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Sommario:

- ◆ Le Udienze
- ◆ Rinunce e nomine
- ◆ Interventi del Segretario per i Rapporti con gli Stati alla 72 ma Sessione dell'Assemblea Generale delle Nazioni Unite
- ◆ "Meeting point" con i giornalisti per presentare il XXIV Congresso Mondiale dell'Apostolato del Mare (Kaohsiung, Taiwan, 1° - 7 ottobre 2017)
- ◆ Avviso di Conferenza Stampa

◆ Le Udienze

Il Santo Padre Francesco ha ricevuto questa mattina in Udienza:

- Il Dottor Muhammad al-Issa, Segretario Generale della Lega Musulmana Mondiale.

[01342-IT.01]

◆ Rinunce e nomine

Rinuncia e successione del Vescovo Prelato di Borba (Brasile)

Rinuncia del Vescovo di Sete Lagoas (Brasile) e nomina del successore**Rinuncia e successione del Vescovo Prelato di Borba (Brasile)**

Il Santo Padre Francesco ha accettato la rinuncia al governo pastorale della Prelatura territoriale di Borba (Brasile), presentata da S.E. Mons. Elói Róggia, S.A.C.

Gli succede S.E. Mons. Zenildo Luiz Pereira da Silva, C.S.S.R., finora Vescovo Prelato Coadiutore della medesima prelatura.

[01355-IT.01]

Rinuncia del Vescovo di Sete Lagoas (Brasile) e nomina del successore

Il Santo Padre Francesco ha accettato la rinuncia al governo pastorale della diocesi di Sete Lagoas (Brasile) presentata da S.E. Mons. Guilherme Porto.

Il Papa ha nominato Vescovo della diocesi di Sete Lagoas (Brasile) S.E. Mons. Aloísio Jorge Pena Vitral, trasferendolo dalla diocesi di Teófilo Otoni.

S.E. Mons. Aloísio Jorge Pena Vitral

S.E. Mons. Aloísio Jorge Pena Vitral è nato il 23 aprile 1955 a Rio de Janeiro, nell'omonima arcidiocesi. Dopo un percorso formativo nella Congregazione dei Sacerdoti del Sacro Cuore di Gesù (Dehoniani), nella quale ha compiuto gli studi di Filosofia presso il Convento *Sagrado Coração de Jesus* a Brusque (1977-1979) e parte del corso di Teologia presso l'Istituto Teologico Dehoniano di Taubaté (1980-1983), ha fatto opzione per il clero diocesano ed è stato ammesso al Seminario *Coração Eucarístico de Jesus* dell'arcidiocesi di Belo Horizonte, concludendo gli studi teologici nella Pontificia Università Cattolica di Minas Gerais (1985).

Il 18 gennaio 1986 è stato ordinato sacerdote ed è stato incardinato nell'arcidiocesi di Belo Horizonte, nella quale ha svolto i seguenti incarichi: Parroco a Nova Lima nella parrocchia di *Santo Antônio do Morro Velho*, a Belo Horizonte nelle parrocchie di *Santa Efigênia dos Militares* e di *Nossa Senhora das Dores*; Formatore e poi Rettore del Seminario di Filosofia; Membro dell'équipe di Spiritualità del *Centro Loyola* dei Padri Gesuiti; Vicario Foraneo; Formatore Spirituale nel Seminario Maggiore arcidiocesano.

L'11 febbraio 2006 è stato nominato Vescovo titolare di Tubursico-Bure ed Ausiliare di Belo Horizonte, ricevendo l'ordinazione episcopale il 25 marzo successivo. Il 25 novembre 2009 è stato nominato Vescovo di Teófilo Otoni.

[01354-IT.01]

◆ Interventi del Segretario per i Rapporti con gli Stati alla 72^{ma} Sessione dell'Assemblea Generale delle Nazioni Unite

Closed Ministerial-level meeting on the Central African Republic during the 72nd Session of the UN General Assembly (19 September 2017)

High Level Leaders Event: A Call to Action to End Forced Labour, Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking (19 September 2017)

Pubblichiamo di seguito gli interventi che il Segretario per i Rapporti con gli Stati, S.E. Mons. Paul R. Gallagher, ha pronunciato ieri a New York nel corso dei lavori della 72ma Sessione dell'Assemblea Generale delle Nazioni Unite:

Closed Ministerial-level meeting on the Central African Republic during the 72nd Session of the UN General Assembly (19 September 2017)

Mr. Chairperson.

