



# Conseil Mondial de la Famille Marianiste

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## World Council of the Marianist Family Consejo Mundial de la Familia Marianista

**DEST.:** the World Marianist Family

**DE:** The World Council of the Marianist Family

**DATE:** August 26, 2010

**RE:** the Marianist International Volunteers Program (MIV)

Dear brothers and sisters,

The World Council of the Marianist Family has completed a long and difficult discernment with regards to the Marianist International Program (MIV). In January, 2010, a survey was sent to all our branches. This survey invited your input on past and present experiences of the MIV program and suggestions for the future. We received 35 responses from 18 countries. After a careful evaluation of the survey responses and past deliberations of the World Council, the decision was made to terminate the MIV program effective December 31, 2010. These are the reasons for our decision:

The World Council is not set up to administrate a network such as MIV and does not have the financial resources to support even the minimal “network” concept that was started in 2002. As a voluntary collaboration of the four branches of the Marianist Family we do not have the resources or expertise to sponsor an international volunteer program that could offer adequate orientation, language training, medical insurance, travel expenses, ongoing support, and spiritual formation to all volunteers. Our inability to do this is unfair to potential volunteers and puts the World Council at risk as VIM’s sponsor.

This was a difficult decision to make. We have much gratitude and affection for Jose Luis Perez, the Director of MIV. His passion and enthusiasm for the program is an inspiration to us all. The closure of the MIV program does not mean the end of Marianist volunteers. There are many Marianist communities, schools, and other entities that sponsor international volunteers. The World Council will continue to encourage and promote all these efforts to form young people who are eager to work for social justice and peace in our world.

We remain united in prayerful hope,

*Isabella Moyer, CLM – Presidente del Consejo Mundial de la Familia Marianista*

*Susan Vogt, CLM*

*Felix Arqueros, CLM*

*Isabel Duarte, CLM*

*Ernest Kasongo, CLM*

*Christiane Barbaux, AM*

*Marie-Joële Bec, FMI*

*Estella Ibarra, FMI*

*Maria José Jauregui, FMI*

*Susanna Kim, FMI*

*Manuel Cortés, SM*

*André Fétis, SM*

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*Jose Maria Alvira, SM*

*Domingo Fuentes, SM*