

DOCUMENTATION
SEDOS

38

Rome, November 28th, 1969.

To the Superiors General
 To their Delegates for SEDOS
 To the members of the SEDOS groups

ASSEMBLY OF SUPERIORS GENERAL

Please note, that the XXV Assembly will be held on December 16, 1969, at 16.00 h, at the OMI-International Scholasticate, 78/a Via Pineta Sacchetti, Roma. The agenda is enclosed (page 69/913). As requested all the documents connected with the items of this agenda will be circulated in one "package" - in next week's bulletin.

EDUCATION WORK IN THE MISSIONS

Some of the subgroups informed the Secretariat that research on the subject of nationalization of schools is still going on. Therefore, they would like to decide upon the date of the next meeting of the Education group only after you have received, and have had time to study, the papers to be discussed. (no meeting on 2-XII-1969)

Enclosed please find:

DEVELOPMENT

- a) Recommendations of the Justitia et Pax Round Table III page 900
- b) Inventory and Evaluation of Aid Projects (by CIDSE) page 902

DOCUMENTATION

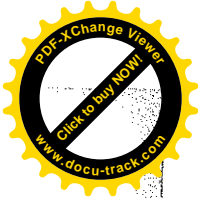
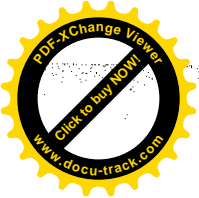
Relationships between SEDOS and Religious Research Program at Marquette University page 904

AGENDA OF THE ASSEMBLY OF SUPERIORS GENERAL page 913

Sincerely yours,

A.M.B. Kohler

Annamarie B. Kohler



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DEVELOPMENT

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 3RD PLENARY ROUND TABLE CONSULTATION

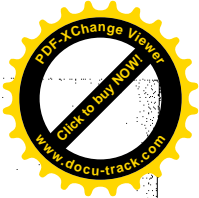
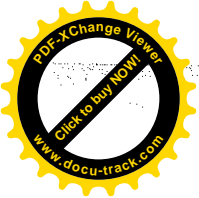
The 3rd Plenary consultation meeting of the Round Table (RT) (Rome, 28-30 October, 1969), notes with satisfaction the progress made during the last year in the line of intercommunication and co-operation which has been an inspiration and stimulation to the participants. To foster greater progress in these efforts, the participants have come to consensus on the following:

I. Intercommunication between participants of the RT conference

1. Invitation of the largest number possible to the general or particular meetings of participants of the Round Table.
2. The participants of the Round Table request the following from the Secretariat of the Round Table (Secretariat of Justice and Peace):
 - a) a short Progress Report, from each of the **participants**, on its activities since the last Round Table Meeting,
 - b) a calendar of forthcoming meetings and events,
 - c) an enquiry among the bodies which are members of the Round Table on the real need for information and intercommunication (its volume, content and quality). It is suggested also that the members pursue this enquiry within their regional and national structures,
 - d) a study on the usefulness and advisability of a Round Table Bulletin in order to meet the need for selective information,
 - e) information to the members of the Round Table of the **important** statements and policy declarations on development and social justice of Church authorities as well as of the participating organisations and groups of the Round Table.
3. That members send, two months prior to the following meeting of the Round Table, proposals for the agenda (with a **brief** note on each proposal).

II. Intercommunication between Round Table members and local Churches

1. The People of God, particularly through its Bishops' Conferences, should encourage and study ways and means:
 - a) to foster theological reflection and Christian motivation,



