## DECR representative meets with Iraqi Ambassador to Russia

On 20 March 2018, hieromonk Stefan (Igumnov), DECR secretary for inter-Christian relations, visited the Embassy of the Republic of Iraq in Moscow with the blessing of Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk, chairman of the Moscow Patriarchate's Department for External Church Relations.

Hieromonk Stefan met with H.E. Haidar Hadi Al-Athari, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Iraq to the Russian Federation. They discussed the current humanitarian situation in Iraq and prospects of cooperation between the Russian Orthodox Church and the Iraqi diplomatic mission. Hieromonk Stefan told the Ambassador about the activities of the Interreligious working group for rendering aid to the population of Syria under the Presidential Council for cooperation with religious associations.

Taking part in the meeting was cor-bishop Samano Odisho, rector of the Holy Virgin Mary Assyrian church in Moscow.

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