



## **Metropolitan Hilarion meets with Egypt's Ambassador to Russia**

On 23 January 2014, Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk, chairman of the Moscow Patriarchate's Department for External Church Relations, met with H.E. Mr. Mohammed El-Badri, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Arab Republic of Egypt to the Russian Federation. The meeting took place at the DECR premises.

Greeting the guest, Metropolitan Hilarion expressed his appreciation of the relationships established between the people of Egypt and Russia. The DECR chairman noted that the Russian Church was concerned over the situation of the Coptic Christian community and expressed his hope that the Egyptian authorities would take all necessary measures to defend Christians from extremists' attacks.

Mr. El-Badri handed over to Metropolitan Hilarion the message of greetings from Patriarch Theodoros II, the Primate of the Coptic Church, to His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia.

During the meeting, Metropolitan Hilarion and Mr. Mohammed El-Badri discussed a number of issues of mutual interest.