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Code: ZE06062207

Date: 2006-06-22

Archbishop Lajolo Chosen for Vatican-City Posts

VATICAN CITY, JUNE 22, 2006 ([Zenit.org](http://www.zenit.org)).- Archbishop Giovanni Lajolo, secretary for relations with states, will be the new president of the Pontifical Commission for Vatican City State and of the governorate.

The Vatican press office announced today that on Sept. 15, the Italian prelate, 71, will replace U.S. Cardinal Edmund Szoka, 78, who presented his resignation for reasons of age. Benedict XVI made the new appointment.

Pope John Paul II appointed Archbishop Lajolo the Vatican's "foreign minister," as the office is commonly called, in October 2003.

Archbishop Lajolo, a career diplomat of the Holy See, was previously apostolic nuncio in Germany.

Legislative power in Vatican City State is exercised by a commission made up of the president, who is generally a cardinal, and two other cardinals appointed by the Pope.

Institutions that oversee the ordinary life of Vatican City State, including the Vatican Museums, are under the governorate.

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