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Motu Proprio of Pope Francis regarding competencies in economic-financial matters

Vatican City, 9 July 2016 – On 4 July 2016, the Holy Father approved a Motu Proprio to implement reform of the organisms engaged in control and vigilance as well as the administration of Holy See assets. The new legislative document is intended to continue on the path begun with the Motu Proprio “Fidelis dispensator et prudens” dated 24 February 2014, by which Pope Francis created three new bodies: the Council for the Economy, the Secretariat for the Economy and the Office of the Auditor General. As is well known, the respective competencies of these organisms were subsequently specified in the Statutes of 22 February 2015. The statutes in question were approved *ad experimentum* with the knowledge that the new system was to be built through subsequent verifications.

The document published today responds to the need to define further the relationship between the Administration of the Patrimony of the Apostolic See and the Secretariat for the Economy. The fundamental principle at the base of the reforms in this area, and in particular at the base of this Motu Proprio, is that of ensuring the clear and unequivocal distinction between control and vigilance, on the one hand, and administration of assets, on the other. Therefore, the Motu Proprio specifies the competencies pertaining to the Administration of the Patrimony of the Holy See and better delineates the Secretariat for the Economy’s fundamental role of control and vigilance.