

The Council of Heads of Churches in Jordan

November 1st 2010

The Council of Heads of Churches in Jordan congratulates His Majesty King Abdullah II Bin Al-Hussein for the successful passing of his initiative "The world week of harmony between religions" at the United Nations.

The UN- adopted Global Week of Harmony between Religions will be celebrated in the first week of February each year.

The Council expresses its full support to the initiative of His Majesty King Abdullah II and stresses churches' vested interest in the initiative's ultimate goal in spreading the message of harmony among different religions and beliefs. The Council praises the United Nations' reference to a previous Jordanian initiative "Kalamat Sawa' " which aims to focus on respect for the other, in its resolution adopting the initiative of His Majesty.

The Council recognizes that the status of higher-discretion enjoyed by his Majesty King Abdullah II Bin Al-Hussein on the Global level had a crucial role in the process of rallying international support for this initiative.

The Council believes that His Majesty had employed his international status and Jordan's religious, historical, geographical position to fulfill a historic responsibility of finding ways to bring world peace.

The Council's members are looking forward to what the U.N resolution may carry in terms of dialogue programs between different faiths and activities to reinforce the fundamental role of religions in bringing harmony to the people.

The Council pledged to exert all efforts towards an integrated international renaissance of spirit and intellect to save the world from the scourge of sectarian tensions, consequent communal violence and hatred.

The Council assured that the misuse of religion had led to wars and conflicts and it is the time for religious leaders to face these abusive practices.

The Council sees an opportunity to do that through assuming an active role in the manifestations of the initiative of his Majesty King Abdullah II Bin Al-Hussein since it opens prospects for mutual cooperation and solidarity.

His Beatitude Patriarch Theophilus III – Patriarch of the Holy City, Palestine and Jordan

His Eminence Archbishop Marsoirios Malki Murad – Syrian Orthodox Patriarchal Vicar in Jerusalem and Jordan

His Eminence Bishop Munib Yunan - Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land and President of World Federation of Evangelical Lutheran churches

His Eminence Archbishop Suhail Dwani - Bishop of the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East

His Eminence Bishop Anba Abraham – Quptic Orthodox Patriarchal Vicar in Jerusalem and the Near East