

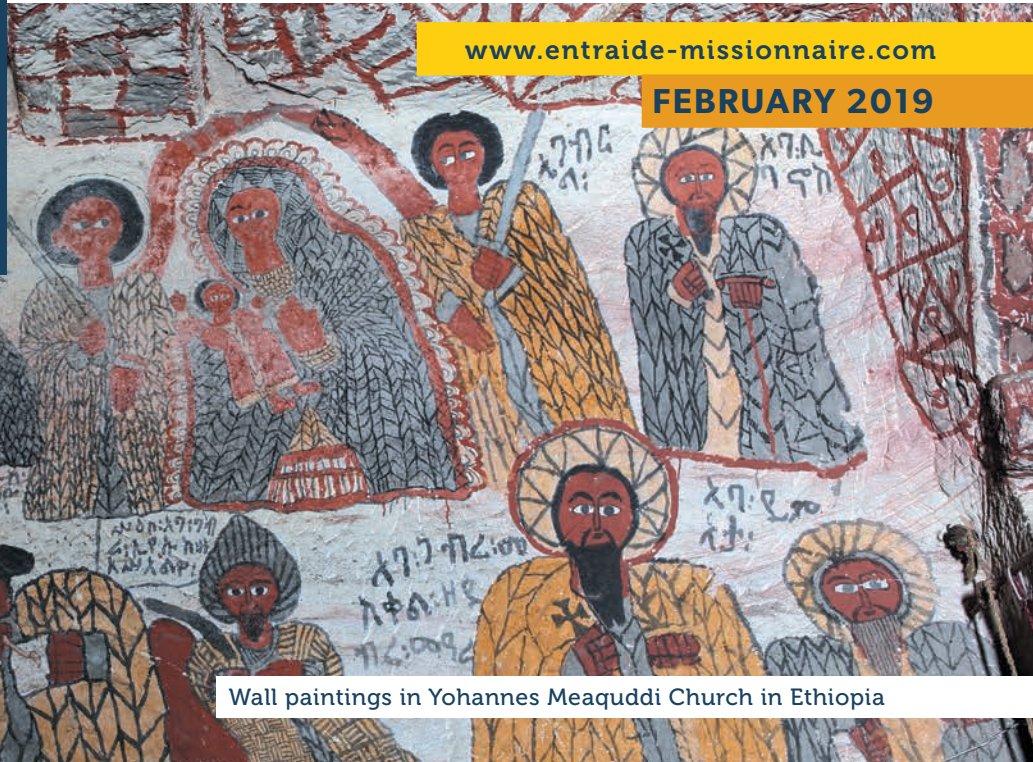
# IMS news

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Wall paintings in Yohannes Meaquddi Church in Ethiopia



The Newsletter of the International Missionary Benefit Society

## Editorial

For over 50 years the IMS, an international association governed by Swiss law, has been working to ensure that priests, churchpeople and missionaries around the world have healthcare cover (140 countries) thus facilitating the obligation of their dioceses and their congregations according to canon law 619 to provide this cover. (30,000 beneficiary members to date).

We work with the aim of “taking care” and contributing to social peacefulness by providing healthcare cover regardless of the place and the living conditions of the beneficiaries.

We hope that this sharing will be extended further to those missionaries who do not have access to proper healthcare cover; indeed, that “well managed sharing will be multiplied”. We still have the task of setting up a high-quality care network that is also accessible in very disadvantaged health areas.

The annual meeting of the Steering Committee and of the Sections is an occasion to

come together to listen and discuss people’s concerns so that **decision-making is adjusted to the reality** of the communities and the dioceses in their countries.

The association, which was founded in 1965 by and for a few missionaries, must now adapt to the new forms of religious life and the needs of the mission. **The IMS is gradually enriched with the discovery of our differences, our needs and the contributions of all its members. Meeting, dialogue, solidarity, fraternity and very concrete support are our horizons.**



Sister Auliac

## Contents

P2 Steering committee meeting

P3 IMS sections meeting

P3 Meetings with bishops and superiors

P4 Choice of an option

P4 Foreign students in France

## > Steering committee meeting

The annual meeting of the Steering Committee of the IMS was held on 13 November 2018 in Paris. Two new administrators took up their seats on the Committee:



► Monsignor MUGAMBI,  
proposed by the Bishops Conference of KENYA



► Father PECQUEUX,  
proposed by the Conference of Churchmen and  
Churchwomen of France

Four meetings of the Board of the IMS in 2018, work in working groups, many statistical exchanges with the actuary, the counsel of the lawyer of the IMS and a lot of feedback from the local sections had helped us prepare the agenda items for consideration on 13 November.

Decisions were taken with a concern for complying with the texts, maintaining a financial balance and providing better services for members. Thus, the administrators voted in favour of:

- > Setting up a working capital fund in the sections, so as to increase the amount of exceptional aid available for the Social Fund, as well as to facilitate its distribution;
- > Reintroducing hospital set fees in Kenya, in line with those of option 4;
- > Reducing the contributions of five countries by transferring them to area C of option 4;
- > The possibility for members to submit invoices relating to costs already refunded by a third-party system (NHIF in Kenya, Socio Adherente in Argentina);
- > Measured indexing of contributions;
- > Returning to the system of aligning currencies according to the official rates.