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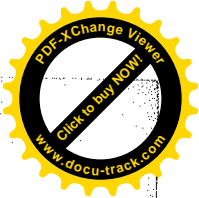
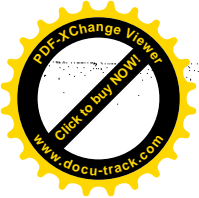
- b) to define objectives, priorities and urgencies in the different sectors of development of the local church.
2. The work of development would greatly be benefited if the Bishops' Conferences would:
 - a) initiate and/or organize meetings and seminars in which they possibly might take part for presenting information and motivation to action in order that the whole Christian community be committed and involved,
 - b) to create instruments for establishing priorities and overall policy as well as for preparing decisionmaking and promoting action, and for implementing of development activities (e.g. Institutions such as Entwicklungsförderungsinstitute).
3. The opinions of the "ordinary people" who are confronted with day to day problems, must be elicited and taken seriously.
4. The Secretariat of the RT is requested to:
 - a) inform the Bishops Conferences about the Round Table; its aims and composition and the limited progress it has made and to invite them to share information about their activities and plans in development,
 - b) to invite them to organize symposia on development and social action on a regional basis. (N.B. A draft of the letter should first be sent to the participants of the Round Table for comments.)
5. It is suggested that a similar communication be sent to the National Councils of Justice and Peace, to the Associations of major religious superiors and to the lay organisations.

III. Harmonizing Operations

1. The work began on inventory of aid and evaluation of projects should be continued and encouraged.
2. The participants recognise the importance of mutually accepted criteria for the dispensing of aid. The criteria given in Doc. IV/2 are recommended.
3. The Round Table supports wholeheartedly the creation of Development Institutions (Entwicklungsförderungsinstitute) in the local Church and pledges its full co-operation.
4. The Secretariat is requested to gather all relevant information from the participating bodies as to existing initiatives, institutes, correspondents etc.
5. The Round Table acknowledges what has been achieved in the line of coordination and harmonization in the field of emergency relief aid and refugee aid, and expresses the hope that this will not only continue but increase and be formalised.

31st October, 1969.

issued by the Secretariat of the 3rd
Plenary Round Table Consultation



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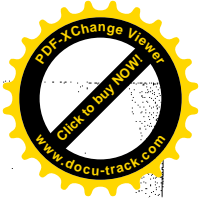
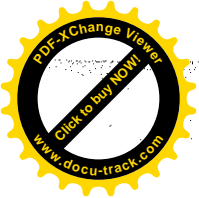
DEVELOPMENT

INVENTORY AND EVALUATION OF AID PROJECTS

A note presented by
M. A. Vanistendael
to the Justitia et Pax Round Table,
31-10-69

The Inventory

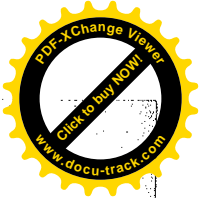
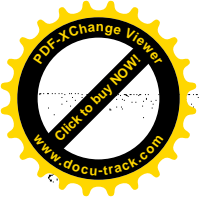
1. CIDSE now groups 11 aid agencies which handle most of the funds allotted to development by the Roman Catholic Church bodies. In general these were created or promoted by the local Churches of the developed countries. CIDSE was set up as a coordinating centre by the interested bodies - which, after long years of operation, had felt the need - especially during Vatican II, to keep in touch.
2. CIDSE has now set up a system for registering applications for aid filed with its 11 agencies by the Bishop of the Third World, by religions Institutes and by various other organizations (including a member of International Catholic Organizations). The system makes possible a detailed inventory of applications filed and of decisions taken on the matter - both as regards their geographical distribution and as regards the different fields of development.
3. A first analysis, based on 1654 applications from 89 countries, shows that 40% of the same came from the same 4 countries. 72% dealt with schools and hospitals, clinics etc. while 12% dealt with agricultural projects.
The CIDSE statistics also show that during 1965, 66 and 67, more than 50% of the aid went to the same 8 countries. A precious instrument for deeper reflection now exists: it will not fail to provide participating bodies with the data they require.
4. Many organizations with pastoral and social service aims have asked to register their projects. Their group will be convened by CIDSE to examine the potential for cooperation in this area. There is no doubt that a comprehensive view of the activities of the Church in the mission, pastoral, social service and developmental fields could be of immense value for the policy formulation in these areas.



