



## Working group for coordinating Russian Orthodox Church's missionary work in Philippines meets for its first session



On February 10, 2016, the working group for organizing, supporting and coordinating the Russian Orthodox Church's missionary work in the Philippines, established with the blessing of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia, met for its first session at the Moscow Patriarchate's department for external church relations (DECR).

The meeting was chaired by Metropolitan Ioann of Belgorod and Stary Oskol, head of the synodal mission department (SMD). It was attended by Bishop Anthony of Bogorodsk, head of the Moscow Patriarchate office for institutions abroad, Archpriest Nikolay Balashov, DECR vice-chairman, Hegumen Serapion (Mitko), vice-chairman of the synodal mission department, Rev. George Maximov, a cleric in Moscow, Rev. Stanislav Rasputin, head of the Petrozavodsk diocesan mission department, Hieromonk Philip (Balingit), head of the Philippines deanery of the Russian Church Outside Russia's diocese of Australia and New Zealand, Hieromonk Leo (Sklyarov), SMD press secretary, Rev. Ioann Moroz, SMD,

and Dmitry Petrovsky, DECR.

The agenda included a wide range of items concerning the organization of missionary work in the Philippines and restoration of the historical presence of the Russian Orthodox Church in the Philippines.

*DECR Communication Department*

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