

Carlos Balaniuc

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SWORN PUBLIC TRANSLATOR

- ENGLISH -

FEDERATIVE REPUBLIC OF BRAZIL
STATE OF SÃO PAULO

Rua Marconi 124 - 8º andar - conj. 801/802 - SP - Tel.: 3255-7985 ♦ 3258-5378 - Tel./Fax: 3258-1623

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Data: July 01, 2003

I hereby certify, for all the due purposes, that on this date I received a document in the Portuguese language, which I am translating into the English, with the following tenor:

(The second and next to the last pages are numbered from 2-12).

(Rubber stamp on all pages indicating "CERTIFICATE. 1st CIVIL REGISTRY OF LEGAL ENTITIES" with page numbering from 2 to 14.)

(Rubber stamp from registry giving microfilm No. 287625 - on all pages except the last page.)

(All pages are initialed by 17 signatories except the last page and the pages bearing full signatures.)

(Rubber stamp of 1st Public Registry of Deeds and Documents and Civil Registry of Legal Entities giving Receipt No. 3084870 on all pages.)

(Perforated stamp bearing "1st RTD.PJ" on all pages.)

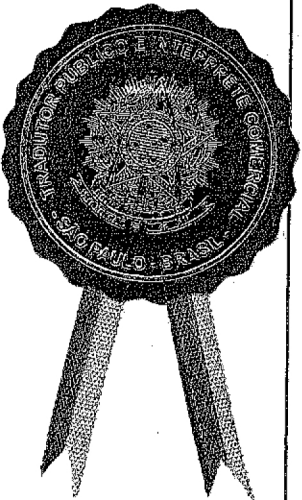
INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION OF CHRISTIAN CONGREGATIONS

In compliance with the deliberation passed at the annual general meeting of brothers, the Elders and Deacons, of the CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION community, held at the headquarters of CONGREGAÇÃO CRISTÃ NO BRASIL (THE CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION IN BRAZIL), located at Rua Visconde de Parnaíba, 1616, in the city of São Paulo - Brazil, on April 19, 2003, the signatories of this document, representing the Churches of the respective countries, acknowledged as such between themselves, hereby sign the present Convention.

MEMBERS ATTENDING

CHRISTIAN CONGREGATIONS PROPERLY REGISTERED IN THEIR COUNTRIES:

CONGREGAÇÃO CRISTÃ NO BRASIL (THE CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION IN BRAZIL), with headquarters in the City of São Paulo, State of São Paulo, at Rua Visconde de Parnaíba No. 1616, CEP (Zip Code) 03102-970, with the Articles of Association thereof approved on March 4, 1931 and registered under No. 1116, on March 30, 1936, in Book "A", No. 2, at the 1st Public Registry of Deeds and Documents of the Capital of São Paulo, and the last amendment thereto registered under Order No. 187.282, in Book "A" of Legal Entity Records, on April 28, 1995, in the 1st Public Registry of Deeds and Documents of the Capital of São Paulo, represented at this time by Elder Basílio Gitti;





THE CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION IN THE UNITED STATES, recognized by the Federal Government of the United States, with headquarters in Buffalo, New York, at 4845 Main Street – Snyder, with the Articles of Association thereof registered and filed in accordance with Internal Revenue Code – Section 501 (C) 3, Identification Number 8053, represented at this time by the Elder of the Congregation in that country, Arno Scoccia;

CONGREGAÇÃO CRISTÃ EM PORTUGAL (THE CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION IN PORTUGAL), with headquarters at Rua do Bonjardim, 1061 - 4000 - 133 Porto, with the Articles of Association thereof registered on April 4, 1975, in the manner provided by local laws, represented at this time by Elder Isac Mendes Laranjeiro;

CONGREGATION CHRETIENNE EN FRANCE (THE CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION IN FRANCE), with headquarters at 106 Rue de Gand Tourcoing, 59200 – France, with the Articles of Association thereof registered under No. 11.052, on July 5, 1971, at Préfecture du Nord, represented at this time by Elder Antonio Carvalho;

CONGREGATION CHRETIENNE EN SUISSE (THE CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION IN SWITZERLAND), with headquarters at 6, Chemin du Rail – La Plaine – Geneva – Switzerland, with the Articles of Association thereof in the manner provided by local laws, represented at this time by Elder Antonio Carvalho;

CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, with headquarters at Sedge Hill School – Sedge Hill Road – Catford – London – England, with the Articles of Association thereof in the manner provided by local laws, represented at this time by Elder Antonio Carvalho;

CONGREGACION CRISTIANA EN MEXICO (THE CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION IN MEXICO), with headquarters at 2009 of Av. Magistério de la Colonia Hidalgo, in the city of Ensenada, with the Articles of Association thereof in the manner provided by local laws, represented at this time by Elder Salvatore Licari;

CONGREGACION CRISTIANA EN ESPANA (THE CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION IN SPAIN), with headquarters at Calle França Xica 29, Barcelona, with the Articles of Association thereof registered under No. SG-77, in 1984, at Registro de Entidades Religiosas del Ministerio de Justicia, represented at this time by Elder Josep Massó Carreras;

CONGREGACION CRISTIANA EN BOLIVIA (THE CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION IN BOLIVIA), with headquarters at Avenida Uruguay No. 458, esquina 10 de Agosto, capital del Department of Santa Cruz, with the Articles of Association thereof registered at Notaria de Hacienda de la Prefeitura del Departamento de Santa Cruz (Bolivia), according to Legal Instrument (Testimonio) No. 122/97 of November 6, 1997, represented at this time by Elder Jaime De La Vega Boland;



CONGREGACION CRISTIANA EN LA ARGENTINA (THE CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION IN ARGENTINA), with headquarters at Villa Figueroa Alcorta – Calle 14 Espora, 4745 – Villa Lynch – Region Greater Buenos Aires – Province of Buenos Aires, with the Articles of Association thereof registered in the manner provided by local laws, represented at this time by Elder José Maria Depalma;

CONGREGACION CRISTIANA EN CHILE (THE CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION IN CHILE), with headquarters at Calle Andes, 4730 – Quinta Normal – Santiago, with the Articles of Association thereof registered in the manner provided by local laws, represented at this time by Elder Galvarino Espinoza Gonzales;

CONGREGACION CRISTIANA EN EL PARAGUAY (THE CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION IN PARAGUAY), with headquarters at Calle Centenario, 2525 – Barrio José Félix Bogado – Assuncion – Departamento Central, with the Articles of Association thereof registered in the manner provided by local laws, represented at this time by Elder Fidencio Franco Mancuello;

CONGREGACION CRISTIANA EN EL URUGUAY (THE CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION IN URUGUAY), with headquarters at Calle Montecaseros, 435 – Central – Ciudad of Paysandú – Departamento Paysandú, with the Articles of Association thereof registered in the manner provided by local laws, represented at this time by Elder Laureliano Acosta;

CHRISTIAN CONGREGATIONS IN THE STAGE OF BEING CONSTITUTED IN THEIR COUNTRIES:

CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION IN JAPAN, with headquarters at Shiga-Ken Gamoo-gun Hino-cho Oaza Nishi Oji Aza Minami Yama 2492-33, represented at this time by Elder Hironori Oshiro;

CONGREGACION CRISTIANA EN COLOMBIA (THE CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION IN COLOMBIA), with headquarters at Calle 63-D, 33-51 – Del Rosário – Bogota, represented at this time by Elder Mario Henry Rivera Jiménez;

CONGREGACION CRISTIANA EN LA REPÚBLICA DOMINICANA (THE CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION IN DOMINICAN REPUBLIC), represented at this time by Elder Josebias Narciso Silveira Barreto;

CONGREGACION CRISTIANA EN VENEZUELA (THE CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION IN VENEZUELA), with headquarters at Catia – Calle México, 6 (Cerca de la Plaza de Catia) – Caracas, represented at this time by Elder Jose Euclides de Toledo;

CONGREGACION CRISTIANA EN PERU (THE CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION IN PERU), with headquarters at Calle Jiron Paz Soldan, 349



– Callao – Central – Lima, represented at this time by Elder Arnaldo Rodrigues Vilela;

CHRISTELIJKE CONGERGATIE IN SURINAME (THE CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION IN SURINAME), with headquarters at Jarikaba Padiweq I, represented at this time by Presbyter Soboe Eduard Poei;

PREAMBLE

The CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION is a religious community entirely based on the apostolic doctrine and faith contained in the New Testament of the Holy Bible, with an unrestricted number of members in various countries, without distinction of sex, nationality, race or color, the purpose of which is to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

The same faith, the same historical origin, the same Christian principles of salvation, the same form of material organization and the same understanding of the Holy Bible, containing the infallible Word of God, manifest identical spiritual communion and impel the signatory entities of the present document to sign this Convention of an international nature for the purpose of rendering the expression of this unit explicit in the present document, as consolidated in the following paragraphs, which will be used as a doctrinal commitment and point of reference for the churches and religious groups that, in all countries, happen to profess the same faith and doctrine as that of the CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION community.

