



SALA STAMPA DELLA SANTA SEDE **BOLLETTINO**

HOLY SEE PRESS OFFICE BUREAU DE PRESSE DU SAINT-SIÈGE PRESSEAMT DES HEILIGEN STUHL
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◆ **Le Udienze**

Il Santo Padre Francesco ha ricevuto questa mattina in Udienza:

- Ecc.mi Presuli della Conferenza Episcopale del Ghana, in Visita "ad Limina Apostolorum":

S.E. Mons. Gabriel Charles Palmer-Buckle, Arcivescovo di Accra;

S.E. Mons. Francis Anani Kofi Lodonu, Vescovo di Ho;

S.E. Mons. Gabriel Akwasi Ababio Mante, Vescovo di Jasikan;

S.E. Mons. Anthony Kwami Adanuty, Vescovo di Keta-Akatsi;

S.E. Mons. Joseph Kwaku Afrifah-Agyekum, Vescovo di Koforidua;

S.E. Mons. Matthias Kobena Nketsiah, Arcivescovo di Cape Coast;

S.E. Mons. John Bonaventure Kwofie, Vescovo di Sekondi-Takoradi;

S.E. Mons. Joseph Francis Kweku Essien, Vescovo di Wiawso;

S.E. Mons. Gabriel Justice Yaw Anokye, Arcivescovo di Kumasi, Amministratore Apostolico di Obuasi,

con gli Arcivescovi emeriti:

S.E. Mons. Peter Kwasi Sarpong,

S.E. Mons. Thomas Kwaku Mensah;

S.E. Mons. Peter Kwaku Atuahene, Vescovo di Goaso;

S.E. Mons. Joseph Osei-Bonsu, Vescovo di Konongo-Mampong;

S.E. Mons. Matthew Kwasi Gyamfi, Vescovo di Sunyani;

S.E. Mons. Dominic Yeboah Nyarko, Vescovo di Techiman;

S.E. Mons. Philip Naameh, Arcivescovo di Tamale;

S.E. Mons. Peter Paul Angkyier, Vescovo di Damongo;

S.E. Mons. Alfred Agyenta, Vescovo di Navrongo-Bolgatanga;

S.E. Mons. Paul Bemile, Vescovo di Wa;

S.E. Mons. Vincent Sowah Boi-nai, S.V.D., Vescovo di Yendi;

S.E. Mons. Gabriel Edoe Kumordji, S.V.D., Vescovo tit. di Ita, Vicario Apostolico di Donkorkrom.

Nel pomeriggio di ieri, lunedì 22 settembre, il Papa ha ricevuto in Udienza:

- l'Em.mo Card. George Pell, Prefetto della Segreteria per l'Economia;

- l'Em.mo Card. Antonio Cañizares Llovera, Arcivescovo di Valencia (Spagna).

[01475-01.01]

◆ Rinunce e nomine

Nomina di nuovi Membri e conferme nella Commissione Teologica Internazionale

Il Santo Padre ha nominato nuovi Membri della Commissione Teologica Internazionale ed ha rinnovato il mandato di altri del passato quinquennio.

Detta Commissione per il quinquennio 2014-2019 risulta composta dai seguenti Membri:

