

EMI news

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The Steering Committee of IMS met on 9 November last on the premises of the General House of the Daughters of Charity in Paris.

Chapel of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal.



The Newsletter of the **International Missionary Benefit Society**

Editorial

The International Missionary Benefit Society is governed by a few fundamentals. Among them is a rule that prohibits a monk, nun or priest who is covered by a mandatory health insurance scheme from being affiliated.

Systems have been established in some countries and public or private initiatives are being created elsewhere. These initiatives represent progress and we encourage them. Indeed, social progress includes better health.

The IMS cannot replace mandatory systems, but we have much to do elsewhere. There are very many situations where bishops and superiors seek to protect their members or should do so in accordance with canon law. In this case, the IMS can be a solution of choice, with its offer

of options according to the amount of aid sought and where the cost of living in the country is always taken into account.

This is the mission that the administrators and actors of the IMS set themselves through their meetings and their everyday work: maintaining solidarity between the communities by ensuring that everyone has unrestricted access to health care.



Father Michel Ménard
President of the IMS

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> Annual gathering of the Steering Committee

On 9 November 2016, under the presidency of Father Michel MENARD, the annual Steering Committee meeting of the International Missionary Benefit Society was held on the premises of the General House of the Daughters of Charity. Once again, it was preceded by a meeting with all the sections. The participation of 4 new monks/nuns strengthening the teams of the IMS should be noted:

- Sister Elisabeth AULIAC (Chemin Neuf Community, Lyon) IMS Vice-President, who also sits on the Contribution Reduction Commission,
- Sister Teresa SANNO (Company of the Daughters of Charity) Technical Adviser,
- Father Francis KIHM (Congregation of the Holy Spirit, Paris) Administrator on the Steering Committee,
- Father Albert ASSAMBA (Congregation of the Holy Spirit, Cameroon) new Manager of the Central Africa section.

With respect to Sister Eugénie DENA, Manager for the West-Africa section, she also works for the Investments Commission.

Having arrived from 12 countries, the administrators, consultants, members of the commissions and sections, were presented with the Association's accounts, before discussing the work done by the sections and covering a few important administrative points before ruling on the decisions to be taken.

President Father Michel MENARD recalled that solidarity was the basis of the IMS. He particularly insisted to the sections that they should emphasise use of the social fund for the groups. The case of groups constantly in deficit was addressed; the role of the managers of the groups and sections is decisive, so as to detect any misuse but allowing all the beneficiary patients to have unrestricted access to care.



Administrators, Sections and personnel of IMS.



IMS Steering Committee

Sister AULIAC (IMS Vice-President)

I have been in the General Treasury team of the Chemin Neuf Community for ten years, more particularly responsible for the social protection of our communities in France and abroad (30 countries). In this role, I visit a number of countries in Africa, the Indian Ocean and Central Europe.

Our community has been a member of the IMS for over ten years in the General Section and also has a group in Côte d'Ivoire in the West Africa section. We have had the joy of benefiting from the IMS for many years, trying to help the members of our community in different countries to become aware of the service that IMS provides, through the solidarity between our continents and through a high-quality care network that is increasingly being established. I am happy at the moment to be able to serve in overseeing and developing this mission of the Church, that of healthcare for everyone. This mission gives an additional perspective to my service on the Social Welfare Commission of the CORREF.



Father KIHM (IMS Steering Committee Administrator)

I belong to the Congregation of the Holy Spirit. My 35 years in Dakar mean that I know the IMS well. We were members of the West Africa Section led by Sr Mauras. On my return to France in 2002, I was assigned to looking after older brothers for 6 years. After passing a diploma in gerontology, I managed a small home for older brothers in Alsace, before going to Bordeaux.

I now occupy a role in the health department of the General House in Paris, managing CAVIMAC, MSM and IMS files. In addition, I am happy to build on my health experience as well as my African expertise in the service of the IMS, at the meetings of the Steering Committee and the Social Fund commissions.



News

Sister Teresa SANNO (Technical Adviser)

I belong to the Company of the Daughters of Charity of Saint Vincent de Paul. I have been the Treasurer General for one year. Previously, I was Treasurer of the France-Nord province, in charge of social protection of the sisters, but also the lay staff making up the treasury team. Through my training as a lawyer and a social and family economy adviser reinforced by my service on the ground (Town Hall and Departmental Council of the Marne), I learned to manage social protection files. The Company of the Daughters of Charity has been a member of the IMS for many years.

Several provinces of our Company benefit from the International Missionary Benefit Society.

I am very happy to make my modest contribution as a Technical Adviser within the IMS, and my participation enhances the possibility of better understanding and communication between the IMS and our provinces.



Mr Arnaud GORGEMANS (Belgium Section Manager)

Succeeding Mr Lucien LAVRYSEN, Mr Arnaud GORGEMANS took up his duties on 1 February 2017. He is also Regional Director of the Christian Mutuality of Belgium.

Alongside the Conference of Monks of France, the Mutual of Monks of Belgium were the first religious Communities to have formed the International Missionary Benefit Society (1965).

What's New

> Services Guide 2017



The 2017 version of the IMS Services Guide is available. You can view it on the website at the following address:

www.entraide-missionnaire.com.

