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EXPO MILANO 2015-ITALY

FEEDING THE PLANET, ENERGY FOR LIFE

NOURIR LA PLANÈTE, ÉNERGIE POUR LA VIE

NUTRIRE IL PIANETA, ENERGIA PER LA VITA

NOTE ON THE CONTENT

*The texts contained in this publication represent extracts from speeches delivered in Milan on 4 - 5 February 2008 on the occasion of the 2nd Expo Milano 2015 Forum "Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life. Working together for food safety, food security and healthy lifestyles".
The texts were chosen to enhance and underline in particular the planning aspects of the future of Expo Milano 2015.*

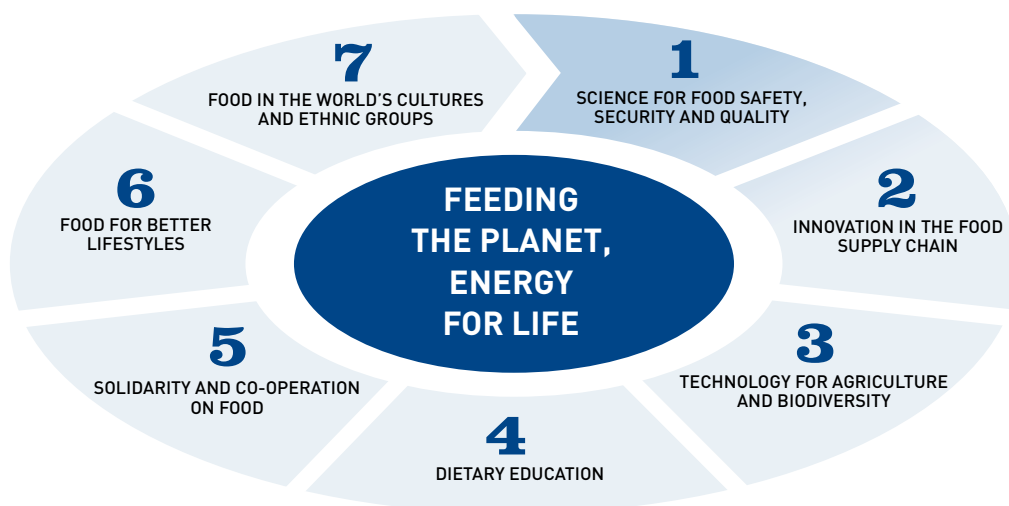


FEEDING THE PLANET, ENERGY FOR LIFE

7 SUB - THEMES

ACCESS TO SAFE, SECURE FOOD AND WATER IS A BASIC RIGHT OF HUMANKIND. “FEEDING THE PLANET” IS TRULY A PARAMOUNT PRIORITY BECAUSE:

- Pursuing the twin goals of **food safety** (good food and water) and **food security** (having enough to eat and drink) is a fundamental principle of **sustainable development**.
- Good food and water are a fundamental requirement for personal health.
- Hunger, thirst and social imbalances are often at the root of human conflict. Allowing these imbalances to persist ensures a lose-lose situation.



“FEEDING THE PLANET, ENERGY FOR LIFE” and main related fields

- Scientific and applied research
- Bio-technologies
- Packaging
- Pharmaceuticals and dietary products
- Agro foods (production, transformation, packaging and storage)
- Animal husbandry
- Restaurants and hotels
- Transport and logistics
- Supermarkets and retailers
- Environmental protection technologies
- Training schools / agencies
- International co-operation
- Wellness and fitness
- Food and wine
- Building, housing and infrastructure
- Trade fair and conference system
- Tourism





EXPO MILANO 2015: AN EXCELLENT CLIMATE PROGRAMME

Al Gore 2007 Nobel Peace Prize



The Alliance for Climate Protection has established a spirit of strong cooperation and understanding with the City of Milan in addressing some of the most urgent issues related to the climate crisis.

Milan is in fact adopting a Climatic Equilibrium Defense Plan and is implementing effective and comprehensive policies to become one of the most environmentally friendly cities in Europe and in the World.

Milan has also initiated education and training programs with the aim at persuading individuals, families, communities, companies to begin quickly and meaningfully to create a low environmental impact urban area.

I am personally grateful to Mayor Letizia Moratti for having shared with the Alliance for Climate Protection some of these ideas and **I am happy to announce that we are in the process of signing a Memorandum of Understanding to cooperate in information and communication activities with the goal of spreading awareness, knowledge and best practices in the areas of energy consumption and environment protection.**

The efforts the city of Milan has already made to be prepared to host the Expo 2015 are impressive.

Milan has proposed an urban development project called "Feeding the Planet, Energy for life" that shows great promise to the international community.

I applaud the efforts to make the event carbon neutral by reducing the offsetting of green house grass emissions and working with other cities to generate green credits under the Kyoto protocol through the cleaning development mechanism and the joint implementation program.

The Expo Milano 2015 will be an extraordinary opportunity for new understanding and understanding that our planet's environmental resources must be preserved for our children and our children's children.

EXPO MILANO 2015: 7 YEARS OF COOPERATION PROJECTS WITH ALL THE WORLD

Letizia Moratti Mayor of Milan and President of Expo Milano 2015 Bidding Committee



“Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life”: this theme stands for responsibility.

We aspire to share this responsibility with a view to build an international cooperation.

I would like to take the opportunity to mention three of the major ongoing projects.

- 1) The **“Semat” project on environmental monitoring of the marine ecosystem**, studied and developed by the Polytechnic Institute of Milan in partnership with other scientific institutions, amongst them the University of Queensland in Australia.
- 2) The agreement between the University of Milano-Bicocca and the Government of Maldives, establishing scientific research **projects on the archipelago’s ecosystem, as well as on food and diseases.**
- 3) A Master Program within the framework of the **«Urban-Regional Sustainable Projects and Human Security»**.
Current participation includes 8 municipalities from Chile, to be extended to other Latin American Countries shortly.
Such projects will pave the way to the future 7 years in view of 2015.

The approach we chose is based on “7 pillars in 7 years”:

1. The Telematic Agro Food Exchange and the “Food Village”
2. Cooperation project through NGO’s on food security
3. The partnership with International Organisations
4. A “City to City” approach
5. Direct co-development
6. Sharing a heritage of creativity, style and design
7. Preserving biodiversity

1. The “Telematic Agro Food Exchange” and the “Food Village” will be fully explored following.
2. The concrete efforts we have undertaken on the subject of food, particularly food security, brought us to raise 500 thousand € through a call for tender.
This, in turn, has allowed us to select 15 projects involving different Countries among which: improving access to food and drinking water for the population of Tchad, rural development in Argentina, natural resource management in Niger, food aid for malnourished children in Colombia, support for rural women’s cooperatives and micro-business networks in Salvador, to name but a few. Other actions have been undertaken in Senegal, Uganda, Tanzania, Congo and Peru.
3. Our partnership with International Organisations such as the UN, the FAO and the EU, who share our common goal of reaching the 8 Development goals for the Millennium.
Milan has entered a special partnership within this framework with the World Food Program, we are about to launch the “Red Cup” campaign against hunger, especially in African countries.
4. A “City to City” approach plays a critical role in international solidarity. We intend to share our resources and skills with our twinned cities and other cities working with us on concrete projects. For that purpose, Milan local utilities A2A (energy), AMSA (waste management), ATM (public transport) and Fiera Milano (our Exhibition organisation) are committed and ready to transfer their know-how.
5. Direct co-development allows us to help new citizens in our countries as well as their families still living abroad.
It ensures the value and facilitates the transfer of immigrants’ remittances to their country of origin.
The banking system in turn has pooled 10.4 million € for projects aiming at developing human capital and new businesses.
6. The sharing of our heritage, particularly in the area of Italian creativity, style and design with new sectors such as tourism and the craft industry, to facilitate the set-up of new businesses in other countries.
For that purpose, Milan municipal schools of design, craft and tourism along with our industrial system offer to make their best assets in job training available.
7. Global warming and climate change are set to trigger a vast array of natural disasters.

Aware of the urgency of preserving biodiversity, seas and forests, fighting desertification and preventing natural disasters, Milan called for projects to raise 5 million € intended for micro-insular countries in the Caribbean, the Pacific and the Indian Ocean, as well as landlocked sub-Saharan African countries suffering from the consequences of desertification.

Last but not least, Milan will promote a good number of cooperation project to implement measures regarding the use of energy.

For this purpose **Expo Milano 2015 has set aside 52 million € for environmental projects in Developing Countries, as well as countries vulnerable and in a transition stage, that are facing environmental and energy-related challenges.**



THE THEME OF EXPO MILANO 2015 IS ONE OF THE PLANET'S GREAT CHALLENGES

Jean Pierre Lafon President of BIE

The BIE is now an organisation of 140 member States. It means that this organisation is really representing all the continents, all the planet and the problems of the planet.

Milan has chosen a very good theme, because it is one of the great challenges facing the planet.

It has been a theme of actuality for a long time but especially now, because the population increases.

We are 6 billion inhabitants today and within 40 years' we will probably be 9 billion inhabitants. This is our first problem.

Second problem: with global warming and degradation of soils we have a problem of lands. All best crop lands have been used, only marginal crop lands remain.

Third problem: the dwindling of resources in the sea due to the increasing in the fishing catch in the last 50 years. So, what will be the resources available for tomorrow?

And fourth: with a higher life level we are changing our habits and our nutrition modes.

