

MINUTES of the fourteenth and second (virtual) meeting of the year 2021 of the Board of Directors of SIGNIS ALC

The members of the Board of Directors of the Latin American and Caribbean Catholic Association of Communication, SIGNIS ALC, convened on September 16, 2021 by its president, Carlos Ferraro, met virtually on September 24, 2021, (4:00 p.m. Quito), in the second virtual meeting of the year and the fourteenth, since his appointment.

In accordance with the call, the meeting began at 4:00 p.m. (Ecuador time), with the participation of:

Carlos Alberto Ferraro, president
María José Centurión, vice president
Alejandro Caro, third titular director
Fernando Ruiz, fourth titular director
Sonia Navas, Executive Secretary

The directors justify their non-attendance, due to last minute personal activities:

Jorge Villa, first titular director
Lisa Bhajan, second titular director, and
Mons. John - Lewis William delegate of SIGNIS Caribe

President Carlos Ferraro begins with a greeting of welcome and thanks to the members of the Board of Directors and invites them to make an individual prayer.

The following agenda is approved

1. Progress:
 - Young SIGNISALC, Ambassadors Laudato yes, training
 - Radio Lío, the spark of the Word
 - VI COMLAC: ongoing activities, proposed agenda
2. Assembly 2022: proposed agenda
3. Ethics committee, safeguard policy
4. World Congress and Assembly August 22
5. ADVENIAT evaluation
6. Various topics: CELAM, REPAM, other activities

1. Progress:
 - SIGNISALC youth, Ambassadors Laudato si, training

María José Centurión announces that she is chairing, ad hoc, a SIGNIS commission to coordinate the integration of young people among the SIGNIS members in the different regions. The commission is made up of Eljay Sinniah, vicepresident and staff from SIGNIS office, Larry Rich, Isaac Atchikiti y Edgar Rubio.

Likewise, it undertakes to review the manual on the operation of SIGNIS ALC youth. Carlos Ferraro highlights the work of Latin America and Majo's leadership on this issue.

Referring to the Ambassadors Laudato program yes, she informs that the second semester of the Program for Advanced Studies in Spirituality and Pastoral Communication with an Ecological Perspective is advancing, with the Pastoral Institute of the Andrés Bello Catholic University. 29 participants continue and will end with environmental communication projects for the improvement of their communities on march 2022.

It explains that it is pending to request the support of the Associates of their countries for the execution of each of the projects.

- Radio Lío, the spark of the Word

Carlos Ferraro indicates that an inter-institutional executive committee that leads the process. However, he explains that in the learning process of the radio production training program there are unforeseen events that are resolved along the way.

It announces that a mid-term evaluation of the training process was carried out, which yielded indicators that require reviewing the situation of the participation of students in the countries. He also points out that the systematization process has begun, led by the two advisers of Radio Lío (Eduardo Guerrero and Claudia Villamayor) with the support of Diego Jaimes, an Argentine professor and radio player.

Sonia summarizes each process that has been carried out with the participants, the tutorials towards the final product of the training and first of radio mess, review of equipment for the study of radio in Quito and other countries; the definition of logo, programming grid.

- VI COMLAC: ongoing activities, proposed agenda

Alejandro Caro, general coordinator of the event, indicates that the pre COMLAC activities continue with the series of virtual conversations on topics that deepen the proposed axes. On Thursday, October 7, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. in Ecuador, the next virtual dialogue will be held with the theme: "Community radio, between interculturality and technological convergence."

An invitation was also made to the different communication areas of Latin American universities for the presentation of research. Contacts are being made.

SIGNIS Panama and the USMA agree on the date of July 2022. Also from the regional secretariat, a draft project was delivered so that Panama could manage the search for donations, especially with the bishops of the USA.

It is also agreed that the event will be held in a hybrid manner (50 participants from SIGNIS ALC and another national), or if the Covid19 pandemic does not allow it, it will be virtually on the dates indicated. It is expected that there will be a meeting in Panama,

before the end of this quarter, to strengthen alliances and specify the program and logistics.

2. Assembly 2022: start of preparation

After reviewing the SIGNIS ALC regulations (Art. 9), it is agreed that the call to the Assembly must be made in February 2022, indicating the possibilities of doing it in person or virtually in Panama City, Panama.

And provide, as agreed in the May meeting, that the Assembly's agenda includes the presentation of the reports of the National Associates in graphic or audiovisual form. It is also agreed to send the regulations and mandate as input.

Topics that should be on the agenda are: prospective planning according to the external evaluation held this year, and the incorporation of the Safeguarding Policy for vulnerable people in the actions of the National Associates and the regional office of SIGNIS in LAC.

3. Ethics committee, safeguard policy

The president of the Ethics Committee, Fernando Ruiz, shared the final document with the members of the board in advance. Members not present were consulted and sent their comments and approval by email.

The members of the Board of Directors of SIGNIS ALC unanimously approve the document of the Safeguarding Policy for vulnerable people. Instrument that must be put into practice as soon as possible, so the next activity will be to deliver this document to the SIGNIS National Associates in Latin America through an introductory training for its use.

It is suggested that the topic be incorporated in the Assembly as well.

4. World Congress and Assembly August 2022

Carlos Ferraro indicates that the SIGNIS Congress will take place virtually in August 2022. The Assembly is yet on study.

5. ADVENIAT evaluation

President Carlos Ferraro expresses the importance of assuming the recommendations of the external evaluation report carried out by ADVENIAT through the professional Jaime Carril.

It is agreed to request the professional to prepare a conceptual map that outlines, prospectively, the different activities that the organization must carry out along the way to fulfill the mission and vision entrusted in the institutional mandate.

6. Miscellaneous topics:

- Face-to-face Board of Directors meeting: together the members present, also with the advance contribution of Jorge Villa, agree to make a face-to-face meeting at the organization's headquarters, in Quito, at the beginning of March 2022. It is defined that the central item on the agenda will be the preparation of the 2022 Assembly.
- CELAM: Carlos Ferraro continues as advisor to different instances in the restructuring of CELAM. It indicates that there is a proposal to make a series about the life of a bishop. In this regard, the members of the Board of Directors agree that, whenever possible, a motion be made to do soon the life and martyrdom of Santo Oscar Romero, patron of SIGNIS.
- REPAM: Coordination of the productions of the Life for the Amazon Series continues; At the moment, progress is being made in the production of documentary 7, on the life of the Peruvian martyr, Sr. Agusta Rivas, Aguchita, missionary of the Good Shepherd. This is how it is also announced that progress is being made in the process of selecting the martyr for documentary 8.
- CEBITEPAL: It must be developed the courses to start offering.

The virtual meeting of the board of directors ends, at 7:00 p.m. in Quito.

On record signs:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carlos A. Ferraro".

Carlos A. Ferraro
President SIGNIS ALC

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sonia Navas".

Sonia Navas
Secretary of the Board of Directors