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BOLLETTINO

SALA STAMPA DELLA SANTA SEDE

N. 190215c

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Signing of an Agreement between the Holy See and the Italian Republic

On Wednesday 13 February 2019, at the seat of the Ministry of Education, Universities and Research, an Agreement between the Holy See and the Italian Republic was signed, regarding the application of the Lisbon Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications concerning Higher Education in the European Region.

On behalf of the Holy See, the Agreement was signed by His Eminence Cardinal Giuseppe Versaldi, prefect of the Congregation for Catholic Education, and on behalf of Italy, Professor Marco Bussetti, Minister for Education, Universities and Research.

The following participated in the solemn act:

on behalf of the Holy See: H.E. Msgr. Emil Paul Tscherrig, apostolic nuncio in Italy; Rev. Fr. Friedrich Bechina, F.S.O., under-secretary of the Congregation for Catholic Education; Msgr. Stefano Mazzotti, nunziature advisor, Secretariat of State; Dr. Melanie Rosenbaum, study assistant at the Congregation for Catholic Education; Professor Carlo Finocchietti, consultant of the Congregation for Catholic Education;

on behalf of Italy: Giuseppe Chiné, head of Cabinet of Ministers; Raimondo De Cardona, diplomatic advisor to the Minister; Professor Giuseppe Valditara, head of the Department for Higher Education and Research; Dr. Biagio del Prete, head of the Secretariat of the Minister; Professor Federico Cinquepalmi, director of the Office for the Internationalization of Higher Education; Dr. Luca Lantero, director of CIMEA - *Centro Informazioni Mobilità Equivalenze Accademiche*.

Nella stessa giornata del 13 febbraio si è proceduto allo Scambio di Note Verbali tra la Segreteria di Stato, Sezione per i Rapporti con gli Stati, e l'Ambasciata d'Italia, che integra le Note Verbali reversali del 25 gennaio 1994 relative all'attuazione dell'art. 10, n. 2, comma 1, dell'Accordo di Revisione del Concordato Lateranense del 18 febbraio 1984, in materia di riconoscimento dei titoli di studio delle discipline ecclesiastiche.

The Agreement, consisting of a preamble and 11 articles, outlines the legal framework for relations between the educational systems of the Holy See and Italy, in the light of the common belonging of the two Parties to the Lisbon Convention (1997), with particular reference to the procedures for the mutual recognition of academic

qualifications issued by the respective institutions of higher education. The Agreement will come into force after the mutual notification of the completion of the necessary internal procedures of each of the two Parties.

On the same day, 13 February, the Exchange of Notes was conducted between the Secretariat of State, Section for Relations with States, and the Embassy of Italy, supplementing the reciprocal Notes Verbales of 25 January 1994 relating to the implementation of Art. 10, No. 2, paragraph 1, of the Revision Agreement of the Lateran Concordat of 18 February 1984, concerning the recognition of qualifications of ecclesiastical disciplines.