- P. **Serge-Thomas BONINO**, O.P., Segretario Generale, Francia.
- Rev.do **Terwase Henry AKAABIAM**, Nigeria;
- Suor **Prudence ALLEN**, R.S.M., Stati Uniti d'America;
- Suor **Alenka ARKO**, della Comunità Loyola, Federazione Russa - Slovenia;
- Mons. **Antonio Luiz CATELAN FERREIRA**, Brasile;
- Mons. **Piero CODA**, Italia;
- Rev.do **Lajos DOLHAI**, Ungheria;
- P. **Peter DUBOVSKÝ**, S.I., Slovacchia;
- Rev.do **Mario Angel FLORES RAMOS**, Messico;
- Rev.do **Carlos María GALLI**, Argentina;
- Rev.do **Krzysztof GÓŹDŹ**, Polonia;
- Rev.do **Gaby Alfred HACHEM**, Libano;
- P. **Thomas KOLLAMPARAMPIL**, C.M.I., India;
- Rev.do **Koffi Messan Laurent KPOGO**, Togo;
- Rev.do **Oswaldo MARTÍNEZ MENDOZA**, Colombia;
- Prof.ssa **Moiria Mary McQUEEN**, Canada - Gran Bretagna;
- Rev.do **Karl-Heinz MENKE**, Germania;
- Rev.do **John Junyang PARK**, Corea;
- P. **Bernard POTTIER**, S.I., Belgio;
- Rev.do **Javier PRADES LÓPEZ**, Spagna;
- Prof.ssa **Tracey ROWLAND**, Australia;
- Prof. **Héctor Gustavo SÁNCHEZ ROJAS**, S.C.V., Perú;
- Prof.ssa **Marianne SCHLOSSER**, Austria - Germania;
- Rev.do **Nicholaus SEGEJA M'HELA**, Tanzania;
- Rev.do **Pierangelo SEQUERI**, Italia;

- Rev.do **Željko TANJIĆ**, Croazia;
- P. Gerard Francisco P. **TIMONER III**, O.P., Filippine;
- P. **Gabino URIBARRI BILBAO**, S.I., Spagna;
- Rev.do **Philippe VALLIN**, Francia;
- P. **Thomas G. WEINANDY**, O.F.M.Cap., Stati Uniti d'America.

[01476-01.01]

◆ Comunicato della Commissione Teologica Internazionale

Testo in lingua italiana

Traduzione in lingua inglese

Traduzione in lingua spagnola

Testo in lingua italiana

1. La conclusione dell'ottavo quinquennio (2009-2014)

Quest'anno si conclude l'ottavo quinquennio della Commissione Teologica Internazionale, iniziato con la nomina pontificia dei suoi Membri il 19 giugno 2009.

Come è noto, la Commissione Teologica Internazionale, istituita dal Servo di Dio Paolo VI l'11 aprile 1969, è chiamata ad aiutare la Santa Sede, ed in particolare la Congregazione per la Dottrina della Fede, nell'esame delle questioni dottrinali di maggior importanza ed attualità. La Commissione è composta da teologi di diverse scuole e nazioni, eminenti per scienza e fedeltà al Magistero della Chiesa. I Membri – di numero non superiore a trenta – sono nominati dal Santo Padre "ad quinquennium" su proposta del Cardinale Prefetto della Congregazione per la Dottrina della Fede e dopo una consultazione delle Conferenze Episcopali. Nell'arco della sua storia la Commissione ha pubblicato, con l'approvazione del suo Presidente, 27 documenti.

Ai Membri del quinquennio che sta per concludersi va espressa una particolare gratitudine da parte della Santa Sede per il competente e zelante servizio teologico. Nell'attuale quinquennio sono stati pubblicati tre documenti: *Teologia oggi. Prospettive, principi e criteri* (approvato nel 2011 e pubblicato nel 2012), *Dio Trinità, unità degli uomini. Il monoteismo cristiano contro la violenza* (approvato nel 2013 e pubblicato nel 2014) e il più recente *Sensus fidei nella vita della Chiesa* (documento approvato e pubblicato nel corrente anno 2014). In realtà, l'impegno della Commissione è stato più ampio, avendo offerto preziosi contributi anche su altri temi dati ad uso della Congregazione per la Dottrina della Fede, che è il primo impegno della Commissione (cfr *Statuti*, n. 11).

2. La nomina dei Membri per il nono quinquennio (2014-2019)

Il 26 luglio 2014, con la nomina da parte del Santo Padre Francesco di trenta nuovi Membri, la Commissione ha iniziato il suo nuovo quinquennio. Esso proseguirà fino all'anno 2019, che sarà anche un tempo giubilare per la Commissione, che l'11 aprile 2019 conterà 50 anni della sua esistenza.

