

## **MEETINGS OF THE PATRIARCH OF ALEXANDRIA WITH THE DEPUTY CHIEF OF THE NATIONAL GUARD OF CYPRUS AND THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE MIDDLE EAST COUNCIL OF CHURCHES**

**On Wednesday 1st December 2021, His Beatitude Theodoros II, Pope and Patriarch of Alexandria and All Africa,** welcomed to the See of the Patriarchate in Alexandria the Secretary General of the Middle East Council of Churches Dr. Michel Abs and his entourage.

His Beatitude and his distinguished guests had a constructive meeting during which they discussed the forthcoming General Assembly of the Council, which will be held next May in Egypt.

In addition, the Patriarch of Alexandria briefed the Secretary-General and his entourage on his recent missionary trips to Uganda, Tanzania and South Africa, as well as on the humanitarian and religious work of the Orthodox Church of Alexandria on the length and breadth of Africa.

Later, the Patriarch received in the Throne Room of the Patriarchal Mansion, the Deputy Chief of the National Guard of Cyprus, Lieutenant General Costas Chrysiliou and his entourage, in the presence of the Patriarchal Vicar of Alexandria, His Eminence Narcissus Metropolitan of Naucratis and the holy clergy of the Patriarchal court.

His Beatitude welcomed the Deputy Chief, expressing his joy for this meeting. In addition, he stressed the strong cooperation that exists between the countries of Greece, Egypt and Cyprus, a co-operation that guarantees peace, justice and security in the Mediterranean Sea. The Primate of Alexandria also prayed for an immediate solution to the Cyprus issue, which has plagued the blessed and holy island of Cyprus for years now.

On his own behalf, the Deputy Chief expressed his emotion on being at the See of the Patriarchate of Alexandria, in the heart of Orthodoxy on the African Continent, and thanked him for the honour of receiving him and his entourage.