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Evaluation

5. Many evaluation studies have been undertaken, particularly at the request of Misereor, Entraide, Fraternité. Each of these studies fills one or more fat volumes - a fact which shows the complexity of the problem. It seems impossible that the Round Table be capable of launching an evaluation programme.
6. It is urgent that we define what we mean by evaluation because the very word often creates confusion. The aims of evaluation must be fixed with precision - as regards geographical areas, and the development field in question.
7. In general, an evaluation of the contribution offered to changes in the socio-economic or organizational structures of a given country, region or sector by projects financed by a particular aid agency (or by a group of agencies) could constitute a **feasible** objective. We must, however, note that such evaluation can only give approximative results.
8. We must stress that the lack of investigation, planning, activation and control structures in the developing countries constitute a serious obstacle to every evaluation venture.



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DEVELOPMENT and DOCUMENTATION

Relationships Between SEDOS and Religious Research Program at Marquette University

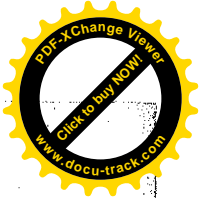
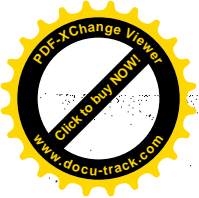
On October 10, 1969 Brother Gerald J. Schnepf, S.M., Treasurer-General of the Marianists in Rome, visited us as a member of the Executive Committee of SEDOS (Servizio di Documentazione e Studi).

This report attempts to summarize the conversations that were held with me personally, with the Advisory Committee of our Department, in a conference with Dr. Quentin Quade, Dean of our Graduate School, and in a meeting with the faculty of our Department and representatives of other related departments. The data are not necessarily arranged in the order in which the information and ideas were shared.

THE NATURE AND SCOPE OF SEDOS

SEDOS is an action-oriented service agency; it is a federation of 32 Catholic religious congregations interested in missionary activities. Approximately half of these are male. It includes in its membership the Christian Brothers, Franciscans, Jesuits, Marianists, Society of African Missions, and other missionary-sending agencies with a total of possibly as many as 150,000 missionaries and supporting staff. Its purpose is to give advice, suggest policies, explore changes, collect pertinent statistics, provide documentation services, conduct opinion surveys in the service of the agencies, and promote cooperative relationships among them. It was established in 1964 by the Superiors General of missionary-sending institutes, encouraged by FERES (the international federation of social and socio-religious research institutes).

One of its major functions over the past three years has been to organize and conduct seminars pertinent to missions. These are typically three or four days long and supported by outside funding. One of these dealt with theology (1969). Twenty theologians were given problems in advance of the seminar and wrote papers and/or commentaries, which were published in advance. These were then discussed at the seminar. The 1968 seminar dealt with technology in relationship to missions. Technical experts were the main resource. It became evident that effective missionary work today will focus much less on preaching alone and much more on practical problems, such as irrigation and other needs related to agriculture. The 1970 seminar will deal with credit unions in relationship to missions.



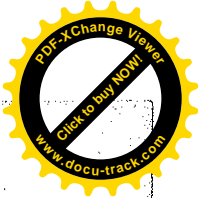
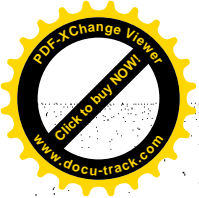
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SEDOS has maintained itself independent of the Vatican, for it wishes to avoid domination by a Curia. Organizationally, its Assembly of Superior Generals meets three times a year and makes its basic decisions. The Executive Committee meets monthly, and the staff that carries on the regular activities consists of an Executive Secretary (Father Benjamin Tonna), an assistant, and secretarial help. Many of its activities currently are done with volunteer help provided by the member organizations. (This is one of the limitations of its current abstracting services. The volunteers are not trained specifically for the task, so their attempts to give the gist of the content of reports in a single paragraph may not satisfy the needs of scholarly researchers and college professors.)

The budget of SEDOS is provided by a member fee of \$1000 per year. Outside funding must be obtained for special projects, such as the seminars.