HISTORICAL ORIGIN

The origin of the CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION is a small group of evangelical Italians who, in the city of Chicago in the United States of America, in 1904, started to hold meetings in their houses, seeking Divine guidance to follow Christian biblical teachings within the simplicity of apostolic faith.

Many other people started joining this group, with no denomination or advertising or any special means of communication, being moved by God. In the same manner, groups were formed in different countries steeped in the same feelings and understanding of the Word of God.

With this increase in the number of people professing the same principles of worshipping God, and as there were not any private places where it was possible to gather, ever since that time it has become necessary to create an institution with a legal bearing to legalize meetings and establish ownership of such real estate and, thus, such entity was named "CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION", *i.e.*, a simple gathering of people, without any formalism or personalism, merely steeped in the same spiritual Christians values of worshipping God, being that, currently, the community has more than 16,000 (sixteen thousand) religious temples for holding services in countries throughout the world.



The same principles of faith and moral and spiritual values, as well as the simple form of organization and administration, have stayed the same up to the present and should be preached and taught to children, young people and all those who show interest, so that proper fidelity will always be safeguarded for them.

PRINCIPLES OF ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION

A CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION, provided that the legal provisions of the country where it is established are obeyed, will always adopt similar Articles of Association, observing the following principles of organization and administration:

- 1 – There are no legal ties of dependence or hierarchy of a church organized in one country in relation to those organized in other countries. Each will conserve the autonomy of its own existence asset-wise, and administratively and economically.
- 2 – The tie between the churches organized in different countries will be merely of a spiritual and doctrinal nature.
- 3 – Except for specific legal provisions on the matter of the country where a CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION is established, all income, financial and otherwise, originating from its members must come from voluntary anonymous offerings, the amounts of which must be totally used for the purposes for which they were given, being that any type of obligation for such or tie to such for belonging or being with members is prohibited.
- 4 – Financial remuneration, or even receiving anything of any nature, is prohibited as a compensation for spiritual services or for the ministration of any sacrament.
- 5 – Persons holding any spiritual or administrative positions must make their own living through their own jobs or by their own means, since any type of remuneration or compensation for performing such activities is prohibited.
- 6 – The CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION has no ties with any political parties or ideologies and people holding spiritual positions or administrative positions must abstain from accepting political positions or duties, being that simultaneously performing jobs in both spheres (political position or responsibility and spiritual or administrative position in the church) is incompatible. It is recommended that members carry out their civic duties as citizens in harmony with the laws of the country.
- 7 – It is advisable that each church maintain a social assistance service for needy believers, ministering according to the principles given in the Holy Bible.
- 8 – It is also advisable to teach music to those believers who desire to join the musical bodies in the churches.



9 – It is further advisable to hold special services for children and young people, where they will be ministered in the principles of faith and doctrine, as well as in moral standards of conduct and abstention from all vices, mainly those arising from the use of drugs and harmful substances.

10 – The spiritual services in the CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION are ministered by Elders, Presbyters and Deacons who, in their group, make up the Ministry.

11 – Admission to the positions of Elder, Presbyter and Deacon occurs by deliberation of the group of Elders, according to Divine guidance, from among those members of the church who show the virtues consigned in the Holy Bible.

12 – Church services are presided by the Elders or Presbyters, and assistance to those in need is the duty of the Deacons. The sacraments of baptism and holy communion are ministered exclusively by Elders.

13 – The property and funds of the CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION are managed by the Church Administration, made up of members from among the members of the church, according to deliberations of the group of Elders.

