BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

The international fraternity is guided and animated by the International Council of the OFS (CIOFS) with its seat in Rome (Italy), by its Presidency and by the General Minister (GC, Art. 69.2). The International Council, convened in General Chapter, is the highest governing body of the OFS with legislative, deliberative and elective powers (GC, Art. 70.3). The Presidency of the International Council of the OFS is constituted within the International Council, of which it forms an integral part (GC, Art. 70.2), and is responsible for coordinating animating and guiding the OFS at the international level (GC, Art. 73 (b)). The leadership of the OFS therefore rests with the International Council and, on a day-to-day basis, with the International Presidency. The following proposals are intended to assist and support the International Council and Presidency in leading the international fraternity.

PROPOSAL – SUMMARY

**Proposal 4a – Membership**
Collect information on membership in the OFS, including demographic data. Develop an international registry of all permanently professed members of the OFS as well as an online directory of all local fraternities within the International Fraternity.

***Note:***
this Proposal 4a was split into two parts for the vote at the General Chapter:
4a(1) Information will be collected on membership in the OFS in order to create an online international registry of all permanently professed members of the OFS. *(defeated)*
Alternative text: to make compulsory for national fraternities to create a national registry of all permanently professed members. *(approved)*
4a(2) Information will be collected on local fraternities in the OFS in order to create an online directory of all local fraternities within the International Fraternity. *(approved)*

**Proposal 4b – Training Leaders**
Develop materials suitable for the training of leaders (Minister, Vice-Minister, Secretary, Treasurer, Formator, JPIC Co-ordinator, Youth Co-ordinator, International Councillor).

**Proposal 4c – Creating Pool of Expertise**
Create and utilize a pool of Secular Franciscans who have acquired extensive experience in serving the OFS and who could work in some of the permanent offices of the Order, preside at national elective chapters, conduct fraternal visits, perform various studies and projects of interest to the OFS, and provide support to national councils in resolving problems.

**Proposal 4d – Collaboration within Franciscan Family**
Engage in regular communications with the Franciscan Family, especially with the Conference of the Franciscan Family (CFF), so as to coordinate actions and activities within the broader Franciscan Family.

**Proposal 4e – Administration and Promotion**
Support the International Council and Presidency in the efficient administration and promotion of the OFS through a variety of practical tasks and actions.

SCOPE
Since the leadership of the OFS rests with the International Council and, on a day-to-day basis, with the International Presidency, the above proposals are intended to assist and support the International Council and Presidency in leading the international fraternity. National fraternities have expressed the view that the work of managing the OFS at the international level has been too centralized and limited to too few people. These proposals are intended to utilize the expertise of Secular Franciscans from across the world, and especially non-elected members of the OFS, in supporting the operation and management of the Order. The implementation of these proposals is contingent on the engagement of the International Presidency and ultimately their approval.
**RESOURCES REQUIRED**

- Minister General, Vice-Minister General or Presidency Councillor
- Resource experienced in constructing online membership/fraternity registry
- Resource with extensive experience in serving in different offices on fraternity councils and at multiple levels of the organization (local, regional, national, international)
- Resource with education/training experience in developing adult education materials
- Resource with extensive experience in conducting fraternal visits and presiding at elective chapters at multiple levels of the organization
- No financial resources are required for the first phase of this project

**SOURCE OF FUNDING**

- International Presidency
- National Fraternities

**RESPONSIBILITIES**

A team of five people is proposed for the first phase of this project. Based on the composition of the team, responsibilities would be assigned to develop each of the five leadership proposals.

It would also be the responsibility of this team to propose the work that would need to be done in subsequent phases of this project.

**TIMEFRAME FOR IMPLEMENTATION**

A timeframe of one (1) year is proposed to complete the first phase of this project.