

CARITAS INTERNATIONALIS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

In Rome, last May, the ninth General Assembly of Caritas Internationalis was attended by over 200 delegates. The international Red Cross institutions were represented by Mr. R. Courvoisier, Special Assistant to the President of the ICRC, and Mr. H. Beer, Secretary-General of the League of Red Cross Societies.

Mr. Courvoisier and Mr. Beer handed the Chairman a joint message to the Assembly which concluded with the following words:

... The strength of the Red Cross resides first and foremost in the ideal which is its inspiration, and in the faith which motivates those who serve it. Whether they act in a spirit of charity or of justice, they are the responsible apostles of that ideal.

This ninth General Assembly gives the whole Red Cross movement the welcome opportunity to convey to Caritas Internationalis and its affiliated organizations its gratitude for the fine relationship between the two and for the support and understanding which Caritas has always displayed for the Red Cross.

The General Assembly was presided over by Mgr Jean Rodhain, and the theme, on which many papers were submitted, was "*Pour une charité libératrice*".

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Mr. Courvoisier made contact with a number of senior officials of Caritas and other charitable institutions. He also took advantage of his presence in Rome to go to the FAO, where he had several interviews, and to the Italian Red Cross and the Vatican.