*The 2018 Steering Committee*



*The Amphitheater Steering Committee*



## Sections

### > IMS sections meeting

The Steering Committee meeting is traditionally accompanied by a meeting with the sections of the IMS. The section managers were therefore able to benefit from the latest information about the life of the association (in particular: changes to member numbers, the situation regarding contributions / benefits, payments, etc.) and about the work carried out by the administrators in 2018. The sections also made their contributions, informing everyone present of their activities and constraints, proposals and uncertainties.

This rich opportunity for exchange lasted a whole a morning: during a meeting of the IMS sections – Board of the IMS Steering Committee, Sister AULIAC, Ms GOFFIN, Mr COLASSE and Mr SACHELI went over some administrative points as well as a few technical topics. The decisions taken by the Steering Committee were also communicated.



*Sections meeting with the IMS Board*



*Managers and Administrators of IMS sections*

### > Meetings with bishops and superiors

The beneficiary priests and churchpeople of the IMS carry out their mission in 140 countries. In certain territories, only a few missionaries are present (e.g. Whereas in other countries, many congregations have become part of IMS' solidarity (Kenya, Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, etc.).

At the initiative of the section managers, they receive the visit of staff from the Central Office or administrators; these aim in particular to ensure a good understanding and use of the services (meeting of the IMS groups) and to present the Association to the Conferences, nuncios, bishops and superiors.

Thus, several meetings have been held in recent months, led by Sister AULIAC (IMS President), Brother VIGNAU (Secretary General), Brother LINACERO MELON (Central America Administrator), Brother GARRAN GONZALEZ (Central America section manager) and Mr SACHELI (Central Office):

- > Ethiopia (AMECEA, Conferences of Bishops of the region)
- > Rwanda (Nunciature, dioceses, Superiors)
- > Mexico (meeting of IMS group)
- > Mozambique (Nunciature, Conference of Bishops, Superiors)
- > Madagascar (Nunciature, Conference of Bishops, Superiors)
- > Peru (meeting of groups)



*Brother VIGNAU and the representatives of congregations in Mozambique*



*Sister AULIAC and the Conference of bishops of Madagascar*

#### ▶ NOTE

On request to the IMS, the Secretary General may consider organising a visit to explain the IMS mission very specifically, to look into needs and to answer all questions.

# Administration

## > Choice of an option

When a group joins IMS' solidarity system, its superior must choose an option. The diagram below summarises the possible options available.

The general rule is that a group registers its members for the same option.

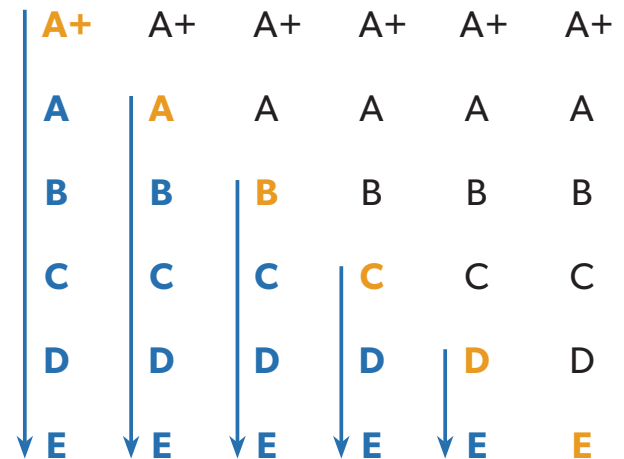
A special rule allows one or more members to be registered for option 1\*, while the other members are registered for the local option (4 or 5).

However, it should be noted that by opting for the local option (4 or 5), **the choice of the country of contribution for the members of the community may be different from the actual country of residence.** As indicated in the following illustration, a member affiliated in a country is also covered in the lower area or areas. Thus, a community may decide to affiliate its members in a country of a higher area (situations related to regular trips or healthcare provided in a particular country).

\*supported by a mission letter from the superior.

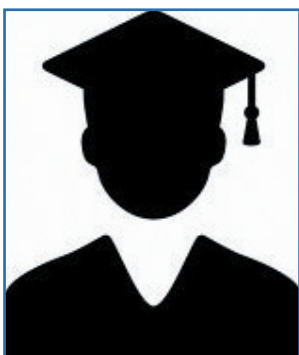
I am registered in a country of area:

I am covered in countries of areas:



For example: a member registered for option 4 whose country of residence is Angola (Area C), is covered for care in all countries of areas C, D and E.

## > Foreign students in France



Since December 2018, student priests and churchpeople in France are covered by a change in French legislation, which allows them to register for universal healthcare cover (PUMa) if they meet the following conditions:

- > are in possession of a "student" residence card or a "visitor" residence card
- > never have been registered with the CAVIMAC
- > are enrolled in an approved educational institution
- > without pastoral service, or a canonical mission and without remuneration which requires registration with the Cavimac registration on the site:

<https://etudiantetranger.ameli.fr>