

## **June 21, 2010 – Salesian GHQ – Three departments, one single mission: the process continues**



**(ANS – Rome)** – The inter-departmental process requested by the 26th General Chapter took a decisive step forward during the weekend. The councillors for youth ministry, communication, and the missions held a meeting in Genzano to plan for a shared program until 2013.

Frs. Fabio Attard, Filiberto Gonzalez, and Vaclav Klement, each accompanied by a collaborator from his department, met at the Genzano novitiate to look at the progress made so far and to make plans up to 2013. The coordination between the three departments is on the basis of the fourth decision of the GC26, which asked the Rector Major and his council to work on establishing a team to provide unity and structure to Salesian pastoral work.

Considering the progress made and looking toward 2013, among other things, the group decided to harmonise better the language of the three departments, drawing up a joint thematic lexicon or dictionary which can assist reflection and action now and in the future.

The three councillors agreed to draw up shortly a shared plan for the process of coordination. In the course of the meeting, the need was foreseen to inform and involve the regional councillors more in specific activities, and the councillors examined ways and means of meeting with the various regions before 2013. A first meeting is planned in the coming months with the InterAmerica Region. This strategy could become a model to be followed in the different sectors sharing and working together at provincial level.

In order to achieve greater unity and structure in Salesian pastoral work, the three departments are working on revising their respective frames of reference. At the explicit request of GC26, the Youth Ministry Department is in the process of re-thinking Salesian youth ministry; the letter of the Rector Major (AGC 407) is a document that will assist with this reflection. The Communications Department is revising the Salesian System of Social Communication; and the Missions Department has drawn up a first draft of its frame-of-reference document. The inter-departmental group will work together to examine these revisions.

The meeting took place in the welcoming, fraternal atmosphere of the Salesian community of Genzano, one of the two Italian novitiates.