

7 June 2017



MERCY INTERNATIONAL
REFLECTION PROCESS

To All who were part of MIRP:
Participants, Coordinators, Guiding Team members

What an amazing episode the **Mercy International Reflection Process (MIRP)** has been in our Mercy World! We know that at least 5,000 people participated, but that figure comes only from the groups that submitted final reports. There were many others also walking the journey, sharing, listening, learning, and eventually acting together to give glimpses of an intentional **Mercy Global Presence**. Among them were many Sisters, partners in ministry, associates, friends, work colleagues, colleagues of other faiths, and students. You will read all this in the **MIRP report** and subsequent feedback.

On behalf of the Members of MIA, the leaders of the Mercy Congregations and Institutes from around the world, and the directors of the Board of MIA, we want to say just a few words of thanks to all those who made it happen. Each and every one of these played a significant part.

Elaine Wainwright RSM (*Guiding Team, International Director*) led a Guiding Team of just three, working with Anne Walsh (*Guiding Team, Communications*) and Helen Diviney RSM (*Guiding Team, International Coordinator*). While Mary Reynolds RSM, Executive Director of MIA, was not a formal member of the Guiding Team, her support and assistance was invaluable, as was the help and hospitality extended by the members of her staff at MIA.

Each of the Congregations and Institutes appointed a Coordinator for the MIRP process. Theirs was a very important role in making sure that the Facilitators of local groups had the support and resources they needed to be able to lead the groups effectively. The reports coming back from the groups was a testimony not only to the success of the efforts of the Coordinators, but also to the commitment and dedication of those local Facilitators who very generously and sometimes nervously stepped up to lead groups.

And then the Participants! There would have been no MIRP without all the wonderful people who came forward to join in the groups. Thank you to each and every one. For many at least it has been a treasured experience.

In expressing thanks to these we realise there were many more – Sisters and others who prayed for those involved even though they were not themselves able to participate, those extraordinary men and women who spoke on videos to share their inspiration and wisdom with us all and so many others.

So at the end of it all what do we have? The MIRP report gives details and also hints at more, at a growing consciousness of **Mercy Global Presence** that is sensed rather than understood at this moment. We will have to see it unfold!

At their recent meeting in Dublin, the Members and the Board of MIA have endorsed the further exploration and development of **Mercy Global Presence** in all its rich and profound promise. Over the next months we will learn more about how we can become involved locally and connected globally in exploring the three dimensions of **Mercy, Global and Presence**.

Sincerely

Berneice Loch RSM
President, MIA

Denise Fox RSM
Chair, Board of MIA