Therefore, new diseases appear due to nutrition and those changes in habits.



We are, for example, eating more and more meat. Cattle breeding is not similar to crop cultivation as we need much more water which is, in turn, a new problem, especially for emerging countries. This theme is of current interest today even more than at the time of Milan's bid.

This past year bears witness to it: food prices increased by about 15%. In developing countries, food makes up between 70% and 90% of a family's budget.

Why the price increase? Circumstantial factors due to climate change and deterioration are certainly to blame, but the increased use of soil for energy-related crops, such as biofuels like ethanol, for example, contributed to it at an ever growing rate. This lead to a competition between energy-oriented and food-oriented crops.

Lastly, scientific progress generated a technological revolution.

We may be about to witness a new green revolution; scientific and biotechnological progress however bear as many hopes as they carry threats.

I wish to underline, once more, that Milan's theme is of the greatest importance and significance. Of course we are in competition with another great theme, even if those two themes are partially linked.

As President of the BIE the only thing I can say is that I wish that the best will win.

A NATIONWIDE COMMITMENT TO SUPPORT A LARGE SCALE PROJECT OF EXCELLENT QUALITY

Massimo D'Alema *Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs*

The Bureau International des Expositions, in virtually a century of activity, has made an invaluable contribution to the contemporary world through the realisation of events that have left their mark on history.

The Expo has become a powerful cultural and scientific event giving exhibiting countries the chance to exchange the latest ideas and proposals regarding the most pressing issues of the day. It is within this context and sharing this new philosophy, that Italy and its institutions welcome the challenge of 2015, its bid joining a series of outstanding events: the hugely successful 2005 World Exposition in Aichi, on the other the already promising appointment in Shanghai in 2010, with equally significant events on the horizon in Zaragoza in 2008 and Yeosu in 2012.

The theme of Expo Milano 2015 will attract a broad exchange of ideas and proposals from countries from all five continents.

A theme which embraces many of the key concerns of modern life: tradition and innovation, agriculture and industry, healthcare and the environment. Italy identifies closely with the work of the United Nations (FAO and WFP which have their headquarters in Rome), as well as the European Agency for Food Safety, based in Parma.

I can assure the Assembly, which will make its decision on 31 March, **that Italy and the whole institutional framework across the political spectrum stands united behind Milan, as the BIE Enquiry Mission was able to see last October** during the meetings with the government and the opposition, representatives of business, the trades unions and cultural associations, who each made their enthusiastic support for the initiative clearly evident.

With a project of such proportions even such broad political commitment must be backed up by concrete measures.

This is why the Italian government introduced in its budget and economic forecasts a package of financial support amounting to € 1,4 billion out of € 3,2 billion of total investment.

The Enquiry Mission's report, while highlighting the bid's many points of strength, placed special emphasis on the precision and credibility of these guarantees, which for the first time in Expo history were endorsed by independent international institutions.

We have also begun a dialogue to invite proposals and recommendations from those countries who will become the true protagonists of Expo Milano 2015. It is no coincidence that this project devoted to food should materialise in the same year, 2015, that marks the target date for the Millennium Development Goals set by the United Nations in 2000.

Nor was it a coincidence that in June 2007, mid-way through the Millennium process, we chose to host an international conference in Rome to monitor the progress made and assess the work still to be done to dramatically reduce world hunger, followed immediately afterwards by the 1st Presentation Forum for Expo Milano, again in Rome.

An event of global resonance such as a World Exposition is obviously a rare privilege for the host country. Its main significance from our perspective, however, is as an opportunity for the international community to exploit the theme, Milan's expertise and the hospitality of Italy to present their views to a global audience which will be even greater and more demanding in 2015 than it is today.



A SOLID EXPERIENCE IN EVENT ORGANISATION

Francesco Rutelli Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Culture



When looking at 2015, Milan and Italy are aware of the dire need to inspire the world and help it find the enthusiasm to take on the great challenges faced by mankind.

The successful organisation of international events is another area in which Italy excels and has acquired a vast know-how it offers to share.

As mayor of Rome and Special Commissioner of the Government, I have personally overseen the planning and organisation of the year 2000 Jubilee. What an amazing show of popular attendance! You are undoubtedly familiar with the different projects carried out in Rome on various occasions, and in Turin for the 2006 Winter Olympics.

All this experience, along with the commendable cooperation between public authorities, local government and the people would greatly benefit the Expo 2015.

I would like to mention that both cities have changed their development model following these major events: as of today, 85% of Rome's economy relies on service while Turin shifted from its former all-industrial economy based on car-manufacturing toward cultural tourism, boosting the number of new businesses and interesting projects along the way.

This transformation is bound to reshape Milan as well. Indeed, the Expo 2015 will contribute well beyond its exceptional and universal legacy of culture and values: thanks to the support of the BIE, it will also improve life for the people living in Milan and in Lombardy.

As Minister for Cultural Affairs, I would like to conclude by sharing a few thoughts on culture.

Expo Milano 2015, thanks to its many cultural assets, truly represents an ideal opportunity to share experiences and knowledge with the world for the benefit of all.

Milan is an international capital of culture, a worldwide capital of music, a city to which Leonardo da Vinci left an invaluable legacy still radiating throughout the world today.

Milan is an international capital of design and contemporary design-related industry.

This considerable heritage will provide a unique platform for delegations of all participating countries to dialogue.

The Ministry of Cultural Affairs is thus keen on cooperating with the organizers of the Expo 2015, lending its skills to help numerous international cultural projects see the light. We are well prepared to do so; the fact that Italy is one of the greatest organizers of festivals of all kinds, from high-level cultural events to popular happenings, bears witness to it. This is the ambitious objective we have in mind for the Expo 2015. What a wonderful adventure!

I wish for Milan and for us all to draw on Leonardo da Vinci's words: "constantia non chi comincia ma quel che persevera". Taking the first step, fighting our way through, having an ambitious goal but, more than anything, persevering: this sums up our way of being Italians and the ambition driving us to offer our skills and fraternity to the world we are part of.

EXPO MILANO 2015: WORKING TOGETHER FOR OUR FUTURE

Emma Bonino *Member of Parliament and Minister for International Trade and European Affairs*

Milan's bid has the backing of the world's leading experts. Global partnership is the watchword of this initiative. Working together, a partnership between countries, sharing skills and experience, in a mutual exchange of traditions. This is the battle the world cannot afford to lose in the struggle to secure sufficient food for everyone.

Global projects like the Expo can never be the sole responsibility of the country which has the honour of hosting the event. A Expo **must become a platform for international co-operation.**

If Milan is awarded Expo 2015, it must receive the backing not only of Italy. It must be an Expo with which the entire world can identify, where the best minds of every country can come together to discuss issues that affect every region of the planet and promote the latest solutions.

We want to make Milan the source of a new energy, new ideas that can respond to ever faster and sometimes frightening pace of change of today's world.

Accelerating global competition is rapidly altering the balance of economic strength between continents; the climate appears to be changing at a rate we never thought possible; our increasing hunger for food and energy looks likely to consume the resources which have been used to taking for granted.

No frontier or barrier can isolate any one country from what happens in other parts of the world.

We are therefore obliged to work together to protect our future.

This is not a choice but a necessity, it is the new natural condition of humanity today.

Fortunately an increasing number of Italian firms have overcome their fear or diffidence towards the wider world to discover new markets in which their capacity for innovation can find new horizons and build a value chain on a much vaster scale.

I believe this is a lesson which we must all be quick to learn.

Today's world demands a spirit of collaboration: we have no alternative. If we fail to act we all stand to lose, if we act the result will be greater opportunity for all.



EXPO MILANO 2015: ROME STANDS WITH MILAN TO MEET A MASSIVE CHALLENGE

Walter Veltroni Mayor of Rome and Secretary of Democratic Party

I believe **the biggest challenge we face today is to halt the widening inequality between the rich and poor regions of the world.** It is no coincidence that the challenge of 2015 recalls the international undertakings of the Millennium Goals. We can and we must ensure that economic growth in the rich world -no longer only the West- avoids enlarging the divide which threatens to overwhelm the social and environmental equilibria of the planet and provoke unmanageable mass emigrations of people. We need a world in which everyone, in their own homelands, has a chance to work, study, raise a family and create prosperity. Many countries have, through international support and co-operation, succeeded in pulling themselves out of poverty and grow into great countries. One example is Italy, which today can rightfully sit at the table of the G8.

I believe that the challenge of poverty is the biggest threat to the future harmony of the planet.

We must find a way to combat the growing hardships that directly affect the everyday life of millions of human beings.

Africa is a continent in which a large part of humanity's destiny will be determined. The same goes for many poorer regions of the world where climate change is multiplying the effects of economic inequalities.

Think of the number of environmental refugees who are forced to escape from the impact of changes to the biosphere, to leave their homelands to find a life and a job elsewhere.

The theme of Expo Milano 2015 is central to this new global vision of modernity. Milan is a leader in innovation, a protagonist of the economic and financial life of this country, a city with extraordinary cultural and social traditions.

The candidacy of Milan is really the candidacy of the whole of Italy. Milan and Rome are allied in a common effort to further the country's growth and the quality of life of its people; together they stand united behind this important commitment.

Whatever the outcome of the elections, whatever government comes to power, its support for Milan's bid will be unqualified.

In this venture **Milan represents the entire country, regardless of geography or politics, because right now Milan is Italy.**

As such the whole spectrum of Italian politics is solidly behind this project, the choice of Milan, and the content of the World Exposition.

