

-----Original Appointment-----

From: POPOWSKI Maciej (NEAR) <Maciej.POPOWSKI1@ec.europa.eu>

Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 3:03 PM

To: POPOWSKI Maciej (NEAR); [REDACTED]

Cc: NEAR DDG2

Subject: Mtg with H.E. John Issam Darwish, Melkite Greek Catholic Archbishop of Furzol, Zahle and the Bekaa

When: mercredi 3 avril 2019 11:00-12:00 (UTC+01:00) Brussels, Copenhagen, Madrid, Paris.

Where: [REDACTED]

His Excellency John Issam Darwish, Melkite Greek Catholic archbishop of Furzol, Zahle and the Bekaa. He will be in Brussels invited to participate in a seminar hosted by the EPP on Wednesday 3 April about resilience of the Syrian population, and would like to have the opportunity to meet with you and your team to speak in more detail. Archbishop Darwish brings first-hand information and a unique overview of the evolution of the situation of refugees along the Lebanese border from the beginning of the conflict.

Aid to the Church in Need, a pontifical foundation, has been working with the archbishop for several decades in that very dynamic region. The cooperation increased with the conflict in Syria, as thousands of refugees arrived in Lebanon in need of every mean of subsistence. Since 2011, the archbishop and his team have tried to provide for the migrating families both in the refugee camps (where there is a majority of Muslim refugees) and the many Christian families who are dispersed in his entire archdiocese. The services offered have included not only basic humanitarian aid and shelter, but also schools, medical and rehabilitation (drug dependency) services.

The archbishop would be very grateful for the opportunity to speak to you during his visit, between Monday 1st April in the afternoon and Wednesday 3 April in the morning, at your convenience.

We will take the liberty to call your office in the coming days to see if such meeting is possible. We thank you in advance for the attention you give to this petition.

contact:

[REDACTED]

Aid to the Church in Need

[REDACTED],