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TELEGRAMMA DEL SEGRETARIO DI STATO CARD. ANGELO SODANO AL CARD. WILLIAM H. KEELER IN OCCASIONE DELLA CONFERENZA INTERRELIGIOSA A WASHINGTON (U.S.A.) (11-14 NOVEMBRE 2000)

TELEGRAMMA DEL SEGRETARIO DI STATO CARD. ANGELO SODANO AL CARD. WILLIAM H. KEELER IN OCCASIONE DELLA CONFERENZA INTERRELIGIOSA A WASHINGTON (U.S.A.) (11-14 NOVEMBRE 2000)

Pubblichiamo di seguito il telegramma inviato dal Card. Angelo Sodano, Segretario di Stato, al Card. William H. Keeler in occasione della Conferenza Interreligiosa in corso di svolgimento al Washington Convention Center:

CARDINAL WILLIAM H. KEELER

ARCHBISHOP OF BALTIMORE

THE HOLY FATHER WAS PLEASED TO LEARN THAT YOU WILL TAKE PART IN THE INTERRELIGIOUS CONFERENCE BEING HELD IN WASHINGTON D.C. ON NOVEMBER 11-14, 2000 AND HE ASKS YOU KINDLY TO CONVEY HIS WARM GREETINGS TO THE PARTICIPANTS. IN A SPECIAL WAY HE GREETES CHIARA LUBICH AND IMAM W.D. MOHAMMED WHO HAVE INSPIRED THE EFFORTS THAT HAVE LED TO THIS MEETING IN MUTUAL RESPECT AND FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN CHRISTIANS AND MUSLIMS. AT A TIME OF TENSION IN THE WORLD, HIS HOLINESS HAS INSISTED THAT THE GREAT RELIGIOUS TRADITIONS OF THE WORLD HAVE A VITAL CONTRIBUTION TO MAKE TO THE SEARCH FOR PEACE, ON THE BASIS OF THE TRANSCENDENT VALUES FOUND IN THEM. ONLY TRUE DIALOGUE CAN OPEN THE WAY TO A FUTURE WORTHY OF THE HUMAN FAMILY AND ONLY A FALSIFICATION OF RELIGION CAN COLLUDE WITH VIOLENCE. DIALOGUE PRESUMES A DESIRE FOR HARMONY, AN ACCEPTANCE OF DIFFERENCE, A RECOGNITION OF COMMON HUMANITY, A WILLINGNESS TO TRUST AND A PREPAREDNESS TO LISTEN. IN HIS MESSAGE FOR THE WORLD DAY OF PEACE IN 1986, HIS HOLINESS NOTED THAT "DIALOGUE IS A MEANS BY WHICH PEOPLE DISCOVER ONE ANOTHER AND DISCOVER THE GOOD HOPES AND PEACEFUL ASPIRATIONS THAT TOO OFTEN LIE HIDDEN IN THEIR HEARTS. DIALOGUE BREAKS DOWN PRECONCEIVED NOTIONS AND ARTIFICIAL BARRIERS. DIALOGUE BRINGS HUMAN BEINGS INTO CONTACT WITH ONE ANOTHER AS MEMBERS OF ONE HUMAN FAMILY, WITH ALL THE RICHNESS OF THEIR VARIOUS CULTURES AND HISTORIES." PRAYING FERVENTLY THAT THE CONFERENCE WILL FOSTER THIS SPIRIT OF DIALOGUE IN NEW AND CREATIVE WAYS, HIS

HOLINESS INVOKES UPON THE PARTICIPANTS THE UNITY AND PEACE WHICH ARE PRECIOUS GIFTS OF ALMIGHTY GOD. WITH MY OWN BEST WISHES FOR THE SUCCESS OF THE MEETING.

CARDINAL ANGELO SODANO

SECRETARY OF STATE

[02296-02.01] [Original text: English]
