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Holy See Press Office Communiqué: Audience with the President of the Republic of Paraguay

This morning, in the Vatican Apostolic Palace, the Holy Father received in audience the President of the Republic of Paraguay, H.E. Mr. Mario Abdo Benítez, who subsequently met with His Eminence Cardinal Secretary of State Pietro Parolin, accompanied by His Excellency Msgr. Paul Richard Gallagher, Secretary for Relations with States.

During the cordial discussions, satisfaction was expressed for the existing good relations between the Holy See and Paraguay, and the importance of Christian values in the history and present of the country was emphasized. In this context, the significant contribution of the local Church in favour of the whole of Paraguayan society was highlighted. The parties focused on the situation of the country, with special reference to social development and support for the family, and combating poverty, corruption and drug trafficking.

Attention then turned to themes of common interest at international and regional levels.