



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. 0136

Lunedì 24.02.2014

COMUNICATO DELLA SALA STAMPA DELLA SANTA SEDE: NUOVA STRUTTURA DI COORDINAMENTO DEGLI AFFARI ECONOMICI E AMMINISTRATIVI DELLA SANTA SEDE E DELLO STATO DELLA CITTA' DEL VATICANO

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• TESTO IN LINGUA ITALIANA

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Il Santo Padre ha costituito una nuova struttura di coordinamento per gli affari economici e amministrativi della Santa Sede e dello Stato della Città del Vaticano.

L'annuncio odierno giunge in seguito alle raccomandazioni della rigorosa revisione condotta dalla *Commissione Referente di Studio e di Indirizzo sull'Organizzazione della Struttura Economico - Amministrativa della Santa Sede* (COSEA). Esse sono state esaminate e approvate sia dal Consiglio di Cardinali istituito per consigliare il Santo Padre sulla riforma della Curia Romana, sia dal Consiglio di 15 Cardinali "per lo studio dei problemi organizzativi ed economici della Santa Sede".

La COSEA raccomandava modifiche per semplificare e consolidare le strutture di gestione esistenti e migliorare il coordinamento e la supervisione in tutta la Santa Sede e lo Stato della Città del Vaticano. La COSEA consigliava un impegno esplicito per l'adozione dei principi contabili, di gestione finanziaria generalmente accettati e anche per la procedura di rendicontazione finanziaria, insieme con controlli interni avanzati, la trasparenza e il governo.

Le modifiche consentiranno il coinvolgimento più esplicito di esperti di alto livello di esperienza in amministrazione finanziaria, pianificazione e *reporting*. Esse garantiranno una migliore utilizzazione delle risorse, migliorando il supporto disponibile per vari programmi, in particolare quelli rivolti al lavoro con i poveri e gli emarginati.

Le modifiche annunciate dal Santo Padre sono:

1. L'istituzione di una nuova Segreteria per l'Economia, che avrà autorità su tutte le attività economiche e amministrative all'interno della Santa Sede e dello Stato della Città del Vaticano. La Segreteria sarà responsabile, tra le altre cose, per la preparazione di un budget annuale per la Santa Sede e lo Stato Città del Vaticano, nonché la pianificazione finanziaria e le varie funzioni di supporto quali le risorse umane e l'approvvigionamento. La Segreteria sarà inoltre tenuta a redigere il bilancio dettagliato della Santa Sede e dello Stato della Città del Vaticano.
2. La Segreteria per l'Economia metterà in opera le direttive formulate da un nuovo Consiglio per l'Economia: un Consiglio di 15 membri, composto da otto Cardinali o Vescovi, che riflette l'universalità della Chiesa, e sette esperti laici di varie nazionalità con competenze finanziarie e riconosciuta professionalità. Il Consiglio si riunirà periodicamente per valutare direttive e pratiche concrete, e preparare e analizzare i rapporti sulle attività economiche-amministrative della Santa Sede.
3. La Segreteria per l'Economia sarà diretta da un Cardinale Prefetto che farà riferimento al Consiglio per l'Economia. Un Segretario Generale collaborerà con il Cardinale Prefetto nella gestione delle attività quotidiane.
4. Il Santo Padre ha nominato il Cardinale George Pell, attuale Arcivescovo di Sydney, Australia, quale Prefetto della Segreteria per l'Economia.
5. Le nuove disposizioni comprendono anche la nomina di un Revisore Generale, nominato dal Santo Padre, che sarà dotato del potere di svolgere revisioni di qualsiasi agenzia o istituzione della Santa Sede e dello Stato della Città del Vaticano.
6. Le modifiche confermano il ruolo dell'APSA come Banca Centrale del Vaticano, con tutti gli obblighi e le responsabilità delle istituzioni analoghe in tutto il mondo.
7. L'AIF continuerà a svolgere il suo ruolo attuale e fondamentale di vigilanza prudenziale e disciplina delle attività all'interno della Santa Sede e dello Stato della Città del Vaticano.

