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LE UDIENZE

Al termine dell'Udienza Generale di oggi, il Santo Padre ha ricevuto:

Em.mo Card. Jozef Tomko, Presidente del Pontificio Comitato per i Congressi Eucaristici Internazionali, Inviato Speciale al 1° Congresso Eucaristico Internazionale Universitario;

S.E. Mons. Eliseo Antonio Ariotti, Arcivescovo tit. di Vibiana, Nunzio Apostolico in Camerun e in Guinea Equatoriale. S.E. Mons. Eliseo Antonio Ariotti, Arcivescovo tit. di Vibiana, Nunzio Apostolico in Camerun e in Guinea Equatoriale.

[01380-01.01]

MOMENTO DI PREGHIERA NELLE GROTTI VATICANE

Alle 18 di oggi, *Commemorazione di tutti i fedeli defunti*, il Santo Padre Benedetto XVI si reca nelle Grotte Vaticane per un momento di preghiera in privato, in suffragio dei Sommi Pontefici ivi sepolti e di tutti i defunti.

[01381-01.01]

INTERVENTO DELLA SANTA SEDE ALLA 60a SESSIONE DELL'ASSEMBLEA GENERALE DELL'O.N.U. SUL PUNTO 72: "HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE: DRAFT RESOLUTION (A/60/L.12)"

Pubblichiamo di seguito l'intervento che l'Osservatore Permanente della Santa Sede presso l'Organizzazione delle Nazioni Unite, l'Arcivescovo S.E. Mons. Celestino Migliore, ha pronunciato nella mattinata di ieri, 1° novembre, a New York nel corso della 60a Sessione dell'Assemblea Generale dell'O.N.U. sul punto 72: "*Holocaust remembrance: draft resolution (A/60/L.12)*":

● INTERVENTO DI S.E. MONS. CELESTINO MIGLIORE

Mr President,

Remembering is a duty and a common responsibility. This is especially true in the case of the Holocaust and so my Delegation is pleased to salute the resolution on Holocaust remembrance and to congratulate all those who sponsored it.

The responsibility of all nations to remember gains new strength as we celebrate the 60th anniversary of the liberation of the extermination camps and the establishment of the United Nations.

For 60 years we have had the horror of this kind of crime before us, in spite of which history has still repeated itself. An International Convention on the subject has not prevented the kind of thinking that leads to genocide, the violence that perpetrates genocide, the injustices that make it possible, or the interests that allow a genocide to be sustained over time. The 20th century witnessed genocides, atrocities, mass killings and ethnic cleansings which deplorably were not confined to just one continent. As we stand before the Holocaust, it is only right that we remember and pledge the best of our collective efforts to make sure that, having named this crime, the world's nations will recognize it for what it is and prevent it in the future.

May the Holocaust serve as a warning to prevent us from yielding to ideologies which justify contempt for human dignity on the basis of race, colour, language or religion.

In this context, it would be well also to recall and renew our support for Security Council Resolution 1624 which both condemned "in the strongest terms the incitement of terrorist acts" and repudiated "attempts at the justification or glorification (*apologie*) of terrorist acts that may incite further terrorist acts". It further emphasized the "continuing international efforts to enhance dialogue and broaden understanding among civilizations, in an effort to prevent the indiscriminate targeting of different religions and cultures, and addressing unresolved regional conflicts and the full range of global issues".

After the Shoah, the first step towards prevention was the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Many more

steps forward are needed. In every country the memory of the Holocaust must be preserved as a commitment to spare future generations such horror.

During his visit to the Holy Land, the late Pope John Paul II made a point of going to Yad Vashem, the memorial to the Shoah. At the foot of the Temple's Western Wall he prayed for forgiveness and for the conversion of hearts and minds.

Asking pardon purifies the memory, and remembering the Holocaust gives us an occasion for this purification of memory to occur, to detect early symptoms of genocide and to reject them, and to take timely and firm measures to overcome social and international injustices of all kinds.

The programme of outreach, as well as other measures, may well prove useful in this regard, in order to show that, with political will, more can be done, more can be achieved.

The Holy See is ready to continue working in this sense.

Thank you, Mr President.

