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**To the
Catholic Military Bishops**

**To the Members and Friends
of the Apostolat Militaire International (AMI)**

**Your Eminence, Your Excellency, Most Reverend Military Bishop,
Ladies and Gentlemen, dear Members and Friends of AMI,**

this year's **General Assembly and Conference of the Apostolat Militaire International (AMI)** was held in **NAIROBI, Kenya, from 23 to 30 September 2006..**

For documentation of this Annual General Assembly all topics, presentations and results of all working groups and also a collection of photos will be attached on this DVD.

Best wishes - Yours in our Lord sincerely

Michael JEDLIČKA

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Lieutenant Colonel
AMI Secretary General

**Apostolate Militaire International (AMI)
Summary of the „General Assembly and Conference 2006 in NAIROBI,
KENYA, 22nd to 30th September 2006“**

For the first time in the history of AMI an Annual General Assembly was conducted within an African country. We kindly thank our Kenyan hosts for their shown hospitality and their excellent organization of our conference.

Our special gratitude deserves to the Kenyan Military Bishop, His Excellency Alfred ROTICH, and also for all assistants of the Steering Committee, first and foremost Lieutenant General A.S.K. NJOROGÉ and Major General J.P. OPIYO. I am sure that I can speak in the name of all participants of our Annual General Assembly, so I want to stress that we were deeply impressed and excited about the warm welcome, the inimitable hospitality and organization and also the wonderful arrangement of the supporting programme of this conference.

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For the summary of contents subsequent information has to be mentioned:

The Annual General Assembly 2006 was highlighted with “**Strengthening Christian Values within Armed Forces Worldwide**”

1. Based on the following countries presentations, which were well prepared and carried out with enormous engagement:

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| The Christian sodier and his/her family | KENYA |
| The Christian soldier and the challenges of leadership | GERMANY |
| The Christian soldier in the secularised society | NETHERLANDS |

Separate working groups were implemented. The results are available and should be seen as a “living document” which can be addressed at any time again. Anyway all these results of our work will accompany us within the upcoming years and can be adopted or modified if necessary.

2. It was unanimously agreed to initiate a Working Group which continues throughout the year with all necessary issues until the upcoming Annual General Assembly where it should report about it. Our comrades from the Netherlands have agreed to be ready to take over responsibility as upcoming hosts.

Delegates of following countries were assigned to be integrated with the Working Group:

- a. AUSTRIA
- b. BELGIUM
- c. KENYA
- d. NETHERLANDS
- e. PORTUGAL
- f. SLOVENIA

This Working Group will be chaired by the Netherlands and assisted by our ecclesiastical assistant bishop's curate Monsignor Dr. Werner FREISTETTER and will be tasked with following topic:

“The Christian soldier confronting the challenges of intercultural conflict”.

- Examination of conflicts AMI-member-countries are involved
- Roots of the conflict
- Cultural background
- Role of religious and churches
- Goals and end state
→ guidelines for the Christian Soldier

Delegates for this Working Group should be nominated until to the Secretary General:

20. December 2006.

3. AMI Secretary General has presented all planned changes of the Statutes which were unanimously agreed by all eligible to vote delegates. Still to define are the short descriptions of the duty as ecclesiastical assistant, of the president and the secretary general of AMI and what should happen to the budget after a end of AMI. The reworked statutes will be sent to the Holy See for examination and afterwards to all AMI member countries and associated member countries.
4. The Financial report 2004/2005 was presented by the secretary general. The executive committee was afterwards unanimously discharged by all eligible to vote delegates. As successor of WO I GANSTER from AUSTRIA and WO I KOPPERS from GERMANY, LTC PREUSS from GERMANY and MAJ MAERTS from BELGIUM have volunteered to take-over responsibilities as auditors. All eligible to vote delegates have unanimously agreed for these personnel decisions.
5. SWITZERLAND thankfully will organize the upcoming AMI Annual General Assembly. It will take part in Maria Stein near Basel, between 01.-07. September 2007. The main topic will stay the same. Following topics were commonly agreed for 2007:
 - Ecumenical experiences in missions abroad
 - Can international humanitarian law substitute Christian values?
 - Terrorism as a challenge for Christian values

KENYA proposed to invite experts as lecturers for the above mentioned topics. Commonly agreed was that generally this will be focused. A final decision depends on the financial resources. Firstly we should focus on experts from the host country to be more cost effective. The Executive Committee together with SWITZERLAND will finally agree on this issue.

6. According to a suggestion from NIGERIA it was commonly agreed that at future General Assemblies every country will have the opportunity to present the specific situation of the Layman Apostolate at least by a 10 minute lasting contribution.
7. As mentioned within the initial speech of AMI General Secretary, LTC JEDLIČKA informed comprehensively about Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs). A final referendum about AMIs possible status as NGO could not take place. It was agreed to inform all AMI member countries about this project. Furthermore all delegates are highly requested to address their respective national organisations to be prepared in the next year conference for a final approval or denial. Meanwhile the ExeCom will prepare a list of pros and cons of such a status for AMI.
8. For 2008 NIGERIA thankfully invited as the host country the AMI-members to the Annual General Assembly. All AMI member countries and associated member countries are requested to clarify within their national organisations if there are any restrictions on this intension.

AMI General Secretariat requests all members for answers until:

30. December 2006.

Please send your answers per e-mail to the Secretary General. No answer until the above mentioned date means agreement.

Best wishes - Yours in our Lord sincerely

Michael JEDLIČKA

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