The Holy See is greatly concerned at the intensification of the conflict underway in the Central African Republic, which is causing further deaths and injuries among the civil population and aggravating the situation of refugees and internally displaced persons.

The Holy See appreciates the role of MINUSCA, as well as the extension of its mandate by the U.N., which is directed to restoring peace to the capital, Bangui, and to neutralizing, in so far as possible, the actions of armed groups, which inflict suffering on defenseless populations. However, it also wishes to see more effective action in protecting civilians, without distinction of religious creed or rank, in order to avoid partiality and to earn greater trust from the local population. Thus, the increase in the number of peacekeepers and the reorganization of their operations must have as its priority the protection of the security of all citizens and the restoration of peace. Well aware that those who are most vulnerable in the current conflict are women and children, I appeal to MINUSCA to defend their dignity as defenseless people, to guarantee their personal safety and freedom of movement, and to protect them from armed aggression and from any abuse or humiliation that would degrade their human dignity. As Pope Francis remarked during his visit to Bangui, dignity is a "moral value, rightly synonymous with honesty, loyalty, graciousness and honour, which characterizes men and women conscious of their rights and duties, and which leads them to mutual respect" (Address to the Authorities and to the Diplomatic Corps, 29 November 2015).

The International Community is called to give every necessary support for the democratic and inclusive development of those structures that will permit the growth of the country. Of course, it is the national Government's duty to guarantee the rule of law, to curb and combat corruption, which saps the trust of citizens, and to ensure access to health care and education for citizens of every level, without discrimination. But this in turn requires the coordinated action of the International Community, so that the financial aid promised during the Brussels Conference of last autumn is made available, giving an injection of resources to the country and facilitating its reconstruction as well as its financial recovery.

In any country, a healthy dynamic between the various political forces can be achieved only through sincere dialogue. With the help of the International Community, such a dialogue must become the privileged path to arrive at peace and to give to the Central African Republic the necessary stability for its social, economic and political renewal. Indeed, dialogue is the only solution to any armed conflict and the only way to silence the weapons of war and to give life to words of reconciliation. We might recall here the positive outcome of the pastoral visit of Pope Francis (29-30 November 2015), which gave rise to strong and clear gestures of cooperation, promoted also by the heads of the other religious confessions. Recently, the Holy Father made an appeal to all sectors of the Central African Republic: "may weapons be silenced and may the good will to dialogue prevail so as to give the country peace and development" (Pope Francis, Angelus 21 May 2017).

To reach a fruitful outcome, that process of dialogue must provide for:

- a ceasefire between all the parties to the conflict;
- the right means for disarming the various armed groups, while studying how best to reinsert their members into the civil and democratic community;
- justice for the victims of heinous attacks on the unarmed population;

- and the guaranteed return of migrants and refugees, both Christian and Muslim, who should be able to take possession of their property and return to a serene and tranquil life.

In this effort of inclusive dialogue, the Catholic Church's commitment will not be lacking. Together with other religious confessions, the Church will seek what unites, while rejecting that which causes division or contention, since the search for peace comes before every other good.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

[01356-EN.01] [Original text: English]

High Level Leaders Event: A Call to Action to End Forced Labour, Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking (19 September 2017)

Mme Prime Minister, Excellencies,

The Holy See's involvement in the fight against human trafficking and other forms of modern slavery is not new. Already in 1965, the Catholic Church strongly condemned as "infamies" slavery, prostitution, the selling of women and children, and disgraceful working conditions where people are treated as instruments of gain rather than free and responsible persons.¹ These phenomena "poison human society, debase their perpetrators" and represent "a supreme dishonor to the Creator."

The issue of trafficking in persons can only be fully addressed by promoting effective juridical instruments and concrete collaboration at multiple levels by all stakeholders, using multi-pronged strategies aimed to halt these heinous crimes, punish the criminals and assist victims.

Pope Francis has made it clear that working to end forced labour, modern slavery and trafficking in persons is one of the defining priorities of his papacy. In this way, the institutions and organizations of the Catholic Church act in partnerships and collaboration with both the public and private sectors, including with government authorities.

