Sixth Ordinary Annual Meeting of the
Assembly of General Coordinators of the Humanist Movement
16 January 2006

Participants:

Argentina, 79 participants
Chile, 51 participants
Colombia, 24 participants
India, 14 participants
Spain, 91 participants
Not present, 11
Total, 270
See Appendix 1 for the list of participants by point of connection

Agenda – pre-meetings

- Levelling of information among General Coordinators
- Strategy for the coming year

Agenda – video-conference

- Welcome to the meeting
- Presentation of new General Coordinators
- Presentation of closed councils
- Presentation of the draft document "Joint document - Assembly January 2006"
- Agree the date of the next meeting
- Closure

Agenda – post-meeting

- Elaboration of the final version of the joint document

Pre-meetings

The pre-meetings were divided into levelling and strategy.

In the pre-meetings, apart from the documents previously circulated by the agenda commission, two documents circulated among General Coordinators entitled "6-7-8 enero 2006 Vers TH2" and "notas sobre el PH a partir de reflexiones e intercambios". These documents were the subject of much interchange among the nodes and became the central themes for the pre-meetings.

From all the interchanges a document was prepared for discussion in the video-conference – "Joint document - Assembly January 2006"

Video-conference

A welcome was given to the new General Coordinators, who were presented to the assembly. (See Appendix 1 for the list of new General Coordinators)

The closures of councils 13 and 12 were congratulated.

The draft document was presented to the Assembly and a mechanism was agreed to reach a final version.

We also include in the minutes here 2 observations made in the production of this document.

Humanist Forums

In this moment in which regional questions are highlighted and very important, it is very interesting to set in motion regional humanist forums where our organisms, our fronts, and institutions and organisations with affinity in different fields all converge.

Commissions

We suggest that commissions that have not finalised their work and the new commissions use the guidelines of the material produced by Commission 20.

Commissions and contributions

Several new commissions and contributions were proposed from the different nodes:

- Massive diffusion through TV
- Format of the Assembly Meeting – January 2007
- Humanism and Youth (proposed by Colombia and Chile)
- Micro-economics (proposed by Chile)
- Education – production of ideological materials (proposed by Chile)
- TV channel through the Internet (proposed by Chile)
- Works of the Assembly (proposed by Chile)
- Study of the cases of massive growth of the Humanist Movement in relation to the setting in motion of forms of massive diffusion and the concept of reciprocity. (proposed by Madrid)
- How to place ourselves mentally faced with massive growth (proposed by Colombia)

These commissions will be formed according to the procedures outlined in Commission 20.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on the 15th of January 2007. The Agenda Commission of this year will define the duration of the meetings based on the work of the Commission to study the new format of the meeting.

Closing words of the General Coordinator Delegate

Firstly, the Assembly is now composed of 270 General Coordinators. We have welcomed 40 new GCs this year and both council 13 orientated by Fernando Garcia and council 12 orientated by Mariana Uzielli have closed; together with their sectors we now count on 39 General Coordinators who have closed their structural process. We count on over 1,140,000 members

of structure and more than 2.7 million adherents.

We are operating at some level in 103 countries with 40% in Africa, 15% in Asia, 2% in Europe, 31% in South America and 12% in North America and the Caribbean.

Looking at the resolutions taken in our last meeting we placed importance on; the development and creation of the organisms; the foundation and development of the Regionals; the development of the International and the Commissions of ideological positioning.

Without a formal evaluation of the process we can clearly see from the data we have collected that the Assembly has worked strongly during the last year to incorporate these resolutions.

During the year the number of coordination bodies operating has increased from 30 to 41. The HP is functioning at some level in 33 countries, the Community in 32 and the Centre of Cultures in 22.

In the year, national events coordinated among different councils have happened in many countries, in many cases acting as an opportunity to study and implement the organisms.

In addition South America has seen 3 sub-regional meetings or forums; Europe has held a regional meeting of Humanist Parties; Asia has held its pre-regional meeting and last week the first African Humanist Regional Forum was held in Dakar, Senegal which will surely be recognised in the future as a great milestone in the process of the Movement.

In terms of the functioning of the Assembly; 14 commissions have worked during this year; 5 have completed their work and been approved, 6 are in the process of being approved or still working; 3 have either been dissolved, converted to a contribution or incorporated into another commission.

The Commission on the theme of Commissions has been approved giving us a clear process for future Commissions that will start working from now.

The interest of the Assembly to embrace diversity has given us the opportunity to incorporate French as an official language and the GCD now counts on people within the technical team to deal with translations.

