

STATEMENT BY THE OACPS SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE PASSING OF HIS HOLINESS THE POPE

The Secretary-General of the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS) H.E. Mr Moussa S. Batraki expresses profound sorrow at the passing of His Holiness the Pope, and, on behalf of the Secretariat and the entire OACPS membership, extends deepest condolences to the Holy See, the global Catholic community, and all people of goodwill.

Secretary-General Batraki recalls that His Holiness was a towering spiritual figure whose unwavering commitment to peace, justice, and human dignity inspired billions around the world. In word and deed, the Pope championed the cause of the poor, the marginalized, and the voiceless—many of whom reside in OACPS Member States. His tireless advocacy for a more equitable world, his appeal for global solidarity, and his call for the care of our common home resonated deeply with the core values and aspirations of the Organisation.

The Secretary-General recalls with particular gratitude the Pope's consistent concern for the plight of developing nations, his efforts to bridge divides across faiths and cultures, and his moral leadership in confronting the challenges of poverty, inequality, conflict, and climate change.

The Pope's legacy of compassion, humility, and courageous truth-telling will endure, reminding all of the power of moral conviction in the service of humanity.

May his soul rest in eternal peace

MOUSSA S. BATRAKI
Secretary-General