

## **TELEGRAM OF CONDOLENCES SENT BY HIS BEATITUDE AND THE PATRIARCH OF MOSCOW TO THE GOVERNMENT AND THE ORTHODOX CHURCH OF POLAND**

On 10<sup>th</sup> April 2010 His Beatitude Theodoros II Pope and Patriarch of Alexandria and All Africa and His Beatitude Kirill Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia, expressed their support for the suffering Polish people and the Polish Orthodox Church who lost their President of the Republic, his wife, senior officers and an Orthodox Hierarch, during the airplane accident in Smolensk in Russia.

His Beatitude Kirill of Moscow said: "I would like to inform you that at the time when we were in an airplane bound for Egypt, in Smolensk, where I served as Metropolitan for more than 25 years, a tragic accident occurred today. Specifically, those killed were the President of the Polish Republic, together with his wife Maria, senior officers, members of the armed forces, among whom was one of our brothers Metropolitan Myron of the Polish Church".

He also mentioned that "today is a tragic day and together with you, I wish to express from the depths of my heart, my deepest condolences to all the people of Poland".

Finally, His Beatitude Theodoros II of Alexandria expressed his deepest condolences and prayed for the repose of those who have fallen asleep and both Primate sent a common telegram to the Government of Poland, the families of the victims and His Beatitude Metropolitan Savvas of Warsaw and All Poland