CATHOLIC ACTION
SYNODALITY AND MISSION
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF LAY LEADERS
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PRESS RELEASE

FIAC GENERAL ASSEMBLY CONCLUDED
The five member countries of the Secretariat have been elected

Rome, 18 October 2026

The Ordinary Elective Assembly of the International Forum of Catholic Action, which has been meeting in Rome over the past few days and was preceded by the International Conference on the theme 'Catholic Action: Synodality and Mission', has concluded with the unanimous approval of the Statutes.

The **Statutory Document** governing the life and activities of the FIAC, in force since 2017, has incorporated the additions suggested by **the Vatican Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life**. The main amendments concern the conditions for a national Catholic Action association to belong to the Forum, a better structuring of the coordination of activities by continent, and the introduction of a specific article on the protection of minors and vulnerable persons.

The text, thus revised and approved by the Assembly of Member Countries, will subsequently be submitted for final approval by the Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life.

The Assembly also elected the **five countries** that will make up the **Secretariat** for the **four-year period 2026–2030: Burundi, Spain, Italy, Argentina and the Philippines**. The five members of the Secretariat will subsequently meet to elect the Coordinator, the Secretary and the Administrator.

Finally, the representatives of the 30 countries – comprising members and observers – present at the International Conference and the Assembly took part in **the Angelus** prayer, joyfully greeting the **Holy Father Leo XIV** as he appeared at the window of the Apostolic Palace following his admission to the Gemelli Hospital.

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