E' stato chiesto al Prefetto della nuova Segreteria per l'Economia di iniziare il suo compito il più presto possibile. Egli preparerà gli Statuti finali e le altre questioni connesse con l'assistenza dei consiglieri necessari e lavorerà con la COSEA per completare l'attuazione di tali disposizioni approvate dal Santo Padre.

[00288-01.01]

• TESTO IN LINGUA INGLESE PRESS RELEASE: NEW COORDINATION STRUCTURE FOR ECONOMIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS OF THE HOLY SEE AND THE VATICAN STATE

The Holy Father today announced a new coordination structure for economic and administrative affairs of the Holy See and the Vatican State.

Today's announcement comes after the recommendations of the rigorous review conducted by the Pontifical Commission for Reference on the Organization of the Economic- Administrative Structure of the Holy See (COSEA) were considered and endorsed by both the Council of 8 Cardinals established to advise the Holy Father on governance and the Committee of 15 Cardinals which oversees the financial affairs of the Holy See.

COSEA recommended changes to simplify and consolidate existing management structures and improve coordination and oversight across the Holy See and Vatican City State. COSEA also recommended more formal commitment to adopting accounting standards and generally accepted financial management and reporting practices as well as enhanced internal controls, transparency and governance.

The changes will enable more formal involvement of senior and experienced experts in financial administration, planning and reporting and will ensure better use of resources, improving the support available for various programs, particularly our works with the poor and marginalized.

The changes announced by the Holy Father include:

1. Establishment of a new Secretariat for the Economy which will have authority over all economic and administrative activities within the Holy See and the Vatican City State. The Secretariat will be responsible, among other things, for preparing an annual budget for the Holy See and Vatican City State as well as financial planning and various support functions such as human resources and procurement. The Secretariat will also be required to prepare detailed financial statements of the Holy See and Vatican State.
2. The Secretariat for the Economy will implement policies determined by a new Council for the Economy - a 15 member Council comprised of 8 Cardinals or Bishops, reflecting various parts of the world and seven lay experts of different nationalities with strong professional financial experience. The Council will meet on a regular basis and to consider policies and practices and to prepare and analyze reports on the economic-administrative activities of the Holy See.
3. The Secretariat for the Economy will be headed by a Cardinal Prefect reporting to the Council for the Economy. He will be supported by a Secretary-General in the management of day to day activities.
4. The Holy Father has appointed Cardinal Pell, the current Archbishop of Sydney, Australia, to the role of Prefect of the Secretariat for the Economy. Details for Cardinal Pell are attached.
5. New arrangements also include the appointment of an Auditor-General, appointed by the Holy Father who will be empowered to conduct audits of any agency of the Holy See and Vatican City State at any time.
6. The changes will confirm the role of APSA as the Central bank of the Vatican with all the obligations and responsibilities of similar institutions around the world.
7. The AIF will continue to undertake its current and critical role of prudential supervision and regulation of activities within the Holy See and Vatican City State.

The Prefect of the new Secretariat for the Economy has been asked to start work as soon as possible. He will prepare the final statutes and other related matters with the assistance of any necessary advisors and will work with COSEA to complete the implementation of these changes approved by the Holy Father.

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Cardinal George Pell - Background and Experience

Cardinal George Pell was born in Ballarat, on June 8th 1941, and was educated in that city at Loreto Convent and St Patrick's College. He studied for the priesthood at Corpus Christi College, Werribee, and Propaganda Fide College, Rome, and was ordained a Catholic priest for the Diocese of Ballarat by Cardinal Agagianian in St Peter's Basilica, Rome, on December 16th 1966.

On May 21st 1987 he was ordained an Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Melbourne and Titular Bishop of Scala by Archbishop Sir Frank Little in St Patrick's Cathedral.

On July 16th 1996 Pope John Paul II announced Cardinal Pell's appointment as seventh Metropolitan Archbishop of Melbourne. On March 26th 2001 the Holy Father appointed Cardinal Pell the eighth Metropolitan Archbishop of Sydney. His elevation to the Sacred College of Cardinals was announced by John Paul II on September 28th 2003, who created him Cardinal Priest of the Church of Saint Maria Domenica Mazzarello in

Rome.

