

PRESS RELEASE OF THE ISTITUTO PER LE OPERE DI RELIGIONE (IOR)

The IOR confirms the receipt of a transfer of assets back from an Italian Bank to the IOR.

Vatican City State, 18 November 2014 - The assets were blocked since Sept 2010 subject to preventive measures introduced by Italian authorities. The assets were unblocked in June 2011 however, issues regarding customer due diligence remained unsolved.

The repatriation was now made operational as a consequence of the introduction of a fully-fledged anti-money laundering and supervisory system in the Holy See in 2013. That system has been recognized by the MONEYVAL Committee of the Council of Europe in December 2013. Furthermore the Holy See has strengthened its international cooperation through several bilateral agreements including Italy, Germany, US and UK.

Transactions relating to this procedure were IOR treasury operations only; at no time did this affect transactions or deposits of IOR customers.

The IOR operates with ca. 35 foreign banks worldwide through which it executes treasury activities and provides global payment services at the service of the Church.

Please note: this release has been edited on 21 November 2014

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