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### **The Extraordinary General Council Meeting 2013**

The Extraordinary General Council (EGC) Meeting was held in Fatima, Portugal last May 12-19, 2013. It was participated by superiors of the different delegations, vice-provinces and provinces together with the General Administration. In the Welcome Address of Fr. Santino Brembilla, SMM, Superior General of the Montfort Missionaries, he introduced to the participants the different topics to be discussed during the 7-day meeting. Basing on the proposition of the General Chapter 2011 which is, *“During the next six years, we want to let God come into us, among us and through us, into the world”*, the topics we discussed and shared were on the needs of the missionaries to be formed, the demand of working together in doing the Montfortian mission, the lay people’s participation in our spirituality and mission, precise projects for the disappearing Montfortian presence in the northern hemisphere, the changes to be made on the juridical statuses of some entities, the protection of the children and vulnerable persons and the financial matters of the congregation. Expert resource persons were invited to enlighten the participants more on the areas of child protection and finances.

The entire week went very well with everyone’s active participation. Moreover, the closeness of the shrine of Our Lady of Fatima to the place of our meetings enhanced the spiritual atmosphere during the meeting. We thank in a special way our Portuguese confreres for their warm hospitality.

*-Fr. Paul Arnel Lucero, SMM*