



Dear friends of UNIAPAC,

We are delighted to share the UNIAPAC Newsletter of the second semester of 2017 which includes details of the events and activities that UNIAPAC International was involved in. During this period UNIAPAC was active in partnership initiatives in close cooperation with UNIAPAC National Associations and International organizations such as the International Labour Organization, the COMECE, UNESCO, and in particular with the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development of the Vatican. Uniapac development also includes relations with new partners of the private sector and civil society at international level. Our main goal is to continue to provide greater support for our National Associations, to ensure the visibility of UNIAPAC through its distinct promotion of Business as a Noble Vocation based on an economy respecting the human dignity and the Common Good.

You are all invited in 2018 to participate in the projects lead by UNIAPAC International at the service of the national member associations.

On behalf of UNIAPAC International, We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, full of success in your projects.

With best regards,

Rodrigo Whitelaw, Uniapac International

EDITO

JUNE - JULY 2017

■ JUNE 5-15TH. 106th Session of International Labor Conference on "Building a future with decent work", Geneva.

UNIAPAC thanks to its presence in 43 countries and its network of associations, aiming to promote Christian Social Thinking in the business world, continues to contribute to the ILO Decent Work Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals. ILO is ready to face world of work challenges resulting from crisis, labour migration and green transition. UNIAPAC was represented by Rodrigo Whitelaw in this session.

■ JULY 5-15TH. Launching Seminar of the project "The future of work, Labour after Laudato Si". Geneva.

The purpose of the meeting was to define a research roadmap and potential synergies between all the partners involved and reflect on the context of labour after the publication of Laudato Si and to identify opportunities to contribute to The Future of Work Initiative at the International Labour Organization (ILO). The project has been developed based



on lessons learnt from existing cooperation among Catholic inspired organizations involved on labour issues, but also taking into account several elements related to the Church context and wider context of changes in our world and economy.

SEPTEMBER 2017

■ SEPTEMBER 4-5TH. 10th Convergences World Forum, Hôtel de Ville of Paris.

The theme of the 10th edition of the Convergences World Forum was "Together, let's innovate for a 3Zero world". It consisted of around thirty sessions around 17 Sustainable Development Goals, such as: Poverty, Education, Economic Growth, Sustainable consumption and production, Climate change, Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions. Since its launch in 2008, the Convergences World Forum gathers every year some 5,000 professionals to discuss innovative solutions to fight against poverty and precariousness in the world. It

offers international experts and decision-makers a high-level learning, meeting and working space to jointly develop responses to the social and environmental challenges that affect so-called developed countries and so-called developing countries. The Forum aimed to demonstrate the strength of multi-actor and innovative concrete solutions for a more inclusive and sustainable world: diversity of speakers from the public, private and solidarity sectors, from developed and developing countries, with a balanced representation of women and men. UNIIAPAC was represented by André Baudoux, Delegate for Uniapac Africa.

■ **SEPTEMBER 19TH.** Private seminar on Ethics and Sustainability in Finance for institutional investors and family offices, Geneva.

This seminar was organized by the Professor Christoph Stueckelberger, Founder and President of Globethics.net and Professor of Economic Ethics, and Francis Mathieu, Senior Advisor to Institutional Investors and Family Offices, Expert on Sustainable Finance and Impact Investments. The objective of this seminar to share experiences, explore visions and needed initiatives for an ethical and sustainable future of investment in a confidential and safe space for open dialogue. The keynote speakers were: **Gaël Giraud**, Chief Economist of the *Agence Française de Développement*, **Tony Meloto**, founder of Gawad Kalinga, a Philippine-based poverty alleviation movement



and **Rolando Medeiros**, President of Uniapac International who has presented the document of UNIAPAC *"Business as a Noble Vocation"*.

UNIAPAC EXPANSION IN THE UNITED STATES

■ **OCTOBER 3-6TH.** The Good Profit conference, how profitable business can be a force for good, sponsored by the Catholic University of America and the NAPA Institute, Washington D.C.

This conference took place in Washington, seeking to empower leaders in business, academia, actors in political, religious and non-profit arenas, to contribute to a robust and fully humane economy. Among the speakers, we can mention **Michael Naughton** – Director of the Center for Catholic Study of the University of Saint Thomas, **Cardinal Peter Turkson**, First the first Prefect of the new Dicastery for the Promotion of Integral Human Development, **Jose Maria Simone**, past president of Uniapac: JM Simone talked on *"Can business be a path to sanctity?"*. He made an excellent presentation of the case of Enrique Shaw which was very well received and celebrated. **José Ignacio Mariscal and Rolando Medeiros** also attended the conference. It was the great opportunity to make several contacts in Washington; Andreas Widmer of the Business School of the Catholic University of America, is ready to



help in the creation of a Chapter of Young professionals in Washington DC. **On October 7th, Jose Maria Simone** has been invited by ACU Miami (Asociacion Católica de Universitarios – University students Catholic Association) to present UNIAPAC so as to bring International connection of their network for entrepreneurs and businessmen and professionals. ACU has decided to incorporate Enrique Shaw as a guidance leader for their economic and business development. They are now analysing UNIAPAC's objective and the common points with their own activities before presenting a formal application to be UNIAPAC's member.



