



RADIO VATICANA

Direzione Generale

00120 Città del Vaticano, June 28, 2011

SUPPORT FOR THE WORLD RADIO DAY

VATICAN RADIO would like to support the Spanish Radio Academy's proposal to UNESCO to establish a "**World Radio Day**" as part of the UN calendar.

Since its launch more than a century ago, radio has proven itself to be not only one of humanity's most useful inventions, but also the most universal media, free and accessible to the majority of the world's population. For all these reasons, radio, more than any other media, deserves a "**World Radio Day**". Undoubtedly, this date will be celebrated by radio professionals and millions of radio listeners around the world.

VATICAN RADIO considers it appropriate to have 30th October as the annual "**World Radio Day**". This is the date of the first broadcasting of one of the most relevant and well-known programmes in the history of radio, "The War of the Worlds". This radio drama was directed by Orson Welles and broadcast by CBS on the **30th of October 1938** and since then radio stations all over the world have produced countless versions of it in their own languages.

This letter is a formal expression of support for the Spanish Radio Academy's proposal to UNESCO to establish a "**World Radio Day**".



Fr. Federico Lombardi
Director General
Vatican Radio