The materials website has been redesigned in a way that simplifies its maintenance but the task of redesigning the website of the assembly to easily incorporate new languages remains to be completed.

We have seen in these days the need to work on the themes of massive diffusion through television; the themes of coordination bodies, organisms and action fronts and the format of the next meeting.

In synthesis this period marks a strong desire of the Assembly to come together in a convergence of its diversity, to coordinate its activities and to present itself to the environment strongly through the institutional faces of the Organisms.

Finally, we cannot make a complete synthesis of this year without highlighting the extraordinary impact in the environment made by the Chilean friends in the recent elections.

On behalf of the Assembly, I would like to give thanks to the friends from Silo's Message who have given the chance for all of us to experience a wonderful day of experience.

I wish you all a great year with much peace, force and joy. Thank you very much.

Post-meeting

A team of GCs from different nodes worked on the preparation of the final version of the joint

document the text of which is as follows:

Joint document of the Assembly in the annual ordinary meeting – January 2006

This document is a result of the work in the days prior to the video-conference, in which interchanges occurred in a common frequency, about themes referred to the works of the Assembly in the last year and about strategies for joint action in the year 2006.

These works were framed by the day of experience carried out in the 5 nodes and by the notes of the conversations held in Mendoza 6/7/8 January 2006.

Basic attitude for the joint work

The most important thing is the attitude that we have in front of our themes; the attitude about the materials, study and the whole.

The basic attitude is the same as the mental direction. For us the most important attitude is reciprocity.

Communication is necessary for joint works. Reciprocal communication shows an attitude.

We require communication among peers with neither censorship nor self-censorship. In this way priority is given to the whole and agreements emerge by themselves. When we give priority to the general above the particular, joint action is facilitated.

Consensus

If the interest is for the whole, joint action will advance without necessity to search for consensus. The search for consensus implies the consideration of particular interests.

Diversity and initiatives of the councils become diluted trying to search for minimal agreements that are good for nothing.

The search for consensus slows everything down.

“When you go deeper in your things and I go deeper in mine that is where we find each other”.

Television

To reach large population centres, we need the media, especially television. It is one of the key points for the diffusion of our message. The TV appears to be at the centre of our concern for us.

From now we will see that teams are created in the national Coordination bodies that can advance in this theme.

We see the necessity to form a commission of the Assembly whose interest will be to accelerate and facilitate the use of this tool. This commission will investigate as soon as possible the themes related to: resources, content, formats, target audience, language, production, propaganda, counter-propaganda, interactive television, etc.

It will be convenient to circulate the already-produced materials in these formats and to establish connection between the different existing production teams.

The GCD will take care to incorporate a new chapter in the semestral bulletin to compile all the audiovisual entries which can be subsequently prepared in DVD format. This DVD can be put in

the servers that the Movement uses.

It would be interesting to have our own internet TV channel.

Coordination bodies, organisms and action fronts

As agreed in the previous meeting of the Assembly we will continue pushing the creation of organisms and coordination bodies. We have advanced in these aspects and we aspire to accelerate this process in those places where they are not there.

The organisms are functions (plantels) with permanent institutional activity.

The functions of each non-autonomous organism will be defined by the coordination bodies for each stage of the process. The field of action of the Organisms is not the organisation of the social base, but rather the institutional activities of relations, legal questions and the media.

The strategic lines defined by the Assembly are valid for all the organisms whether or not autonomous.

The Movement moves in the social base organising action fronts in conflicts.

The definition of action front according to the dictionary of New Humanism is:

"Activist organization that unites members of a given social sector in the struggle to defend their interests. Today, grassroots organizations are able to develop thanks to the expansion of different action fronts considered as "converging diversities" in their objective of producing progressive changes or changes by demonstration effect in the present power structure. In this sense, organized labour cannot confine itself to the limits proposed by the existing system of unions and guilds, removed as these are from the social base and progressively tending towards isolated hierarchies. Grassroots labour associations that join together to form autonomous action fronts with multiple ties to other fronts constitute a new form of organization and action that corresponds to the process of destructuring and decentralization that can be observed today in all fields."

This theme is amplified in letters 6, 7 and 10...

The priority in the action front is the revolutionary direction and their diffusion through the mass media and especially TV.

In order to give the action fronts a revolutionary direction that we want it is necessary that they are clearly identified with the doctrine of New Humanism.

The actions in which the action fronts of the councils converge with the organisms will be defined by the coordination bodies of each country, according to the situations that are considered to be most opportune.

