

Caritas directors calls on the European Union to fight poverty with a clear agenda for Post-2015

Directors of 49 Caritas organisations in Europe call on the European Council to show clear commitment – at its upcoming meeting on 27-28 May 2013 – to fight poverty around the world. The directors, meeting at their annual assembly in Brussels 23-24 May, insist that the EU must show responsibility in combating poverty after the expiration of the MDGs in 2015.

Caritas Europa's annual Regional Conference 2013 approved the following resolution:

“Hunger and malnutrition are the most cruel and concrete manifestations of poverty. Therefore, Caritas Europa calls on the European Union to champion adequate food for all as the top goal in the future Development Framework. Caritas Europa Regional Conference urges the European Union, its institutions and Member States, to ensure any future development framework makes a world without hunger a reality.

“We encourage a paradigm shift in which human dignity and integral human development, within environmental boundaries, will enable the poorest and most deprived and marginalized to participate in caring societies and live in equitable and sustainable economies.

“Caritas Europa urges all European States to fulfill its role and responsibility in combating poverty and marginalization in a changing world.”

Note to the Editor:

The international community is heading for an important moment in the history of international cooperation. With the end of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in 2015, a new agenda has to be designed as an expression of the ongoing commitment to fight poverty and to provide human dignity for every world citizen. The first steps in shaping the European position will be taken at the next week Meeting of Foreign Affairs Council (FAC) that will take place on the 27-28 May 2013. Therefore, Caritas Europa's Regional Conference in Brussels insists on the EU's role and responsibility in combating poverty and marginalization in a changing world.

Caritas Europa is a network of 49 Caritas organisations working on the ground in 46 European countries. They address the challenges being faced by those who are vulnerable on a daily basis. Caritas organisations are present and active in every country in Europe, with well-developed national and local structures directed at assisting the poor.

Press contact:

Thorfinnur Omarsson

Communication Officer

M: +32 (0)473341393

tomarsson@caritas-europa.org

