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Pubblichiamo di seguito il Messaggio che il Card. Angelo Sodano, Segretario di Stato di Sua Santità, ha inviato al Presidente della Commissione di Coordinamento Internazionale dei Giovani Lavoratori Cristiani, Sig. ra

Nicoletta Pisa, in occasione del Quinto Consiglio Internazionale che si svolge a El Escorial (Madrid) dal 10 al 26 ottobre 2000:

● MESSAGGIO DEL CARD. ANGELO SODANO

Madam President,

1. I am pleased to convey the cordial greetings of His Holiness Pope John Paul II to all the Young Christian Workers who, as the representatives of the International Coordinating Committee of Y.C.W. in the different countries and continents, are assembled at El Escorial (Madrid) for the Fifth International Council of the organization.

You follow the great Y.C.W. tradition, rooted in the apostolic vision of Father Joseph Cardijn, whose goal was to help young workers to be witnesses to Christian hope in their workplaces. In the first decades of the twentieth century, this zealous Belgian priest showed a clear understanding of the situation of young workers, who were not only subjected to deplorable conditions in factories, but also exposed to powerful influences which made them feel alienated from the life of the Church. He was particularly moved by a missionary concern the future of the young workers for whom he founded *Jeunesse Ouvrière Chrétienne*. So quickly did this specialized movement of Catholic Action spread, from its beginnings in France and Belgium, that it became a vibrant movement involving young workers from very different countries, a crucible of Christian activists in the world of labour and a source of enrichment for the mission of the Church in urban and industrialized areas. In its growth Y.C.W. enjoyed the unfailing support and encouragement of the Holy See. Father Joseph Cardijn was appointed an expert at the Second Vatican Council by the recently beatified Pope John XXIII, and later, in 1964, he was created a Cardinal by Pope Paul VI.

2. Today this Y.C.W. tradition continues to be very much alive, thanks also to the *International Coordinating Committee of Young Christian Workers*. After the far-reaching crisis of the 1970s, the Committee has provided young workers throughout the world with a movement faithful to the vision of its founder and to the Church. In this regard, the Holy Father wishes also to express his appreciation to the ecclesiastical assistants for their valuable help in bringing about the essential goal of the organization: to make young workers apostles and evangelizers of other young people. It is also a source of satisfaction that since 1986, the year in which the Holy See recognized the International Coordinating Committee, there has been an increasing confidence in the Committee, which through its work of formation, helps young workers to recognize and accept their responsibilities as citizens and Christians, both in the workplace and in the life of the Church.

3. The International Coordinating Committee is presently faced with a formidable challenge. Great numbers of young people, caught up in the accelerated and complex changes taking place in the varied sectors of the world of labour, are in need of a renewed presentation of the Christian message. Often it is young people with little schooling or professional training who are most affected by tragic situations of joblessness and marginalization, who are unable to find steady employment and even, at times, are the victims of unjust exploitation. Young people often feel unwelcome and unassisted by traditional union organizations. Trapped in decaying urban areas, they are tempted to violence and involvement in crime. Despite the dechristianized environments from which they come, these young people are still looking for meaning in life and are yearning for truth and happiness, for justice and dignity. This is why they have such need of the witness and friendship of those who can set before them an attractive ideal capable of inspiring them to take their place responsibly in society. For this reason the Holy Father strongly encourages them to promote the development of Y.C.W. groups, in order to provide for the formation of young workers at every level, a formation which will help them to encounter Christ as the primary and superabundant response to all their yearnings. In this way each young person will be able to act as a true militant in the workplace, as a lay person fully committed to the cause of the Gospel.

4. The Holy Father is confident that this International Council, meeting in the year of the Great Jubilee, will be an auspicious occasion for the International Coordinating Committee of Y.C.W. to renew its fundamental commitments and goals. He therefore hopes that all the affiliated movements and their members will put their trust in God so that they may obtain the grace of conversion and thus be open to a newness of life motivated by charity, the wellspring of authentic solidarity. May the Lord be for all Y.C.W. members the *Holy Door* through

which their pilgrim steps will advance in the way of peace. An encounter with Jesus Christ will help them to experience fully the communion of his Church, through the hearing of the Word of life and through the saving work of the Sacraments. Such fidelity and devotion to the Church on the part of the International Coordinating Committee will always prove to be a firm foundation and, at the same time, a constant inspiration to bear witness to young workers everywhere, especially in the many situations which still cry out for this renewal and for the spread of that Y.C.W. experience which the International Coordinating Committee is called to promote.