Come di consueto, in vista della suddetta nomina, nell'arco di un anno è stata svolta un'ampia consultazione delle Conferenze Episcopali in tutto il mondo, nonché dei Sinodi degli Eparchi orientali. Sulla base delle risposte pervenute, il Cardinale Gerhard L. Müller, Prefetto della Congregazione per la Dottrina della Fede, ha presentato al Santo Padre una preferenza di Candidati. Avendo preso in considerazione le proposte, il Papa ha deciso le nomine di teologi e teologhe della Commissione, rinnovando al contempo P. Serge-Thomas Bonino, O.P. (Francia) come Segretario Generale.

Per quanto riguarda la provenienza di vari Continenti, nella nuova composizione della Commissione, si nota l'aumentato numero di teologi e teologhe extraeuropei, nel seguente ordine: oltre ai 14 rappresentanti dell'Europa (rispetto ai 18 del precedente quinquennio) ci sono 5 dell'America del Sud (precedentemente 3), 4 dell'Asia (precedentemente 4), 3 dell'Africa (precedentemente 2), 3 dell'America del Nord (precedentemente 2) e 1 dell'Australia (precedentemente 1).

Inoltre, è stato notevolmente rafforzato l'apporto delle teologhe. Già nei due precedenti quinquenni, la Commissione vantava la presenza di due pregiate teologhe: la Rev.da Suor Sara Butler, M.S.B.T. (U.S.A.) e la Prof.ssa Barbara Hallensleben (Svizzera, nazionalità d'origine Germania). Nell'attuale quinquennio sono state nominate cinque teologhe: due religiose e tre laiche, che in ordine alfabetico sono: la Rev.da Suor Prudence Allen, R.S.M. (U.S.A.), la Rev.da Suor Alenka Arko, della Comunità Loyola (Russia, nazionalità d'origine Slovenia), la Prof.ssa Moira Mary McQueen (Canada – Gran Bretagna), la Prof.ssa Tracey Rowland (Australia), la Prof.ssa Marianne Schlosser (Austria, nazionalità d'origine Germania). Questo notevole aumento della presenza femminile, che costituisce oltre il 16 % nella composizione della Commissione, è un segno di sempre più qualificato impegno delle donne nell'ambito delle scienze teologiche.

Per di più, è stata diversificata maggiormente, rispetto al precedente quinquennio, la provenienza ecclesiale dei Membri secondo i vari stati di vita e carismi religiosi che rappresentano.

La prima riunione dei nuovi Membri è prevista nella *Sessione Plenaria*, che si svolgerà presso la Congregazione per la Dottrina della Fede dal 1° al 5 dicembre 2014, ovvero ormai tradizionalmente nella prima settimana d'Avvento. In quell'occasione saranno decisi i tre temi ai quali la Commissione vorrà dedicarsi nei prossimi anni.

3. Il nuovo accesso alla pagina internet della Commissione (www.cti.va) sul Sito Vaticano

Come è noto, già alcuni anni fa la Commissione Teologica Internazionale ha rinnovato ed aggiornato la propria pagina internet, consultabile sul Sito Vaticano (www.vatican.va), tra le altre sezioni delle Commissioni collegate alla Congregazione per la Dottrina della Fede. Nella suddetta pagina sono consultabili tutti i documenti pubblicati da parte della Commissione, presenti solitamente in dieci o più versioni linguistiche. Ora la Commissione giunge ad un ulteriore passo: pur conservando la propria documentazione nel Sito ufficiale della Santa Sede (www.vatican.va), per facilitarne la consultazione viene aperto un nuovo accesso (www.cti.va).