We need new, innovative ideas that can inject dynamism into our society. We need to recover a passionate pioneering spirit of collaboration, to rediscover the humility that comes from listening, mutual respect and the will to work tirelessly together for the national interest. We have before us a unique opportunity to show what we are capable of.

Milan will be at the centre of our efforts because today, in this challenge and not only in this, Milan is Italy.



EXPO MILANO 2015: A BIPARTISAN PROJECT

Giulio Tremonti Former Minister of Economy and Vice-President of Forza Italia

In view of Expo 2015 Milan and Italy are presenting many strategic projects. These concern three main areas, are organised on three different levels and extend until 2015 and beyond.

The three main areas are: food and agriculture, environment, water and health.

Food: food means a lot to health and well-being for the humankind. Making high-quality food available to all humankind is probably still the most important aim of international cooperation.

Water: for the future of humankind.

The ancient Romans were already aware of its significance as they invented a motto: "salus per aquam". Water means life and health.

We have to act at three different levels: local, national, international.

2015: from now to 2015 we have seven years period of time.

Time is a fundamental dimension of politics, as politics has the duty to guarantee the feasibility of the project we are discussing today.

In seven years' time a democratic country is likely to have different governments, with left-wing and right-wing governments alternating.

I am absolutely sure that Expo Milano 2015 is a complete bipartisan project.

It is my opinion that the world is facing today two fatal risks. The first is the crisis in globalisation, the second is the environment crisis of the planet.

Facing these threats, we have to react, we can react, we are willing to react, to find solutions to the problems of our world.



A WELCOMING CITY OFFERING EXCELLENT BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Carlo Sangalli President of the Milan Chamber of Commerce

Milan Chamber of Commerce is a public body which represents 400,000 firms and is the biggest Chamber of Commerce in Europe.

Milan is city of openness and solidarity which has always striven to make work and business in particular, the key to genuine integration. Here immigrants have found the path to "active citizenship" creating 20,000 new firms, 10.7% more than last year. An effort which takes citizenship to a higher level, transcending physical boundaries to embrace globalisation with the steady pace of small and medium business.

Today Milan is just a node in the global network, just as yesterday it played the part of a "middle earth" between the northern and southern hemispheres.

Milan is a global hub, an urban system which no longer sees itself as just a city, but a generator of processes that link the centres of world trade in a tight web of interconnections.

A second responsibility is to everyone on the planet: the "small and medium-sized business" model serves as an example of how economic and social differences can be overcome by putting quality at the centre, which really means putting people at the centre.



A BUSINESS SYSTEM READY AND WILLING TO WORK WITH THE PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES FOR 7 YEARS

Diana Bracco President of Assolombarda



The entire business community is strongly behind Milan's bid for Expo 2015.

Milan is the beating heart of the Italian economy and an engine of European business, with thousands of small and medium enterprises. It hosts the headquarters of almost half the multinationals operating in Italy.

Our interest in hosting the Expo primarily rests on the choice of theme: the task of feeding the planet unites peoples and countries from every continent around the need to focus the world's attention on the right of every human being to a secure, safe and healthy diet.

It is a challenge which will represent a catalyst for progress, spawning innovation in technology, industry and agriculture to better meet man's needs today, and even more so tomorrow.

When it comes to feeding people, Italy's traditions and capacity for innovation is widely celebrated. Today Italian cuisine is relished by people around the world.

Milan, in particular, has a huge presence in the food sector, Europe's biggest manufacturing industry and a sector in more than 70,000 firms are employed.

All this makes Milan ideally equipped to host the Expo, eager to construct its future with forward looking ideas and creative projects that it is ready to share with the world.

A NETWORK OF CITIES READY TO COOPERATE FOR EXPO MILANO 2015

Sergio Chiamparino Mayor of Turin

Turin endorses Milan's bid for the 2015 World Exposition with the utmost conviction and for three main reasons. First and foremost because it is Italy's bid as a country.

No other city, besides our capital, would know how to express the wealth of our country's history, culture, technology, know-how and beauty as brilliantly as Milan.

Therefore Milan truly is the city that best conveys Italy's many assets to the world. The choice of the theme comes second.

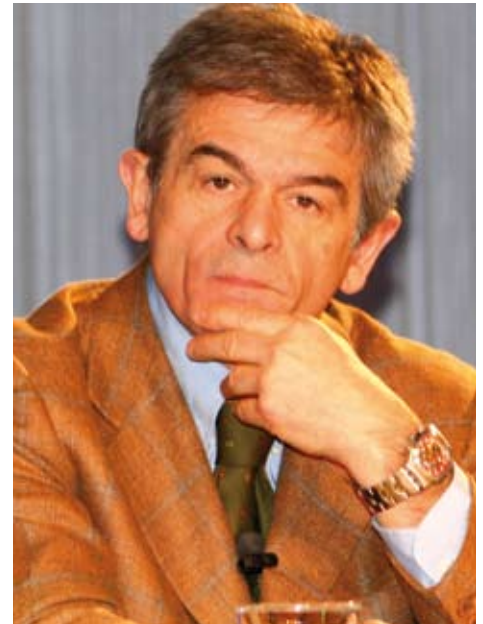
The relationship between food, lifestyles and the environment is a crucial and strategic issue for our planet.

Choosing this theme goes well beyond Expo Milano 2015.

An international exhibition should focus more on substance than on form the choice of the theme bears witness to that, since this issue will determine the future of our planet.

Finally, our support goes to Milan in the name of a friendship that goes back as far as the Risorgimento.

This friendship has fathered many concrete projects such as the construction of the high-speed railway set to connect our cities by 2010, and, hopefully, its subsequent extension both to Lyon and Venice; three years ago, our polytechnic schools came together to form a Higher Polytechnic school; last September saw the first edition of one of Europe's most acclaimed international music festival, MiTo. A large number of joint projects draw our cities together.



Turin is ready to join the 2015 team by offering its vast experience as an industrial city, of course, but also as the host of the XX Olympic Winter Games in 2006.

It is thus not surprising if some of the people behind the Winter Olympics' success joined the Expo Milano 2015 team!

We also wish to share the experience we acquired through the organisation of the Salone del Gusto and Terra Madre, the bi-annual "Slow Food" events that broadcast food-related issues everywhere in the world, insisting that the quality of food determines as much as it is determined by the quality of agricultural production.



Milan will thus enjoy all the necessary requisites to organize the Expo 2015 that best showcases Italy's history, culture and quality.

THE PROJECT GROUPS ARE ALREADY AT WORK

Project Group 1 *Defense of territories against high risk natural events*

Project Group 2 *Agriculture in adverse conditions*

Project Group 3 *The sea as a resource for food and nutrition*

Project Group 4 *Food safety and security*

Roberto Schmid *President of the Scientific Committee*

So far, four project groups focusing on the four themes have been established with regard to Expo Milano 2015. More groups will follow over the next few months. 133 delegates took part in these groups and a number of countries informed us that they wished they would have had the opportunity to join more than one group rather than having to choose but one.

The high percentage of European delegates amongst them is worth mentioning. Indeed, even though it might appear rather unexpected, it bears witness to the high number of European countries interested in the themes we suggested.

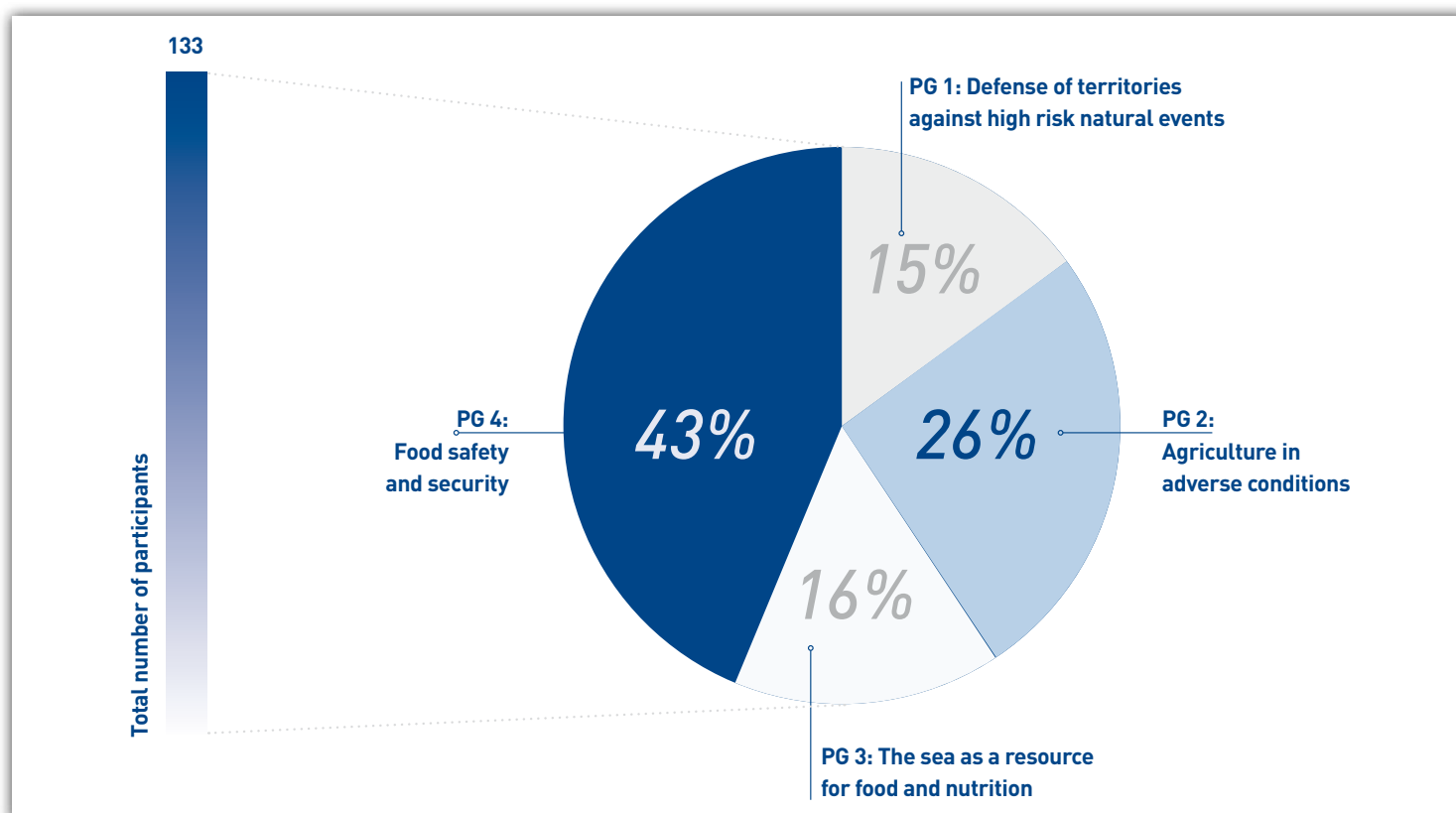
The working groups' objective was to bring forth suggestions on the feasibility of projects. Their work gave birth to quite a few subprojects supporting what has been said here so far.