5. His Holiness prays that the deliberations of this Fifth International Council will help all taking part to labour tirelessly on behalf of young workers, for the good of society as a whole. With this lively hope, he cordially imparts his Apostolic Blessing.

I take this occasion to express to you my own good wishes and esteem in Christ.

Cardinal Angelo Sodano

Secretary of State

[02012-02.01] [Original text: English]

● TRADUZIONE IN LINGUA SPAGNOLA

Señora Presidenta:

1. Me complace transmitir el cordial saludo de Su Santidad Juan Pablo II a todos los "jocistas" reunidos en El Escorial (Madrid), para participar en el V Consejo Internacional de la CIJOC, como representantes de esta organización en los diversos países y continentes.

Vosotros seguís la gran tradición "jocista", que hunde sus raíces en aquella intuición apostólica del P. Joseph Cardijn, el cual se propuso ayudar a los jóvenes trabajadores a ser testigos de la esperanza cristiana en su propio ambiente laboral. En las primeras décadas del siglo XX, este celoso sacerdote belga supo percibir con clarividencia la situación de la juventud trabajadora, sometida no sólo a condiciones muy penosas en las fábricas, sino también expuesta a poderosos influjos que la hacía sentirse alejada de la vida de la Iglesia. Lo movió sobre todo su conciencia misionera por el destino de aquellos jóvenes trabajadores para los cuales fundó la JOC. La difusión de este movimiento especializado de la Acción Católica fue tal que pronto, desde casi sus orígenes franco-belgas, se transformó en una corriente viva que tuvo como protagonistas a jóvenes trabajadores de muy diversos países, forjadora de militantes cristianos en el mundo del trabajo y enriquecedora de la misión de la Iglesia en el ámbito urbano-industrial. En ese camino nunca faltó a la JOC el apoyo y el aliento de la Santa Sede. El P. Joseph Cardijn fue designado experto en el Concilio Vaticano II por el Papa Juan XXIII, recientemente beatificado, y más tarde nombrado Cardenal en 1964 por el Papa Pablo VI.

2. Hoy esta tradición jocista sigue viva, gracias también a la *Coordinación Internacional de la Juventud Obrera Cristiana*. Después de la larga crisis de los años setenta, la CIJOC ha ofrecido a los jóvenes trabajadores de todo el mundo un movimiento fiel a las orientaciones de su fundador y a la Iglesia. A este respecto, el Santo Padre desea manifestar también su reconocimiento a los Asistentes eclesiásticos que prestan su valiosa ayuda para que se realice el objetivo esencial de la CIJOC: que los jóvenes trabajadores sean apóstoles y evangelizadores de los demás jóvenes. Además, se ha de constatar con satisfacción que, desde 1986, fecha en que la Santa Sede reconoció esa Coordinación Internacional, ha aumentado la confianza en la CIJOC, que mediante su labor formativa ayuda a los jóvenes trabajadores a descubrir y desarrollar su responsabilidad de ciudadanos y de cristianos en su ambiente laboral y en la vida eclesial.

3. El desafío que asume actualmente la CIJOC es muy grande. Hay vastos sectores de jóvenes que, en los más diversos ambientes del mundo del trabajo sometido hoy a acelerados y complejos procesos de transformación, necesitan una renovada presencia del anuncio cristiano. Son jóvenes que a menudo tienen escasa formación escolar y profesional, lo que acrecienta las dramáticas situaciones de exclusión y desempleo; o bien que

afrontan trabajos de gran precariedad y que, a veces, se ven incluso sometidos a formas de explotación. Son jóvenes que muchas veces no encuentran acogida y ayuda en las Organizaciones sindicales tradicionales. Jóvenes atrapados en periferias urbanas degradadas, tentados por la violencia y las redes de delincuencia. Jóvenes a menudo víctimas de ambientes muy descristianizados, pero que, no obstante todo ello, buscan un sentido a la vida y abrigan anhelos de verdad y felicidad, de justicia y dignificación de las personas. Por eso necesitan tanto un testimonio cercano y un acompañamiento que sepa proponerles un ideal atrayente y les ayude a afrontar con seriedad su propio deber en la sociedad. Por esto el Papa les alienta encarecidamente a fomentar esa compañía solidaria de "jocistas", para una mayor formación de los jóvenes trabajadores a todos los niveles, que les permita encontrar a Cristo como la primera e inagotable respuesta a todos sus anhelos. De este modo cada joven será capaz de comportarse como un verdadero militante en su lugar de trabajo, como laico llamado a entregar la propia vida por la causa del Evangelio.