Il nuovo indirizzo, www.cti.va, riprendendo la sigla del nome latino "Commissio Theologica Internationalis", ha il vantaggio di essere uguale per alcune lingue, come italiano, spagnolo, francese, portoghese, etc. Inoltre nella pagina dedicata alla Commissione si inserisce la possibilità di scegliere da parte degli utenti la lingua, senza dover tornare alla *homepage* vaticana. La pagina della Commissione, più facile da consultare, vuole essere uno strumento di aiuto, di stimolo e di dialogo attraverso una sempre più perspicace diffusione del proprio patrimonio teologico all'interno della Chiesa e fuori della sua compagine.

[01477-01.01] [Testo originale: Italiano]

Traduzione in lingua inglese

International Theological Commission - Press release1. The conclusion of the eighth five-year term

This year the eighth five-year term of the International Theological Commission, which began with the pontifical appointment of its Members in June 2009, will conclude.

As is known, the International Theological Commission, instituted by the Servant of God Paul VI on 11 April 1969, has the task of assisting the Holy See, and in particular the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, in examining the most important and current doctrinal questions. The Commission is composed of theologians from various schools and nations, eminent for their scientific excellence and fidelity to the Magisterium of the Church. The Members – no more than thirty in number – are appointed by the Holy Father "ad quinquennium" upon proposal by the Cardinal Prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith and following consultation with the Episcopal Conferences. During the course of its history the Commission has published 27 documents, with the approval of its President.

The Holy See wishes to express special gratitude for the competent and conscientious theological service provided by the Members of the Commission during the term that is about to draw to an end. Three documents have been published during this term: *Theology today. Perspectives, Principles and Criteria* (approved in 2011 and published in 2012); *God the Trinity and the Unity of Humanity: Christian monotheism and its opposition to violence* (approved in 2013 and published in 2014) and the more recent *Sensus fidei in the life of the Church* (approved and published in the current year 2014). In reality, the work of the Commission has been more extensive, as it has also offered valuable contributions on other issues on behalf of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, which is the primary task of the Commission.

2. The appointment of Members for the ninth five-yearly term (2014-2019)

On 26 July 2014, with the appointment by the Holy Father Francis of thirty new Members, the Commission began its ninth term. This will continue until 2019, which will also be a jubilee period for the Commission, which celebrates the fiftieth anniversary of its institution on 11 April 1919.

As usual, in view of the aforementioned appointments, during this last year extensive consultations have been carried out with Episcopal Conferences throughout the world, as well as the Synods of the oriental Eparchies. On the basis of the responses received, Cardinal Gerhard L. Müller, prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, presented to the Holy Father a preferential list of candidates. Taking these proposals into consideration, the Pope appointed the theologians who are to form the Commission, at the same time renewing the appointment of Fr. Serge-Thomas Bonino, O.P. (France) as secretary general.

With regard to the provenance of the Members, there is an increased number of extra-European appointees in the new composition of the Commission. As well as the 14 representatives of Europe (compared to 14 in the previous term) there are 5 from South America (previously 3), 4 from Asia (previously 4), 3 from Africa (previously 2), 3 from North America (previously 2) and 1 from Australia (previously 1).

Furthermore, there is a notable increase in the contribution of female theologians. In the two previous terms, the Commission benefited from the presence of two renowned theologians, Sister Sara Butler, M.S.B.T., (U.S.A.), and Professor Barbara Hallensleben (Switzerland, of German nationality). Five other female theologians have been appointed for the new term: Sister Prudence Allen, R.S.M., (U.S.A.), Sister Alenka Arko, Com. Loyola (Slovenia-Russia), Moira Mary McQuenn (G.B. – Canada), Tracey Rowland (Australia), Marianne Schlosser (Germany – Austria). Women now constitute 16% of the Commission's members, a sign of growing female involvement in theological research.

In 2014 it was also decided to further diversify the ecclesial provenance of the members, in relation to their religious status and the particular charisms they represent.

At the first meeting, which will take place from 1 to 5 December in plenary session, the three themes to be considered over the coming years will be selected.

The first meeting of the new members, which will take place in plenary session at the premises of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, is traditionally held in the first week of Advent – from 1 to 5 December. The three themes to be considered by the Commission over the coming years will be selected.

