



Sovereign Military Order of the Temple of Jerusalem

We, the Knights of the Sovereign and Military Order of the Temple of Jerusalem, gathered at the occasion of a Congress in the Convent of Christ, in the city of Tomar, birthplace of the Templar tradition in Portugal and point of departure for the Order of Christ, to the rest of the world; a Congress organized under the auspices of the Instituto Gualdim Pais of Sintra, Portugal; at the end of our work, having ever in our minds the communications delivered by the Priors of our Order, there were several points whose views were shared in common, and, herein presented are the agreed upon conclusions:

- 1) It is fundamental to the Aims of our Order; that in order to act according to our traditions, there comes into existence an effective union among all affiliated Templar Organizations.
- 2) The following are the Objectives of the Order:
 - a) Spiritual and cultural perfection,
 - b) The effective practice of Charity
 - c) Knowledge of the history and traditions of the Order
- 3) For recognition between and among Priors, it is needed to determine and establish, without any misunderstandings, a set of basic principles and standards to make this recognition acceptable and possible.
- 4) All traditions and symbols of each Priory must be fully respected.
- 5) There should be created a Magistral Council (Governing Council), with the power to make decisions and create a governing set of rules. There should be an office of Grand Master created and this office of Grand Master should be elected for a limited term of office. The powers of this Grand Master should be such as to prevent the office of Grand Master from becoming dictatorial.
- 6) The signers of this document suggest that there be created a Commission of Priors to establish the bases of a rule, to make effective the conclusions expressed herein.

Signed after the conclusion of our Work in Tomar:

27th. day of April, 1996

Luis Carlos Matos
Grand Prior of Portugal

Fernando de Toro-Garland
Grand Prior of Spain
Secretary-General of I.F.A.

Col. Ronald Mangum
Grand Secretary
Grand Council of OSMTJ

Nicolas Haimovici
Grand Commander of OSMTJ

Michel Montagnon
Grand Prior of Occitany

Leslie L. Payne
Grand Prior of England