



ASSOCIATION OF SALESIAN COOPERATORS

East Asia Oceania Region

Hong Kong 24th February 2023

OFFICIAL CONVOCATION AND INVITATION
The 10th Regional Congress of Salesian Cooperators
26 – 28 May 2023
Mary of Christians Church, HONG KONG

Dear Rev. Fr. Joseph NGUYEN THINH PHUOC, Rev. Fathers Provincials and Rev. Mothers Provincials; Rev. Br. Dominic NGUYEN DUC NAM, Rev. Sr. Lucrecia URIBE, Antonio BOCCIA and World Councillors; Regional Delegate Sr. Celia TACUJAN, Provincial Delegates SDB/FMA, Provincial Coordinators, Salesian Cooperators:

Greetings of Peace from Hong Kong!

It is my pleasure to invite everyone of you with love in Christ to join our 10th Regional Congress from 26th to 28th May 2023 in Hong Kong. Many thanks to our China Province (CIN) for taking the courage to organize the Congress after a long delay due to the CoV-19 pandemic. We all know that there are still many people infected everyday though the board control and quarantine measures have been relaxed, and therefore this time it will be a small but hybrid (face-to-face plus online) congress with less than 100 participants.

■ **THEME**

Youth as the YEAST Fermenting Today's Family

■ **GENERAL OBJECTIVE**

Carried over the initiatives from Tokyo Congress in 2017, particularly the “*For the Young*” project in each province of EAO, we join hand-in-hand to walk-the-talk in our real life as a Salesian Cooperator the past six years. Now it's time we come together and share our fruit, our experience and our lessons learnt in order to reinforce our love of the Young, live our unique vocation with the Young, and enable the Young as the YEAST fermenting today's family following the general direction from our dearest Rector Major! Of course, selecting the right member to serve the Region for the next six years would be another equally important objective to accomplish this time. Trust the Holy Spirit work among us to transform our dreams into reality.

■ REGISTRATION

While the China Province (CIN) is working hard on the preparation, please expect a cost of 400-500 USD per person for a full-board registration. Hope you could appreciate the economic impact after three years of pandemic control measures and try your best to support CIN for the Congress.

IMPORTANT: Kindly prepare to arrive Hong Kong by the evening of 25th May since this time it is a 3-day Congress starting early morning on 26th and it is expected to adjourn officially in the afternoon on 28th May. However, you may want to join an optional programme right after that for a brief pilgrimage to Don Bosco Relic at Mary Help of Christians Church followed by the Procession of Mary Help of Christians arranged by the parish council. (see the photos below)



The Programme and other details will be sent with the registration package by CIN very soon. In case there is any concern about the cost, please advise and we will try our best to help.

■ CALL FOR ELECTION NOMINATION

As I mentioned at the regional (online) meetings, we all had to prepare for candidates of the next World Councillor, my successor. We must vote in person for elective matters following the directives of the Holy See as per official letter dated 1-Jul-2020, and it is the key reason for the delay of this elective Congress. Since I have already made the same request 3 years ago, trust that you all have good candidates on hand now. So please would each province nominate at least 1 member (at most 2 members) of ASC for the election? While the voting members must come to Hong Kong, your nominated candidates will best be at the Congress in person but owing to small scale this time, at least he/she need to present online at the election session during the Congress.

Please fill out the attached nomination form and send to me together with our Regional Delegate Sr. Celia TACUJAN <ctacujan29@gmail.com> **no later than 25th April 2023** by e-mail.

■ PREPARATION WORK

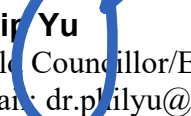
Like the Tokyo Congress, I encourage you come and join the Congress with young people as China organizing committee (COC) is planning for parallel youth event. We are more than happy to hear the voice of youth and walk-the-talk in executing the theme “Youth as the YEAST Fermenting Today’s Family” in each province. The youth registration package will be announced shortly by COC.

In addition, since this is a hybrid congress, meaning some of you who are able to come to Hong Kong attending in person while other members may participate online, it is challenging for all provinces to make sure those participating online will enjoy the process as much as possible. In particular, you want to get ready for using MS Teams for real-time connection online and more importantly gather together at a venue where you can have strong and stable internet connections. The COC will arrange testing dry-run with each individual location later.

For all Provincial Coordinators, please make sure this message reach all of your fellow members as soon as possible due to tight timing. Hope everyone can well prepare for it financially, physically and spiritually. Kindly prepare a short presentation at the Congress to share “For the Young” project* in your province with written text incorporating into your provincial report.

Mary, Help of Christians pray for us. See you all in Hong Kong!

Sincerely yours in Don Bosco,



Philip Yu
World Councillor/EAO 2014-20
E-mail: dr.philyu@SCC.org.hk

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* “For the Young” project is the top action item from Tokyo Congress in 2017 (click [here](#) to see the Congress Final Document)