A new visual for the cover, the assistance tariffs for 2017, an updated version of contact details and contacts of the IMS sections... are just some of the changes made to the Services Guide 2017.



A button has been created on the website home page to facilitate access to the Guide.

Services Guide 2017



> Focus on where the Sections are

It is not easy to have a clear idea of where IMS members are located around the world.

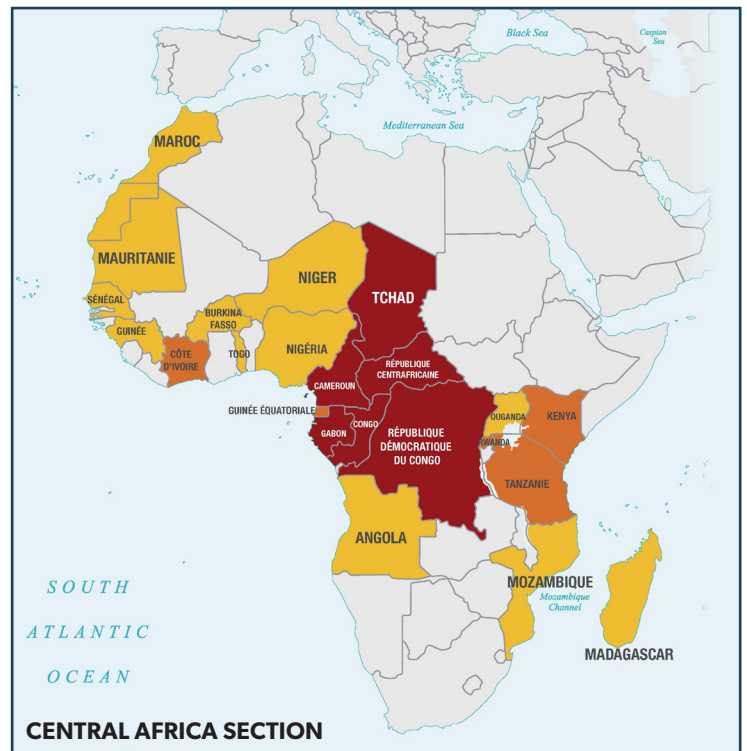
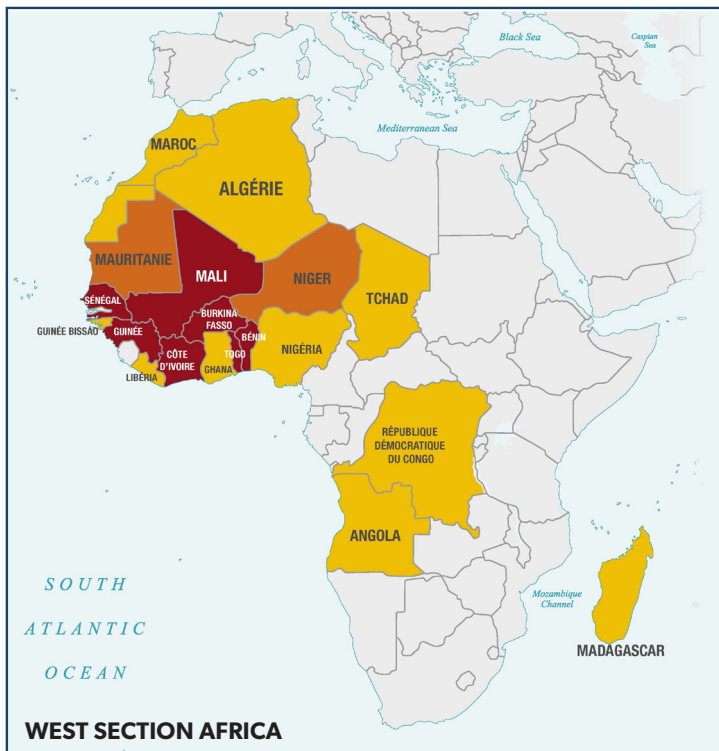
To do so, geographical location work has been carried out and used to create several maps. They provide an overall view of the distribution of members per section, at both the local and global levels and identify potential areas for development, etc. (see the 2 examples below).

The IMS has a marked presence in **141 countries**, the most important being:

Kenya, the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Burkina Faso, Togo, Haiti, Madagascar.

Most of the **798 groups** are congregations; the most involved in the Association are:

the Daughters of Charity, the White Fathers, Foccolare Movement, the Little Sisters of Jesus, Foccolarini, Sister of Mary Immaculate, Archdiocese of Cotonou.



From 1 to 14 members

From 15 to 50 members

More than 100 members

Diary

Steering Committee + General Assembly:

- 8,9,10 November 2017 in Paris

Regional Meetings (General Section):

- Lyon: 6 April 2017
- Angers: 4 May 2017
- Paris: 7 June 2017

Trips by the President:

- Nigeria: 24 april 2017
- Kenya: 27 april 2017



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Jean-Noël Dussart

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Sylvain Sacheli

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International Missionary Benefit Society
www.chapellenotredamedelamedaillemiraculeuse.com



IMS
3, rue Duguay-Trouin 75280 Paris cedex 06