This attests to the Scientific Committee's commitment to work and make its skills available to the Expo Milano 2015.



PROJECT GROUPS' PARTICIPATION

Participants by Project Group (Total number of people – 133 = 100%)



PROJECT GROUP 1

Giovanni Bignami President of the Italian Space Agency (ASI)



Project Group 1 saw valuable contributions from all the member countries and enabled us to define more clearly the way forward to 2015 and the defence of territories through the prevention, mitigation and management of risk and reconstruction. Six concrete proposals were identified, each with its own project lead to oversee and co-ordinate our efforts. Expo Milano 2015 will serve as a catalyst, releasing much needed technologies and networking resources. One example is space observation, an invaluable tool for assisting countries stricken by natural disasters such as the tsunamis. Satellite radar monitoring lets us penetrate the cloud and rain layer and furnish the agencies and rescue teams on the ground with precise information on the condition of roads, railways and bridges.

COUNTRIES SO FAR INVOLVED IN THE PROJECT GROUP 1

- *Bangladesh*
- *Costa Rica*
- *Cyprus*
- *Democratic Republic of Congo*
- *Dominican Republic*
- *Ecuador*
- *Greece*
- *New Zealand*
- *Nigeria*
- *Rwanda*
- *Senegal*
- *South Africa*
- *St. Vincent and Grenadines*
- *Turkey*
- *United Kingdom*
- *Venezuela*

MAIN SUBPROJECTS

TITLE
<i>Earthquakes and Tsunamis</i>
<i>Floods and Droughts</i>
<i>Volcanic eruptions</i>
<i>Atmospheric events</i>
<i>Runaway Fires</i>
<i>Landslides</i>

PROJECT GROUP 2

Alice Perlini Director of the "Istituto Agronomico per l'Oltremare"

Expo Milano 2015 highlights the need for international co-operation on the themes and projects discussed by the working groups. Two key themes are capacity development and the enhancement of human resources.

Four subprojects emerged and precise goals identified:

- development of skills for better access to technologies and a more accurate diagnosis of agricultural problems;
- an agronomy project for soil reclamation and water conservation to promote, among other things, year-round farming even in arid regions;
- defence of biodiversity to meet new challenges caused, among other things, by climate changes;
- enhancement of local resources and, with help from microcredit, the building of infrastructure.



COUNTRIES SO FAR INVOLVED IN THE PROJECT GROUP 2

- *Antigua & Barbuda*
- *Cambodia*
- *Cuba*
- *Democratic Republic of Congo*
- *France*
- *Gabon*
- *Gambia*
- *Guinea*
- *Indonesia*
- *Kenya*
- *Malaysia*
- *Mauritania*
- *Mexico*
- *Namibia*
- *Niger*
- *Nigeria*
- *Paraguay*
- *Peru*
- *Senegal*
- *Spain*
- *Tunisia*

MAIN SUBPROJECTS

TITLE	Objectives and tools
<i>Local research and capacity development of technology adoption</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farming system diagnostic analysis • Natural resource assessment • Enhancement of human resources
<i>Agronomy: project arid cultivation, fertilisation, defence of crops, irrigation, fight against salinity</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restoration of degraded soils • Water conservation techniques to allow cultivation all year round in the areas characterised by seasonal rainfall • Preservation of local food cultivations (even if products have no high yields - Preservation of biodiversity) • Enhancement of human resources
<i>Biodiversity: project for increasing the availability of improved seeds and other means of reproduction/acts for enhancing agricultural biodiversity</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Answers to the frequent mutations of the productive context (climate, technological innovations) and to market demands • Participatory plant breeding • Reinforcement of the seed supply chain • Enhancement of human resources
<i>Local products and market production, storage, small processing, packaging, transportation, link to the market</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infrastructures for food conservation • Organisation of transport for rural communities • Transformation of agricultural products to create added value and to improve women's employment • Internal and external access to markets • Enhancement of human resources • Support to farmers' associations • Micro-finance services

PROJECT GROUP 3

Dino Levi *Former Director of "Istituto Risorse Marine e Ambiente" (I.R.M.A.)*

The projects brought forward are of interest to most countries.

Even though some of them might be more sensitive to the subject of fishing than others due to their geographical situation, the issues raised by environmental changes and the renewal of marine resources are of concern to everyone.

Two main concepts are worth mentioning to fully grasp the spirit lying at the heart of the various proposals:

- science's new way, based, among others, on technologies, of tackling the issue of sustainable exploitation of renewable marine resources;
- the indisputable need to move beyond short-term profits and embrace long term objectives in order to preserve the richness of our resources for future generations.



COUNTRIES SO FAR INVOLVED IN THE PROJECT GROUP 3

- *African Union*
- *Antigua & Barbuda*
- *Bahamas*
- *Comoros*
- *Czech Republic*
- *El Salvador*
- *Fiji*
- *Gabon*
- *Greece*
- *Guatemala*
- *Haiti*
- *Morocco*
- *Philippines*
- *Samoa*
- *Slovenia*
- *Togo*

MAIN SUBPROJECTS

TITLE

Quantifying the value of ecological services in terms of medium/long term benefits rather than short term profits: i.e. mangrove swamps vs. new estate buildings

Satellite observations and measurements of fishing fleets to link quantity and distribution of fishing effort with the available information on resource distribution and abandons as gathered by indirect or direct methods: pilot studies on selected fish lives

The value of discard and catch by industrial fleets as opposite to main source of earning for local communities: case studies

PROJECT GROUP 4

Vittorio Silano *President of the Scientific Committee of EFSA and
Head of the Innovation Department of the Italian Ministry of Health*

Seven themes were identified within the framework of Project Group 4.

To proceed effectively towards 2015 it is widely recognised that we must have the support of governments and international bodies as well as the collaboration of everyone who can play an active part in the working group.

The seven subprojects and goals together with the instruments required can be summed up as follows:

- develop new processes for the early recognition and prevention of risks to the food chain;
- help developing countries and third parties to exploit their agricultural and food traditions;
- empower consumers to make health-conducive choices in terms of food and diet. This will require alliances with consumer associations, governments, local authorities, international organisations and the food industry;
- conserve water resources through a more rational use and recycling of water;
- promote a more ethical distribution and access to safe, secure food and water resources - several members urged the signing of a global declaration on this issue;
- promote technology transfer to developing countries and manpower development through bilateral and multilateral agreements;
- soil reclamation for farming in countries with intensive mining industries.



