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LE UDIENZE

Il Santo Padre ha ricevuto ieri sera in Udienza:

Em.mo Card. Joachim Meisner, Arcivescovo di Köln (Germania).

[01406-01.01]

RINUNCE E NOMINE

- NOMINA DEL NUNZIO APOSTOLICO IN IRAN

Il Santo Padre ha nominato Nunzio Apostolico in Iran S.E. Mons. Jean-Paul Gobel, Arcivescovo titolare di Galazia in Campania, finora Nunzio Apostolico in Nicaragua.

[01407-01.01]

INTERVENTO DELLA SANTA SEDE ALLA TERZA COMMISSIONE DELLA 62a SESSIONE DELL'ASSEMBLEA GENERALE DELL'O.N.U.

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 ieri a New York davanti alla Terza Commissione della 62a Sessione dell'Assemblea Generale dell'O.N.U. su *Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly*.

• INTERVENTO DI S.E. MONS. CELESTINO MIGLIORE

Mr. Chairman,

At the 1995 Copenhagen World Summit for Social Development, the Member States of the United Nations affirmed the need to address the problem of poverty by attacking its structural roots. They decided to incorporate into their national policies, as an essential element, a sharp reduction of inequality and of the various forms of marginalization and to achieve full social integration.

The international debate following the Copenhagen Summit shifted its focus to the global fight to eradicate extreme poverty centred on achieving the MDGs. It also stressed the conditions required for equity in bilateral and multilateral financial and trade relationships and made special reference to the WTO Doha Round. The debate touched on the problems of external debt, the governance of world finance and the emergencies that generate or aggravate poverty, such as wars, corruption, the trafficking of drugs and human beings.

While this discussion is of utmost importance, it is equally important to reiterate that economic policies cannot be separated from social policies; otherwise, neither one nor the other will reach its respective goal. Indeed, during the last twelve years there has been a clear tendency towards increasing inequality between rich and poor, between developed and developing or underdeveloped countries and within individual nations. Evidently, the greater benefits of global economic growth have not reached, generally speaking, the poorer segments of society.

So far, only a few States have achieved a right balance between success in a global market-driven economy and the preservation, even a fine tuning, of social protection, thus ensuring a person-centred development. Instead, in many cases new forms of poverty in both rich and poor countries have appeared side by side with the more traditional ones mainly characterised by wide income differences. The dearth of means among the weaker sectors of society has led to the loss of social relationships and networks needed to maintain personal integrity and dignity. Such is the case of the elderly left on their own, of the uninsured sick people, of the unemployed and the unskilled, of migrants unable to find work, of women and children suffering from family breakdown, of all those in precarious situations.

The Copenhagen Summit already foresaw the problems that the rapidly globalising economy would provoke if not accompanied by a renewed attention to the social dimension of economic development. Today the world suffers from the unhinging, in greater or lesser degree, of social development from economic progress. Hence the Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action continue to be relevant. They indicate the necessary means to overcome marginalisation and to create the conditions for all to benefit from economic development.

While the responsibility for social equity lies primarily with individual Governments, the international community

has the duty to cooperate actively in its implementation, both by creating trade and financial conditions favourable to the growth of all national economies and by rejecting conditionalities that would restrict States from adopting policies aimed at helping the less favoured sectors of society, such as the disabled and the elderly. The international community is called to assist States develop such policies, promote a new culture of solidarity and empower the poor to be protagonists of their own development.

Mr. Chairman,

Education is at the basis of all social policies. The value of education goes beyond economic development and the satisfaction of one's basic needs. Education enables individuals and peoples to establish with others relationships founded on mutual respect and friendship and not on coercion. An educated society facilitates the fight against corruption which erodes the possibility of economic growth of the poorest. It also helps create a legal framework which leaves ample space to the rights of property and free enterprise, while safeguarding at the same time the full enjoyment of the social and economic rights of all without exception.

