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
BIURO PRASOWE STOLICY APOSTOLSKIEJ دار الصحافة التابعة للكرسى الرسولى

N. 240913a

Friday 13.09.2024

Apostolic Journey of His Holiness Francis in Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, Timor-Leste, and Singapore (2 to 13 September 2024) – Farewell ceremony from Singapore at Changi International Airport, Telegram to the President of the Republic of Singapore, and Telegrams to Heads of State during the flight from Singapore to Rome

Farewell ceremony from Singapore at Changi International Airport

Telegram to the President of the Republic of Singapore

Telegrams to Heads of State during the flight from Singapore to Rome

Farewell ceremony from Singapore at Changi International Airport

At the end of the interreligious meeting with young people at the Catholic Junior College, the Holy Father Francis transferred to Changi International Airport where, at 11.55 (05.55 in Rome), the farewell ceremony from Singapore took place.

Upon arrival, the Pope was received by the Minister of Culture, Community and Youth, His Excellency Mr. Edwin Tong. After greeting the local entourage and the Singaporean delegation, he boarded a *Singapore Airlines* A350 to return to Italy.

The aircraft carrying the Holy Father on the return flight from the Apostolic Journey to Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, Timor-Leste and Singapore departed from Changi International Airport at 12.25 (06.25 in Rome), and landed at Leonardo da Vinci Airport in Rome-Fiumicino at 18.46.

Immediately after his departure from Singapore, the Holy Father Francis sent the following telegram to the President of the Republic, His Excellency Mr. Tharman Shanmugaratnam:

HIS EXCELLENCY THARMAN SHANMUGARATNAM PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE SINGAPORE

AS I RETURN TO ROME AT THE CONCLUSION OF MY APOSTOLIC JOURNEY, I WISH TO EXPRESS A PROFOUND SENSE OF GRATITUDE TO YOUR EXCELLENCY, THE AUTHORITIES AND THE CITIZENS OF SINGAPORE FOR THE WARM RECEPTION AND GENEROUS HOSPITALITY OFFERED TO ME THROUGHOUT MY VISIT. ASSURING YOU OF MY PRAYERS FOR THE PEACE, UNITY AND WELLBEING OF THE NATION, I WILLINGLY INVOKE UPON ALL SINGAPOREANS AN ABUNDANCE OF DIVINE BLESSINGS.

FRANCISCUS

Telegrams to Heads of State during the flight from Singapore to Rome

During the flight from Singapore to Rome, as the aircraft carrying the Holy Father flew over Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Myanmar, India, Pakistan Afghanistan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Turkey, Greece and Albania, before finally returning to Italy, Pope Francis sent the following telegrams to the respective Heads of State:

Overflight Malaysia

HIS MAJESTY SULTAN IBRAHIM ISMAIL IBNI ALMARHUM SULTAN ISKANDAR YANG DI-PERTUAN AGONG XVII OF MALAYSIA

FLYING BACK TO ROME FOLLOWING MY APOSTOLIC JOURNEY TO SINGAPORE, I WILLINGLY RENEW MY PRAYERFUL GOOD WISHES TO YOUR MAJESTY AND THE PEOPLE OF MALAYSIA, AND I INVOKE UPON YOU ALL DIVINE BLESSINGS OF SOLIDARITY AND JOY.

FRANCISCUS

Overflight Thailand

HIS MAJESTY MAHA VAJIRALONGKORN RAMA X KING OF THAILAND BANGKOK

RETURNING TO ROME AFTER MY APOSTOLIC JOURNEY TO SINGAPORE, I EXTEND GOOD WISHES TO YOUR MAJESTY AND THE THAI PEOPLE. PRAYING THAT THE COUNTRY WILL BE GRANTED THE GIFTS OF PEACE AND WELLBEING, I INVOKE UPON YOU ALL ABUNDANT DIVINE BLESSINGS.

FRANCISCUS

HER EXCELLENCY DROUPADI MURMU PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA NEW DELHI

I OFFER MY GREETINGS TO YOUR EXCELLENCY AND YOUR FELLOW CITIZENS AS I FLY OVER INDIA AT THE CONCLUSION OF MY APOSTOLIC JOURNEY TO SINGAPORE. PRAYING THAT THE NATION WILL BE GENEROUSLY BLESSED, I WILLINGLY INVOKE abundant DIVINE GIFTS UPON ALL INDIANS.

FRANCISCUS

Overflight Pakistan

HIS EXCELLENCY ASIF ALI ZARDARI
PRESIDENT OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN
ISLAMABAD

TRAVELLING THROUGH YOUR AIRSPACE AS I RETURN TO ROME AFTER MY APOSTOLIC JOURNEY TO SINGAPORE, I SEND CORDIAL WISHES TO YOUR EXCELLENCY AND THE PAKISTANI PEOPLE. PLEASE BE ASSURED OF MY PRAYERS THAT THE ALMIGHTY WILL BESTOW UPON THE NATION ABUNDANT BLESSINGS.