As for research, SEDOS is not a research organization as such. It does, however, gather information which could be useful in certain kinds of research projects, especially those that pertain to Catholic missions or data which could be gathered by missionaries. It might also serve as a clearing house for certain kinds of research reports. One of its services is the provision of bibliographies to members, and another is the indexing and cataloging of reports available in the archives of SEDOS. In contrast to CARA, SEDOS does not see itself as a funding agency which commissions research projects because it does not have the necessary funds. Two of their congregations currently are considering putting all of their records on computer tapes. Once this is done, it may be difficult to introduce changes, so research needs related to this ideally should be anticipated in the very near future and coordinated with those administrative plans, if possible. The experience of attempting to develop a uniform personnel card for keeping records with IBM equipment was attempted in Rome, but the plan was dropped because of the two problems of costs and lack of clarity as to how the data would be used once they were recorded.

Brother Schnepf and Father Tonna see many needs for research which are related to the purposes of SEDOS. SEDOS has had a concern, for example, for a dynamic approach to recruitment of missionaries, a meaningful training program, and a rational and efficient deployment of missionary field resources. Its concerns are primarily administrative or practical rather than academic and theoretical, yet there is a clear recognition of the relevance of theory to practice.



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POSSIBLE COOPERATIVE RELATIONSHIPS OF SEDOS AND MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY

1. Data storage and retrieval

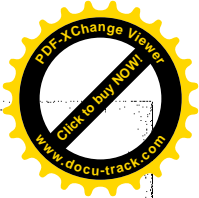
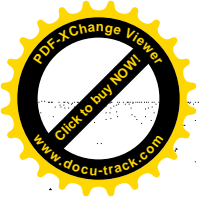
The proposed religious research data retrieval system which is under exploration by Dr. Moberg is of considerable interest to SEDOS. Their current retrieval and storage system for data organizes information on cards on a manual basis. Father Tonna believes it can remain manual only for the next three or four years, so the door is open to the planning and adoption of more sophisticated data processing procedures. Cooperative activities in this regard can occur by linking their data retrieval system with that of other organizations. Perhaps SEDOS could become the center for a system dealing with Missiology, while Cara might focus upon religious orders, Marquette University upon religious research, the National Council of Churches in New York City upon Protestant research planning studies, MARC upon Protestant missionary ventures and related data, and other agencies and organizations upon other aspects of an interlocking system. The model developed in the Theology Department of Marquette University for indexing major theological journals with approximately 200 key words might also become the basis for a portion of the system, as might other projects that are in process in other institutions in the U.S. and Europe.

The software problems in this connection are the greatest. The key words in different languages may not mean precisely the same in translation. Most of the records of SEDOS are in English. The coordination of different systems may be difficult if they are planned for computers or other hardware that are non-compatible.

The transmission of data from one system to another is a relatively simple, although possibly expensive, aspect of cooperative arrangements. Computer tapes can be sent by air mail, and IBM cards can certainly be shipped, even across the ocean. Direct linkage of computers is also possible by telecommunication or by leased telephone lines. There may be other technological possibilities also for linking the various parts of a larger system.

2. Data Archives

Many of the data collected by SEDOS may have research possibilities. Copies of such materials on data processing records could be placed in the data archives at Marquette for research uses by faculty and students. Problems of the non-comparability of much of the data collected from the

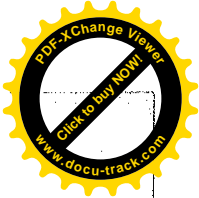
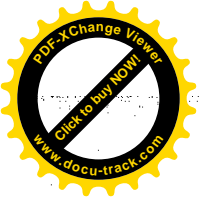


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various member agencies are one of the complications in this connection. Another is the confidential nature of some of the data. The materials could be filed according to a classification system that would build in safeguards to protect confidentiality. Certain materials could be available to all qualified academic personnel for research purposes; others available only by specific permission from the director or manager of the archives, and some only on specific permission from SEDOS or even from the original source. This is a problem that is handled satisfactorily in a large number of archives elsewhere and should not prove to be an insurmountable barrier. Criteria would need to be developed to determine which data should be included in the archives; much data probably should remain only in the headquarters of SEDOS because of its peripheral values, if any, for social and behavioral science research. The benefits to SEDOS and its members would reside primarily in the findings of the research projects, so specific arrangements should be included pertinent to the distribution of reports of scholarly work based upon these archives. (Perhaps student term papers should be distributed only when they are of unusual quality or on interests which are specifically relevant to policy and administration. Master's theses and doctoral dissertations, as well as faculty research reports, probably are all of such quality as to justify placing at least one copy in the files of SEDOS. Mutual consultation pertinent to various aspects of the research would be fruitful to both parties (SEDOS and Marquette personnel).

