

PONTIFICIUM CONSILIUM
PRO
DIALOGO INTER RELIGIONES

Vatican City, 18th September 2010

No. 528 a/10/fax

Dear Reverend Miyamoto,

In replying to your letter (fax) of 12<sup>th</sup> August last, I am please to send you, herewith enclosed, a congratulatory message of His Eminence Cardinal Jean-Louis Tauran, President of this Dicastery on the occasion of the celebration of the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Arigatou International, scheduled for 12<sup>th</sup> October 2010 in Chiba, Japan.

I take this opportunity to join with the President to extend to you and to the members of your Institution, my best wishes for a successful and fruitful celebration, for the benefit of children world-wide.

With my sentiments of esteem and every good wish, I am

Yours sincerely

Archbishop Pier-Luigi Celata Secretary

To Rev. Keishi MIYAMOTO President – Arigatou International & Chairman of the Board Myochikai 3-3-3 Yoyoki, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 151-0053, Japan

(With Enclosure)



Vatican City, 17th September 2010

## **MESSAGE**

On behalf of the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue and myself, I wish to express my sincere congratulations to you and the members of the Arigatou International on the occasion of its 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Your efforts, through the educational programs of the Global Network of Religions for Children (GNRC), are indeed commendable. Jesus loved children, saying: "Let the children come to me, do not hinder them; for to such belongs the Kingdom of God" (Mark 10:14). Pope Benedict XVI expressed "all children, are a treasure and blessing for the world, and especially to those who are denied a peaceful childhood. May the Lord bless all those— they are many!—who work daily in the service of the new generations, helping them to be the protagonists of their future" (Address on the Feast of Epiphany 6<sup>th</sup> January 2009).

In today's world, unfortunately, many children are suffering because they are victims of various forms of violence and war; abandoned by their families or perhaps never knowing their own family; enduring psychological trauma due to the fighting of parents, or by the actual breakup of the family; suffering some form of abuse; forced to work at a tender age, badly treated, harshly punished, and paid low wages; others are used for begging, or even worse forced into prostitution, and the list sadly continues. It gives me hope to see an organization like yours committed to help make a better situation for children. May God bless all of you abundantly as you continue your precious work and grant you a fruitfulness in your activities, particularly in those involving cooperation with people belonging to different religious traditions, working to save the world's children, our children!

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Jean-Louis Cardinal Tauran
President of the PCID