3. New access to the Commission's web page (www.cti.va) on the Vatican website

The International Theological Commission has renovated and enriched its page on the Vatican website (www.vatican.va), which offers all its documents in various languages, among the section of Commissions linked to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. All the documents published by the Commission are available for consultation, usually in ten or more languages. The Commission has now taken a further step to facilitate consultation while conserving all its documentation on the official site of the Holy See (www.vatican.va), by establishing a new link (www.cti.va).

Referring to the initials of its Latin name, "Commissio Theologica Internationalis", the new link has the advantage of being identical for various languages, such as Italian, Spanish, French and Portuguese. Aside from offering a page dedicated to the Commission, the new link also offers the reader the possibility of selecting the language without returning to the Vatican homepage. It is hoped that this new and easier to use page will be a useful tool for stimulating dialogue by enabling an increasingly effective communication of the Commission's theological patrimony both within and beyond the Church.

[01477-02.01] [Original text: Italian - *working translation*]

Traduzione in lingua spagnola

Comisión Teológica Internacional - Comunicado de prensa1. La conclusión del octavo quinquenio (2009-2014)

Este año concluye el octavo quinquenio de la Comisión Teológica Internacional, iniciado con el nombramiento pontificio de sus miembros el 19 de junio de 2009.

Como es sabido, la Comisión Teológica Internacional, instituida por el Siervo de Dios Pablo VI el 11 de abril de 1969, está llamada a ayudar a la Santa Sede, y en particular a la Congregación para la Doctrina de la Fe, en el examen de las cuestiones doctrinales de mayor importancia y actualidad. La Comisión está compuesta por teólogos de diferentes escuelas y naciones, que destacan por ciencia y fidelidad al Magisterio de la Iglesia. Los miembros -cuyo número no supera los treinta - son nombrados por el Santo Padre "ad quinquennium" tras la propuesta del cardenal prefecto de la Congregación para la Doctrina de la Fe y después de consultar a las Conferencias Episcopales. A lo largo de su historia la Comisión ha publicado, con la aprobación de su presidente, 27 documentos.

Hay que expresar a los miembros del quinquenio que está por concluir el agradecimiento particular de la Santa Sede por su competente y entregado servicio a la teología.. En el quinquenio actual se han publicado tres documentos: *Teología hoy. Perspectiva, principios y criterios* (aprobado en 2011 y publicado en 2012), *Dios Trinidad, unidad de los hombres. El monoteísmo cristiano contra la violencia* (aprobado en 2013 y publicado en 2014) y el más reciente, *Sensus fidei en la vida de la Iglesia* (documento aprobado y publicado en el actual 2014). En realidad, la labor de la Comisión ha sido más amplia, ya que ha dado una aportación inapreciable también en otros temas para uso de la Congregación para la Doctrina de la Fe, que sigue siendo su deber principal. (cfr. estatutos, n.11).

2. El nombramiento de los miembros para el noveno quinquenio (2014-2019)

El 26 de julio de 2014, con el nombramiento por parte del Santo Padre de treinta nuevos miembros, ha iniciado su nuevo quinquenio que concluirá en 2019. Ese año marcará un tiempo jubilar para la Comisión, que el 11 de abril de 2019 celebrará sus cincuenta años de existencia.

Como es habitual, en vista de dicho nombramiento, durante un año se han consultado ampliamente las conferencias episcopales de todo el mundo, así como los sínodos de las eparquías orientales. Sobre la base de las respuestas obtenidas, el cardenal Gerhard L. Müller, Prefecto de la Congregación para la Doctrina de la Fe, presentó al Santo Padre una serie de candidatos. Considerando las propuestas, el Papa decidió los nombramientos de teólogos y teólogas de la Comisión, renovando al mismo tiempo al padre Serge-Thomas

Bonino, O.P (Francia) como Secretario General.

