

VOTES

There were 14 Superiors voting. Snowmass was not represented.

I. Part IV. Statute on the Accompaniment of Fragile Communities and on the Suppression of a Monastery

1. We ask that the Law Commission revise Part IV on ‘The Process of Suppression’ in the *Statute on the Accompaniment of Fragile Communities and on the Suppression of a Monastery*. This revision should address the following points:
 - A clearer distinction is needed between the words ‘closure’ and ‘suppression’: suppression has the connotation that a monastery no longer exists.
 - It needs to be made clear that the General Chapter’s vote to close a monastery is the beginning of a process that leads to the suppression of the monastery.
 - The consequences of the vote of the General Chapter to close a monastery need to be stated clearly. Is the conventual chapter suspended? What is the authority of the Commission of Closure at this point? What is the role of the Father Immediate?
 - Part IV of the Statute should place greater stress on the pastoral care of the members of the house being closed.
 - Who is responsible for the pastoral care of the monks/nuns during the process of closure?
 - When a member of a house being closed seeks stability in a new house, a sufficient time of presence in the receiving house may be required before the conventual chapter vote mentioned in paragraph IV.23 is taken.
 - In the case of the closure of a monastery of nuns, it should be stated whether the petition to suppress the monastery is made to the Holy See at the beginning or at the end of the process.
 - The wording of paragraph IV.27 should be corrected to: “When the process of closure is entirely concluded, **the Abbot General** issues a decree of suppression. The work of the Commission of Closure then ceases.”

YES 14

NO 0

ABSTAIN 0

II. Visitations/Mothers Immediate

2. We request that the General Chapter of 2025 vote on the ratification of ST.75. 2. A:
The delegated visitor can be the superior of an autonomous monastery of nuns or of monks. The delegated visitor can also be a former abbot (titular prior) or a former abbess (titular prioress) or a monk or a nun Councilor of the Abbot General. In these cases, both the Abbot General and the Father Immediate consult the abbot of the house to be visited, who in his turn consults his community. (cf. GC 2022/2, vote 23)

YES 14

NO 0

ABSTAIN 0

3. We encourage, *ad experimentum*, until the General Chapter of 2028, the delegation of the functions of Fathers Immediate of houses of both monks and nuns to abbesses following the usual consultations.

YES 14

NO 0

ABSTAIN 0

III. Affiliation

4. We wish to postpone efforts toward legislation on affiliation until we have more experience with real case. In the meantime, we entrust to the Abbot General and his Council the oversight of proposed affiliation between communities of the Order.

YES 14

NO 0

ABSTAIN 0

IV. Question #2 from Dom Bernardus on how the Order can function better on an intercontinental level

5. We propose a dialogue at the General Chapter in the Commissions or in specially formed intercultural groups on the question of how to foster fuller and more equal participation in the Order across cultural and geographical lines.

YES 14

NO 0

ABSTAIN 0

6. We propose some formative input at the chapter on intercultural understanding and communication.

YES 14

NO 0

ABSTAIN 0

V. Question #4 from Dom Bernardus on how better to involve the communities in the General Chapter

7. We encourage Superiors to share the working documents of the Order and to discuss in community these main topics. This input from the communities can then be shared at the regional level through the Superior.

YES 14

NO 0

ABSTAIN 0

VI. Autocritique of the 2022 General Chapter

8. When all 14 Commissions write reports as part of extraordinary procedure, we ask that a synthesis of the reports be presented in the aula instead of 14 individual reports.

YES 14

NO 0

ABSTAIN 0

9. We ask for greater clarity in the Procedure for Studying House Reports and on establishing an *ad hoc commission*: steps delineating how it is formed, including clarity on how it works, and how it reports to the Chapter.

YES 14

NO 0

ABSTAIN 0

VII. Proposal to give the General Chapter a more spiritual and life-giving content (Request #3 of Dom Bernardus)

10. Instead of trying to integrate spiritual and formative aspects into the normal work of the General Chapter, we wish to set aside two or three days with a modified schedule for conferences, reflection, dialogue or sharing, and orientation for new capitulants.

YES 13

NO 1

ABSTAIN 0

VIII. General Secretary for Formation (Request #5 of Dom Bernardus)

11. Instead of appointing a General Secretary for Formation, we propose electing an *ad hoc commission* for formation to identify the order's needs in the area of formation and to propose concrete initiatives. This Commission's mandate would end with a report to the General Chapter of 2028. On the basis of this Commission's work, we can decide how to proceed for the future.

YES 14

NO 0

ABSTAIN 0

IX. The Order's Publications

12. We recommend an update of the Order's Statute on Publications.

YES 14

NO 0

ABSTAIN 0

REGIONAL MATTERS

1. We invite the Abbot General to consider initiating discussion and collaboration among the various publication efforts involving the OCSO, in order to take stock of their present reality and to collaborate in planning their future. We ask the Regional President to write the Abbot General a letter to this effect.

YES 14

NO 0

ABSTAIN 0

2. We approve the modified Regional Statute incorporating changes in 3. D on invited guests, 4. D on the election of the editor of CSQ, 5. F on Region's schedule of pro-rating Regional expenses, along with the elimination of 4.H and the dissolution of the Regional health plan.

YES 14

NO 0

ABSTAIN 0