COUNTRIES SO FAR INVOLVED IN THE PROJECT GROUP 4

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| • <i>African Union</i> | • <i>Jordan</i> | • <i>Slovak Republic</i> |
| • <i>Argentina</i> | • <i>Mali</i> | • <i>Slovenia</i> |
| • <i>Belgium</i> | • <i>Malta</i> | • <i>Sri Lanka</i> |
| • <i>Bulgaria</i> | • <i>Monaco</i> | • <i>Suriname</i> |
| • <i>Burundi</i> | • <i>Mongolia</i> | • <i>Trinidad and Tobago</i> |
| • <i>China</i> | • <i>Morocco</i> | • <i>Tunisia</i> |
| • <i>Democratic Republic of Congo</i> | • <i>Nepal</i> | • <i>Turkey</i> |
| • <i>Gabon</i> | • <i>Nigeria</i> | • <i>Uganda</i> |
| • <i>Guatemala</i> | • <i>Paraguay</i> | • <i>Ukraine</i> |
| • <i>Indonesia</i> | • <i>Poland</i> | • <i>Uruguay</i> |
| • <i>Iran</i> | • <i>Portugal</i> | • <i>USA</i> |
| • <i>Ivory Coast</i> | • <i>Republic of the Congo</i> | • <i>Venezuela</i> |
| • <i>Japan</i> | • <i>Republic of Korea</i> | |

MAIN SUBPROJECTS

Critical issues discussed	Objectives and tools	The way forward
<i>Identifying and preventing emerging risks for the food supply chain</i>	<i>Identifying appropriate indicators / signals of risks at their early inception, establishing data sources to monitor them and analyze available data according to an agreed methodology</i>	<i>Checking with EFSA the possibility of an agreement to enlarge its activities on emerging risks to interested Third Countries and other International Organisations</i>
<i>Promoting the identification of traditional high-quality foods in the cultural contexts of Developing Countries</i>	<i>It is of interest to each country to clearly identify and describe their "traditional foods" as safe, high-quality and easily marketable products worldwide</i>	<i>Helping Developing Countries to strengthen a cooperation at industrial and governmental level to classify, guarantee and certify claimed properties of these products</i>
<i>Empowering consumers to make health-conducive choices in terms of foods and diets</i>	<i>Promoting an alliance among national competent authorities, consumers organisations, food companies, international organisations and media to enable consumers, through adequate information, to adopt healthy lifestyles, particularly for the children</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Identifying interested countries and their representatives</i> • <i>Developing a proposal for a network in cooperation with international organisations</i> • <i>Deciding on the procedure to implement the network</i>
<i>Rational use, saving and recycling drinking and agricultural waters</i>	<i>Development of a governance system based on targeted programs, strategies and measures for sustainable water management, covering a range of aspects including the technical, social, economic, political and environmental ones</i>	<i>Analysing ongoing activities of International Organisations (e.g. WHO, FAO) on water governance and providing viewpoints of participating countries in terms of additional suggestions and support</i>
<i>Ethical issues: fair distribution, equal access, safety and security of Food & Water</i>	<i>Adoption of a world declaration on Food & Water ethics (general principle: "Sustainable Food & Water security")</i>	<i>Collaborating with competent UN organisations to establish a global network to develop a consensus approach on Food & Water ethics</i>
<i>Technology transfer to Developing Countries and manpower development</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Technological and manpower development in Agriculture, Food manufacturing and related fields (e.g. IT, water treatment) would help these countries in better coping with market competition</i> • <i>Strategies to prevent destruction of overproduced foodstuff would be high priorities in specific countries</i> 	<i>Development of bilateral and multilateral agreements as well as joint-ventures / partnerships among private and public agricultural and industrial stakeholders</i>
<i>Soil reclamation for agricultural purposes</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Countries with heavy extraction, drilling or mining activities suffer major soil damage making agricultural activities difficult</i> • <i>Technology transfer making possible soil reclamation in such countries strongly needed</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Based on current experience, a global strategy will be developed to ensure that extraction, drilling or mining companies also cover the costs for the environmental and soil reclamation</i> • <i>Soil reclamation technologies will be reviewed and assessed for effectiveness</i>

TWO PROJECTS THAT MILAN OFFERS TO THE WORLD

Food Village

A project for food safety and sustainable development

Food Village is a project sponsored by Milan City Council, public agencies in the sector (Sogemi S.p.A. and Milano Ristorazione S.p.A.), Università degli Studi di Milan and numerous national and international partners and research centres.

Food Village provides Milan with an authoritative centre of excellence to coordinate and divulge the findings of scientific study and research on food security and quality, on better use of resources and innovative technologies across the food chain in the preparation and serving of food and correct diet for each individual.

Food Village: 132,000 sqm linked to motorways, railways and airports

The site is situated to the east of Milan's city centre, between Linate airport and the university / polytechnic campus.



The complex comprises six functional zones:

- A.** University buildings hosting research and teaching activities on the agro foods sector
- B.** Shopping
- C.** Multifunctional
- D.** Hospitality – hotel and university campus
- E.** Logistics and food processing
- F.** Parkland, greenhouses, allotments, equipped green areas

Food Village is an international platform for the development and worldwide deployment of best practices in the agro-food chains: from field to fork.

Food Village promotes the study, testing and development of scalable solutions, systems and best practices that can be transferred and adopted by all agro-food chains: agriculture, farming, fishing.

Such practices are designed to protect the economic, social and environmental sustainability of primary and secondary production, the trading and consumption of foods and their effect on the health and well being of people and their habitat: energy for life, feeding the planet.

10 focus areas are addressed to create value for all people and every country connected with the Food Village:

1. Preserving the fertility of the land and the biodiversity of local agricultural production
2. Preserving, not wasting or polluting, water sources
3. Protecting food and environmental resources from excessive exploitation, with respect for the natural equilibrium
4. Developing and disseminating sustainable food production technologies
5. Developing and disseminating new food conservation technologies
6. Furthering initiatives to combat the destruction and wastage of food resources
7. Providing mechanisms to facilitate the marketing of local products worldwide
8. Designing and creating nutritional models for the protection of public health, which respect and enhance local food cultures and traditions
9. Developing know-how and technologies to optimise the use of energy, the production of renewable energies and to reduce the creation of waste and its effects
10. Promoting and disseminating information, education and training mechanisms that can be easily accessed and available for use by every country

The Telematic Agro Food Exchange



Within the framework of its bid to host the 2015 World Exposition, Milan intends to tackle these challenges with a project to set up a global **Telematic Agro Food Exchange** which it is hoped will strengthen the entire agro food supply chain (from grower, to trader to consumer) through the introduction of innovative **low cost trading mechanisms available to every country**.

The global exchange should be seen as a possible answer to key issues of the availability of food (e.g.: fair and equitable trade, creation of new marketing channels to engage less well known peoples and cultures) giving less advantaged nations the opportunity to export their most distinctive food products and thereby begin the journey towards economic emancipation.

The central idea behind the global food exchange is to give world a virtual space in which to trade agro food products (including perishable foods) currently ignored by the global marketplace due to logistical, technological or economic barriers. Thus Milan proposes a model that can stand alongside existing mercantile exchanges, providing a globally standardised mechanism for dealing and communication in real time.

In addition, **online technology gives the electronic exchange huge advantages over traditional commodity markets in terms of faster negotiation, lower costs, broader coverage and greater trading potential**, especially with respect to regions and products excluded from the conventional markets.

Today Milan already hosts the Italian Telematic Mercantile Exchange (BMTI), which operates online platforms accessible by remote terminals for real time trading in farm, fish and agro-food products.

Dealing is open to various types of operators: traders/agents from the farming, agro foods and fish industries, fishing businesses, grower/producer groups (co-operatives and consortiums in the farming, agro food and fish sectors), investment firms, financial brokers, authorised banks, major purchasing centres for big international supermarket chains.

In the years leading up to the 2015 World Exposition, Milan will bring the Telematic Agro Food Exchange project to fruition by directly extending existing structures like the BMTI and bringing into play the other world mercantile exchanges.

The entire proposal is closely aligned with Milan's intention, in the years prior to Expo 2015, to work together with other participating nations in a spirit of collaborative planning.



BEST PRACTICES FROM THE WORLD: EXPO MILANO 2015 AS "A PLACE TO BE"

Samuel Santos López Minister for Foreign Affairs - Nicaragua



This theme is of crucial importance, for we need to ensure that anyone, anywhere in the world has access to one of the most fundamental human rights.

Jacques Diouf, Director general of the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation, states that "we can only be certain to win the battle against hunger if the necessary resources are available, if a political will is shown and if the right policy is implemented."

If you allow me, I might add "and if we show a little less selfishness every day."

Being aware of these circumstances, my government has chosen to drive our country's development by boosting production and the food industry as well as implementing programs aimed at guaranteeing food security for the poorest with the help of the private sector and the international community, all the while keeping in mind the Millennium Goals.

Within this framework, **our 5-year-program "Zero hunger" offers to ensure food security for 75,000 families in rural areas through production redeployment.** The average annual cost estimates total about 30 million dollars; the investment per family amounts to 1500 /2000 dollars.

This program targets the right to adequate nutrition for expecting mothers, young and school-age children.

Considering the crucial importance of international cooperation in this area, we recently entered a commitment on food security with the Venezuelan and Bolivian governments.

Though it is still at a very early stage, it aspires to give impetus to technical and scientific cooperation on the matter.

Furthermore, mankind has reached an unprecedented awareness of how its

actions impact the environment and therefore its very survival on the planet.

International cooperation is as necessary as ever if every human being is to fully exercise his or her right to food and live in a sustainable, suitable environment.

I am truly convinced that Milan offers the World Exposition of 2015 a most favourable platform to call attention to the global importance of a joint and immediate action seeking common solutions to face this common challenge.

Lombardy's location in the heart of Europe puts it at a crossroads of main international routes. The quality of its population, production, economic and financial characteristics, traditions, culture and active solidarity accounts for its uniqueness. I cannot think of any better place to host the Expo 2015.

By supporting Milan's bid for the 2015 World Exposition, Nicaragua acknowledges the world's population right to food and to the preservation of their common habitat.

Food is a theme of particular relevance to us, especially in Africa. The main Millennium Goal, namely the fight against hunger, will not be achieved since Africa has not been able to develop adequate production capacities to feed its people.

Thus we still face the food-related challenges we knew 20 or 30 years ago.

The worldwide increase in food prices - 15% is the amount widely agreed upon - added a new dimension to the aforementioned issue of production capacity.

