The Life and Mission Groups, the Associates, and the IWMs will be asked to evaluate the proposal, determining its consistency (or lack of consistency) with the Gospel, social teachings of the Church, and our CCVI identity and mission.

The number of affirmative and negative responses of the Sisters in each Life and Mission Group will be reported and tallied.

4. If 75% of the responses received from the Sisters support the stance, the GLT will publish the stance in the name of the Congregation and will inform the Ministry Council who will inform the Boards of our Institutions.