

HOLY SEE PRESS OFFICE
OFICINA DE PRENSA DE LA SANTA SEDE



BUREAU DE PRESSE DU SAINT-SIEGE
PRESSEAMT DES HEILIGEN STUHLIS

BOLLETTINO

SALA STAMPA DELLA SANTA SEDE

N. 0354

Sabato 02.07.2005

Pubblicazione: Immediata

Sommario:

- ◆ **LE UDIENZE**
- ◆ **VISITA "AD LIMINA APOSTOLORUM" DEI PRESULI DELLA CONFERENZA EPISCOPALE DELLO ZIMBABWE**
- ◆ **RINUNCE E NOMINE**
- ◆ **INTERVENTO DELLA SANTA SEDE ALL'ECOSOC A NEW YORK**

◆ **LE UDIENZE**

LE UDIENZE

Il Santo Padre ha ricevuto questa mattina in Udienza:

Em.mo Card William Wakefield Baum, Penitenziere Maggiore emerito;

Em.mo Card. Julián Herranz, Presidente del Pontificio Consiglio per i Testi Legislativi;

Em.mo Card. Sergio Sebastiani, Presidente della Prefettura degli Affari Economici della Santa Sede;

S.E. Mons. Agostino Vallini, Arcivescovo-Vescovo emerito di Albano, Prefetto del Supremo Tribunale della Segnatura Apostolica;

S.E. Mons. Heinz Josef Algermissen, Vescovo di Fulda (Repubblica Federale di Germania);

Gruppo degli Ecc.mi Presuli della Conferenza Episcopale dello Zimbabwe, in Visita "ad Limina Apostolorum".

Benedetto XVI riceve questo pomeriggio in Udienza:

Em.mo Card. Giovanni Battista Re, Prefetto della Congregazione per i Vescovi.

[00837-01.01]

VISITA "AD LIMINA APOSTOLORUM" DEI PRESULI DELLA CONFERENZA EPISCOPALE DELLO ZIMBABWE

Pubblichiamo di seguito il discorso che il Santo Padre Benedetto XVI ha rivolto agli Ecc.mi Presuli della Conferenza Episcopale dello Zimbabwe, incontrati questa mattina e ricevuti in questi giorni, in separate udienze, in occasione della Visita "ad Limina Apostolorum":

• DISCORSO DEL SANTO PADRE

My Brother Bishops,

"Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ!" (*Eph* 1:2). I offer a warm welcome to you, the Bishops of Zimbabwe, on the occasion of your quinquennial visit *ad Limina Apostolorum*. May your pilgrimage to the Tombs of the Apostles Peter and Paul, and this meeting with Peter's Successor, be for all of you an incentive to ever greater unity in the cause of the Gospel and the service of Christ's Kingdom. May these days also grant you a precious opportunity to withdraw from your pressing pastoral cares in order to spend time with the Lord (cf. *Mk* 6:31) in prayer and spiritual discernment, so that you may take up with renewed zeal your ministry as heralds of God's word and shepherds of his people in your native land.

The recent elections in Zimbabwe have laid the basis for what I trust will be a new beginning in the process of national reconciliation and the moral rebuilding of society. I appreciate the significant contribution to the electoral process which you offered to the Catholic faithful and to all your fellow-citizens in your Joint Pastoral Statement published last year. As you rightly noted in that Statement, responsibility for the common good demands that all members of the body politic work together in laying firm moral and spiritual foundations for the future of the nation. Through the publication of the Statement and your most recent Pastoral Letter *The Cry of the Poor*, you yourselves have brought the wisdom of the Gospel and the rich heritage of the Church's social doctrine to bear upon the thinking and practical judgements of the faithful both in their daily lives and in their efforts to act as upright members of the community. In the exercise of your episcopal ministry of teaching and governance, I encourage you to continue to provide clear and united leadership, grounded in an unwavering faith in Jesus Christ and obedience to "the word of truth, the Gospel of salvation" (*Eph* 1:13). In your preaching and teaching the faithful should be able to hear the voice of the Lord himself, a voice that speaks with authority of what is right and true, of peace and justice, of love and reconciliation, a voice that can console them in the midst of their troubles and show them the way forward in hope.

Amid the difficulties of the present moment, the Church in Zimbabwe can rejoice in the presence of so many communities vibrant in faith, a significant number of vocations to the priesthood and religious life, and the presence of a committed laity devoted to various works of the apostolate. These gifts of God's grace are at once a consolation and a challenge to an ever more profound and integrated catechesis aimed at training the faithful to live fully their Christian vocation. "In all areas of Church life, formation is of primary importance" for the future of the Church in Africa (*Ecclesia in Africa*, 75). For this reason, I encourage you to work together to ensure suitable and comprehensive catechetical preparation for all the faithful, and to take whatever steps may be necessary to provide for a more systematic education of catechists. Future priests, for their part, should be helped to present the fullness of the Catholic faith in a way which truly addresses and responds to people's difficulties, questions and problems. The national seminaries require practical support in their challenging task of

providing seminarians with an adequate human, spiritual, doctrinal and pastoral formation, while the younger clergy would greatly benefit, in the first years of their priestly ministry, from a programme of spiritual, pastoral and human accompaniment guided by experienced and exemplary priests. Your concern for sound catechesis and an integral religious education must also extend to the system of Catholic schools, whose religious identity needs to be strengthened, for the good not only of their students, but of the entire Catholic community in your country.