POINTS OF FAITH AND DOCTRINE

The members of the participating churches acknowledge that the following points are fundamental to achieving their spiritual aims:

1 – To believe in the entire Holy Bible and accept it as containing the infallible Word of God, inspired by the Holy Spirit. The Word of God is the only perfect guide for our faith and conduct, and nothing shall be added to It nor taken from It. It is, also, God's power for the salvation of all who believe. (II Peter 1:21, II Timothy 3:16-17, Romans 1:16)

2 – To believe that there is only one living, true and eternal God of infinite power, the creator of all things, in whose unity there are three different beings: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. (Ephesians 4:6, Matthew 28:19, I John 5:7)

3 – To believe that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is the Word become flesh, having assumed a human nature in the womb of the virgin Maria, with Him, consequently, having two natures, the divine and the human; which is why He is called the true God and the true man and the only Savior, as He suffered death for the guilt of all men. (Luke 1:27-35, John 1:14, I Peter 3:18)

4 – To believe in the personal existence of the devil and his angels, bad spirits who, together with him, will be punished by eternal fire. (Mathew 25:41)

5 – To believe that regeneration, or being born again, can only happen to a person through faith in Jesus Christ, who was delivered for our sins and resurrected for our justification. Those who are in Christ Jesus are new beings. Jesus Christ, for us, was sent forth by God to show His wisdom, justice, sanctification and redemption. (Romans 3:24-25, I Corinthians 1:30, II Corinthians 5:17)



6 – To believe in baptism by water, with a single immersion, in the name of Jesus Christ (Acts 2:38) and in the name the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. (Mathew 28:18-19)

7 – To believe in baptism by the Holy Spirit, with the evidence of new tongues, as the Holy Spirit confers to be spoken. (Acts 2:4, 10:45-47 and 19:6)

8 – To believe in Holy Communion. Jesus Christ, on the night that He was betrayed, taking the bread and having given thanks, broke it and gave it to the disciples, saying: "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in memory of me". Likewise, he took the cup after supper, saying: "This cup is the New Testament in my blood, which is poured out for you". (Luke 22:19-20; I Corinthians 11:24-25)

9 – To believe in the need to abstain from things sacrificed to idols, from blood, from things strangled, and from fornication, as the Holy Spirit showed in the Assembly of Jerusalem. (Acts 15:28-29, 16:4 and 21:25)

10 – To believe that Jesus Christ took our infirmities upon Himself. "Is any among you sick? Let him call for the Presbyters of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord and the prayer of faith will heal him who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up; and if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven". (Mathew 8:17; James 5:14-15)

11 – We believe that the same Lord (before the millennium) will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God; and those who died in Christ will be resurrected first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air and thus we will be with the Lord forever. (I Thessalonians 4:16-17, Revelation 20:6)

12 – To believe that there will be a physical resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust. These will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life. (Acts 24:15, Matthew 25:46)

GENERAL PROVISIONS

1 – Each church (or religious group) that desires to belong to the CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION community, must accept the points of faith and doctrine, as well as the principles of organization and administration mentioned above, always observing the legal determinations of the country where such is headquartered.

2 – Adhesions can be admitted under the terms of the present Convention for churches that profess the same faith and doctrine, and that do not have representatives at this event, including those that are in the stage of being constituted, which will be submitted to the examination of the group of elders.

FINAL PROVISIONS



1 – The registration of this Convention is authorized in any international entities or even in registration agencies, both public and private, of countries where any of the churches are headquartered that have undersigned the present document and those that have adhered to it.

2 – The present Convention, written in the Portuguese language, can be translated into the language of any of the countries where there are members of the CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION community, provided that fidelity and the same spiritual meaning of its provisions are observed.

3 – This Convention can be ratified at a Meeting of each country where the churches are headquartered that have undersigned it and those that have adhered to it.

4 – The terms of the present Convention will only be able to be changed by another Convention, where there are present at least two thirds of the signatory entities of this document, being that, under all circumstances, a change in the Principles of Organization and Administration and the Points of Faith is prohibited.

ADJOURNMENT

Having complied with the deliberation of the annual general meeting, as regards this Convention, the meeting was adjourned, being followed by the signature of those attending.

São Paulo, April 19, 2003.

(Signature): CONGREGAÇÃO CRISTÃ NO BRASIL (THE CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION IN BRAZIL), Basilio Gitti

(Signature): THE CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION IN THE UNITED STATES, Arno Scoccia

(Signature): CONGREGAÇÃO CRISTÃ EM PORTUGAL (THE CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION IN PORTUGAL), Isac Mendes Laranjeiro

(Signature): CONGREGATION CHRETIENNE EN FRANCE (THE CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION IN FRANCE), Antonio Carvalho;

Continuation of the International Convention of Christian Congregations – signatures, Page 9 to 12.

