



SALA STAMPA DELLA SANTA SEDE **BOLLETTINO**

HOLY SEE PRESS OFFICE BUREAU DE PRESSE DU SAINT-SIÈGE PRESSEAMT DES HEILIGEN STUHL
OFICINA DE PRENSA DE LA SANTA SEDE SALA DE IMPRENSA DA SANTA SÉ
BIURO PRASOWE STOLICY APOSTOLSKIEJ دار الصحافة التابعة للكرسي الرسولي

N. 171216e

Saturday 16.12.2017

Holy See Press Office Communiqué: Audience with the President of the Republic of Ecuador

This morning, Saturday 16 December 2017, the Holy Father Francis received in audience, in the Vatican Apostolic Palace, the President of the Republic of Ecuador, H.E. Mr. Lenín Boltaire Moreno Garcés, accompanied by Cardinal Secretary of State Pietro Parolin and His Excellency Msgr. Paul Richard Gallagher, Secretary for Relations with States.

During the cordial discussions, the special role of Christianity in the formation of the identity of the country was evoked, and appreciation was expressed for the contribution of the Church. The importance of dialogue in facing the fundamental challenges of society was then highlighted. Attention then turned to themes of mutual interest such as respect for indigenous populations and their culture, and the protection of the environment.

Finally, there was a fruitful exchange of views on the political and social situation of the region, focusing on the efforts made to favour development and to promote legality.