Dear Brother Bishops, in union with the Successor of Peter and the College of Bishops, you have been sent forth as witnesses to the hope held out by the Gospel of Jesus Christ (cf. *Pastores Gregis*, 5). As you return to your native land strengthened in faith and in the bond of ecclesial communion, I ask you to cooperate generously in the service of the Gospel, so that the light of God's word will shine ever more brightly in the minds and hearts of Zimbabwe's Catholics, inspiring in them a deeper love of Christ and a more firm commitment to the spread of his Kingdom of holiness, justice and truth. With great affection I commend you and the clergy, religious and laity of your Dioceses to the loving intercession of Mary, Mother of the Church, and cordially impart my Apostolic Blessing as a pledge of joy and peace in the Lord.

[00838-02.02] [Original text: English]

RINUNCE E NOMINE

• NOMINA DELL'AUSILIARE DI MBARARA (UGANDA)

Il Santo Padre ha nominato Ausiliare dell'arcidiocesi di Mbarara (Uganda) il Rev.do Lambert Bainomugisha, Cancelliere dell'arcidiocesi di Mbarara, assegnandogli la sede titolare vescovile di Tacia montana.

Rev.do Lambert Bainomugisha

Il Rev.do Lambert Bainomugisha è nato il 12 luglio 1961 a Kashumba, nell'allora diocesi di Mbarara. Ha studiato in patria e in Canada, ottenendo la laurea in Diritto Canonico presso l'Università St. Paul di Ottawa. E' stato ordinato sacerdote il 13 luglio 1991.

Ha svolto per alcuni anni il ministero pastorale in una parrocchia, prima di andare in Canada per completare i suoi studi. Attualmente è Cancelliere dell'arcidiocesi ed è anche Cappellano della Casa Generalizia delle Suore di Nostra Signora del Buon Consiglio e del Monastero delle Clarisse.

[00839-01.02]

INTERVENTO DELLA SANTA SEDE ALL'ECOSOC A NEW YORK

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 all'ECOSOC High-level segment sul tema: "*Achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, as well as implementing the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits: progress made, challenges and opportunities*":

• INTERVENTO DI S.E. MONS. CELESTINO MIGLIORE

Mr. President,

The Holy See is pleased to associate itself with those who support the accord reached in London recently by the G8 finance ministers to cancel the debts of 18 heavily indebted poor countries (HIPC). In these last decades, the Holy See has been among the most outspoken advocates of this kind of step, as expressed by the late Pope John Paul II, who often raised his voice in favour of debt cancellation for the world's poorest countries. For now, the London accord remains only a proposal. The G8 leaders, meeting at Gleneagles on 6-8 July next, must now pay attention to the demands of their own people and of civil society, and place before their respective legislatures bills that will lead to the immediate fulfillment of the accord's promises. In order to consolidate these achievements and convert them into a kind of launch pad we have to put them in perspective.

It cannot be ignored that, while countries are quick to defend and promote whatever is perceived as in their own interests, there is often a marked contrast with international financial measures on behalf of the world's poorest countries. It must also be acknowledged that the actual sums involved here are modest compared with the vast military expenditure throughout the world and the subsidies that the industrialised countries pay to sectors in their own economies, when often those very subsidies are responsible for severe distortions in the world's poorest countries.

The Secretary-General's Report *In Larger Freedom* and the draft declaration for the forthcoming UN summit of heads of state in September 2005 both recall that the true guarantee of world security is to be found in the development of the world's poorest countries and in that of the more marginalised sectors in each of those countries. In other words, it is a question of working at both inequality within individual countries and inequality between different States.

The debt remission measures which one hopes to see effectively adopted by the multilateral financial institutions are just the start of that path, first of all because the measure in question needs to be extended to some 38 HIPC countries. Secondly, if debt remission were implemented by diverting financial resources from other aid programmes and if there were no significant increase in real ODA, the world would end up facing a situation worse than before the measures adopted at Gleneagles.

The upcoming G8 meeting must show the world the magnanimity and breadth of vision of its leaders, something which could serve as a solid and effective basis for a broad consensus at the forthcoming Millennium+5 summit in September.

This year will also see the sixth ministerial conference of the WTO taking place in Hong Kong in December. Debt remission and the increase in ODA necessarily must be complemented by the creation of an international trade system that is at the very least friendly towards the most indebted countries, in the terms delineated at Doha. The obligations undertaken by countries which are either very poor or have grave structural deficiencies, for their part, must become flexible enough to promote at home an economic development which is fully responsive to local social requirements. Thus, the most industrialised countries - along with emerging economies and more recent industrial powers - should not hesitate in allowing, even favouring, concessions and privileges for extremely poor countries.

Finally, when talking of financing for development, one cannot fail to mention the lack of financing for basic scientific research and for the industrial development of pharmaceutical products to combat the major tropical diseases such as malaria, as well as the lack of research in favour of agriculture in poorer regions. There would appear to be no point in waiting for private financing to invest in such fields, since these are problems which do not concern directly the public of the countries where the resources exist. What is needed is a generous provision of public monies in favour of the many existing initiatives, like the Global Fund for example, to promote an intensive and broad participation of the world's scientific research institutes.

The multilateral political events of the second half of this year, starting with this session of ECOSOC, could become an international turning point, in which the financing of international development converts itself into the highest international priority, if world leaders were able to move their Governments and peoples. Thus all countries, developed and poor ones alike, would be able to play their true part in the achievement of the MDGs.

Thank you, Mr. President.

[00836-02.02] [Original text: English]

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