

Pax Romana IMCS - Asia Pacific

IMCS was formed in Fribourg, Switzerland in 1921 under name of PAX ROMANA. With the first Asian Federation (1954), IMCS Asia Pacific has been trying to place and contribute itself to the relevance of time and change amidst an unjust structure. It is our journey with the marginalised that signifies our concerted commitment and effort to struggle for liberation.

- ~ Is a movement of tertiary students groups.
- ~ Is an International Catholic Organisation (ICO) recognized by the Holy See.
- ~ Has consultative B status in UNESCO.
- ~ Been taking an active role within the United Nations.

OUR CONCERNS are ...

- Ω Human Rights
- Ω Higher Education
- Ω Gender Issues
- Ω Inter-faith Dialogue

WE ARE ...

In East Asia:

- ◆ Catholic Association Umac (Macau) #
- ◆ Catholic Students Group in Japan #
- ◆ Chinese Catholic University Students Association (CCUSA)
- ◆ Hong Kong Federation of Catholic Students (HKFCS)
- ◆ Seoul Federation of Catholic Students (SFCS)

In South East Asia & Pacific :

- ◆ Catholic Undergraduate Center of Thailand (CUCT)
- ◆ Karen Student Network Groups (Thai-Burma Border Area) *
- ◆ Malaysia Catholic Student Council (MCSC)
- ◆ Union of All Catholic Students of Republic of Indonesia (PMKRI)
- ◆ Hanoi Catholic Students Movement (HCSM) #
- ◆ Myanmar Young Catholic Students (MYCS)
- ◆ Australian Catholic Students' Association (ACSA)

In South Asia :

- ◆ All India Catholic University Federation (AICUF)
- ◆ Bangladesh Catholic Students Movement (BCSM)
- ◆ Sri Lanka Catholic Student Movement (SCUSM)
- ◆ IMCS Nepal *
- ◆ IMCS Pakistan

Contact Group

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GENERAL STATUTES



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I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1 – Definition

The International Movement of Catholic Students Asia Pacific (IMCS AsPac) is constituted by the National Movements of Catholic tertiary students in Asia and Pacific who are members of IMCS – Pax Romana.

Article 2 – Legal Status and Secretariat

IMCS AsPac - PAX ROMANA secretariat is duly registered as Non-Profit Making Organization with the Internal Revenue Department in the Philippines Securities and Exchange Commission with S.E.C. Reg. No. A 1997-1526.

Article 3 – Objectives

- 3.1 To promote the student apostolate among the students in higher education stressing their responsibility in life, in the Church's mission and in the world
- 3.2 To recognize the need and importance of justice and peace, a recognition which is vital to the transformation of society, and work with all concerned persons for joint action and reflection leading to a more just ,peaceful and equitable social order at all levels: national, regional and international;
- 3.3 To further the Christian faith experience lived in one's own commitment and to try to communicate this faith to the student milieu by bearing witness to Jesus Christ;
- 3.4 To develop Pedagogy, which helps students integrate their Christian to faith in their efforts to build a more just society.

- 23.4 The AsPac team has its accounts examined by a chartered accountant before submitting to the Pan Asia Pacific Assembly.

VI. MODIFICATION OF THE STATUTES

Article 24

Amendments to these Statutes shall be proposed by the member movements or AsPac Team and the same shall be circulated among the member movements for discussion at least 2 months prior to PAPA. PAPA shall be empowered to adopt the amendments or additions with 2/3rd majority votes.



- 21.6 To plan and administer the financial affairs, taking into account the movement's life and growth.
- 21.7 To present a clear report on the movement and its work at all levels at each meeting of the Pan Asia Pacific Assembly and Asia Pacific Council.

Article 22 – Regional Chaplain/ Chaplaincy Team

In response to the changing needs of the movement, there shall be a Regional Chaplain or Chaplaincy Team, who will assist and accompany the IMCS Asia Pacific and its Team to carry out their mandate in the secretariat. She/he/they shall be nominated by the National Movements, approved by the member movements as in the case of the Asia Pacific Team and appointed by the International Chaplain.

