



## **Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk attends meeting of Moscow State Conservatoire's patrons board**

On July 12, the chairman of the Moscow Patriarchate's department for external church relations, Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk, took part in a meeting of the Patrons Board of the Tchaikovsky State Conservatoire in Moscow.

The Patrons Board includes Ye. Primakov as its honorary chairman, S. Mironov, chairman of the Council of the Federation, Ms. L. Slizka, State Duma deputy speaker, and Moscow Mayor Yu. Luzhkov.

Opening the meeting, Mr. Primakov underscored the importance of the Moscow Conservatoire as the leading higher education institution in music in Russia and expressed satisfaction with the progress made in the restoration work carried out at the Conservatoire's Grand Hall.

Prof. A. Sokolov, rector of the Conservatoire, set forth in detail a concept of the restoration work carried out in the Grand Hall, pointing to the need to preserve the unique acoustics of Russia's main concert hall.

During the meeting, the Patron Board members exchanged opinions on a wide range of issues involved in the life and work of the Conservatoire.

In conclusion of the meeting, Mr. Sokolov welcomed Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk as a new member of the Patrons Board and expressed gratitude to His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia for having given the metropolitan a blessing to join the board.

On his part, the DECR chairman shared his vision of prospects for cooperation between various units of the Russian Orthodox Church and the Moscow State Conservatoire.