En la nueva composición se observa, por cuanto respecta a la procedencia, el aumento de teólogos y teólogas no europeos, en el siguiente orden: además de los 14 representantes de Europa (respecto a los 18 del precedente quinquenio), hay 5 de América del Sur (anteriormente 3), 4 de Asia (anteriormente 4), 3 de América del Norte (anteriormente 2) y 1 de Australia (previamente 1).

Además, se ha reforzado considerablemente la contribución de las teólogas. Ya en los dos quinquenios anteriores, la Comisión contó con la presencia de dos respetadas teólogas: la reverenda sor Sara Butler, M.S.B.T. (Estados Unidos) y la profesora Bárbara Hallensleben (Suiza, nacionalidad de origen alemana). En el quinquenio actual han sido nombradas cinco teólogas: dos religiosas y tres laicas, que son, en orden alfabético: las reverendas sor Prudence Allen, R.S.M. (Estados Unidos), sor Alenka Arko, de la Comunidad Loyola (Rusia, nacionalidad de origen eslovaca), la profesora Moira Mary Mcqueen (Canadá- Gran Bretaña), la profesora Tracey Rowland (Australia), y la profesora Marianne Schlosser (Austria, nacionalidad de origen Alemana). Este notable aumento de la presencia femenina, que constituye más del 16% en la composición de la Comisión, da cuenta de la tarea, cada vez más calificada, de las mujeres en el ámbito de las ciencias teológicas.

Por otra parte, respecto al precedente quinquenio, se ha diversificado más la procedencia eclesial de los miembros según los varios estados de vida y carismas religiosos que representan.

Los nuevos miembros se reunirán por primera vez en la Sesión Plenaria, que se llevará a cabo en la Congregación para la Doctrina de la Fe del 1 al 5 de diciembre de 2014, es decir, y siguiendo la costumbre, en la primera semana de Adviento. En esa ocasión se decidirán los tres temas a los que la Comisión se dedicará los próximos años.

3. El nuevo acceso a la página de Internet de la Comisión (www.cti.va) en la web vaticana

Como es habitual, hace ya algunos años la Comisión Teológica Internacional renovó y actualizó su página de internet, que se puede consultar en el sitio Vaticano (www.vatican.va) entre las otras secciones de las comisiones relacionadas con la Congregación para la Doctrina de la Fe. En dicha página están disponibles todos los documentos publicados por la Comisión, en general en diez o más lenguas. Ahora la Comisión da un paso más: además de conservar la propia documentación en el sitio oficial de la Santa Sede (www.vatican.va), para facilitar la consulta se abre un nuevo acceso (www.cti.va).

La nueva dirección, www.cti.va, retomando la sigla del nombre latino "Commissio Theologica Internationalis", tiene la ventaja de ser igual para algunos idiomas como italiano, español, francés, portugués, etc. Además, en la página dedicada a la Comisión se añade la posibilidad de que el usuario elija el idioma sin necesidad de regresar a la página de inicio vaticana (homepage). La página de la Comisión, más fácil de consultar, quiere ser un instrumento de ayuda, estímulo y diálogo facilitando la difusión, cada vez más precisa, de su patrimonio teológico dentro y fuera de la Iglesia.

[01477-04.01] [Texto original: Italiano - *Traducción no oficial*]

♦ Intervento della Santa Sede alla 58ma Conferenza Generale dell'A.I.E.A. (Agenzia Internazionale per l'Energia Atomica) (Vienna, 22 settembre 2014)

Pubblichiamo di seguito l'intervento che il Sotto-Segretario per le Relazioni con gli Stati della Santa Sede, Mons. Antoine Camilleri, ha pronunciato ieri alla 58ma Conferenza Generale dell'A.I.E.A. (Agenzia Internazionale per l'Energia Atomica) in corso a Vienna:

Intervento di Mons. Antoine Camilleri

Mr. President,

I have the honour of conveying to you and to all the distinguished participants at this 58th General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency the best wishes and cordial greetings of His Holiness Pope Francis. At the same time, it is my pleasure to congratulate you, Mr President, on behalf of the Delegation of the Holy See, on your election as President of this distinguished Conference. I would like to take this opportunity to also express our appreciation and gratitude to Director General Yukiya Amano and to the Secretariat for their dedicated work for the benefit of the whole IAEA family.

