

# I SESSION

## *Interdiocesan meeting*

To have a project for lay people's formation (2006-2008)

BETHANY HOUSE, 13th-16th Aug 2006

### **Final report**

*August 2006*

In Sagana – Murang'a about 70 representatives (both lay people and priests) from Nyeri Metropolia diocese (Nyeri, Embu, Marsabit, Meru, Murang'a, Nyahururu, absent Isolo but included in the project ) gathered together with IFCA Secretariat.

The participants were invited by their bishops and experienced a moment of formation, prayer, friendship to build together an interdiocesan biennial project of formation for lay faithful which includes common steps at metropolitan level and steps in each diocese.

H.E. Mgr Peter Kihara, bishop of Murang'a kept up with the whole work . Also H.E. Mgr Salesius Mugambi bishop of Meru and President of the Episcopal commission for the laity attended the meeting.

The first phase of the meeting fostered the reading and introduction of each diocesan reality from the social, cultural and ecclesial point of view with a special attention to the presence and formation of laity and associated laity.

The necessity of an organic and thorough formation of laity emerged : men and women, youth and children, families so that everybody may sustain to the full the lay vocation which makes them co-responsible in the life of the Church and in the world and conscious of their own contribution to evangelization and human promotion, witnesses of Christ where every one lives.

The second phase saw the introduction of the vocation to Catholic Action as association of lay people which cooperates with the pastors. The four notes which set down CA are in *Apostolicam Actuositatem* 20 : on this foundation the representatives of the diocesan associations attending the meeting had the possibility to verify both the common origin of Nyeri mother CA and the peculiar characteristics of each CA association or with other characteristics for a path of communion and cooperation among lay associations and movements in the diocese.

Little by little a draft of the project came out in the common lines and which now waits for the insertion of the diocesan phase: addressees, steps, contents and instruments at diocesan parish and small ecclesial community levels. It is urged the participation of young people (at least half the participants).

All the addressees were invited to have as reference points for the study and improvement, with appropriate instruments and methods, the following documents of the Magisterium : Vatican Ecumenical Council Documents; John Paul II, *Christifideles Laici* (abridged version); Kenya Bishop Conference, *Evangelization in Kenya*; *Lineamenta* II special assembly of the Bishop Synod for Africa.

The step scheduled from 4th to 8th December once again in Sagana will be dedicated to the formation of those who will form others, fundamental for the project and for the future of the formation of laity.

8 participants are expected from each diocese to this first common moment and to the following ones until 2008 (August 2007 and August 2008) : men and women, youth and adults, 1 priest, coming from CA, Associations born from CA, new Associations with the 4 notes (the Bishop will define verifying the willingness and investing on the future)

Within December it is expected the diocesan project and its planning 2007-2008 with addressees, steps, places, for the periods January June 2007, September 2007 June 2008 with the respective diocesan budget which provides the contribution of the participants, of the dioceses of IFCA through the twinning.

The privileged way for the development of the project is the one of the twinning, of the exchange among CA sisters at the service of the Churches sisters, by IFCA secretariat among CA IFCA members in different continents.