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NEW PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ITALY TO THE OECD

Ambassador Pietro Calamia has taken up his post as Italian Permanent Representative to the OECD, succeeding Mr. Luigi Fontana Giusti, who has been appointed Italian Ambassador to Turkey.

Born at Campi Salentina, Lecce, in 1930, Ambassador Calamia was awarded a doctorate in political science at the Cesare Alfieri University, Florence, in 1952, entering the diplomatic service in 1955. After service in the political affairs department, he was posted to the Consulate-General in Marseille, subsequently returning to Rome, first to the press and information department, and then the office of the Government spokesman, before going to the Embassy in Vienna.

Appointed a member of the Italian Permanent Delegation to the European Community in 1966, he was notably involved in the Membership negotiations with Denmark, the United Kingdom, Ireland and Norway, and the agreement with EFTA. A member of the Ambassadors' Deputies' Committee from 1970 to 1972, serving as Chairman in 1971 he returned to Rome in 1973 to coordinate Community policy questions at the Ministry until 1978 when he became Deputy Permanent Representative to the European Community.

Subsequently, Mr. Calamia was Ambassador in Belgrade (1980-84), and then Permanent Representative to the European Community from 1984 until his appointment in 1990 as Director-General for Social Affairs (Emigration and Immigration) at the Foreign Ministry, a post he held until his present nomination.

Ambassador Calamia is married with two children.

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END-OF-TEXT