

Rome, 10 October 2005

To all Visitors of the Congregation of the Mission

Dear Visitor,

May the grace and peace of Our Lord Jesus Christ fill your heart now and forever!

I invite you and your council to submit a project from your province for the 2006 Systemic Change Award. Below, I have included information you will find helpful in identifying a project eligible for the award.

You will also find an application form with this letter. The completed application should be submitted to the Econome General by December 1, 2005. The complete application must be signed by the Visitor or Vice-Visitor. Please note that only one application can be submitted for each province or vice-province.

“SYSTEMIC CHANGE AWARD”

This is an award given to acknowledge and support a specific project developed by an individual confrere or group of confreres, that reflects St. Vincent’s creativity in responding to the needs of the Church and/or help promote systemic change to the unjust structures which oppress the poor. This award will be granted annually from 2006 to 2016.

Some criteria for choosing the recipient(s) of the award:

1. The projects submitted should reflect St. Vincent’s creativity in finding and implementing unique and even untried ways to respond to the urgent needs of the times and which address changing the unjust structures which oppress the poor.
2. The projects should manifest creativity in proposing: *a*) a new form of apostolic service; or *b*) a new methodology; or *c*) new ways of forming and/or involving lay pastoral agents; or *d*) an approach to changing the unjust structures which oppress the poor, i.e. projects which promote systemic change.

The Systemic Change Award will be granted to up to five projects on January 25, 2006, chosen by the Superior General with his council. The amount of \$ 100.000 will be divided equally among the projects that have been granted the award. The amount of the

award to each individual project will be distributed over two years. The first half of the award money will be given to the project on January 25, 2006. The second half of the award money will be given on January 25, 2007 after the Superior General has received a report on how the first half of the award money was used.

I look forward to receiving an application from your province.

Your brother in St. Vincent,

G. Gregory Gay, C.M.
Superior General