Cardinal Pell holds a Licentiate in Theology from Urban University, Rome (1967), a Masters Degree in Education from Monash University, Melbourne (1982), and a Doctorate of Philosophy in Church History from the University of Oxford (1971). He is a Fellow of the Australian College of Educators, and was Visiting Scholar at Campion Hall, Oxford University, in 1979 and at St Edmund's College, Cambridge University, in 1983. He was elected an Honorary Fellow of St Edmund's in 2003.

As Archbishop of Sydney he was host for the World Youth Day in Sydney in 2008, when he welcomed Pope Benedict, and the youth of the world, to Australia. He established a second seminary in the Archdiocese, the Redemptoris Mater Seminary of the Neo-Catechumenal way, and the Archdiocese now has a total of around 45 seminarians in formation for the priesthood. His Eminence also established Domus Australia in Rome, a residential centre for pilgrims and visitors, opened by Pope Benedict in 2011.

In April 2005 Cardinal Pell took part in the Conclave of 115 Cardinal Electors which elected His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI as the successor to Pope John Paul II; and in March 2013 Cardinal Pell was a member of the Conclave of 115 Cardinal Electors who elected His Holiness Pope Francis to succeed Pope Benedict XVI.

In April 2013 Cardinal Pell was appointed by Pope Francis to the group of eight cardinals to advise the Holy Father on the government of the universal Church and to study a plan for revising the Apostolic Constitution on the Roman Curia, Pastor Bonus.

The Cardinal has been a member of various Congregations and Councils of the Holy See since 1990, when he was appointed to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. He was a member of the Australian Catholic Bishops' Committee for Justice Development and Peace from 1987 to 1997 and has been a member of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace from 1990 to 1995 and again from 2002. Since 2001 he has been chair of Vox Clara, the committee of senior English-speaking bishops to advise the Congregation for Divine Worship on the English Translation of the Roman Missal. Since 2008 he has been on the Governing Committee of the International Catholic Migration Commission.

Cardinal Pell has been on the Vatican Committee of fifteen Cardinals since 2007, which oversees the financial affairs of the Holy See and he has wide experience in Church and secular organizations. For example, the Archdiocese of Melbourne has around 140,000 students in Catholic Schools while the Archdiocese of Sydney has around 70,000 students, both Archdioceses have networks for social work, hospitals, and residences for the aged. The Sydney Archdiocese itself has around 480 diocesan and religious priests and 9500 employees.

From 1988 to 1997, Cardinal Pell was Chair of Caritas Australia, the Catholic Church's organization for overseas relief and development and he travelled widely throughout Asia. In those years Australian Catholic Relief, as it was then called, was heavily involved in the first attempts at reconstruction in Cambodia after the overthrow of Pol Pot.

As an auxiliary Bishop of Melbourne, Cardinal Pell chaired the Implementation Committee which set up the Australian Catholic University in 1991, now one of the largest Catholic Universities in the English-speaking world. He has been President of Australian Catholic University's board of owners since 1996. His Eminence was a member of the Academic Board of the State College of Victoria throughout the 1970s and on their planning committee. Director of the Aquinas Campus of the Institute of Catholic Education from 1974-1984 and as Principal of the Institute of Catholic Education now merged into Australian Catholic University. He was a Member of the Australian Association of the Principals of Colleges of Advanced Education from 1981-1984 He invited the University of Notre Dame Australia to open a university campus in Sydney which includes faculties of medicine and law.

The Cardinal has long been active in the struggle against child abuse and in 1996 set up the Melbourne Response, combining an Independent Commissioner to judge complaints, with a compensatory panel and counselling services. This was one of the earliest such schemes to be set up in Australia and the Anglophone

world.

In 1998 the Cardinal was a government appointee to the Constitutional Convention, which recommended that Australia become a republic and in 2011 he established the Sydney Catholic business network to improve dialogue between leaders in Government, business and the Church on business ethics, social justice and public life.

Cardinal Pell's interest in and support for young people, marriage and families have been demonstrated not only in his preaching and many public statements on these matters, but also in his involvement in founding the Australian campus of the international John Paul II Institute for Marriage and the Family and in the creation of the Mary of the Cross Centre in Melbourne to assist families with a member affected by drug or alcohol abuse.

A more complete biography can be found at: www.sydney.catholic.org

[00288-02.01]

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