In particular, the Holy See and the Catholic Church collaborate with the British Government at various levels and in many initiatives in the effort to eradicate trafficking in persons. One such partnership is the Santa Marta Group, whose effectiveness lies in the close collaboration between law enforcement authorities and Church institutions, which rescue victims and accompany them in their rehabilitation to normal life. Experience has shown that many victims are wary of trusting law enforcement authorities, but that they confide their stories more easily to religious personnel, especially religious sisters, who can build their trust in the legal process and provide them safe haven and other forms of assistance.

Thus, faithful to their specific nature, Catholic institutions and organizations have been on the front line in helping the victims, especially women and girls, to escape from situations of slavery and, with loving concern, patiently walk with them on the long road back to a life of freedom, both interior and exterior. Women religious, in particular, have been central to this work that often takes place in situations dominated by violence. They form networks at multiple levels to coordinate their efforts and share best practices and resources, thus maximizing their impact.

Mme Prime Minister, Excellencies,

The Political Declaration on the Implementation of the Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons, which will be adopted in the coming days, emphasizes "in the strongest terms possible the importance of strengthening collective action ...to end trafficking in persons."² The global nature of the crimes of forced labour, modern slavery and human trafficking require from all of us a commensurate response of collaboration, fraternity and solidarity. We owe that response to the tens of millions of victims, who look to us with desperate hope for

their emancipation and for a return to a life of dignity and freedom.

Thank you, Mme Prime Minister; thank you, Your Excellencies.

1 Cf. Second Vatican Council, Pastoral Constitution of the Church in the Modern World, *Gaudium et spes* 27.

2 Political Declaration on the Implementation of the Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons, paragraph 24.

[01357-EN.01] [Original text: English]

◆ “Meeting point” con i giornalisti per presentare il XXIV Congresso Mondiale dell’Apostolato del Mare (Kaohsiung, Taiwan, 1° - 7 ottobre 2017)

Alle ore 12.30, presso la Sala Stampa della Santa Sede, in Via della Conciliazione 54, ha luogo un “Meeting point” con i giornalisti per presentare il XXIV Congresso mondiale dell’Apostolato del Mare “Caught in the net” che si terrà a Kaohsiung, Taiwan, dal 1° al 7 ottobre 2017 e che sarà dedicato alle tematiche inerenti alla pesca e alla tratta di esseri umani.

Gli argomenti trattati dal Congresso esprimono la premura e l’attenzione dell’Apostolato del Mare a non analizzare solo le risorse naturali, ma anche e soprattutto quelle umane, in particolare dei pescatori che si trovano a lavorare in condizioni disumane e spesso finiscono nelle mani della criminalità organizzata.

È disponibile per interviste P. Bruno Ciceri, Delegato del Vaticano per l’Apostolato del Mare, Ufficiale del Dicastero per lo Sviluppo Umano Integrale ed esperto di queste tematiche.

[01334-IT.01]

◆ Avviso di Conferenza Stampa

Si informano i giornalisti accreditati che **venerdì 22 settembre 2017**, alle **ore 11**, presso la Sala Stampa della Santa Sede, in Via della Conciliazione 54, si terrà la conferenza stampa di **presentazione della Fondazione Pontificia *Gravissimum educationis***, costituita con Chirografo del Santo Padre Francesco del 28 ottobre 2015, e del documento **“Educare all’umanesimo solidale. Per costruire una civiltà dell’amore a 50 anni dalla *Populorum progressio*”** contenente le linee principali dell’educazione all’umanesimo solidale.

Il Documento sarà in seguito inviato a tutte le Conferenze Episcopali perché lo facciano giungere alle 215.000 scuole cattoliche e alle 1.760 università cattoliche nei vari Continenti.

Interverranno alla conferenza stampa:

- **Em.mo Card. Giuseppe Versaldi**, Prefetto della Congregazione per l’Educazione Cattolica;

- **S.E. Mons. Angelo Vincenzo Zani**, Segretario del medesimo Dicastero;

- **Mons. Guy-Réal Thivierge**, Segretario Generale della Fondazione *Gravissimum educationis*.

[01335-IT.01]

[B0615-XX.01]
