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June 28, 2016

Mr. Rateb Y. Rabie, KCHS
President/CEO
Holy Land Christian Ecumenical Foundation, Inc.
6935 Wisconsin Ave, Suite 518
Bethesda, MD 20815

Dear Mr. Rabie,

On behalf of Catholic Relief Services, it is a pleasure to send warm greetings as you prepare for the 18th International Conference & Awards Banquet.

The theme of this annual event, **“Forging a New Bond of Solidarity for Equality, Prosperity and Peace,”** is of critical importance given the continuing uncertainty in the Holy Land and in the region. This work is never easy. It is a continual struggle to overcome exclusion, political tensions and injustice. Yet it is through opportunities for dialogue and shared acts of love that the spirit of unity is fostered among all people. This event promises to be an important contribution in the journey towards peace.

We join with you and the Church around the world to pray for Christians in the Holy Land. May this event also be an opportunity to join with others of good will to renew our shared commitment towards peace and dialogue.

Thank you for your tireless efforts to promote hope and peace for future generations.

May blessings overflow,

Dr. Carolyn Y. Woo
President & CEO