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CONGREGATION FOR RELIGIOUS AND  
SECULAR INSTITUTES (C.R.I.S.)

*LETTER TO THE GENERAL  
MODERATORS OF THE SECULAR  
INSTITUTES*

*January 2nd, 1988*



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Criteria for Preparing the Report on the Status and Life of the Secular Institute (to be submitted periodically to the Holy See).

The Holy See greatly supports the secular consecrated life of the Institutes and encourage their fruitful promotion, both spiritually and apostolically, and thus follows their many needs with much concern.

It is presently very important that, in its relationship with the Institutes, the Holy See be constantly availed of timely information on the status and life of these same Institutes, as is recommended in can. 592 § 1. In this way, the Holy See can participate, with the Lord, in the various happenings, both auspicious and burdensome, which relate to the Institutes, and, as the case may require, can then offer its pastoral assistance.

For this purpose, the Congregation for Religious and Secular Institutes wishes to present some criteria for the reports which the General Moderators of the Secular Institutes must forward to Holy See.

1. The Report which the General Director must present to this Congregation may be the same as that presented to the General Assembly of the Institute, but should be prepared more concisely. The Proceedings of the same Assembly might also be attached. The General Moderators are requested to submit the first reports after the next ordinary General Assembly has been held.

2. The Report should contain the following elements:

a) statistics related to the members;

b) vocational activities and the prospect of future growth in the Institute;

c) how the following are realised: the apostolic commitment of individual members, initial and ongoing formation, fraternal communion according to the spirit of the Institute, and the relationships between Directors and members;

d) the ecclesial sense of the relationship with the Holy See and with diocesan bishops, participation in both World and National Conferences of Secular Institutes;

e) the extent to which the Institute sponsors activities or information on apostolic, social, and helping action;

f) the financial status of the Institute both general information and specific details on any foreseen for the life and apostolate of the Institute;

g) the most urgent difficulties which are foreseen for the life and apostolate of the Institute;

h) those other aspects which best describe the present situation of the Institute.

While requesting this information, the Congregation for Religious and Secular Institutes invokes upon the Secular Institutes, and upon their individual members, "the peace, love, and faith which comes from God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ" (Eph. 6, 23).

Rome, 2 January, Marian Year, 1988

*f. Jerome M. Card. Hamer, O.P.*  
*Pref.*  
*+ Vincentius Fagiolo*  
*Archiep. Em. Theat. Vasten.*  
*Secr.*