Meanwhile, we bear the heavy burden of its consequences. It appears clearly that one can not meet this challenge alone.

One of the main paradoxes of living in a globalized world is that I, in Mauritania, monitor wheat crop in Argentina, France and Canada because it concerns me directly. Furthermore, the issues of food, stability and politics in general are inextricably linked.

Still, food price increases in Europe or the Northern hemisphere are reflected on purchasing power, prompting governments to answer to their citizens on the issue of purchasing power.

In Africa, food price increases directly affect the life of every human being!

The price increase of one single product threatens the stability, the durability, the very existence of the State because our people are hungry and hungry people bring us on the verge of riots.

Hence the crucial importance for us that mankind examine relevant solutions together so as to settle the issue of hunger and food in the world once and for all.

Biofuel is another concern.

I took part in the African Union summit on industrialisation in Africa in Addis-Abeba. Africa faces an energy shortage.

The biofuels issue has a significant impact on our economies since we risk a shrinkage in agricultural products' supply as a number of farmers might switch to biofuels, thus reducing the crop area destined to agricultural production – hence the decrease in supply.

This in turn adds to our concerns, since it may further exacerbate the price increase and the agricultural produce shortage.

We therefore feel that Expo Milano 2015 addresses a number of our concerns.

Expo Milano 2015 is of crucial importance to us, and we congratulate Milan on selecting a remarkably relevant theme.

We commend its choice and dare to hope that this Expo will give us the opportunity to work together toward reaching the necessary solutions to overcome a challenge that affects and interests us all.



BEST PRACTICES FROM THE WORLD: EXPO MILANO 2015 AS "A PLACE TO BE"

Daniel Suleiname Embalo Minister of Agriculture - Guinea-Bissau



If we consider food security from its three main aspects, namely physical availability, stability of supply and economic access to food by consumers, we notice that, at my country's level, rice imports contribute to food security to a considerable degree (an average of 80,000 tons a year).

This fact in itself does hardly call for criticism, yet it raises concerns inasmuch as it adversely impacts the development of local crops as well as the diversification and enhancement of food crops, and thus the first line of defence against hunger.

Aware of these circumstances, our Government decided to carry out reforms aimed at the agricultural sector in general and the food crop sector in particular.

Their main objective is to guarantee food security to all Bissau-Guineans, on the qualitative as much as on the quantitative level.

The strategic actions aiming at achieving food security stem from the same intention and call for the following steps:

- a better access to production areas and rural markets as well as the improvement of maritime transport;
- the set-up of a long-term financing system for food production, transformation and marketing;
- the promotion of local production chains toward national, regional, integrated sub-regional and international markets.

Our national food strategy revolves around specific programs and actions in different subsectors: cereals, short cycle animal production, fruits and vegetables, fishing and forestry.

This global strategy also addresses the control of shifting agriculture through the intensification of crops and the organisation of a strong and performing agricultural and food system.

At the same time, our country enjoys a significant energy potential through crop and forestry related residues as well as new and renewable energy.

Tapping these potentials would significantly contribute to solving the energy crisis still hindering the Government's efforts toward development.

Beyond its environmental, economic and political implications, domestic energy account for one of the largest forestry - related sectors in Guinea-Bissau.

To allow reforms to be carried out under the best possible circumstances, the Domestic Energies sector benefits from a strong and real political will shown by the Government. Nevertheless, the magnitude of the tasks at hand is momentous, justifying the urgent need to establish an action plan in order to control the parameters and thus give the Government's political will the best possible chance to succeed.

It follows that **our domestic energy policy now targets the fight against poverty as well as economic and environmental issues in accordance with the 2015 Millennium Development Goals.**

In the name of our President, but also in the name of my fellow 140 million Nigerians, 70% of which still depend upon subsistence farming. To them, partnership stands for hope: a hope to alleviate their dire poverty, a hope to achieve better living conditions. My country's administration has drawn up an agenda to that end and divided it into 7 items.

Energy, food security with an added value, health and education are granted the highest priority.

These areas would greatly benefit from the collaboration with the organizers of Expo Milano 2015.

We wish to further our strong relationship with Milan, Lombardy and Italy, perpetuating a decade-long tradition of cooperation in matters such as construction, especially of roads, engineering etc.

The Millennium Goals call for the reduction of poverty and hunger in this part of sub-Saharan Africa. This region faces major challenges and calls upon governments, civil society and the international community working to foster development.

The most pressing issues include inadequate resources, better production technologies and the lack of ties to the market.

As members of the international community, we need to work together, sharing our knowledge, skills and resources to help Africa in the fight against poverty and hunger, thereby achieving the Millennium goals.

My country thus committed to the Maputo declaration by ensuring that 10% of its national budget is allocated to agriculture.

Nigeria has even gone beyond that, **introducing PPPs on top of sustainable financing mechanisms.**

Considering our vast experience in implementing international programs on food security, Nigeria understands how to collaborate with lenders on various projects.

Milan's input could facilitate the massive use of available irrigation systems in Nigeria. We could also further collaborate in the area of agriculture mechanisation, fertilizers, enhanced seeds, cattle farming and fishing as well as aquaculture. Training of farmers and young graduates in agricultural sciences should not be left out of the agenda, since it would allow them to get organized in cooperatives with the help of PPP mechanisms and other programs.

We also wish for all international trade barriers to be lifted.

Finally, the bilateral talks between Nigeria and Italy show without a doubt that we have much common ground to progress on side by side for the benefit of our people.

Coming together is a beginning, keeping together is a progress, walking together is a success.



EXPO MILANO 2015: A TRUSTABLE PARTNER FOR MANY INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

Catherine Geslain-Lanéelle Executive Director of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)

Ensuring a healthy, quality food supply for every human being - the proposed theme of Expo Milano 2015 - is inseparable from the question of food safety.



The EFSA is the European body for the assessment of risks to food safety. EFSA was set up by the European Parliament and the Council in 2002, following a series of food crises in the late 1990's (for example, BSE and dioxin) as part of the commitment to ensure a high level of consumer protection and restore and maintain confidence in the EU food supply. In the European food safety system, risk assessment is performed independently from risk management. As risk assessor, EFSA produces scientific opinions and advice, to provide a sound foundation for European policies.

A key tool for EFSA is sharing information and building collaborative networks. We are building close relationships with the authorities in the member states, with stakeholders and international partners, we are co-operating with the 27 member states, the non-EU neighbouring countries and the FDA in the US, Japan, New Zealand, Australia, China, WHO, FAO, to name but a few of our international partners.

In all these sectors, the most important of EFSA's commitments is to provide expert independent advice and clear communication based on the latest information and knowledge.

Since its inception, nutrition and the fight against chronic diet-related disease and obesity have been crucial public health issues. These lifestyle-related disorders are placing enormous strain on the health system and EFSA has an important role in assisting risk managers to define policies to reduce these burdens.

Safe food is a shared goal whether you are a scientific risk assessor, like EFSA, a risk manager, a national authority, a business or consumer organisation. Food safety is high on our agenda.

Expo Milano 2015 will be an extraordinary worldwide event bringing together all stakeholders as well as consumers on the theme of food as one of society's primary needs.

It is therefore clear that **the great challenge launched by Milan with its Expo Milano 2015 theme "Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life", is absolutely central to EFSA's work and interests.**

The chance to discuss food safety within the framework of a World Exposition represents a golden opportunity to establish together, with the Scientific Committee, a fundamental dialogue, exchange and co-operation on food safety between the EFSA and the many national, international and institutional partners of Expo Milano 2015 and I therefore wish you every success.





Both the food availability and the food security issues are the heart of IFAD mission.

One of the most important insights emerging from the World Food Conference was that the causes of food insecurity and famine were not so much failures in food production, but structural problems related to poverty.

It was clear that the majority of the developing world poor people were concentrated in rural areas. That story remains true today. Even if in 30 years, the world is able to feed twice as many people from virtually the same amount of land, producing enough food is not the same as actually feeding every one.

There are nearly one billion women and men who survive on less than 1 dollar a day, and 75% of them live in rural areas.

What has IFAD done in 30 years?

We have invested over 10 billion US dollars to help more than

300 million of the poorest people in a total of 150 countries, across Africa, Asia and Latin America.

We have helped them to get access to land, water, finance, markets and technology to enable them to lift themselves out of poverty.

The Millennium summit in the year 2000 has provided us with a framework to make even greater progress.

The first of its goals sets out two specific targets which are of primary relevance to IFAD work as well as to the theme of this conference, to halve poverty and hunger by 2015. We have to devote our support not only to agriculture and rural development, but also to agricultural research, new technologies, new resilient crop varieties and new production systems.

Agricultural research has been shown to provide returns of more than 40% in terms of economic development and poverty reduction. IFAD support for agricultural research is well documented and has already benefited hundreds of millions of families across many regions. We are not doing this in isolation. Our partnership with our sister agencies in Rome, present here today, the FAO and the WFP, as well as the World Bank, the African development bank and the OPEC fund, allow us to continue to combine the best available skills and knowledge to develop new solutions to rural poverty and hunger.

Our partnership with Italy is exemplary. Italy is not only a host country, it is also a contributing member of IFAD, since the agency was established. IFAD and Italy have combined resources, skills and experiences to improve the lives of poor rural people throughout the developing world. Food security and rural poverty reduction are priorities for Italy as much as they are for IFAD.

In the most recent replenishment of IFAD resources, Italy was the second larger contributor, following the United States.

