



## **DECR chairman begins his visit to Jamaica**

On 18 May 2011, Metropolitan Hilarion, chairman of the Moscow Patriarchate's Department for External Church Relations, arrived in Jamaica to lead a delegation of the Moscow Patriarchate at the International Ecumenical Peace Convocation (IEPC) with the blessing of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia.

The DECR chairman was met at the airport in Kingston by his deputy, hegumen Filaret (Bulekov), a member of the delegation; V. Zotin, the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Russian Federation to Jamaica; and V. Sterligov, a counsellor of the Russian Embassy.

The IEPC will last from 17<sup>th</sup> through 25<sup>th</sup> May 2011. Some 1,000 participants from more than 120 countries will celebrate achievements of the Decade to Overcome Violence declared by the World Council of Churches in 2001.