



EAO Good Night Talk (56)

*Seoul, Korea
November 1, 2018*

Young people around the world need the Cooperators of God!

Dear Friends and Salesian Family members,

Few days ago we followed the Fifth World Congress of the Salesian Cooperators in Rome (October 25-28), just during the final week of the 2018 Bishop Synod about the ‘Youth – Faith – Vocation Discernment’. In last few years we can see in our Region an overall growth of the Salesian Cooperator vocation, however there are still 5 EAO countries without any ASC member: Fiji, Laos, Pakistan, Myanmar and New

Zealand, but especially the ‘rejuvenation process’ is clearly going on. World Congress ‘Dreams’ – Lines of Action 2019-2024 are promising: Focus on the credible and dynamic witnessing for effective help to the vulnerable children and youth!

When our Father Don Bosco passed away (1888), there were about 800 SDB and 80.000 Salesian Cooperators, including many diocesan bishops and priests. In the times of Don Rua (1910) the number of Cooperators skyrocketed up to 400.000 members, mostly in Europe. During past 50 years with a large expansion of the Congregation in all continents and 134 countries, we can see that not all SDB or FMA missionaries were able to share this beautiful vocation with the lay and youth leaders. Today in the EAO region are living 2170 Salesian Cooperators of the total 30.000 members around the world.

With the presence of the Rector Major – Good Night Talk and final Cultural night ‘Academy’ the theme **‘Salesian Cooperators: ‘Called to be co-responsible to respond to the new challenges’** was anchored in the wider universal Church vision of the Congress: ‘Young People around the world need the Salesian Cooperators... Where you are, you need to defend the young!’

The Co-responsibility was visible concretely with the publication of the World Directory of the Association with the names of all 30.000 members, financial report of the World Council.

In the regional workshop during the World Congress the 20 EAO delegates has discerned three goals for next few years: (1) Formation of our own vocation; (2) Help the young with discernment towards Salesian Cooperators vocation and (3) Family Education: Salesian Cooperators live out identity to set the example for children in their own family.

At the end of the Congress was appointed by the Rector Major also a new World Coordinator 2019-2024, Mr. Antonio Boccia (56 years, Italy – Napoli; since 2015 the World Councilor for Italy-Middle East region). We accompany Antonio in our prayers! And World Congress materials are easily

accessible: http://www.bosco.link/index.php?document_srl=42343&mid=side_right

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EAO Regional Councilor