HIS BEATITUDE VISITS THE HOLY DIOCESE OF BRAZZAVILLE AND GABON

On 29th October 2012, His Beatitude Theodoros II, Pope and Patriarch of Alexandria and All Africa concluded his pastoral and missionary trip to the two Ecclesial provinces of the Holy Metropolis of Central Africa and the Holy Diocese of Katanga which are both situated in the Democratic Republic of Congo, and arrived in the neighbouring state of the Republic of Congo (Congo-Brazzaville) to begin his pastoral visit to the Holy Diocese of Brazzaville and Gabon.

His Beatitude was welcomed on behalf of the state of Congo-Brazzaville by His Excellency the Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Raymond Mboulou, together with Their Excellencies the Ambassadors of Greece in the Republic of Congo Mr. Alexandros Katranis, of Egypt Mr. Khaled Omran, of Russia Mr. Youri A. Romanof and by the Honourary Consul of Greece in Brazzaville Mr. Nicholas Perris, as well as many faithful Christians.

A Doxology was sung at the Holy Church of the Resurrection of the Lord in Brazzaville during which the Patriarchal Vicar of the Holy Diocese of Brazzaville and Gabon, the Very Reverend Archim. Theologos Xrysanthakopoulos expressed the joy and emotion of the Orthodox faithful for the safe arrival of the Venerable Primate of the Alexandrian Church.

His Beatitude thanked everyone for the warm welcome and expressed his paternal love for the local Church of Congo-Brazzaville.

It is to be noted that the above-named Diocese was established by Patriarchal and Synodal Decree on 7th October 2010. Its

spiritual jurisdiction includes the countries of the Republic of Congo (Congo — Brazzaville) and Gabon.