3. Seminars

It may be appropriate for SEDOS either occasionally or annually to sponsor seminars in the United States of America. The central location of Marquette to the United States and Canada makes it an appropriate location. Its excellent travel connections, especially by air, make it convenient to travelers from every direction. Its faculty and other resources and its location at the heart of a major metropolitan area all combine to make it a good location for such seminars. It also represents a neutral location with reference to the various political factions within Roman Catholicism. As an educational institution, it is also very appropriate as a locus for ecumenical programs. One of the topics suggested during the discussions had to do with relationships between missionary agencies and governments. To what extent should a religious congregation cooperate with the government if it is violating human dignity and civil rights? Under what conditions may it successfully oppose the government and still promote its religious objectives? This would also make a good topic for research. (It was mentioned that the missionary who meddles in politics can readily depart, but the nationals are left with the problems created by the missionaries. For this reason some experts in Missiology believe that the missionary ought to become a citizen of the nation to which he has been sent so that when trouble breaks out as a result of his endeavors, he must remain and face the consequences.)

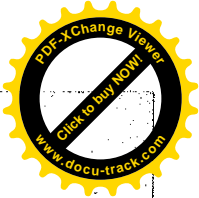
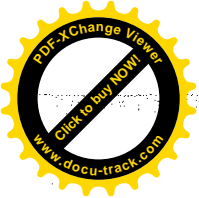


4. Research

All of the suggestions thus far have referred to research. Every discipline in the social and behavioral sciences and the humanities has research and study topics which can be explored, at least in part, through missionary resources or with the help of missionaries in collecting data and interpreting certain aspects of the findings and their implications. A large proportion of Catholic missionaries pass through Rome at some time or other; it was suggested that if SEDOS had an interviewing schedule available, data could be collected from them. Perhaps questionnaires could also be mailed to men who are on the mission fields, although there are a large number of practical and technical problems connected with such collection of data. Most congregations also send visitors to their mission fields periodically. It may be possible to collect research data through them. If instruments used for data collection were developed cooperatively, many of the regular records of SEDOS would be suitable for research purposes. For example, if certain data are needed annually, the annual questionnaire could include certain standard questions every year and a specialized section for specific research project purposes which might be different every year. (This would be parallel to the Detroit Area Studies and certain other surveys which are a gold mine of research data for social and behavioral scientists.)

There may be times when SEDOS or its agencies could sponsor graduate student research on topics related to Missiology. This could be done by having a fellowship or a research assistantship at Marquette University with that specific responsibility of analyzing research data under faculty supervision in the service of the missionary cause. It may also be possible at times to provide transportation and other costs for graduate students or even faculty to visit missionary fields or other areas outside the United States for research purposes. A great deal of significant work can be done in that context more effectively through academic channels than by the use of other means.

As for topics that need research, there is no end to the possibilities. One of the major broad areas has to do with the role of missionaries in the future. Comprehensive study of that subject necessitates the insights of numerous academic disciplines as well as of many missionary-sending agencies and perspectives within the missionary-receiving nations. Theoretical problems related to social change, international relations, acculturation, technological development, and numerous other subjects would be related to such a project. Even the seminars could constitute a contribution toward that subject; indeed, a working seminar on the



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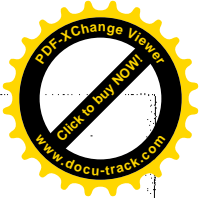
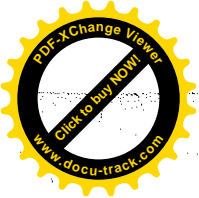
topic with chapters by outstanding contributors, might be the basis for a report that could serve as a published resource for practical use at the same time the same time as it would provide a foundation for research on specialized topics related to the subject. The role of lay missionaries and short-term missionaries may also be an appropriate subject for research on a cooperative basis. Similarly, analysis of those who have dropped out of religious orders may be helpful in directing future policies of the sending agencies as well as in promoting the human welfare and dignity of the persons who have dropped out. While the interests of SEDOS are limited to missionary activities, the interests at Marquette University are not. Insights gained from research in other areas often has direct relevance also for missionary enterprises, so it is to the advantage of SEDOS to have the perspectives of those who are not engaged solely in missions.

