

Central

PERMANENT OBSERVER MISSION
OF THE HOLY SEE
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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N. 764/15

June 24, 2015

Mr. Secretary-General,

I have the honor and pleasure to inform Your Excellency that his Eminence Cardinal Peter Turkson, President of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace in the Vatican and Special Envoy of Pope Francis to the High-Level Event of the UN General Assembly on Climate Change, will give a presentation on the Encyclical *Laudato Si: On Care for Our Common Home* at the ECOSOC Chamber on Tuesday, June 30, 2015, from 6:30 to 8 PM.

I know how busy Your Excellency is, but we would certainly be more than grateful if you could honor us with your presence.

In the likely event that Your Excellency would not be able to come, we would appreciate it if your Excellency might send a representative to deliver a brief message on your behalf.

With renewed best wishes, I remain,

Very sincerely yours,

Archbishop Bernardito Auza
Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the UN

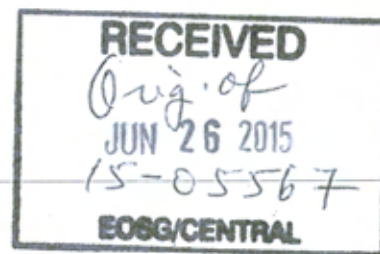
His Excellency
The Secretary-General of the United Nations
Mr. Ban Ki-Moon
United Nations Headquarters
New York, NY 10017

With formal invitation enclosed

*SC4/08/002; SC4/08/006;
CDM/11/001*

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You are Cordially Invited

*To a High Level Discussion Marking the Publication of the
Encyclical of His Holiness Pope Francis,*

Laudato Si': On the Care of our Common Home

With Cardinal Peter Turkson,
President of the Vatican's Pontifical Council of Justice and Peace

Tuesday, June 30, 2015
ECOSOC Chamber, 6:30-8:00 pm
United Nations Headquarters, New York

On June 18, Pope Francis published his much-anticipated encyclical on the environment entitled **Laudato Si**, with which he urgently appeals "for a new dialogue about how we are shaping the future of our planet."

In it he warned of an "unprecedented destruction of ecosystems" and "serious consequences for all of us" if we fail to act to curb environmental destruction and the concentration of greenhouse gases. Pope Francis hopes that the encyclical could help foster courageous commitments at the World Climate Summit (COP 21) in Paris in December 2015.

In response to the encyclical, UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon said, "I thank deeply Pope Francis for taking such a strong stand on the need for urgent global action. His moral voice is part of a growing chorus of people from all faiths and all sectors of society speaking out for climate action."

Cardinal Peter Turkson is the President of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, which was entrusted by Pope Francis with the initial drafting of the encyclical letter. He also presented the encyclical in the Vatican press conference on the day of its publication. He is among the most qualified to speak about the encyclical.

Pope Francis asks, "What kind of world do we want to leave to those who come after us, to the children who are now growing up?" Cardinal Turkson will speak about the Pope's insights on the choices we have to make today to leave future generations a better "common home."

A UN Pass is required to attend the event.

Those without UN Passes must RSVP by June 26 to event@holyseemission.org

SCH/08/007; SCH/08/006; COM/11/001