■ **OCTOBER 12TH.** Conference organized by the Belgian association ADIC on *"Towards a responsible consumption"*.

The keynote speaker was Eric Lambin, Professor in UCL, Assistant Professor in the Boston University to work on the new programs of the NASA on environmental changes on a worldwide scale. He leads a research team involved in numerous scientific projects on the interactions between human activity and terrestrial ecosystems. In addition to many articles, he wrote two books: we can mention *"The Middle Path"* at the University of Chicago Press.

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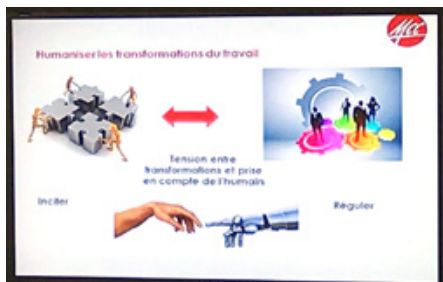
3-4TH NOVEMBER. Interreligious consultation on the Future of Work, Marseille.

Organised in the framework of the project "The future of work, Labour after Laudato Si" for the global promotion of "Decent Work" coordinated by MCC (French Movement of Christian Executives) ILO, with the support of UNIAPAC.

Work is changing all around the world as a result of powerful technological, economic, demographic and environmental changes, which affects all areas of human activity and all countries. These changes bring opportunities for human development, but also new social vulnerabilities. The symposium aims to "humanize" the profound consequences of such changes in such a structuring activity which is "**Living Together**". The conference sought the convergences of the ethical values which reside at the heart of the Christian and Muslim cultures of the Mediterranean, giving to work dignity, a sense in life and a place in the society. The event allowed a constructive discussions between Christian and Muslim leaders based on testimonies and



local experiences. The principal topics discussed in the workshops and round tables were: *The Sense of Work and purpose of the enterprise, What attentions to new vulnerabilities?, Fair compensation and sharing of created value, Equality between men and women, youth employment and the management of natural resources of the planet.* Testimonies of Raymond Sfeir, Moulay Alaoui were very appreciated.



UNIAPAC AFRICA

NOVEMBER 11-12TH. Uniapac Africa Board in Dakar, Senegal.

The president of Uniapac Africa, Vincent Bidi, presented the strategic plan for Africa. Rolando Medeiros, the President of Uniapac International, was present as well as Philippe Mine and André Baudoux, Uniapac Delegates for Africa. Their presence was very much appreciated and helps them to advance on the question of Uniapac Africa and to consolidate their respective associations. Now Uniapac Africa counts 15 associations and is determined to bear the values of Uniapac International and activities.

NOVEMBER 14TH. Conference organized by the Jesuit Refugee Service Belgium, Brussels.

In partnership with Saint-Michel College animated by Paul Germain (TV5 Monde) on the complexity and importance of the migratory phenomenon with keynote speakers like, François De Smet, Director of Myria (Migration Federal Center), Pierre Vimont, Senior fellow of Carnegie Europe and Baudouin Van Overstraeten, Directeur du JRS Belgium.

NOVEMBER 16TH. Symposium at Collège des Bernardins on "The human challenge to the digital", Paris.

UNIAPAC was represented by Marc Toillier, Uniapac Delegate for Unesco. This conference aims to compare the teachings of the Chair to the contributions of young researchers, companies and digital entrepreneurs who participated, and opens perspectives for research, for actors and for the continuation of work on digital at the Bernardins. The deployment of digital objects and uses in our lives affects our humanity. Faced with these changes, is it possible to develop a framework for the emergence of a digital humanism?: the reflection focuses on the conditions of a digital humanism, on the future of a digital humanism. Digital entrepreneurs give their point of view. Contribute to the emergence of a new digital humanism: The Chair The Human Challenge to the digital world makes it possible to carry out a work of cartography of the anthropological mutations induced by the digital and to develop a frame of thought which makes it possible to conceive the development of digital technologies as a progress for the man. The Collège des Bernardins has decided to put people at the heart of digital thinking and to dedicate their research chair, to a shared reflection associating researchers and digital practitioners with anthropologists, theologians, sociologists and researchers.

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NOVEMBER 23-24TH. Vatican Conference. From *Populorum progressio* to *Laudato si'* - Work and Workers' Movements at the Center of Integral, Sustainable and Fraternal Human Development.

