



# SALA STAMPA DELLA SANTA SEDE BOLLETTINO

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

N. 170906a

**Wednesday 06.09.2017**

## **Apostolic Trip of the Holy Father Francis in Colombia (6-11 September 2017)**

### **Departure from Rome**

### **Telegram to the President of the Italian Republic**

### **Departure from Rome**

Pope Francis' twentieth international Apostolic Trip, to Colombia, commenced this morning.

Prior to leaving Santa Marta, the Holy Father greeted two families whose homes were burned during the most recent summer fires in the area of Ponte Mammolo in Rome, and who are being assisted by the Almoner on behalf of the Pope.

The aircraft carrying the Holy Father (an Alitalia A330) took off from Roma-Fiumicino international airport at 11.10.

It is expected to land at the CATAM airbase of Bogotá airport at 16.30 (23.30 Rome time).

### **Telegram to the President of the Italian Republic**

At the moment of leaving Italian territory, heading for Colombia, the Holy Father Francis sent to the President of the Italian Republic, Hon. Sergio Mattarella, the following telegram:

**TO HIS EXCELLENCY**

HON. SERGIO MATTARELLA  
PRESIDENT OF THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC  
PALAZZO DEL QUIRINALE 00187 ROME

AS I LEAVE ROME FOR COLOMBIA, TO SUPPORT THE MISSION OF THE LOCAL CHURCH AND TO BEAR A MESSAGE OF HOPE, I ADDRESS TO YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, MY RESPECTFUL GREETING, WHICH I ACCOMPANY WITH ARDENT WISHES FOR THE SPIRITUAL, CIVIL AND SOCIAL WELLBEING OF THE BELOVED ITALIAN NATION, TO WHICH I GLADLY IMPART MY APOSTOLIC BLESSING.

FRANCISCUS PP.

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