



OUR SOCIAL MISSION

BY THE CARITAS SINGAPORE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

New name makes CSCC part of world body **Caritas Singapore Community Council**

The Catholic Social and Community Council has formally changed its name to Caritas Singapore Community Council (CSCC). The change reflects its membership in Caritas Internationalis, one of the largest aid and development agencies in the world.

Caritas Internationalis is the umbrella organisation for 162 Catholic groups worldwide. Collectively and individually, Caritas members provide development, relief, and social services to the poor in more than 200 countries and territories worldwide, regardless of religion, race, gender or ethnicity.

Catholic Welfare Services (CWS) was previously a member of Caritas Internationalis.

With the formation of CSCC as the umbrella body for the Church's social



outreach in Singapore, CWS suggested and helped effect the transfer of the Caritas membership to CSCC.

"Caritas" is a Latin word which means charity, the Christian concept of spiritual and brotherly love for all people. Adopting "Caritas" in its new name will align CSCC with the worldwide Church's outreach to the needy, and enhance its image as a Catholic organisation seeking to serve the poor, inspired by the Christian faith and Catholic social teachings.

The Caritas identity enables CSCC to share experiences and information with other Caritas members and to provide mutual help and support in times of need.

CSCC will continue to conduct its charitable activities as an independent legal entity in Singapore, working alongside member organisations serving the needy in the community. It will also continue to promote and communicate the Social Teachings of the Church to the broader Catholic community.



For the next three years, Caritas Internationalis is focusing on six key areas: peace building, emergency response, economic justice, the feminisation of migration, HIV/AIDS and climate change. It is the umbrella organisation for 162 Catholic groups worldwide. PHOTOS: CARITAS INTERNATIONALIS

About Caritas Internationalis

THE first Caritas organisation was set up in Freiburg, Germany, in 1897. National Caritas organisations in Switzerland (1901) and the United States (1910) soon followed.

In December, 1951, the first general assembly of Caritas Internationalis took place with founding members from 13 national organisations.

Today, operating out of its Vatican City headquarters, Caritas Internationalis has 162 members. A member is a national charitable organisation or a collective group working with the support of their respective Church. A member can also be

an international charity recognised by the Vatican and dedicated to human advancement and development.

Member organisations of Caritas Internationalis operate autonomously and carry out local activities independently. However, in major circumstances such as disasters and emergencies, the international organisation, joined by other local organisations, stands ready to help. By being a part of the Caritas network, member organisations benefit from the common identity and the sharing of knowledge and resources.

For the next three years, Caritas Internationalis is focusing

its work of coordination, advocacy, communication and capacity-building in six key areas: peace building, emergency response, economic justice, the feminisation of migration, HIV/AIDS and climate change.

Caritas Internationalis is divided into seven regions: Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, the Middle East and North Africa, North America, and Oceania.

Aside from its Vatican headquarters, it also has offices at the United Nations in New York and in Geneva.

For more information, go to: www.caritas.org

Cheers for the new name

"Caritas, meaning Charity, Love, God, is far more appropriate and this name will be a constant reminder of the mission that Christ wishes you to carry out. Yes, indeed, it is a refreshing and very welcome change."

— Brother Emmanuel Gaudette, Chairman, Catholic Welfare Services

"I would like to congratulate CSCC and the Archdiocese for this good move. It shows our unity with the worldwide Church and CSCC's progressiveness in taking the bold step of a name change in its second year."

— Sister Julia Ong, UJ

"Much easier to pronounce and remember than your old name. And very apt too."

— Shalyn Lim, parishioner

"I like it. A very clever move, retaining the CSCC acronym while taking on the Caritas identity."

— Terrence Francisco, CSCC parish ambassador

"We are delighted with the good news of your name change. This gives CSCC a clear Caritas identity as part of the worldwide Caritas Confederation."

— Rev Father Sanny Y. Sanedrin, International Liaison Officer, Caritas Internationalis, Vatican City