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Rome, 01 July 2015

Dear Sisters,

Greetings of peace and joy from the executive board, the executive secretary and all those working here in the UISG offices. May the fullness of the Holy Spirit's gifts be on you and all your Sisters.

I have the honor and the pleasure to announce the next UISG Plenary Assembly in 2016. Our last Plenary Assembly in 2013 had as a theme: "It shall not be so among you" (Mt 20, 26) – the service of leadership according to the Gospel." Remarkable speakers as well as table conversations gave us food for reflection and discernment.

During our executive board meetings, we studied the "Orientations for Mission" which were drawn up during that Assembly, and as we asked ourselves how leadership according to Jesus would look like, we came out with 4 areas to develop during our mandate:

- To grow as discerning leaders
- To create communion through quality relationships
- To foster inter-congregational collaboration
- To act in solidarity to give life and promote justice.

For these lines of action was born the theme for the meeting of delegates that was held in Nemi, Italy, from the 4<sup>th</sup> to the 11<sup>th</sup> February 2015. The theme was: "Leaders journeying towards global solidarity." The talks as well as the deep sharing from each delegate about the context of their constellations helped us feel much more united and growing in solidarity among ourselves and with all those who suffer.

The decisions for action of the executive board were also inspired by the desire to live global solidarity. I will mention just the newest project for a multicultural inter-congregational community to work with migrants in Sicily. We thank you for your great response and generosity, and we hope to be able to start three small communities in the autumn.

We find that this call for global solidarity is so great that for the next Plenary Assembly we chose as theme:

### **"Weaving Global Solidarity for Life"**

We want to expand this theme from different angles, which include:

Care of the Planet; World Issues; Religious Life; Solidarity as we would like to live it.

During this Assembly we will celebrate the Golden Jubilee of UISG. Indeed UISG was born on the 8<sup>th</sup> December 1965. We will review important moments in our history and look forward to the future as we report on the Strategic Plan.

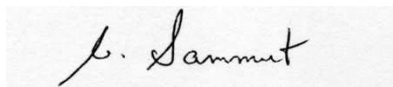
The Plenary Assembly will take place in **Rome at the Centro Internazionale (Ergife Palace Hotel), Via Aurelia 617/619**. It will take place from **9 May (morning) to 13 May (evening) 2016**.

Sr Pat Murray, our Executive Secretary, will be writing you a letter with more of the practical and concrete details regarding the Plenary Assembly.

You might want to refer to the UISG Statute (Art. 10) that describes the role of the Plenary Assembly. It is a body for consultation, animation and reflection at an international level. It is open to all those General Superiors who are members of the Union.

With this letter I then convoke the Plenary Assembly 2016. This is a unique opportunity to gather together with other General Superiors from around the world. We come together to support and encourage one another in our ministry of leadership, and to share the wisdom of our experiences.

Wishing you all God's many blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light-colored background. The signature reads "C. Sammut" in a cursive script.

Sr Carmen Sammut, MSOLA

UISG President