

Vatican City, May 18, 2007

To His Excellency
Most Rev. AGOSTINO MARCHETTO
Secretary of the Pontifical Council for the Pastoral Care
of Migrants and Itinerant People
VATICAN CITY

Your Excellency:

The Supreme Pontiff was pleased to learn that from next June 24-29, the XXII World Congress of the Apostleship of the Sea will take place in Gdynia, with the objective to reflect on: *Solidarity with the People of the Sea, Witnesses to Hope Through the Word of God, the Liturgy and Diakonia*.

In expressing sincere appreciation for this initiative, which shows ecclesial concern for those who work in the difficult sector of maritime work, the Holy Father wishes to send through Your Excellency his most cordial greetings to the Authorities, the speakers, and all those who will attend this prestigious appointment during which the wishes and the spiritual and human expectations of the people working in close contact with life at sea will be studied in depth.

While invoking Mary's maternal protection, His Holiness wishes to impart to Your Excellency and those present at the programmed event the implored Apostolic Blessing, a pledge of abundant celestial graces.

I have the honor to be, Your Excellency,

Sincerely yours in the Lord,

Tarcisio Cardinal Bertone
Secretary of State