FRANCISCUS

Overflight Tajikistan

HIS EXCELLENCY EMOMALI RAHMON PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN DUSHANBE

I EXTEND GOOD WISHES TO YOUR EXCELLENCY AND YOUR FELLOW CITIZENS AS I FLY ACROSS TAJIKISTAN AT THE END OF MY APOSTOLIC JOURNEY TO SINGAPORE. I OFFER MY PRAYERS THAT THE NATION WILL BE GRACED WITH WELLBEING AND PEACE, AND I WILLINGLY INVOKE DIVINE BLESSINGS UPON YOU ALL.

FRANCISCUS

Overflight Uzbekistan

HIS EXCELLENCY SHAVKAT MIRZIYOYEV PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN TASHKENT

FLYING OVER YOUR COUNTRY ON MY RETURN TO ROME AFTER MY APOSTOLIC JOURNEY TO SINGAPORE, I OFFER CORDIAL GREETINGS TO YOUR EXCELLENCY AND THE PEOPLE OF UZBEKISTAN, AND I WILLINGLY INVOKE DIVINE BLESSINGS UPON THE NATION.

FRANCISCUS

Overflight Turkmenistan

HIS EXCELLENCY SERDAR BERDIMUHAMEDOV PRESIDENT OF TURKMENISTAN

ASHGABAT

I SEND GREETINGS TO YOUR EXCELLENCY AND THE PEOPLE OF TURKMENISTAN AS I PASS OVER YOUR COUNTRY FOLLOWING MY APOSTOLIC JOURNEY TO SINGAPORE, PLEASE BE ASSURED OF MY PRAYERS THAT THE ALMIGHTY WILL BESTOW UPON THE NATION ABUNDANT BLESSINGS OF PEACE AND WELLBEING.

FRANCISCUS

Overflight Azerbaijan

HIS EXCELLENCY ILHAM ALIYEV
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN
BAKU

FOLLOWING MY APOSTOLIC JOURNEY TO SINGAPORE, I WILLINGLY SEND CORDIAL GOOD WISHES TO YOU AND ALL YOUR FELLOW CITIZENS AS I FLY OVER AZERBAIJAN, TOGETHER WITH THE ASSURANCE OF MY PRAYERS FOR THE UNITY AND CONCORD OF THE NATION.

FRANCISCUS

Overflight Georgia

HER EXCELLENCY SALOME ZOURABICHVILI PRESIDENT OF GEORGIA TBILISI

AS I RETURN TO ROME HAVING CONCLUDED MY APOSTOLIC JOURNEY TO SINGAPORE, I OFFER MY GREETINGS TO YOUR EXCELLENCY AND YOUR FELLOW CITIZENS. ASSURING YOU OF MY PRAYERS, I INVOKE UPON THE PEOPLE OF GEORGIA ALMIGHTY GOD'S BLESSINGS.

FRANCISCUS

Overflight Turkey

HIS EXCELLENCY RECEP TAYYIP ERDOĞAN PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TÜRKIYE ANKARA

I ONCE AGAIN SEND CORDIAL GREETINGS TO YOUR EXCELLENCY AS I FLY OVER TÜRKIYE ON MY RETURN JOURNEY FROM SINGAPORE TO ROME, AND I PRAY THAT THE NATION WILL BE BLESSED WITH THE ALMIGHTY'S GIFTS OF PEACE AND WELLBEING.

FRANCISCUS

Overflight Greece

HER EXCELLENCY KATERINA SAKELLAROPOULOU PRESIDENT OF THE HELLENIC REPUBLIC ATHENS I EXTEND WARM GREETINGS TO YOUR EXCELLENCY AND YOUR FELLOW CITIZENS AS I FLY OVER GREECE EN ROUTE TO ROME AT THE CONCLUSION OF MY APOSTOLIC JOURNEY TO SINGAPORE, AND I INVOKE UPON YOU ALL AN ABUNDANCE OF ALMIGHTY GOD'S BLESSINGS.

FRANCISCUS

Overflight Albania

HIS EXCELLENCY BAJRAM BEGAJ PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA TIRANA

FLYING THROUGH ALBANIAN AIRSPACE AS I RETURN TO ROME AFTER MY APOSTOLIC JOURNEY TO SINGAPORE, I SEND GOOD WISHES TO YOUR EXCELLENCY AND TO ALL ALBANIANS, AND I WILLINGLY INVOKE UPON THE NATION THE ALMIGHTY'S BLESSINGS OF HARMONY AND JOY.

FRANCISCUS

Arrival - Italy

TO HIS EXCELLENCY HON. SERGIO MATTARELLA PRESIDENT OF THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC QUIRINAL PALACE, ROME

AS I RETURN FROM MY APOSTOLIC JOURNEY IN ASIA AND OCEANIA, WHERE I HAD THE JOY OF MEETING CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES ROOTED IN PROFOUND FAITH, FULL OF FERVOUR AND GENEROUS DEDICATION TO THE GOSPEL, APPRECIATING THE WITNESS OF RECONCILED PEOPLES ANCHORED IN STEADFAST SPIRITUAL TRADITIONS, I AM GRATEFUL TO GOD FOR THE ECCLESIAL AND INTERRELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE AND I CORDIALLY EXPRESS TO YOU, MR PRESIDENT, AND TO THE BELOVED ITALIAN NATION, MY AFFECTIONATE THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS TO OUR HEAVENLY FATHER FOR THE GOOD AND PROGRESS OF THE ENTIRE COUNTRY.

FRANCISCUS