



DICASTERIUM AD INTEGRAM HUMANAM PROGRESSIONES FOVENDAM

CONCEPT NOTE OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

“Perspectives on promoting the integral human development, 50 years after the Populorum Progressio”

(Vatican, 3rd – 4th April 2017)

The creation of the new Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development providentially coincides with the 50th Anniversary of the Encyclical Letter *Populorum Progressio* (26 March 1967) which, by developing the Christian vision of the human person, has given flesh to the notion of integral human development, and has also seen in the development the new appellation of peace. Such vision of development, present in the embryonal form in the *Populorum Progressio*, has been developed in the Magisterium of the Church over the past 50 years, in particular in the social encyclicals of the Popes.

With this International Conference on *“Perspectives on Promoting Integral Human Development, 50 years from the Populorum Progressio”*, the new Dicastery wishes to make known the mission of the Church in the service of the persons most vulnerable.

In the inaugural session, the Conference intends to reflect on the path of progress made over these years and to deepen the understanding of the Christian vision of the human person. Development policies, in addition, will be a theme of paramount importance from the perspective of the international community.

The successive sessions of the Conference will concentrate on the areas of action of the new Dicastery, construable in a triple polarity: soul/body, man/woman, individual/society. Within these dimensions, contemporary challenges to the integral human development will be discussed in the light of the witness of charity and the evangelization of the social. It will be taken care not to ignore the regional perspective on the challenges to the human dignity, which, even with its global character, will still maintain its particular nuances according to diverse geographical, religious and cultural contexts. The Conference will further seek to give voice to the persons who have borne witness in responding to the most urgent problems of the time in order to protect and serve the dignity of the human person.