[01382-02.01] [Original text: English]

INTERVENTO DELLA SANTA SEDE ALLA QUARTA COMMISSIONE DELLA 60a SESSIONE DELL'ASSEMBLEA GENERALE DELL'O.N.U. SUL PUNTO 30: "UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST"

Pubblichiamo di seguito l'intervento che l'Osservatore Permanente della Santa Sede presso l'Organizzazione delle Nazioni Unite, il Nunzio Apostolico Mons. Celestino Migliore, ha pronunciato ieri pomeriggio a New York nel corso della Quarta Commissione [*Special Political and Decolonization*] della 60a Sessione dell'Assemblea Generale dell'O.N.U. sul punto 30: "*United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East*":

• INTERVENTO DI S.E. MONS. CELESTINO MIGLIORE

Mr Chairman,

My delegation, having carefully reviewed the Report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), expresses once again its appreciation for the work of the Agency during this time of significant challenges.

The Holy See willingly acknowledges the help that UNRWA offers all Palestinian refugees, without discrimination or reference to their religion, as is only just. Nevertheless, we are obliged this year to draw attention to the growing difficulties faced by Palestinian Christians who, although they belong to a faith born in that very land, are sometimes viewed with suspicion by their neighbours. Doubly discriminated against, it is hardly surprising to learn that this tiny group – less than 2% of the local Palestinian population – is particularly marginalised.

All Palestinians have the right to fair and fair-minded treatment from their peers and from the recognised authorities alike. Religious extremism of any kind, implicated in attacks, abuse and harassment of Christians in the area around Bethlehem recently, is not to be tolerated. No matter who is targeted by violence and bigotry, such acts are a stain on the conscience of peoples. It is thus the hope of my delegation that solutions will be found by local leaderships which will address the needs of all the members of local communities who suffer from violence.

Moreover, of ongoing concern is the security wall which cuts access to some Palestinians' lands and water sources, as well as to employment, commerce, education, medical care and freedom of worship. My delegation freely acknowledges the right of all peoples to live in peace and security; on the other hand, we believe that the Holy Land is in greater need of bridges than of walls.

In the hope that the many problems of the region will be resolved by negotiation and dialogue, my delegation underlines that a lasting solution will include the question of the Holy City of Jerusalem. In light of the numerous incidents of violence and the challenge to free movement posed by the security wall, the Holy See renews its support for "...internationally guaranteed provisions to ensure the freedom of religion and of conscience of its inhabitants, as well as permanent, free and unhindered access to the Holy Places by the faithful of all religions and nationalities" (A/RES/ES-10/2).

Jerusalem is the acknowledged home of the three Abrahamic faiths, and whoever has custody of the Holy City has a particular responsibility for it before the international community. Borrowing the recent words of Pope Benedict XVI, we hope that Jerusalem will one day be "a home of harmony and peace" for all believers.

The time is long overdue for fraternal, open dialogue in order to bring about the birth of two states, side by side, mutually respecting each other's right to exist and prosper. There have already been far too many innocent victims, be they Israeli or Palestinian, Jews, Christians and Moslems alike. Only with a just and lasting peace – not imposed, but secured through negotiation – will the legitimate aspirations of all the peoples of the Holy Land be fulfilled.

Thank you, Mr Chairman.

[01383-02.01] [Original text: English]

AVVISO DI CONFERENZA STAMPA

Si informano i giornalisti accreditati che **domani, giovedì 3 novembre 2005, alle ore 11.30, nell'Aula Giovanni Paolo II** della Sala Stampa della Santa Sede, avrà luogo la Conferenza Stampa di **presentazione del primo Congresso Internazionale del Progetto STOQ (Science Theology and the Ontological Quest) sul tema: "L'Infinito nella scienza, nella filosofia e nella teologia" (9-11 novembre 2005, Pontificia Università Lateranense).**

Interverranno:

Em.mo Card. Paul Poupard, Presidente del Pontificio Consiglio della Cultura;

Mons. Gianfranco Basti, Direttore del Progetto Stoq;

Prof. Rodolfo Guzzi, dell'Agenzia Spaziale Italiana;

Prof. Vincenzo Cappelletti, Ordinario di Storia della Scienza all'Università "Roma Tre".

[01353-01.03]

[B0559-XX.03]