The eradication of poverty and the full enjoyment of the basic social rights by all individuals and of their families is fundamentally a moral commitment. Indeed, the indications and suggestions contained in the Copenhagen Declaration are no more than a translation into the language of international relations of those ethical values that exist in the heart of every man and woman and are enunciated in moral and religious precepts. The eradication of poverty and the full enjoyment of the basic social rights by all must therefore be goals enshrined in all economic and development policies, and be measures of their success or failure.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

[01408-02.02] [Original text: English]

INTERVENTO DELLA SANTA SEDE ALLA 62MA SESSIONE DELL'ASSEMBLEA GENERALE DELLE NAZIONI UNITE SUL LAVORO DELL'ORGANIZZAZIONE

Pubblichiamo di seguito l'intervento che l'Osservatore Permanente della Santa Sede presso l'O.N.U., l'Arcivescovo S.E. Mons. Celestino Migliore, ha pronunciato ieri a New York, davanti alla 62ma Sessione dell'Assemblea Generale dell'O.N.U., sul lavoro dell'Organizzazione:

● INTERVENTO DI S.E. MONS. CELESTINO MIGLIORE

Mr. President,

At the outset, my delegation thanks the Secretary-General for his first comprehensive report. We look forward to working with him and the membership, with a view to making the United Nations ever more responsive to the needs of all people.

As we reach the halfway point in the process of achieving the MDGs, the time is ripe to take stock of our successes and failures.

Still today almost 10 million children below five years old die each year mostly from preventable causes, too many mothers die in childbirth from preventable and treatable complications, last year 2.9 million people died of HIV/AIDS-related causes and half of the developing world lacks even basic sanitation.

The global community seems to have been losing focus on the need to ensure the right to basic health care for all. Although studies show that simple medical prevention is often one of the most cost effective and successful

ways of improving the health and stability of society, primary care is often neglected or replaced by more selective and even culturally divisive methods of health care. Focusing on the whole range of basic health care will surely make a substantial contribution towards the achievement of the MDGs and a saner health policy.

Such a sad landscape is made bleaker by the fact that as children die and generations lack even the basic necessities of life, we have continued to drift towards mutual and global destruction. The annual military expenditures of well over one trillion dollars, the talent and resources devoted to types of technology which destroy lives and our planet, the persistence of the misplaced trust in the law of force rather than in the force of law, are just some examples of action which are counterintuitive to goodness and human reason.

To prevent this situation from worsening, the United Nations, with the cooperation of all Member States, must renew its commitment to the preservation of life at every level and in every corner of the world.

It is nevertheless encouraging to note recent findings indicating some real progress in achieving the MDGs. It is only right to recognize the efforts of those countries that have contributed to the gains made. Now, greater attention must be paid to those States that still trail the rest of the developing world. In order to encourage both public and private investment and to create a favourable economic and social climate, peace and security and the rule of law should underpin reform efforts.

The United Nations is increasingly being solicited to respond to multifarious challenges around the world. To meet this ever growing need for humanitarian assistance, the United Nations should continue to work to promote partnerships with civil society that create a predictable and reactive humanitarian response. Member States play an important role in addressing humanitarian crises. By giving safe and unhindered access to humanitarian workers, they not only fulfill their responsibility to protect, but also help ensure that those who suffer from a humanitarian tragedy are not re-victimized.

During the last few years, this Organization has dealt with issues related to culture and religion in an increasing number of resolutions, meetings and side events. This aspect is unfortunately omitted in this report. Most often, it is only when tensions and conflict emerge that governments and international organizations call on religious and cultural forces to help establish dialogue between parties. Cooperating in programmes against incitement to hatred, witnessing for peace and against violence and peacemaking through religion-sponsored agencies are among the many things religious communities and their leaders can do to end conflict and build conditions for peace.

Mr. President,

My delegation commends the UN's commitment to addressing the many challenges facing development, peace and security and human rights. In so doing the Organization must maintain its transparency and accountability to the decisions of the Member States. To this end, modifications to the Millennium Development Goals, including the creation of new targets, as referenced in Annex II, need to be undertaken in an open manner, rather than as a result of executive or administrative decisions.

Finally, it is our earnest desire that this sixty-second session of the General Assembly be strongly marked by a renewed sense of commitment and action towards not only achieving the Millennium Goals, but also completely fulfilling the vision of hope of this institution.

Thank you, Mr. President.

[01409-02.01] [Original text: English]

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