Italy's contribution to IFAD, along with other donors, enabled us to carry out over 230 projects during the 2007-2009 replenish period and close to 40% of these are dedicated to Africa.

In conclusion, IFAD with Italy has 30 years experience in working to alleviate poverty and hunger, closely linked to the theme of this conference.

It is not an easy mandate, faced with the new challenges brought by the changing climate, as well as rising food prices, it is even more difficult, but it has become increasingly vital. It is not too late to make a difference, to enable millions of poor rural people to lift themselves and their children out of poverty. With the support of committed partners like Italy, this is a goal that can be achieved, as shown by the many speeches that have been given today.



EXPO MILANO 2015: A TRUSTABLE PARTNER FOR MANY INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

Sheila Sisulu Deputy Executive Director of World Food Programme (WFP)



Over its 40 years history, the WFP has turned the complex business of getting the right food to the right people in the right place into a science.

The Expo Milano 2015 Bidding Committee recently entered a partnership with the UN Millennium campaign to promote the Millennium development goals.

The number one goal is to eradicate extreme poverty and reduce by half the proportion of people who suffer from hunger by 2015, that is the same year as the Expo for which you are bidding.

Elimination of hunger is our mission, feeding the planet is your theme.

There is a striking synergy here which can be a platform for stronger cooperation.

Hunger affects people with huge disparities according to gender, age and ethnicity, not to mention the disparities between rich and poor countries.

But hunger especially affects the chances of a child to go to school, grow healthy and become a productive member of his or her community.

Food attracts children to school, improves health and nutrition, addresses gender inequality and gives hope for a better future while improving the lives of families, communities and countries.

The WFP is proud to be working with a new economic partnership for African development to encourage the 40 million African children that do not yet currently attend school and ensure they are properly nourished when they get there.

I would like to share with you a little preview of **a major international campaign that the WFP is presenting here in Milan, with mayor Moratti and in line with the Expo Milano bid.**

The “Fill the cup” campaign aims to engage as many people as possible in the mission to end global hunger and raise awareness of what the WFP is doing to alleviate it.

I am sure that further initiatives starting with “Fill the cup” and moving on towards the 2015, Expo will result in improved food security and healthier lifestyles, especially for the poor.

Feeding a planet and providing enough food to people in need, starting with the young, is so fundamental to achieving all our goals.

Children around the world depend on our decisions today, to provide a world in which they have a chance to grow into healthy and productive adults, a world where they can contribute to economic and social development and lead the next generation towards a promising future.

Food provides the foundation for a brighter future, bringing health, education and hope in its wake.

“The freedom of humankind, is the freedom to access proper nourishment”.

The Inter-American Development Bank is the oldest and largest regional development bank in the world.

It is the main source of multilateral financing for economic, social and institutional development in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Our loans and projects help finance development projects and support strategies to reduce poverty, increase trade, promote regional integration, private sector development and modernisation of the State.

The IDB is owned by 47 member countries, among them 16 European countries. Italy is one of the most important members of the Bank and this is one of the reasons we are here to support this initiative and what will be necessary to take the appropriate steps in the future to participate in the project.

The City of Milan and IDB give particular importance to cooperation between countries as a dynamic strategic tool to promote the achievement of real goals in reciprocal cooperation efforts.

We recognize the role for decentralized cooperation and **we are planning to sign a Memorandum of Understanding, between the two institutions in Washington DC to develop projects in Latin America and the Caribbean**, basically to fight against urban poverty, and promoting food safety and security.

Milan, where many Latin American communities are represented, is ready to launch some important activities aimed at the growth of human capital. These projects involve entrepreneurial and micro-entrepreneurial areas with particular reference to the role of women in urban and peri-urban economies.

We strongly believe in this kind of international cooperation, because it is time to leave behind the idea that there are not ways to solve this global problem.

This international dialogue created by the City of Milan, due to the energy of the Mayor, is a clear evidence that everybody has a crucial responsibility but especially that we cannot underestimate the relevance of political answers to these problems.

Policy-makers probably do not have the last word, but they can open the spaces and indicate the road to cooperation between public and private actors.



EXPO MILANO 2015: A TRUSTABLE PARTNER FOR MANY INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

Nata Menadbe Director - WHO Regional Office for Europe



The European office of the World Health Organisation covers a Europe bigger than the European Union, with 53 member States which also include Eastern European countries. We serve almost 900 million people. Our main mission is to help governments to improve the health of their people.

Obviously issues that are raised in the main theme for the Expo relate to the health of people, because we are talking about food security and safety and healthy lifestyles.

It is very important therefore that the process that is initiated these days and that can possibly lead to 2015 is a process which brings together our resources to tackle this major issue for the world. Foodborne diseases these days in the EU alone amount to 400,000 per year. Approximately 1 out of 200 million dies from foodborne diseases. 30% of population once a year have some health problems related to food.

These are avoidable problems, they can be controlled and eradicated. Therefore, the WHO, in 2007, within the European regional committee gathering the Minister of Health of 53 countries, adopted an action plan on nutrition and food safety where certain goals have been set and certain key strategies to overcome those challenges have been agreed.

We are having problems not only with under-nutrition, but also with obesity in the European region and worldwide.

The disease burden caused by unhealthy lifestyle and obesity is about 7 to 8% of the total disease burden within the European region. 80% of deaths in the European region are caused by non communicable diseases: especially cardiovascular diseases (50% of total deaths) but also cancer.

80% of these deaths and diseases can be avoided through proper action of the society, individual responsibility for our health, good and healthy nutrition and lifestyle.

Therefore, the European office of WHO has also approved the European strategy for non communicable diseases where the healthy lifestyle is one of the important strategic directions to reduce the disease burden of our people.

As for our collaboration with Italy, **Italy has supported the European centre of WHO on environment and health.** 15 years ago such a centre was created in Rome. Since then we have been working with all the European countries, with the general support of **the Italian government that has recently committed to continue these activities**, financing this work, for another 15 years, so that we can achieve all the objectives related to health and environment and food security and safety. We are grateful for this long-term commitment of the government that has allowed us to advance in the European region and make it a leading region in addressing environmental and health-related issues.



MICRO-FINANCE: A CONCRETE EXAMPLE OF DECENTRALIZED COOPERATION

Jacques Attali Founder of the non-profit organisation PlaNet Finance

The city of Milan once stood at the heart of industrial development in Europe. This leadership, along with a truly international calling, still defines the city today.

I strongly support Milan's bid for the next World Exposition in 2015 because it will give us the much needed opportunity to take stock of the Millennium's goals, as 2015 happens to be the deadline by which they should be completed. Unfortunately, the reduction of poverty throughout the world, without which the pursuit of peace, security and dignity would be vain, is still very far from reality.

It is therefore essential to intensify the fight against poverty through the only effective means: micro-finance, to help the poorest gain their independence from charity.

As of today, 150 million people benefit from micro-finance; this number should reach at least 1 billion by 2015 if we want to accomplish the Millennium goals.

The time has come to rally our forces. International financial institutions, along with NGOs and specialized organisations such as PlaNet Finance, the largest European institution specializing in micro-credit, are already on their way.



It is now up to the local authorities to actively and concretely join them within the framework of decentralized cooperation. I am convinced that Milan will spearhead these undertakings and direct its international actions toward micro-finance, thus effectively contributing to meeting the challenge faced by our civilization.

THE ROLE OF MAJOR FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Corrado Passera Managing Director and CEO – Banca Intesa Sanpaolo



I would like as a spokesperson for the financial and banking community - more specifically for our credit institution - to explain why we are determined to fully support Milan's bid for the Expo 2015.

The city's path toward 2015 is lined with large-scale modernisation and infrastructure projects. A global network will be set up so that Milan, an international city par excellence, has access to the very best know-how in view of the Expo 2015.

My bank has always worked toward modernization and better infrastructures.

Beyond the infrastructural aspect, the theme chosen by Expo Milano 2015 draws attention to quite a few significant projects. The issue of microcredit leads me to comment on emigrants' remittances.

This critical issue makes a difference not only in the countries where migrant workers settle, but also in their country of origin.

Italy is one of the major destination for migration flows, and increasingly so.

As for migrant workers' remittances, we are not alone in regretting that the situation is not entirely satisfactory. Various systems have been set up, but they still suffer largely from their own complexity and cost.

We have therefore launched a momentous 10 million € project involving banking institutions and postal services – and their technologies - in different countries so as to guarantee a better quality of life for millions of people and support developing economies.

In the area of microcredit, we built the first European bank dedicated to the non-profit and third sectors. We are present in Italy and in the world, particularly in Africa, through health-related aid programs to which we add the microcredit component, thus ensuring the development and future of societies who give their all to overcome considerable hurdles.

Our network covers more than 40 countries and makes itself available to the city of Milan to organize and manage the Expo 2015.

We are deeply convinced that, should Milan be awarded the Expo 2015, our city would more than exceed the expectations of every country represented here today.

FOOD COOPERATION: A BRIDGE BETWEEN PEOPLE AND CULTURES TOWARD EXPO 2015

Roberto Formigoni President of Regione Lombardia

Food is a theme closely linked to the history of mankind.

Our European and Italian tradition is rooted in the Greek tradition of “symposium”, where food nourishes body, heart and soul.

Hasn't the time come for us all to recapture the spirit of conviviality, the desire to savor food, the fruit of our labor, and the longing to share what is ours with our brothers, our sisters, our fellow human beings?