(Signature): CONGREGATION CHRETIENNE EN SUISSE (THE CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION IN SWITZERLAND), Antonio Carvalho;

(Signature): CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, Antonio Carvalho



(Signature): CONGREGACION CRISTIANA EN MEXICO (THE CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION IN MEXICO), Salvatore Licari

(Signature): CONGREGACION CRISTIANA EN ESPANA (THE CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION IN SPAIN), Josep Massó Carreras;

(Signature): CONGREGACION CRISTIANA EN BOLIVIA (THE CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION IN BOLIVIA), Jaime De La Vega Boland

Continuation of the International Convention of Christian Congregations.

(Signature): CONGREGACION CRISTIANA EN LA ARGENTINA (THE CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION IN ARGENTINA), José Maria Depalma;

(Signature): CONGREGACION CRISTIANA EN CHILE (THE CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION IN CHILE), Galvarino Espinoza Gonzales

(Signature): CONGREGACION CRISTIANA EN EL PARAGUAY (THE CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION IN PARAGUAY), Fidencio Franco Mancuello

(Signature): CONGREGACION CRISTIANA EN EL URUGUAY (THE CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION IN URUGUAY), Laureliano Acosta

(Signature): CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION IN JAPAN, Hironori Oshiro

Continuation of the International Convention of Christian Congregations.

(Signature): CONGREGACION CRISTIANA EN COLOMBIA (THE CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION IN COLOMBIA), Mario Henry Rivera Jiménez

(Signature): CONGREGACION CRISTIANA EN LA REPÚBLICA DOMINICANA (THE CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION IN DOMINICAN REPUBLIC), Josebias Narciso Silveira Barreto – (handwritten: "HOREB")

(Signature): CONGREGACION CRISTIANA EN VENEZUELA (THE CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION IN VENEZUELA), Jose Euclides de Toledo

(Signature): CONGREGACION CRISTIANA EN PERU (THE CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION IN PERU), Arnaldo Rodrigues Vilela

(Signature): CHRISTELIJKE CONGERGATIE IN SURINAME (THE CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION IN SURINAME), Soboe Eduard Poei

Last page of the International Convention of Christian Congregations.

(On the last page there is a registration entry from the 1st Public Registry of Deeds and Documents and Civil Registry of Legal Entities, dated April 30, 2003, giving Filing No. 0291479, Registration and Microfilm No. 287625, and Entry



No. 287624, with illegible initial, giving logo, address, fees and other information not bearing on the matter at hand.)

(On the back of the last page):

CERTIFICATE

1st Public Registry of Deeds and Documents and Civil Registry of Legal Entities
Rua XV de Novembro, 251 – 2nd floor – São Paulo - SP.
Officer – Paulo Roberto de Carvalho Rêgo

I hereby certify, in witness whereof, that the present photocopy made up of 14 (fourteen) pages, numbered and perforated with the seal of exclusive use of this Office, is a faithful duplication of the original copies filed and registered at this Office in Book "A" of the Civil Registry of Legal Entities, under the name of the CONGREGAÇÃO CRISTÃ NO BRASIL", and under the following number and date:

Nº 287.625, April 30, 2003.

I FINALLY CERTIFY that, under the terms of Article 21, Sole §, of Law 6015/73, that "The present certificate involves records elements on the side margin of the term, before and after the above mentioned record, being that this last document is registered under Order No. "287.626", dated "April 30 of the year 2003." The present certificate was scrutinized, drawn up and conferred under the responsibility of assistant (initial) (Ivan Luiz Antonio Batista Gonçalves).

In witness whereof.
São Paulo, May 13, 2003.

(Signature): Paulo Roberto de Carvalho Rego, Officer

Mário C. Rangel Fº, Substitute // José E. C. Paula Jr. - Oséias F. Nobre Fº -
Danilo M. Oliveira, Authorized Scriveners

CDT RECEIPT No. 3084870

CERTIFICATES THAT ARE APPROVED BY PUBLIC OFFICERS BEAR
THE SAME PROOF AS THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS
(Civil Code, Article 217 and 218).

(Fees from the registry are given with illegible initial.)

Nothing else, I certify,
mk430-093

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Carlos Balaniuc
Carlos Balaniuc
Tradutor Público Juramentado
Sworn Public Translator

Data: July 1 01 2003