

**ADDRESS OF HOLY FATHER FRANCIS
TO PARTICIPANTS IN THE MEETING COORDINATING THE ACTIVITIES
CARRIED OUT BY THE CATHOLIC CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS
WORKING IN SYRIA AND NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES
PROMOTED BY THE PONTIFICAL COUNCIL "COR UNUM"**

Hall of the Domus Sanctae Marthae

5 June 2013

[Link](#)

[...] To the international community, besides the pursuit of a negotiated solution to the conflict, I ask for the provision of humanitarian aid for the displaced and refugees, and Syrians who have lost their homes, showing in the first place the good of each human person and guarding their dignity. For the Holy See the work of various Catholic charitable agencies is extremely significant: assisting the Syrian population, without regard for ethnic or religious affiliation, is the most direct way to contribute to peace and to the upbuilding of a society open and welcoming to all of its different constituent parts. To this also the Holy See lends its efforts: to the building of a future of peace for a Syria in which everyone can live freely and express themselves in their own particular way. [...]