4. El Santo Padre confía en que este Consejo Internacional, celebrado en el año del Gran Jubileo, sea una ocasión propicia para renovar, en la CIJOC, los compromisos y orientaciones fundamentales. Así pues, de todos los movimientos afiliados y de sus militantes se espera que pongan su confianza en Dios para obtener la gracia de la conversión y abrirse así a una vida nueva, animada por la caridad, origen de la auténtica solidaridad. Que Cristo sea para cada uno de los "jocistas" la *Puerta Santa*, que guíe serenamente vuestros pasos. El encuentro con Jesucristo ayudará a vivir y participar plenamente en la comunión de su Iglesia, por medio de la Palabra de vida y de la acción salvífica de los Sacramentos. Esa fiel adhesión eclesial de la CIJOC será siempre un fundamento seguro y, a la vez, un impulso constante para dar testimonio de Cristo a los jóvenes trabajadores de todo el mundo. Son tantos los ambientes que necesitan esa renovación y la difusión de la experiencia jocista, que encuentra en la CIJOC su cauce adecuado.

5. En esta circunstancia, el Santo Padre pide al Señor que este V Consejo Internacional ayude a todos sus miembros a trabajar incansablemente en favor de la juventud obrera, lo cual redundará en bien de toda la sociedad. Con esta viva esperanza, imparte con afecto a todos los presentes la Bendición Apostólica.

Aprovecho esta ocasión para manifestarle los sentimientos de mi consideración y estima en Cristo.

Cardenal Angelo Sodano

Secretario de Estado de Su Santidad

[02012-04.01] [Original text: Anglais]

• **TRADUZIONE IN LINGUA FRANCESE**

Madame la Présidente,

1. Je suis heureux de transmettre les salutations cordiales de Sa Sainteté le Pape Jean-Paul II à tous les jocistes qui représentent la CIJOC dans les divers pays et continents et qui sont réunis à l'Escorial (Madrid) à l'occasion du Ve Conseil international de cette organisation.

Vous poursuivez la grande tradition jociste qui plonge ses racines dans l'intuition apostolique du Père Joseph Cardijn, qui se proposait d'aider les jeunes travailleurs à être témoins de l'espérance chrétienne dans leur milieu de travail. Dans les premières décennies du XXe siècle, ce prêtre belge, plein de zèle, sut percevoir avec clairvoyance la situation de la jeunesse travailleuse, qui, dans les usines, était non seulement soumise à des conditions de travail très pénibles, mais aussi exposée à des influences puissantes qui l'entraînaient loin de la vie de l'Église. C'est avant tout un esprit missionnaire qui l'a conduit à fonder la JOC pour défendre l'avenir des jeunes travailleurs. La diffusion de ce mouvement spécialisé d'Action catholique fut telle que, dès les débuts ou presque de ses origines franco-belges, il se transforma en un courant puissant, animé par les jeunes travailleurs eux-mêmes en de très nombreux pays, capable de former des militants chrétiens dans le monde du travail et d'enrichir la mission de l'Église dans le milieu industriel urbain. Le Saint-Siège n'a jamais manqué, tout au long de ce parcours, d'apporter à la JOC son appui et ses encouragements. Le Pape Jean XXIII, récemment béatifié,

nomma le Père Joseph Cardijn expert au Concile Vatican II et, peu après, en 1964, le Pape Paul VI le fit Cardinal.

2. De nos jours, cette tradition jociste reste bien vivante grâce aussi à la *Coordination Internationale des Jeunes Ouvrière Chrétienne*. Après la crise profonde des années soixante-dix, la CIJOC a offert aux jeunes travailleurs du monde entier un mouvement qui reste fidèle aux orientations de son fondateur et de l'Église. À cet égard, le Saint-Père désire aussi manifester sa gratitude aux Aumôniers qui apportent une remarquable contribution à la réalisation de l'objectif essentiel de la CIJOC: que les jeunes travailleurs soient les apôtres et les évangélistes des autres jeunes. On constate d'ailleurs avec satisfaction que, depuis la date de la reconnaissance de la Coordination Internationale par le Saint-Siège, en 1986, la confiance dans la CIJOC s'est accrue car, par son travail de formation, elle aide les jeunes travailleurs à découvrir et à développer leurs responsabilités de citoyens et de chrétiens dans leurs milieux de travail et dans la vie ecclésiale.

