



ORDO FRANCISCANUS SAECULARIS

Consilium Internationale

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To OFS National Councils  
To YouFra National Councils  
To OFS and YouFra International Councilors

Dear brothers and sisters,

May the Lord give you peace!

In December the documents of the XIII General Chapter of the OFS were sent to you. Now we are sending you a document that was presented during the OFS General Chapter held in Sao Paulo, October 22-29, 2011. This document is entitled ***Guidelines for Fraternal Animation***, and was prepared at the request of the OFS General Chapter in 2008. That Chapter requested that *“adequate tools be prepared concerning the selection and adequate preparation of fraternal animators at all levels.”*

These ***Guidelines for Fraternal Animation*** were approved at the CIOFS Presidency meeting on October 22, 2011, the feast of Blessed John Paul II, a great friend of youth, and were submitted to the General Chapter, which received it with great interest and joy.

These *Guidelines* that we entrust to you are based on the experience of many fraternities at all levels from all over the world, and are meant to help build a good and effective relationship between the OFS and YouFra. The young people who participated in elaborating this document have had the experience of double belonging to both, the OFS and YouFra fraternities, or they began their experience of Franciscan life first in YouFra and then in an OFS fraternity. You will find many things written in these *Guidelines* already mentioned in other documents, but we wanted to create an adequate tool that would assist those persons in the OFS responsible for preparing fraternal animators. However, as is the case in all matters concerning formation, even now we may not have included everything you will need to know about fraternal animation. This document wants to be an aid to stimulate and inspire the growth of YouFra as part of the Franciscan Family and to encourage the relationship between the OFS and Franciscan youth so that each may experience the beauty of the Franciscan way of life.

We ask the Lord that this document, prepared with much love, helps us to undertake or continue the journey taken all together – both the OFS and YouFra – in order to better fulfill the mission entrusted to St. Francis and his brothers and sisters!

Fraternally,

Encarnación del Pozo,  
General Minister OFS

Ana Fruk  
CIOFS Presidency Councilor  
YouFra International Coordinator