On this occasion, the Holy See, along with various states, welcomes and congratulates the Union of Comoros, the Republic of Djibouti, the Co-operative Republic of Guyana and the Republic of Vanuatu on becoming members of the IAEA family.

Mr President,

The Holy See commends and supports all the activities of the IAEA which contribute to authentic human development and foster peace and prosperity throughout the world. Nuclear technology can be applied to many areas of the development of the human person. The use of nuclear and radiation techniques by the IAEA, as shown in its projects of technical cooperation, is particularly praiseworthy. Such techniques are aimed at continually improving conditions of life for great numbers of people, especially in the developing countries, while also offering the education needed to form professionals. The contribution of the IAEA to human development is evidenced, among other things, in the areas of agriculture, food safety, quality of nutrition, the fight against devastating pests, the management of scarce water resources, the efforts to monitor environmental pollution and the research undertaken to minimize such pollution. Undoubtedly the greatest contribution of the IAEA to the development of the human person has been the successes witnessed in the field of health care, and the Agency continues to attach special importance to this assistance. For instance, the application of radiation techniques — from the use of X-rays to the utilization of technically highly advanced particle accelerators — has revolutionized the diagnosis and treatment of many diseases; the Programme of Action for Cancer Therapy (PACT) provides vital equipment for radiation therapy in a number of developing countries in the fight against cancer; and essential dosimetry services help improve the safe application of ionizing radiation and bring advanced training to medical doctors, physicists and dosimetrists. In recognizing all these significant achievements of the Agency, the Holy See believes that an improved public awareness and recognition of such contributions would come about through a greater use of the modern means of communication and a deeper cooperation with civic and political authorities.

Mr President,

We believe that the activities I have mentioned are compatible with Pope Francis' call for fraternity which he articulated in his 2014 Message for the World Day of Peace. There he expounded upon this important means to achieve peace. He wrote:

"Fraternity is an essential human quality, for we are relational beings. A lively awareness of our relatedness helps us to look upon and to treat each person as a true sister or brother; without fraternity it is impossible to build a just society and a solid and lasting peace... In this sense, effective policies are needed to promote the principle of *fraternity*, securing for people - who are equal in dignity and in fundamental rights - access to capital, services, educational resources, healthcare and technology so that every person has the opportunity to express and realize his or her life project and can develop fully as a person" (1; 5).

Mr President,

Speaking of lasting peace as a common good that the entire human family can only benefit from, we wish to reiterate that the prevention of the proliferation of nuclear weapons is paramount for all humankind. Yet the

attaining of this objective cannot be the final word with regard to peace: special emphasis must be given to worldwide nuclear disarmament. This must be a goal for all states, especially for those who possess nuclear weapons or who want to develop or acquire them. Furthermore it is a goal which ought not to be considered unrealistic. The reality of peace unquestionably requires a change of course which can be accomplished by decision-making which is clear and firm, and by a willingness to seek and achieve nuclear disarmament. As in years past, the Holy See urges governments and scientific experts engaged in the field of military defence to work strenuously towards such disarmament. These concerted efforts, fostered by sincere negotiation and strengthened by a fulfilment of contractual obligations, must be founded on due respect for the fundamental rights of all persons and on mutual trust.

Earlier this year, referring to non-proliferation and disarmament, Pope Francis stated:

"As long as so great a quantity of arms are in circulation as at present, new pretexts can always be found for initiating hostilities. For this reason, I make my own the appeal of my predecessors for the non- proliferation of arms and for disarmament of all parties, beginning with nuclear and chemical weapons disarmament. We cannot however fail to observe that international agreements and national laws — while necessary and greatly to be desired — are not of themselves sufficient to protect humanity from the risk of armed conflict. A conversion of hearts is needed which would permit everyone to recognize in the other a brother or sister to care for, and to work together with, in building a fulfilling life for all" (*2014 Message of His Holiness Francis for the Celebration for the World Day of Peace, 7*).

