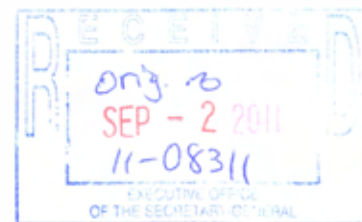




PERMANENT OBSERVER MISSION
OF THE HOLY SEE
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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27 August 2011

Your Excellency,

I have been directed by the Secretariat of State of the Holy See to transmit the following Message from His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI in the aftermath of the tragic terrorist attack against the United Nations offices in Abuja, Nigeria:

*"His Excellency
Mr. Ban Ki-moon
Secretary-General
United Nations Organization New York*

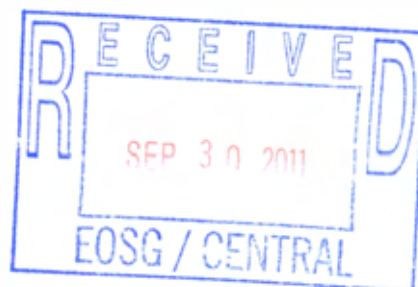
His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI was distressed to learn of the terrorist attack upon the United Nations offices in Abuja, and of the terrible loss of life among both local citizens and United Nations personnel. He sends Your Excellency and those you represent his sincere sympathy and appeals again to those who choose death and violence to embrace instead life and respectful dialogue. The Holy Father earnestly prays for the repose of those whose lives have been cut short so dramatically, and he cordially invokes God's blessings of courage and strength upon the injured and those who mourn.

*Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone
Secretary of State"*

I avail myself of the opportunity to express my own sincere sentiments of sympathy and to renew the expressions of my highest consideration.

Francis Chullikatt
Archbishop Francis Assisi Chullikatt
Apostolic Nuncio, Permanent Observer

His Excellency
Mr. Ban Ki-moon
Secretary-General
United Nations Organization
NEW YORK



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