Format of the annual meeting

We see that a new format of the annual meeting is necessary, one that makes simultaneous interchange between the meeting points possible, prioritising audio communications and, if technology allows, also video.

We will maintain the annual meeting on the same dates and times with the same agenda in all places, facilitating the synchronisation of all the GCs.

To select the nodes we must keep in mind the presential interchange as much as possible among diverse experiences (GCs of different countries and continents) and an appropriate number of participants that facilitates the maximum interchange. It is convenient to decide and

communicate the nodes 3 months beforehand in order to facilitate the synchronisation of calendars.

We will investigate technologies that allow the perceptual connection (audio-video) but with lower costs than the video-conference and with more flexibility in their utilisation and simultaneous translation options throughout the entire meeting.

It is useful to revise the format of the meeting periodically and study the possibility that the nodes rotate among different points in a geographical zone.

Bogota		Buenos Aires		Madrid		Mumbai		Santiago	
Consejo	Name	Consejo	Name	Consejo	Name	Consejo	Name	Consejo	Name
6	Enrique Nassar	2	Luis Milani	12	Mariana Uzielli	13	Fernando Garcia	9	Wilfredo Alfsen
11	Dario Ergas	3	Alejo Croce	17	Ariane Weinberger	58	Seneviratne Epitawatta	14	Pia Figueroa
15	Petur Guddjjonson	4	Alicia Ordoñez	23	Ernesto H. de Casas	137	Pablo Martín	19	Bruno Pezzuto
22	Margarete Teraguchi	5	Luis Ammann	24	Maxi Elegido	214	Ayub Ansary	30	Cristian Reitze
27	Alberto Lopez	7	Daniel Milani	25	Aurelio Carretero	241	Parimal Merchant	51	Alexandre Sammogini
41	Jose Salcedo	8	Eduardo Montes	26	Piro Portela	242	Lokendra Sheth	54	José Gabriel Feres
73	Fernanda Pereira	10	Roberto Kohanoff	28	Miguel Daulte	243	Jayesh Shah	59	Juanita Vergara
90	Saul Asenjo	16	Deborah Tormen	29	Eduardo Gozalo	244	Nailesh Dalal	86	Silvia Bercu
118	Roberto Blueh	18	Javier Tolcachier	31	Jose Caballero	245	Atul Jadia	87	Sonia Amores
128	Andres Usuriaga	20	Nelida Rey	32	Jose Vazquez	246	Sudhir Gandotra	88	Iván Barrera
129	Jose Luis Solarte	21	Daniel Tesoriere	33	Loredana Cici	247	Shamsheer Alam Ansari	91	Leticia García
130	Amanda Lucia Mosquera	36	Rosario Aiello	34	Antonio Carvallo	248	Shankar P. K. Dravid	92	Marcos Aviño
165	Marcelo Rivera	39	Silvia Gomez	35	Agostino Lotti	249	Manju Jha	93	Mario Aguilar
182	Gonzalo Pacheco	40	Jano Arrechea	37	Franco di Nitto	250	Aiyyappa Bittiandra Muddappa	97	Juvenal Peñailillo
183	Libardo Ramírez	46	Victor Piccinini	38	Gerardo Fémina			100	Ester Previtera
184	Jaime Rodríguez	50	Paola Carniglia	42	Ana Lía Dellacasa			101	Jorge De Barelli
185	Mireya Martínez	52	Edgardo Pérez	43	Alfredo Attolini			105	Tony Robinson
186	David Nassar	53	Lía Méndez	44	Marianella Kloka			106	Jessica Osorio
187	Miguel Rojas	55	Mabel Rivera	45	Charli Moreno			107	Carmen Gloria Avendaño
188	Ignacio Navarrete	57	Oscar Cevey	47	Gabriella Guidi			108	Gonzalo García Huidobro
189	Iliana Junca	61	Javier Zaldarriaga	48	Juan Carlos Romero			111	Guillermo Garces
190	Rafael Cadena	62	Jorge Pardes	49	Giovanna Ubaldeschi			112	Jacqueline Bustamante
222	Angela Toro	65	Fernando Haddad	56	Fulvio de Vita			114	Ricardo Jullian