Mr. President,

A world free of weapons of mass destruction is the final aim of this process of disarmament. The task is one which is all the more pressing for people who suffer the dire consequences of war and terrorism. It is also widely recognized that nowadays the risk of nuclear weapons being used is growing throughout the world due to three factors: the first, proliferation of such weapons; second, the vulnerability of nuclear command and control networks to cyber-attacks or human error; third, the possibility of nuclear weapons being accessed by non-state actors, terrorist groups in particular. My delegation considers it necessary for governments and politicians to do all that is within their power to establish a zone free of nuclear weapons and weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East Region.

Nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation is a cause that must be taken up by all states, especially those in possession of nuclear weapons. From a humanitarian point of view, we are all acutely aware of just how catastrophic and irreversible the consequences of any use of these weapons would be. This year we commemorate the hundredth anniversary of the beginning of the First World War and the seventy-fifth of the Second World War, both of which unleashed unprecedented levels of violence on a global scale, causing millions of deaths, inflicting untold injury and bringing vast destruction. The use of an atomic weapon brought awful consequences that are still being felt today. Modern nuclear weapons, significantly more powerful than those used in 1945, are able to annihilate the whole human race either by direct impact or by the disastrous aftermath of such attacks. We therefore support the view that the mere existence of these weapons is absurd and that arguments in support of their use are an affront against the dignity of all human life. Our conviction largely hinges on the vastness of damage and appalling consequences that could come from a nuclear explosion and a sobering assessment of the immense resources required to maintain and modernize nuclear arsenals. This is why the Holy See continues to support all efforts to ensure peace and bring about the conditions that foster it. Among such efforts, particular attention must be given to those initiatives which relate to the impact of nuclear weapons in the humanitarian sector. We applaud and commend Austria's gesture of hosting the Third Conference on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons, due to take place later this year. It goes without saying, furthermore, that the coming into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty, and the achievement of a comprehensive outcome in the 2015 Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Review Conference, represent vital steps towards the goal of nuclear disarmament. We deeply hope that, together, the international community will find the wisdom, courage and conviction to renew the process of disarmament.

Mr President,

Among the principal functions and tasks of the IAEA, those that must be emphasized are: the reinforcement of nuclear security; the verification of compliance by member states to Safeguard Agreements; the commitment to uncover clandestine nuclear programs; the monitoring of nuclear material assigned for peaceful use; and the verification of the absence of clandestine activities which contradict peaceful objectives. By carrying out all these tasks, the Agency contributes to a deeper trust among states with regard to their nuclear programs.

Since the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi power plants in March 2011, there has been great interest around the whole world in ensuring the enhancement and improvement of nuclear safety. This is the path that must be pursued: doing everything humanly possible to prevent accidents at nuclear facilities and minimizing any consequences should an accident occur.

The delegation of the Holy See also wishes to encourage and support the efforts and innovative approaches that concern the management and safe disposal of radioactive waste, especially the long-lived and high-level waste which poses a particular threat. Pioneering projects are an important contribution to the safety and security of the populations as well as to the protection of the environment, both now and for the future.

Finally, I wish to reiterate that the Holy See attaches great importance to the successful cooperation of the IAEA with other UN Organizations such as the WHO and the FAO. This year the Joint FAO/IAEA Division will celebrate its 50th anniversary. By combining the resources and strengths of both organizations, as evidenced by the effective application of nuclear technology and biotechnology to agricultural sectors, much progress has been made to offer the means of living to many people, especially in the poorest regions of the world. We are confident that this cooperation will be further developed and intensified for the benefit of many.

Thank you, Mr. President!

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