

# 2013-2017 Strategy and Action Plan

## **SUMMARY**

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**Version:** Adopted on January 30, 2013 by the Executive Committee of CCIG and modified by GA of CCIG on May 6, 2013.

## I. PRESENTATION OF CCIG

In 1950 the "International Information Center" was created by the initiative of seven lay persons, the majority being members of International Catholic Organizations (ICOs). The Geneva Center thus was in service to ICOs and, in exchange, the Conference of International Catholic Organizations financially contributed essential funds. This funding had over time diminished.

As the Center had to find other financial sources and to diversify its activities, it appeared necessary to elaborate new statutes for the establishment of an association under the Swiss law. These statutes were submitted in 1992 under the title "**INTERNATIONAL CATHOLIC CENTER OF GENEVA**" (CCIG). At the same time, a protocol had been drafted with the ICO Conference to establish cooperative links between the two entities.

The progressive weakening of the ICOs was partially compensated by the Center, which had expanded its target audience to include individuals and congregations engaged in development aid, education, social work and human rights. Thus CCIG could continue its task first and foremost by providing services to NGOs.

Today, CCIG's expertise is based on over 60 years of experience with International Organizations in Geneva. CCIG has indeed provided its diverse services and adapted to demands while bridging the gap between international institutions and civil society organizations.

## II. VISION, MISSION AND OBJECTIVES

### Vision

The international community works towards global solidarity

*The Church is united with the whole human family*

The joys and the hopes, the griefs and the anxieties of the men of this age, especially those who are poor or in any way afflicted, these are the joys and hopes, the griefs and anxieties of the followers of Christ.

Indeed, nothing genuinely human fails to raise an echo in their hearts. For theirs is a community composed of men. United in Christ, they are led by the Holy Spirit in their journey to the Kingdom of their Father and they have welcomed the news of salvation, which is meant for every man. That is why this community realizes that it is truly linked with mankind and its history by the deepest of bonds.

Ref. Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World (*Gaudium et Spes*, n°1, 1965)

## Mission

Thanks to the Christian engagement shared by its members, the major mission of CCIG is to facilitate, in the context of Geneva's international institutions, the search for solutions, which are adapted to contemporary political, socio-economic and environmental problems. In doing so, particular attention is given to the dignity of all and the sake of the common good.<sup>1</sup>

## Pillars of Activities

The activities of CCIG are based upon 4 main pillars:

- A. Service to NGOs: Activities are aimed at developing the expertise of NGOs in their work with the UN and improving their networking with various partners. The goal is to allow NGOs to realize their contributions more punctually and efficiently, in addition to improving the civil society involvement at the local level. These activities consist of information exchange and know-how among NGOs, as well as the organization of meetings with OHCHR officers, UN experts and other NGOs.
- B. Training: Organization of training courses and theoretical-practical seminars for NGO members (*ad intra*) as well as other attendees (*ad extra*) interested in receiving specified training on United Nations mechanisms for the protection and promotion of human rights.
- C. Reflection/Sensitization: Activities are aimed at offering spaces for reflection and sharing views on current themes, while the valuing the plurality of different perspectives.
- D. Transversal Administrative Activities: All activities concerning the life of the association (General Assembly (GA)/ Executive Committee), fundraising and the financial planning, the strategic development of communication, the welcoming of members and the public in general, and our local management.

## 2017 Strategic Objectives

- **Strategic Objective 1**: CCIG is recognized as a catalyst for fostering a quality contribution by NGOs (and particularly international Catholic-inspired NGOs) in the UN system through a complete and successful exercise of their consultative status.
- **Strategic Objective 2**: CCIG is recognized as an organizer and facilitator of meetings on subjects linked to the realization of global solidarity.
- **Strategic Objective 3**: CCIG diversifies its financial sources and reinforces its secretariat for insuring the financial viability of its activities over the long term.

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<sup>1</sup> Guidelines of the International Catholic Center of Geneva (CCIG) 2010-2012, unanimously adopted by the General Assembly of CCIG on 7 December 2009 and modified by CCIG's Committee on 25 November 2012.

### III. 2013-2017 ACTION PLAN and 2013 ACTIVITIES

Pillar of Activities	2013 – 2017 Action Plan	2013 Activities
<p>➤ <b>Objective 1:</b> CCIG is recognized as a catalyst for fostering a quality contribution by NGOs (and particularly international Catholic-inspired NGOs) in the UN system through a complete and successful exercise of their consultative status.</p>		
<p><b>A. Services to NGOs</b></p> <p>Application Field: Capacity building, informal training sessions, assistance and logistical support to NGOs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consolidation of the UPR Platform and the creation of a similar mechanism in relation to other UN bodies.</li> <li>• Organization of "thematic Working Groups."</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>4 meetings for the "Universal Periodic Review (UPR) Platform"</b> in order to reinforce the joint work of NGOs in context of the UPR. <u>Currently in progress.</u></li> <li>• <b>Organization of 2 exploratory seminars on economic, social and cultural rights</b> (prospective themes: health, education, work).</li> </ul>
<p><b>B. Training</b></p> <p>(Training courses)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training courses related to CCIG interests intended for NGO members (<i>ad intra</i>) and others who are interested (<i>ad extra</i>).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Training Courses</b> for the representatives of Basque country NGOs in partnership with <b>UNESCO Etxea</b>.</li> <li>• <b>Member Consultation:</b> new thematic definitions for optimizing the impact of NGOs within UN bodies in Geneva.</li> </ul>

- **Objective 2:** CCIG is recognized as an organizer and facilitator of meetings on subjects linked to the realization of global solidarity.

**C. Reflection / Sensitization**

(Generating opportunities to exchange views)

- Event organization for encouraging debates and awareness regarding a selection of current international themes.
- **NGO Members and External Consultation** in conjunction with the International Labour Conference.
- **Meetings/Reception with *guest speakers* on the occasion of CCIG GA** (proposed theme: Vatican II).
- **Facilitation of the meeting between delegates of the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity and Catholic NGOs** in Geneva.

- **Objective 3:** CCIG diversifies its sources and revenues and reinforce its secretariat for insuring the financial viability of its action over the long term.

**D. Transversal Administrative Activities**

- Reception hours for members at the secretariat.
- Communication (newsletters, website, targeted information mailing lists).
- Preparation of budget documentation.
- Fundraising Activities.
- Organizational life (organization of GA and Committee meetings).
- Reception hours for members at the secretariat.
- Elaboration of Communication strategy (newsletter, website, targeted information mailing lists).
- Preparation of 2014 and 2015 budget.
- Fundraising Activities (submission of 5 funding applications).
- Organizational life (organization GA (1) and Committee (6) meetings).