3. La CIJOC est appelée actuellement à répondre à un grand défi. De vastes secteurs de la jeunesse, dans les milieux les plus divers du monde du travail qui sont soumis, de nos jours, à des processus de plus en plus rapides et complexes de transformation, ont besoin d'une présence renouvelée de l'annonce chrétienne. Il s'agit de jeunes qui, souvent, ont une formation scolaire et professionnelle très réduite, ce qui ne manque pas d'accroître les situations dramatiques d'exclusion et de chômage; ou encore de jeunes qui ont des emplois précaires et qui, parfois, se voient même soumis à des formes d'exploitation. Ce sont des jeunes qui, en bien des cas, ne trouvent pas d'accueil auprès des organisations syndicales traditionnelles; des jeunes enfermés dans des banlieues dégradées, qui sont tentés par la violence et la délinquance; des jeunes souvent victimes de milieux très déchristianisés, et qui, malgré tout, cherchent un sens à leur vie et portent en eux des désirs de vérité et de bonheur. C'est pourquoi il est si important qu'ils puissent trouver auprès d'eux des témoins qui soient capables de les accompagner, de leur proposer un idéal attirant et de les aider à affronter avec sérieux leurs devoirs au sein de la société. Aussi le Pape encourage-t-il très chaleureusement les jocistes à susciter cette compagnie solidaire, qui soit à même d'assurer une meilleure formation des jeunes travailleurs, à tous les niveaux, afin qu'ils puissent rencontrer le Christ et découvrir en Lui la réponse fondamentale et inépuisable à toutes leurs attentes. Ainsi chaque jeune sera capable de se comporter comme un vrai militant sur son lieu de travail, comme tout laïc appelé à donner sa vie pour la cause de l'Évangile.

4. Le Saint-Père souhaite que la tenue du Conseil international, en cette année du grand Jubilé, soit une occasion propice pour la CIJOC de renouveler ses engagements essentiels et ses orientations fondamentales. Que les mouvements affiliés et leurs militants mettent toute leur confiance en Dieu afin d'obtenir la grâce de la conversion et de s'ouvrir ainsi à une vie nouvelle, animée par la charité d'où jaillit la vraie solidarité! Puisse le Christ être pour chacun des jocistes la *Porte Sainte* qui les conduit sur des sentiers de paix! La rencontre avec Jésus Christ, par sa Parole de Vie et l'action salvifique des Sacrements, les aidera à participer pleinement à la vie de son Église, dans la communion. Ce fidèle attachement de la CIJOC à l'Église sera toujours un fondement sûr et en même temps un appel constant à témoigner du Christ auprès des jeunes travailleurs du monde entier. Ils sont si nombreux, les milieux qui ont besoin d'un tel renouvellement et de la diffusion de l'expérience jociste, qui trouve dans la CIJOC une réponse adaptée.

5. En cette circonstance, le Saint-Père demande au Seigneur que le Cinquième Conseil international aide tous ses membres à travailler sans relâche en faveur de la jeunesse ouvrière, pour le bien de toute la société. Dans cette vivante espérance, il accorde à tous les participants son affectueuse Bénédiction apostolique.

Heureux de vous transmettre ce message, je vous prie de croire, Madame la Présidente, à mon religieux dévouement.

Cardinal Angelo Sodano

Secrétaire d'État de Sa Sainteté

INTERVENTO DEL DELEGATO DELLA SANTA SEDE ALLA 23MA SESSIONE SPECIALE DELL'ASSEMBLEA GENERALE DELL'ORGANIZZAZIONE DELLE NAZIONI UNITE

Pubblichiamo di seguito l'intervento che il Membro della Delegazione della Santa Sede presso l'Organizzazione delle Nazioni Unite, Signora Lisa D'Urso, ha pronunciato ieri nel corso della 23ma Sessione Speciale dell'Assemblea Generale dal tema: "*Women 2000: Gender Equality, Development and Peace for the Twenty-first Century*":

Madame Chairperson:

The Twenty-third Special Session of the General Assembly was a momentous occasion for women around the world. Only five years after the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the community of nations joined together to reaffirm the dignity and human rights of women, to raise issues of critical importance to the lives of women, and to take steps to confront these challenges.

Despite efforts to implement the Beijing Platform for Action, the scourges of poverty, of illiteracy, of social, political and economic inequalities and of injustice, violence and discrimination still exist. At the same time, the Special Session affirmed that the growing and unsustainable debt burden faced by developing countries, the increasing numbers of women who find themselves driven from their homes and families by war, the multidimensional impact of globalization, the rapid spread of HIV/AIDS and the decreasing levels of funding available through international cooperation continue to stifle efforts toward sustainable development, equality and peace.

