



Barreiro, 15 th July 1955

Dear Charles:

Thank you very much for your very kind letter of the 26th April. It was impossible for me to write earlier.

I have a great hope in the apostolic and social work of the Catholic African University people. I recognise your difficulties but even these difficulties may have a deep sense for the further. In Portugal, we say that with the words of one great national Poet, Fernando Pessoa:

"Never anyone fly without making it against the wind". (Nunca ninguém levantou voo que o não fizesse contra o vento).

I understand quite well the situation of the Catholic Group in Africa. You have a very great task in the life of the Church and in the Life of the Country. But it is necessary that the groups know each others and for that, I am delighted with the news you have send to me that the two societies of your country made a joint meeting. I should like very much to have the reports of this meeting. Is it possible? This is fundamental even for the presence in the international life. Every Federation must carry with it all the cultural and social background of its country and for that it must group all the different groups. Perhaps you can do something like the two Federations of Camero. There are two separated Federations but each year one of them is the leader that guides and organizes the apostolic life og both. By this way, they attain to have a national Federation.

It will be a very great joy for all the Federations of Pax Romana the possibility of having a Federation of East Africa affiliated to the International Mouvement of Catholic Students.

I must also tell you that since Easter the university women of my Federation have offered their time of study (that is the hardest of the year) to God in intention of the African students.

In Portugal not only University students but also some graduated are inclined to help the African students as much as they can.

I am greatly interested in making possible the interchange of relations between African and Europeans because I think all of them will have a benefit of the intercourse. Each country has its own cultural patrimony and then from the intercourse all of us will grow richer as everyone has something to give and something to receive.

I order to stablish th program for the helping of the African students it is necessary that you informe us concretly of your fundamental necessities.

As in the next I. A. I am in charge of the "Entraide" Commission I should like very much to stress the African necessities to stimulate the possibilities of help of all the Federations in the world. For that, it is fundamental that you write to me until the end of this month about the following questions:

- 1) What do you expect from Pax Romana, from its orientation, from its publications and from its meetings? (Treat each subject separately)
- 2) What are the points of your work about which you thing that Pax Romana can help you both through the G.S. and all the other Federations.