

Vatican, July 19, 2019
Circular letter

Mrs,

On June 13, 2019, the Dicastery for the Laity, the Family and Life organized its annual meeting with the ecclesial movements, with the theme "The prevention of sexual abuse: the commitment of associations and ecclesial movements".

Given the importance of this theme for all international associations of the faithful, I address this letter to moderators of all these associations. I invite you to actively use the conferences given at this meeting, as points of support for the development in your association of effective protections for children and vulnerable people. These texts are already available on the Dicastery website in the original language, and versions in English, Spanish and Italian will be added in the coming weeks (<http://www.familylife.va/content/laityfamilylife/it/news/2019/incontro-annuale-del-dicasterio-con-associazioni-e-movimenti.html>).

This letter allows me to transmit to all international associations a requirement that was communicated during this meeting. The guidelines sent to you in June 2018 call for the development of clear channels for reporting abuses. Given the time already spent, the Dicastery asks you to guarantee, before December 31, 2019, at each level of your apostolate and your associative life, that these ways to report abuses are obvious, known to members and to people who benefit of your apostolate, and animated by competent people. For the same date, the Dicastery must be informed of the measures taken.

In renewing our encouragement for this momentous task, we send you our cordial greetings to the Lord.

Kevin Card. Farrell
Prefect