Overall, the Holy See was pleased with the outcome document adopted by the Special Session. The document mentions the importance of a holistic view of the health needs of women such as the dangers of and treatment for malnutrition, tropical and cardio-vascular diseases, cancer and HIV/AIDS. Further, the need for education for all as a continued basis for development was reflected in the final text. Important provisions addressing violence against women and trafficking of women and girls and measures for combating poverty were expanded.

The Holy See was particularly pleased to see a clear acknowledgment of the need for all women to have access to basic social services, including education, clean water, adequate nutrition and safe sanitation.

Also incorporated into the outcome document was the need to promote the critical role of women in the family, the basic unit of society. There were acknowledgments of women's social and economic contributions to the family, of the social significance of maternity and motherhood, as well as the need for programmes to support families in conflict situations, for programmes which enable women and men to reconcile their work and family responsibilities and to share household and childcare responsibilities. At the same time, it was very disconcerting to observe the determined efforts of some countries to remove each of these references. Throughout the world and in all circumstances, the family plays a critical role, whether as a stabilizing factor in conflict situations, as an educator, or in the delivery of social services. All women, no matter the diversity of their situation, are members of families and their role in the family must not be ignored. These attacks on the family will only take the community of nations further from the very goals that the Platform for Action seeks to accomplish.

The Special Session demonstrated that a growing number of countries are firmly committed to addressing the root factors of trafficking in women and girls for prostitution and other forms of commercialized sex, forced marriages and forced labor. It was very unfortunate, therefore, that a few countries attempted, albeit unsuccessfully, to limit references to prostitution and to diminish the Beijing language in order to suit their own national situation.

However, Madame Chairperson, the Holy See was disappointed that consensus could not be reached on a few important issues and that, because of time restraints, they could not be included in the document. These included expanded measures for debt relief, restrictions on the trading in small arms, including landmines, and the protection of the right of any health professional or health facility who refuses to perform, cooperate with, refer or arrange for services to which they have objections on the basis of religious belief, or moral or ethical conviction. In regard to the last point, the Holy See affirms that the right of conscience of health-service providers is assured by, inter alia, Article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as well as the constitutional and legislative guarantees of several countries.

Madame Chairperson, although the Special Session marked the end of the five-year review process, the work of the United Nations is far from finished. For its part, the Holy See, through its worldwide network of schools and educational agencies, will continue to offer educational opportunities, and through its hospitals, clinics and health care facilities will provide for the holistic health needs for women, young and old. The Holy See will advocate the broadening of the debt relief initiative and will continue to work toward the eradication of poverty, stressing the need for women living in poverty to participate fully and productively in the economy and society.

At the same time, there is no individual or nation that is in a position to meet alone the extensive challenges that women face in reaching the goals of gender equality, development and peace. Facing these challenges and reaching these goals are the responsibility of the entire human community, and this implies common efforts in solidarity. The community of nations can support and foster these efforts by creating a solid international awareness of the dignity of the human person and an awareness that is deeply rooted in the hearts of each individual, society and nation. This will translate into an environment in which the human rights of women are protected and promoted, the diverse contributions of women are given proper value, and our goals of gender equality, development and peace are attained.

[02013-02.01] [Original text: English]

AVVISO DI CONFERENZA STAMPA

Si avvisano i giornalisti accreditati che **venerdì 13 ottobre 2000**, alle **ore 11.30**, nell'*Aula Giovanni Paolo II* della Sala Stampa della Santa Sede, si terrà la **Conferenza Stampa di presentazione del "Giubileo Missionario"**.

Interverranno:

Em.mo Card. Jozef Tomko, Prefetto della Congregazione per l'Evangelizzazione dei Popoli;

Mons. Ambrogio Spreafico, Rettore della Pontificia Università Urbaniana;

Mons. Bernard Prince, Segretario Generale della Pontificia Opera per la Propagazione della Fede.

I tre relatori presenteranno i seguenti avvenimenti giubilari in occasione della Giornata Missionaria Mondiale 2000:

- 1) Messa della Giornata Missionaria Mondiale, presieduta da Giovanni Paolo II, Piazza San Pietro, domenica 22 ottobre 2000 alle ore 10;
- 2) Congresso Missionario Mondiale 2000, che si terrà dal 18 al 21 ottobre 2000 al Centro Mariapoli di Castel Gandolfo, sul tema "Gesù, Sorgente di Vita per tutti";

3) Congresso Missiologico Internazionale, che si terrà dal 17 al 20 ottobre 2000 presso l'Aula Magna dell'Università Urbaniana (Roma) sul tema "Chi dite che io sia? (*Mt 16,15*) - Risposte missiologiche e missionarie nel contesto delle religioni e delle culture".

[02011-01.03]