5. Consultation Services

The faculty and staff at Marquette University represent a broad cross-section of expertise in nearly all academic disciplines which are related to missions. The advantage of a sustained relationship with one university is the greater degree of understanding of the missionary program that is likely to develop over time among the faculty members. Such consultation could occur on a per diem basis, or it could involve leaves of absence during which certain faculty members might visit one or many missionar fields to help analyze problems and potentialities.

6. Contacts

Each organization (SEDOS and Marquette University) is likely to help the other discover resources that are useful and helpful for its objectives. Marquette faculty, for example, have knowledge of experts in their respective disciplines all over the world. They can help to identify persons who would be especially useful in regard to the needs of the missionary agencies. SEDOS has connections in Geneva, Switzerland, and the various agencies there (International Labor Organization, World Council of Churches, and others), as well as connections in many other parts of the world which are less likely to be brought to the attention of academic people but which may be very useful in the building of archives, the collection of data, the provision of resources for field studies, etc.



POTENTIAL PROBLEMS

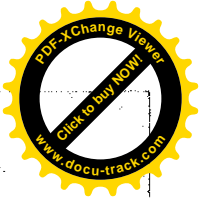
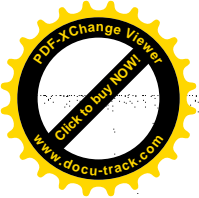
The problems of cooperative relationship are numerous. Anticipating them in advance can help to prevent them or provide an amicable solution for them whenever they may arise. Some of these have already been referred to, e.g., the possible non-compatibility of certain data retrieval computer systems with each other, and the language problem of records in Italian, English, other languages, and the problems of different meanings attached to the same words in different cultural contexts. The administrative arrangements may create difficulties at points.

Organizational patterns and policies vary from agency to agency within SEDOS, as well as between SEDOS and Marquette University. Closely related to this is the matter of personnel, who must be compatible and cooperative if the sharing of resources and building of coordinated data retrieval and data archives systems are to be successful. Each party-cooperating will undoubtedly wish to maintain its autonomy and independence; at times this may lead to a feeling by others that the agency is not interested in the needs of others. A spirit of willingness to adapt must be present on all sides if cooperative relationships are to prove successful.

The divergent goals of academic and missionary-sending agencies also need attention. Administrative policy and principles may be the main objective of the agencies related to SEDOS, while testing of scientific hypotheses may be the main goal of the Marquette faculty. While some of us do not see these as antithetical but rather complementary to each other, it may not always be possible to demonstrate directly the complementarity of these approaches. It is therefore important that the goals of all parties involved be clearly specified. Neither party should expect the other to resolve those problems which are unique to itself alone, unless it is done through a process of purchasing the services of the other.

Finances constitute another major problem. Both SEDOS and Marquette University are in need of outside funding. On cooperative programs, the very fact of cooperation may make it easier for both agencies to find the resources that are needed for the work.

Similarly, by having cooperative relationships for other purposes with other agencies, such as Protestant missionary organizations and other data retrieval systems, and by maintaining an interdisciplinary as well as inter-professional orientation, the securing of foundation grants and funding from other resources, including the bishops and superiors general, the possibilities of securing outside funding may be greatly improved. The greatest contributor to successful financing will be the



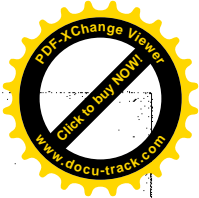
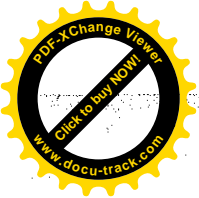
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success of initial enterprises. When it is demonstrated that successful cooperative research or data information systems have already been produced, it will be easier to secure funding for additional programs and projects. "Nothing succeeds like success!"