224	Claudia Cristina Niño	66	Walter Lema	60	Antonietta Di Ruzza			115	Mónica Mena
		67	Sandra Caprara	63	José Muñoz			116	Laura María Anguita
		68	Ricardo Lejovitzky	64	Carmen Sánchez			117	Julián Burgos
		76	Silvia Guardado	69	Carlos Hernández			120	Andrés Koryzma
		77	Kity Goyena	70	Susana Rubio			121	Tomás Hirsch
		79	Daniel Rocca	71	Marilena Livanou			127	Gloria Mujica
		80	Carina Fichera	72	Augusto Vetrallini			134	María Ester Lezaeta
		81	Mirta Latuf	74	Hugo Rodriguez			135	Yanet Fuenzalida
		82	Celia Latuf	75	María Eliana Astaburruaga			141	Claudio Thumala
		83	Maria Rosa Luque	78	Giovanna Vasciminno			143	Osvaldo Galáz
		84	Gerardo Falconi	89	Jon Swinden			144	Mercedes Bravo
		85	Pablo Fernández	95	Christian Heinrici			145	Susana Córdova
		94	Madeleine John	103	Marisa Gabaldón			150	Rafael Quesada
		96	Nestor Elias	104	François Giorgi			151	Diego Ugarte
		98	Gabriel Bulgach	109	Rafael de la Rubia			152	Alejandra Salazar
		99	Yolanda Muga	110	Philippe Moal			170	Alejandro Roger
		102	Marcos Rodrigues	119	Muriel Deslandes			199	Gunther Aleksander
		113	Zizelda da Silva	122	Kjartan Jónsson			205	Anna Polo
		124	Pablo Ales	123	Silvia Nocera			209	Nicole Myers
		131	Luis Alves	125	Nelsy Lizarazo			215	Adolfo Carpio
		133	Norma Coronel	126	Benoit Mangin			220	Gloria Morrison
		136	Rogerio Ceroni	132	Sylvène Baroche			223	Patricia Arriagada
		140	Jorge Pozo	138	Montse Curull			225	Hernan Palma
		146	Raúl Alvarez	139	Emilio Rubio			226	Carlos Padilla
		147	Pablo Gonzalez	142	Michel Deslandes			227	Luis Alberto Alvarez
		148	Juan Echeveste	153	Maria del Mar Cagigal			229	Luis Felipe Garcia
		154	Jorge Nuñez Arzuaga	155	Luciano Elmi			268	Efren Osorio
		157	Silvina Gierer	160	Marina Larena			271	Moise Philogene
		158	Gustavo Goren	171	Javier Barbero				
		159	Miriam Kovensky	173	Ivonne Herrero				
		161	Esther Delvenne	174	Luisa Olivares				
		162	Lea Kovensky	175	Pedro Sobrino				
		163	Huga Tormen	176	Susana Chialina				
		164	Maria Cristina Obredor	177	Robert Raich				
		166	Jorge Hedeager	179	Giannis Papagiannopoulos				
		167	Roberto Cruz	181	Carmen Gomez				
		168	Marisa Nadde	197	Xavier Cambra				
		169	Martín Baez	198	Enrique Collado				
		172	Hernán Daulte	200	Marco Inglessis				
		178	Pina Greco	201	Giorgio Schulze				
		180	Sharon Solar	202	Cinzia Cassanelli				
		196	Glenda de la Fuente	204	Luigi Salvioni				
		203	Silvio Bruschi	206	Marco Battistella				
		218	Marisú Ortiz Zavalla	207	Antonio Molfese				
		219	Gabriel Serra	208	Camillo Comelli				
		230	Carlos Herrando	210	Fernando Rodriguez				
		231	Raúl Gil	211	Yolanda Irisarri				
		233	Ivan Andrade	212	Alicia Alejandre				
		239	Daniel Labougle	213	Rosa Mera				
		262	Ricardo Marcianesi	216	Manuel Hidalgo				
		263	Ignacio Espinoza	217	Mercé Duch				
		264	Ana Riso	221	Judith Earley				
		265	Aldo Arcalde	228	Claudie Baudoin				
		266	Carlos Lorenzo	234	Francesca Lucchesi				
		267	Horacio Meson	235	Tiziana Santinelli				
		269	Vilma Marcos	236	Antonio Piemontese				
				240	Claudio Marchini				
				251	Cristina Mónica Bretta				
				252	Luigi Ventriglia				
				253	Rita Rombolotti				
				254	Eleonora Scabbia				
				255	Daniel Horowitz				
				256	Peter Noordendorp				
				257	Mónica Freyer				
				258	Mario Barranco				
				259	Angelica Soler				
				260	Gustavo Joaquin				
				261	Lucia Sechi				
Count	24	Count	79	Count	91	Count	14	Count	51

Total 259