We, Milan, **Lombardy and Italy strive to pool our strengths and energy to allow this dialogue and joint effort between people to enjoy the very best platform for reflecting on the issue.**

Lombardy is Italy's first and Europe's third industrial region, as well as Italy's first and Europe's second agricultural region. Thus we believe to be the best arena to initiate a common reflection on the relationship between traditional professions and the latest knowledge.

Indeed, man possesses an innate and infinite curiosity driving him without respite in his constant quest for progress. He aspires to penetrate the structure of matter and grasp the intangible for the benefit of a more dignified humanity.

We wish to continue discussing these issues and invest our innovative and human energies, in line with the project we carried out in our schools during the last few months.

Our higher-education system is amongst Europe's most dynamic; it boasts 12 universities, including Pavia, one of the oldest universities in the world, and 250 research and innovation centers, **open to everyone.**

Should the delegates choose our city, our first appointment will not wait until 2015 – it will take place shortly after March 31st, as we aspire to live and build this 7-year-long path together so that the Expo truly belongs to everyone one of you and to the world.

Thus, we will enhance the value of our work and our efforts together for the general interest.

There lies my dearest wish.



EXPO MILANO 2015: A STAGE FOR THE PLANET

Filippo Luigi Penati President of Provincia di Milano

Milan's conurbation has always played a role fitting its location at the heart of Europe and the Mediterranean.

Every day, local authorities, economic leaders, voluntary work associations and, more generally, promoters of decentralized cooperation establish partnerships with territorial authorities in any part of the world so as to foster the exchange and redistribution of knowledge and wealth.

Our territory has always acted as an international gateway for our country. However dynamic our businesses and culture may be, we have never overlooked our commitment toward cooperation and development on a worldwide scale.

Throughout the years, Milan's genuinely international calling bestowed the means on the city to face profound changes and to innovate its products, services and cultural offer.

Thus do I wish to briefly recall the 1906 World Exposition hosted by Milan and marking the inaugural opening of the Simplon railway tunnel.



In those years, the Expo stood for an opportunity to share our best social and economic assets. It does so again today.

Through the bid for Expo 2015, Milan and its territory offer themselves to the advancement of the country as a whole, the BIE, participating countries and the millions of visitors who will attend the event.

Expo Milano 2015 offers an extraordinary opportunity to share our skills and experience, to work together and discuss the right to food and food security as well as the promotion of healthier lifestyles.

There lies our city's commitment. This is the wish we express for our city and our country, for Milan's bid truly is Italy's.

EXPO MILANO 2015: FURTHERING MULTILATERAL COOPERATION

Vittorio Craxi Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs

While a large part of the world's population has entered the development process and begins to reap its benefits, a number of people are still left behind.

Yet, the framework built by international relations sets the scene for institutions to play a crucial role in disseminating values of solidarity and shared well-being.

This is where the traditional role of world expositions comes in, and with them their goal of dialogue and sharing knowledge.

In that perspective, **the BIE takes on a decisive aspect of international relations, namely the promotion of an efficient and virtuous multilateralism.**

I salute the BIE for bringing this centuries-long journey before the people through the beautiful exposition on the history of the Expos at the Triennale museum in Milan.

Italy is strongly committed on all the international fronts to reach the goals of a human-centred globalisation – in other words, to globalize solidarity.

It has been our government's wish to leverage the value of Italy's traditional and qualified participation to the expositions by lending their fullest support, along with civil society, to enhance the fundamental role of the BIE. **Promoting Milan's bid for Expo 2015 substantiates this commitment.**



All of our national and local institutions, political parties, labour unions and organisations pooled their strengths to support Milan's bid to host Expo 2015. The commissioners and delegates have undoubtedly perceived the extent of this endorsement during their last visit to Rome and Milan.

Milan relies on a long history of showing its generosity and solidarity. Today the city wishes to lend these values to a momentous social and cultural project for the entire world: an Expo focusing on a very factual objective, intent to commute the right to healthy food for all, the respect for traditions and development into concrete facts, in accordance with the principles of sustainable development. By endorsing food as a theme, the BIE's multiculturalism embraces the multilateralism of every government's, especially Italy's, international action. This theme lies at the core of the United Nations', and in particular the FAO's, the WFP's and EFSA's actions. We fully identify with it.



“FEEDING THE PLANET, ENERGY FOR LIFE”: A UNIVERSAL THEME FOR A WORLD EXPO

Vicente Gonzalez Loscertales Secretary General of the BIE

The Expo Milano 2015 Forum completes the more public aspect of a year long campaign for the right to host Expo 2015.

A campaign that Milan has carried out with relentless determination, unbending diligence and, most importantly, an intense forward looking perspective.

The forum has been an example of the innovative spirit that the BIE expects from Expos, which Milan has injected in the different phases of its bid in a masterful way.

If there is an overall message to take away from the overall Milan bidding experience, is that “Expo 2015” can be an “Expo that does,” an Expo of action.

The BIE is looking at Expos as places that can contribute to drive change in the area of the theme and beyond. Indeed, throughout their history, Expo have not only been places showing a snapshot of a world and of an era, they have been places of achievement in art and culture, in industry and technology, in science and innovation.

The million of visitors that walk through an Expo see novelty: new products, new cultures, new directions the world is exploring. However, their visit goes far beyond looking. Their visit is an experience: they walk on new urban spaces, they travel aboard new means of transport, they cross cultural and social boundaries previously unknown to them.

The participants, that individually bring their displays and contributions to the Expo, collectively drive a transformation: their pavilions contribute to changing the face of the city forever, their identity and achievements bring new perspectives to the visitors, their relationship with other participating countries can build common grounds for present and future cooperation.

This is a vision of Expos that the BIE encourages. This is a vision of Expos that, I believe, Milan is very well placed to translate into reality.

Nutrition is a universal theme. Through the concept of “energy for life” the Milan bid has expressed and captured the full universal scope of “food” which indeed touches all aspects of our existence: health, economy, politics, technology, science, cultural identity, and many other domains.

As an Expo theme, “Feeding the planet, Energy for life” connects the multiple dimensions of an Expo and has the potential to give rise to an event with major global repercussions.

I would like to mention a few of these dimensions which intersect with the values and objectives of Expos and that can make the content of Expo 2015 particularly fertile.

Food was a currency: a tool that helped connect survival and growth. In this sense, food is a tool with two faces: it **is an instrument and a symbol of cooperation**, but, it can also be an instrument of repression or segregation. The fact that some of the high exporters of food are countries where the level of malnutrition is extremely high is not only an economic problem, it is a political and social problem.

This is not only limited to developing countries, but also applies to some wealthy Western countries where death from malnutrition is still a fact. To this point, it worth quoting the Nobel prize in economics, Joseph Stiglitz, who talked about the troubling data showing that “nutrition is a more reliable indicator than income.”

In a world of pervasive imbalances between rich and poor, between emerging and declining areas, between fast-growth and receding economies, the access to and the availability of healthy food is the real measure for social progress, which is ultimately the most important one.

In its dimension as a resource, more than any other, food is a reflection of the world we live in.

Food is also an indicator of culture or, more precisely, **of cultures**. Today, the theme of food and nutrition covers and touches a whole spectrum of activities and initiatives ranging from the industrial “fast-food” society to the hyper-technological aspects of bio-engineering. Major debates are taking place in society; many are accompanied by fears and uncertainty connected to searching for a balance between safety and availability of resources.

More and more, these issues are becoming ideologically loaded. The debates surrounding the manner in which our society produces and consumes food are more and more polarized, highlighting a real need for helping the general public reach a real understanding of the issues. I believe that an Expo on this theme can put its educational objective in practice to help explain to the public what is safe, healthy and sustainable.



Food is also a tool for democracy and social stability. Expos are events that, in part because of their utopian vision, promote values connected to education, quality of life, individual and community well-being, open dialogue, access to opportunities, etc.. An Expo on food would indeed highlight the extent to which access to a healthy nutrition means access to a wealth of opportunities for the new generations in many areas of the world. It would also highlight the extent to which access to a healthy nutrition would contribute to more stable political and social environments.

Simply put, if children can go to school instead of being considered simply as bodies that earn money for food, then we have taken a small step toward social progress. A small step that carries significant implications for future peace and stability.

Let me also mention a final dimension that should not be neglected: it is the “epicurean”, “aesthetic” and, very simply, the pleasurable aspect of food. **Food is definitely one amazing area of creativity.**

Today, we are witnessing new cuisines that grow out of combinations of ingredients, techniques and practices.

We are exchanging to create novel dishes that are transforming popular taste. This diversity is becoming as important as tradition, which, in terms of food, remains a very strong aspect of identity.

Food culture ought to be preserved and promoted as much as possible, because our cuisine very much defines who we are.

As Claude Lévi-Strauss said « La cuisine d’une société est un langage dans lequel elle traduit inconsciemment sa structure ».

Certainly, the diversity of the participants in an Expo would highlight the diversity of food cultures, explain what some perceive to be “taboos” of others and help understand the environmental, religious and economic implications of food choices and preferences. It is precisely in those preferences that the diversity of humanity’s culture and history is also best highlighted.

In the Milan bid and Forum we have got a small “taste” of what Expo 2015 can be: an Expo with “endless courses” that can provide food for humanity at all levels of culture, art, technology, science, industry and community.

Congratulations and thank you again for all your endeavours.

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