Relating these programs to the curriculum at Marquette University may constitute a problem. Since many projects related to possible cooperative relationships with SEDOS cut across the boundaries between the academic disciplines, it may be necessary at some point to develop a program of interdisciplinary studies related to missions in the modern world. If this is done, this would constitute an additional contribution to the members of SEDOS, for it would make Marquette University an even better place for the preparation of missionaries than it now is.

CONCLUSIONS

It was concluded in the discussions with Brother **Schnepp** that further exploration of possible cooperative relationships is highly desirable. While no commitments other than willingness to explore cooperation can be made by either party at this time, it was felt that a planning study to explore these and related matters (many of which involve a large number of additional organizations and agencies besides SEDOS) should be launched as soon as possible. This study possibly could include the research needs of the religious congregations that are members of SEDOS. (Perhaps that is primarily a responsibility of SEDOS rather than of Marquette.) It could also include some indication of the extent to which the religious orders are duplicating each other's efforts and ways in which such duplication could be minimized with greater effectiveness in the collection of information and coordination of data. Exploration of the extent to which the new secretariats in Rome are research oriented might be appropriate. Certainly the probing into the various religious data retrieval systems being developed or projected for future development in a large number of institutions and agencies should be one of the elements within such a planning study. Input and output processes, administrative organization including the question of whether a Board should be established for this specific relationship, financial matters, and all of the other problems and potentialities that have been mentioned in this report should receive some consideration in such a planning study. (Further exploration of this will occur as Dr. Moberg participates in a meeting on Information Needs in the Churches to be held in New York City at the National Council of Churches on November 11-12, 1969.) The study obviously must be international in scope and not restricted to any one academic discipline. Plans ought to be made for the ideal program



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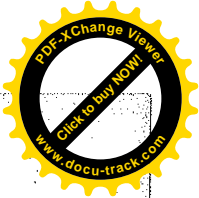
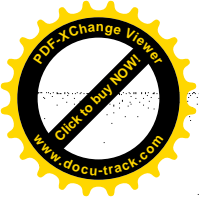
of cooperation rather than for a minimal one. While much can be done with existing resources, a great deal more can be accomplished if additional resources are added. Grants from foundations may be the only way of providing funds for certain aspects of the program, since governmental agencies, especially in the United States, avoid contributions to religious programs.

In summary, the discussions pointed to the potential fruitfulness of cooperative symbiotic relationships between SEDOS and Marquette University, especially those aspects of the graduate program at Marquette that will be linked with the studies of human values and religion in numerous departments.

This report has been prepared and submitted by David O. Moberg, Chairman of the Department of Sociology & Anthropology at the MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY, MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN 53233.

This report was given to:

- a) Departmental Faculty and Pertinent Administrators and Department Chairman at Marquette University;
- b) Brother Gerald J. Schnepf, S.M.;
- c) Father Benjamin Tonna, Executive Secretary of SEDOS.



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ASSEMBLY OF SUPERIORS GENERAL

The XXV Assembly of Superiors General will be held at the OMI-
International Scholasticate, 78/a Via Pineta Sacchetti, Roma, on

Tuesday, December 16th, 1969, at 16.00 h.

The agenda will be as follows:

1 - Business

- a) Application for membership of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur (Document 1)
- b) Report of SEDOS Activities for 1969 (Document 2)
- c) The terms of reference of the SEDOS Working Groups for 1970 (Document 3)
- d) The responsibilities of the Secretariat for 1970 (Document 4)
- e) The Budget for 1970 (Document 5)
- f) Dates of the Assemblies for 1970 (Document 6)

2 - Discussion of main topic in language groups

The main topic will be Item 1c) above: The terms of reference of the Working Groups (Document 3).

3 - Supper at the OMI-International Scholasticate

Please, phone the Secretariat if you do not intend to stay for supper.

4 - Summary of the conclusions of the different discussion groups

Sincerely yours,

Benjamin Tonna
Executive Secretary