



CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME

July 1, 2019

Dear Sisters, Associates and Partners in Mission,

Greetings from the UN-NGO and International JPIC Service! You now have the JPIC document, *Being Artisans of Hope in Our Blessed and Broken World*. We now want to implement it and move forward together.

The Society's international JPIC process and its subsequent meeting in the Philippines in November 2018 urged the Society to continue living the 2016 General Chapter call to be and act as One Body. Among other things, this means to practice greater reciprocal communication and collaboration between the local and international levels. Further, we want to respond to the urgent cries of suffering people and Earth, who are demanding that we act now to care for our common home (Rf. *Laudato Si*). We are taking these demands seriously. How?

One concrete response to the urgings mentioned above is a new collaboration between the Continental Popular Education Network and our UN-NGO Representative, with the support of our international JPIC Coordinator. We are working together among ourselves and with local and international partners. We want to promote awareness and action to care more responsibly and intentionally for our common home. What does our collaboration look like?

In conjunction with several international events relating to care for our common home, the Continental Popular Education Network and the UN-NGO Representative will facilitate education and action as One Body. The upcoming international events are:

1. The Churches' "Season of Creation": September 1 - October 4
2. The UN Climate Summit, New York: September 23, 2019
3. The Synod of Bishops for the Pan-Amazon region, Rome: October 6 - 27
4. The Santiago Climate Change Conference, Chile: December 2-13

The concrete education and actions being organized through the Continental Popular Education Network and the UN-NGO Representative, with the support of the International JPIC Coordinator, are:

1. A prayer and reflection prepared for and circulated to the whole Society for the Season of Creation
2. The UN-NGO Representative to be present at and report to the Society on the UN Climate Summit



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3. The UN-NGO Representative and the International JPIC Coordinator to circulate updates to the Society from the Synod for the Pan-Amazon Region
 4. Continental Popular Education Network to meet in Santiago, Chile during the Santiago Climate Change meeting.
 5. The theme of the meeting of Continental Popular Education Network will be care of our common home.
- Continental Popular Education Network will collaborate with local and international partners to host a side-event for civil society in Santiago during the Climate Change meeting.
 - Next steps for the Society at all levels to care more responsibly and intentionally for our common home.

In a letter from the Vatican on May 24, 2019 on the occasion of the 4th anniversary of *Laudato Si*, we are reminded to recognize the reality of the physical threshold we have reached due to Climate Change. However, to respond to the physical reality is a moral and a religious imperative. Our response is not to the truth of the hard data of science, but to our relationship with Earth, people who live in poverty and youth who want a future. We each have a role to play and our hope is that this collaboration in the Society will help us individually and collectively to do our part.

Thank you in advance for your support and prayer.

With love and hope,

UN-NGO Representative

International JPIC Coordinator