The conference, was hosted by Cardinal Peter Turkson, who heads the Vatican's new Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development. Pope Francis delivered a message to the participants honoring the assembled labor activists for their role in defending human values in a profit-driven global economy. And, as at the Italian trade union assembly this summer, he called on them to adopt a prophetic role in transforming society. In a message at a conference in the Vatican, Francis asks not to ignore the excluded, fight corruption and educate consciences in solidarity. UNIAPAC was represented by Rodrigo Whitelaw participated in the Conference.



NOVEMBER 28-29TH. COMECE Social Affairs Commission meeting on the future of work, Brussels.

H. E. Bishop Gianni Ambrosio invited UNIAPAC, represented by Rodrigo Whitelaw to present in the panel **Perspective of the employers: the future of enterprises and entrepreneurship**. The COMECE Social Affairs Commission is working on a draft of a socio-ethical reflection on the transformative changes in the European labour market. This meeting is the opportunity to discuss this document with representatives of Catholic-inspired organisations in Brussels. Rodrigo Whitelaw intervened in the meeting on behalf of UNIAPAC on the future of enterprises and entrepreneurship, outlining how enterprises and especially the concept of entrepreneurship is changing in a digital economy, referring to the new forms of employment and the Pope Francis' call to see business as "a noble vocation, directed to producing wealth and improving our world" (*Laudato si'*, n. 129).



ON DECEMBER 5TH, Rodrigo Whitelaw participated at a roundtable organized by the MEDEF (Mouvement des entreprises de France) in partnership with the IHEMR (Institut des Hautes Etudes du Monde Religieux) on "corporate security at the risk of radicalization" what kind of risks are we talking about?

- identify the practices which have negative effects,

- clarify the personal liberties and the possible compromise for the good of all the community,
- what are the good practices so as to inform,
- sensitize and push the collaborators to dialogue.

The speakers are business leaders, lawyers in labour law, and representatives of religious worship.

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■ DECEMBER 6-8TH. Consultation Seminar "The future of work, Labour after Laudato Si", Puebla, Mexico.

Uniapac Latin America's associations was invited to take part to a 3 days' seminar on the promotion of decent work, in the framework of the project "The future of work, Labour after Laudato Si". This Consultation sSminar follows the global seminar on the future of work organized by ILO held on 11-13 July 2017 in Geneva. The event took place in place at the Universidad Ibero-Americana de Puebla (Mexico), bringing together civil society organizations, universities, trade unions and employers' associations, and organizations of Catholic inspiration and other denominational foundations that address the promotion of decent work. USEM representatives were invited to this Consultation seminar. This event aiming at defining regional priorities; strengthening exchange and cooperation for development and continuing the common reflection and contributing on the issues at the regional level with 4 key elements: Common values, Critical areas in the world of work, Looking at solution, A roadmap for the future.

■ DECEMBER 11-13TH. 3th Forum of Catholic inspired organizations in Rome on "Promoters of Humanity in a Transforming World" Rome.

Many important challenges in our societies influence the positioning of civil society and, in a particular way, Catholic inspired organizations. The world is in a state of profound



transformation. It is evident that religion will play a more important role in the years to come and that economic systems will have to develop new approaches to ensure better care for the common good. We propose that the Forum consider these points and examine together how and to what degree these issues call us forth. This meeting will focus on the importance of some of the ongoing societal changes and on the commitments of catholic NGO's in the various fields of expertise. External experts have been invited to give their viewpoints. The overall aim of this meeting is to identify some key leads for longer term collaborations in thematic groups and contributing to the development of a social observatory from a Catholic inspired perspective in a space of dialogue and discussions. **Rolando Medeiros**, President of Uniapac International moderates the Panel presented by Professor. **Paul Dembinski**. An economic system at its end and the rapid erosion of the social contract increasing social inequalities invite us all to contribute to the development of new mechanisms that ensure continued sharing and respect for the common good.

■ UNESCO CCIC - Uniapac Activities

• Project of Water Access for all in Africa

NGO's Project to train local Hydrologists. The project launched in 2016 is currently in progress with a promotion of 15 future Hydrologists Technicians from Madagascar, Ivory Coast and Burkina-Faso trained in the University center 2IE in Ouagadougou (BF). CCIC now wishes to recruit the future technicians for 2018 in the following countries: Tchad, Senegal, Togo, Burkina Faso, Niger, Cameroun, Mali. For the moment, Cameroun and Togo have answered to this project.

It is with great sorrow that we inform you of the passing away of our dear friend Raymond Sfeir founder of EDC-Liban (Entrepreneurs et Dirigeants Chrétiens, Christian Leaders & Entrepreneurs in Lebanon) founder of MA'AM au Liban (Islamic Christian Forum for Businessmen) who left us during the night of 29-30 November 2017. Raymond Sfeir is the personification of a committed man, animated by great faith, and who always delivered without counting. We thank him for his testimony of life and faith that has marked all those who have come to know him from near and far.