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SYRIAN ORTHODOX PATRIARCHATE
OF ANTIOCH & ALL THE EAST

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باب توما - ص.ب. ٢٢٢٦٠
دمشق - سورية

No.E205/13

11-October-2013

Rev. Dr.Olav Fykse Tveit.
General Secretary, WCC
150 Route de Ferney
ch-1211, Geneva 2, Switzerland.

Dear brother in Christ,
The Rev. Dr.Olav Fykse Tveit, WCC General Secretary,

We give thanks to God Almighty for giving us this great opportunity to address through the WCC General Secretary, the esteemed members of the General Assembly, who are gathered here in Busan, Korea. In the joy of the Holy Spirit and with enormous admiration, we highly appreciate the efforts and hard tasks of the WCC General Secretary, Rev. Dr.Olav Fykse Tveit and his honourable staff as well as the generous hospitality of the sister churches in Korea who are hosting the 10th General Assembly.

We pray for the 10th General Assembly to be a milestone in the modern history of Christendom. Unfortunately, our world of today is going through many regional conflicts and there are many international sensitive issues to be resolved. The Church is called today to pray and act for peace, justice and unity among nations such as Korea and Syria.

The theme of our 10th General Assembly, "God of life, lead us to Justice and Peace", speaks to us as churches as well as countries and nations to evaluate the goodness of life which the Creator of the Universe offered to us in order to fulfill Justice among peoples and Peace on earth. The Holy Bible summons us as Christians to be peacemakers among peoples of different nations and never to be withdrawn from this task.

We joyfully take this opportunity to sincerely thank the Government of South Korea for giving the space for the 10th General Assembly to be held in Busan. The people of Korea in the south and north are daily held in our prayers. We beseech our most merciful God to shower on this nation His blessings and to bring them together into full harmony, peace and unity.

In conclusion, we continue to pray for all the participants in the General Assembly that your gathering will be a glorious manifestation of the love of God to all humanity. May the Grace of God be with you all, and we gladly extend our Apostolic Blessing and prayerful wishes to you all.



Ignatius Zakka I Iwas
Patriarch of Antioch and All the East
Supreme Head of the Universal Syrian Orthodox Church