



## **INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Dear Franciscans,

May the Lord give you peace!

I am writing to provide you with an update on the recent decisions taken by the Franciscans International Board of Directors in collaboration with the Conference of the Franciscan Family (CFF).

On October 2, 2012, the CFF met in Assisi with the Franciscans International Board of Directors (IBD) to discuss the current challenges facing FI. During this meeting, the CFF and the IBD unanimously agreed to re-think the FI organization so that it would be better positioned to move forward into the future in a financially sustainable manner. They also agreed to “re-dimension” the organization to enable it to operate more effectively in providing a bridge between Franciscans working at the grass roots and the United Nations (UN). The implementation of this direction will be overseen by a Re-dimensioning Committee comprised of representatives from both the CFF and the IBD.

In support of this re-dimensioning, the FI service delivery structure will undergo some significant changes. 2013 will be a year of transition for Franciscans International. The staff of FI will be reduced in size so that, by January 31, 2013, only a core team will remain as employees of Franciscans International: one Advocacy Officer in New York, two Advocacy Officers in Geneva, and one Advocacy Officer in Bangkok. This team will be led by a Transition Manager, Markus Heinze, OFM, who assumed his responsibilities on December 10, 2012. Additional resources will join the team as funding becomes available. Sr. Denise Boyle, fmdm, the present Executive Director of FI, has resigned, effective January 31, 2013. We are indeed grateful to all managers and staff for their outstanding support of the Franciscan Family’s ministry at the United Nations and are especially grateful to Sr. Denise for her leadership of the organization and exceptional commitment to the mission and vision of FI.

The Franciscan Family, together with other donor agencies, makes it possible for FI to be able to continue its ministry at the UN and to expand its services to the poor, to the environment and to peace-building in a world torn apart by injustice and war. On behalf of the members of the Board of Directors, please accept my heartfelt thanks for the support that you have provided over the years. It is our hope that we will be able to count on your continued support of this important ministry of the Franciscan Family in the future.

Sincerely,

Doug Clorey, OFS  
President, Franciscans International Board of Directors