- 22.1 The Regional Chaplaincy Team shall be composed of 1 lay woman, 1 lay man and 1 priest/religious while maintaining the sub-regional balance.
- 22.2 The Regional Chaplaincy Team would meet 2 – 3 times per year with the Asia Pacific Team, in order to evaluate and plan the activities of the Secretariat.

V. FINANCES

Article 23

- 23.1 The annual membership fee is fixed by the common agreement by the regional team and the movements, and approved by the Pan Asia Pacific Assembly.
- 23.2 Encourage contributions from the Friends of PAX ROMANA.
- 23.3 Efforts are made for special contributions to obtain through the As Pac Team's negotiations.

- 3.5 To empower students to recognize the multi-religious and multi-cultural realities of Asia Pacific region and to equip them with adequate formation to respect, preserve and celebrate them.

Article 4 – Form of Action

With these objectives the IMCS will try:

- 4.1 To facilitate the formation of Catholic Student Movements in countries in which they do not yet exist and to see that their continued growth goes hand in hand with that of the existing movements;
- 4.2 To provide the students and chaplains of member movements with possibilities for meeting and reflecting on joint initiatives on the basis of the situation in the national, regional, and global society;
- 4.3 To propose guidelines for actions to be carried out in solidarity by the member movements in accordance with the possibilities of each of the national movements;
- 4.4 To organize, within the framework of AsPac Secretariat, an efficient communication service for the exchange of information in all areas concerning the student apostolate spheres of competence in the institutions of higher education;
- 4.5 To represent, at the international level, the Catholic student movement in University and tertiary institutions and to cooperate with other international organizations.



Sandra Torrijos/ Isis International Manila

II. MEMBERS

The IMCS is made up of three types of organizations: full members, correspondent members and collaborators.

Article 5 – Full Members

The Catholic Students Organizations in universities and institutions of higher education which fulfill the following conditions are full members of IMCS:

- 5.1 Agree with articles 3 and 4;
- 5.2 Are not affiliated to any political party;
- 5.3 Group together at the national level Catholic students or groups of Catholic Students
 - 5.3.1 In principle, only one movement per nation-state will be admitted;
 - 5.3.2 In exceptional cases, a greater number of movements per nation-state can be admitted. This concerns above all nation-states in which there are very great cultural, linguistic, ethnic, political and/or pastoral differences;
 - 5.3.3 All nation-states having more than two IMCS member movements should have, whenever possible, a coordination of these movements;
 - 5.3.4 They must be actively present within their own nation-state and in several cities. Exceptions to this rule can be made for the existing groups when there is only one single student center for higher education in their nation-state.

Article 18 – Quorum

A quorum for the meeting of the As-Pac council and PAPA is attained, when at least 5 (five) member movements are present.

IV. EXECUTIVE AND COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Article 19 – IMCS AsPac Team

IMCS Asia Pacific Team is the Executive Body of the movement.

Article 20

AsPac Team shall be consisted of 2 or 3 members for a period of 3 years, nominated by the National Movements and approved by 2/3rd majority of the member movements through post and fax or e-mail with confirmation of receipt, and to be ratified by the PAPA.

Article 21 – Responsibilities

The AsPac Team's duties and responsibilities are the following:

- 21.1 To carry out the work of the AsPac Secretariat in all areas concerning the movement according to the decisions taken by the Pan Asia Pacific Assembly.
- 21.2 To maintain close relations with the member movements, regional and International Secretariats.
- 21.3 To prepare and organize the meetings of the Pan Asia Pacific Assembly and Asia Pacific Council.
- 21.4 To ensure the movement's representation and participation in other organizations and movements.
- 21.5 To guarantee the exchange of information and documentation within the movement.

Article 14 – Composition

IMCS AsPac Council shall be composed of:

- I) One (1) representative: student or a key person from each Movement affiliated to IMCS
- II) Asia Pacific Team
- III) Regional Chaplain/ Chaplaincy Team
- IV) One (1) observer from each of IMCS correspondent members/ collaborators

Article 15 – Functions

Functions of Council:

- 15.1 To review, interpret and revise the activities of IMCS AsPac based on the decisions of PAPA.
- 15.2 To determine and evaluate the activities of the Asia Pacific team in accordance with the decisions of PAPA.
- 15.3 To plan the meetings of PAPA and to exercise its function in relation to PAPA.
- 15.4 To take appropriate decisions subject to ratification by the PAPA, on urgent and important matters requiring immediate actions.
- 15.5 To recommend and decide the candidates for the As Pac team.

