NONCIATURE APOSTOLIQUE
AU SÉNÉGAL

N. 4559/26

Dakar. 14 November 2026

Your Eminences,
Your Excellencies,

On the occasion of my today's appointment as Apostolic Nuncio to India, I wish to address each of you with sentiments of deep cordiality and fraternal communion.

I embrace this new mission with gratitude to God and to the Holy Father, and with a profound sense of responsibility, mindful that one of the most significant dimensions of the service entrusted to the Papal Representative is to accompany the life of the particular Churches and to foster communion among their Pastors.

As I prepare to begin this mission, I look forward with great joy to discover the rich spiritual and cultural heritage of India, a land deeply rooted in traditions of hospitality, respect and encounter. I am particularly struck by the beautiful Indian expression *Atithi Devo Bhava*, which recognises the sacred dignity of the guest and expresses a profound sense of welcome. May this spirit of hospitality also inspire our journey together, fostering mutual openness, trust and genuine fraternity.

From the outset, I wish to assure you of my sincere willingness to walk alongside you through listening, dialogue and collaboration, sharing in the joys and hopes, as well as in the challenges, that accompany the Church's mission in your respective territories.

I am aware that each particular Church has its own history, a rich heritage of experiences and a pastoral journey that deserve to be known, appreciated and valued. It will therefore be a source of great joy for me to have the opportunity to meet each of you personally, to listen to your experiences and to become more closely acquainted with the life of the communities entrusted to your pastoral care.

I look forward with joyful anticipation to meet you in the near future, trusting that our encounters will provide opportunities for genuine fraternity, mutual enrichment and renewed enthusiasm in our common service to the People of God.

From this very beginning of our journey together, I place our mission under the maternal intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and to the heavenly protection of Saint Thomas the Apostle and Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta.

Upon each of you, upon your episcopal ministry and upon the particular Churches entrusted to your pastoral care, I invoke an abundance of the Lord's blessings.

With sentiments of fraternal esteem and communion in Christ,

✠ Waldemar Stanisław Sommertag
Apostolic Nuncio-designate to India

To the Cardinals, Archbishops and Bishops of India