Article 16 and 17 – Voting Rights

16. All efforts shall be made to arrive at decisions in AsPac Council and PAPA through consensus. However, if consensus can't be reached after a reasonable discussion a vote shall be taken in the form of raise of hands, and a simple majority will be the deciding factor.
17. AsPac team as an entity has one vote and each affiliated Movement has one vote, which will be carried through by a student delegate during the AsPac council and PAPA.

Article 6 – Correspondent Member

- 6.1 Those Catholic Student Organizations in universities and higher education institutions, which do not fulfill the conditions, stipulated in the article 5 but which can usefully collaborate with the IMCS are corresponding members. They have a right to the IMCS' services and can be invited to the International Committee as observers.
- 6.2 In the Asia Pacific region where such rules of procedures are in force, the Pan Asia Pacific Assembly (PAPA) can decide on the admission of the candidates as corresponding members, in consultation with the International Team. If the Pan Asia Pacific Assembly (PAPA) accepts the request, the International Committee ratifies the decision.

Article 7 – Collaborators

- 7.1 Those student organizations regardless of religion, in universities and higher education institutions, which do not fulfill the conditions stipulated in the article 5 and 6 but can collaborate with the IMCS Asia Pacific as collaborators. They can take part in the activities of IMCS.
- 7.2 All decision-making should be made only by the existing national movements. Collaborators have only a consultative position or role in the decision making process in all levels of the co-ordination of IMCS.
- 7.3 The movement should be given the collaborator status in consultation with and the approval of the existing National movement.
- 7.4 To facilitate a better process with collaborators, IMCS should keep the communication channel open with the existing National Movement.

Article 8 – Admission Applications

- 8.1 All applications for admission must be submitted to the International Secretariat six months before the International Committee meetings. The following documents must also be enclosed with the request for admission:

8.2 The International Secretariat must send copies of the following documents to all its member movements within a reasonable period of time before the International Committee:

8.2.1 A descriptive summary of the activities of the organization applying for affiliation;

8.2.2 A recommendation from the International Team or the Asia Pacific Regional Team.

Article 9 – Withdrawal, Suspension or Expulsion

9.1 A member movement can withdraw from the IMCS by unilaterally notifying the International Team, which in turn will inform the International Committee.

9.2 An organization which does not conform to or no longer fulfills the conditions stipulated in articles 3, 4, 5, and 6 can be reprimanded, suspended or excluded by the Pan Asia Pacific Assembly (PAPA). The decision should be ratified by the International Committee.

9.3 If changes take place in the nature of a member movement, the International Committee will decide on its status in the IMCS. In an emergency case between two International Committees, the Consultation Meeting between Regional and International Teams will have to take the necessary measures on issues related to affiliation.



III. DECISION MAKING/ GOVERNING BODIES

Article 10

Pan Asia Pacific Assembly (PAPA) which meets once in three years shall be the highest decision making body of IMCS AsPac.

THE PAN ASIA PACIFIC ASSEMBLY

Article 11 – Composition

The Pan Asia Pacific Assembly (PAPA) shall be composed of:

- i) Two (2) students and one (1) Chaplain/Animator/Advisor/ Full timer from each Movement affiliated to IMCS
- ii) Asia Pacific Team
- iii) Regional Chaplain/ Chaplaincy Team
- iv) One (1) observer from each of IMCS correspondent members/ collaborators

Article 12 – Functions

Functions of PAPA:

- 12.1 To determine the goal's and priorities of the movement in accordance to the challenges coming from the milieu, society and the church.
- 12.2 To evaluate and establish work of the IMCS AsPac Team and the movement's overall situation in Asia Pacific.
- 12.3 To study and vote on any proposed modifications of the statutes.
- 12.4 To adopt the decisions on admission and exclusion of membership.
- 12.5 To elect or approve the election of IMCS As Pac team members.
- 12.6 To approve the accounts.

ASIA PACIFIC COUNCIL

Article 13

The governing body of IMCS AsPac is IMCS Asia Pacific Council, which meets between two meetings of the Pan Asian Pacific Assembly.