

WHO REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR EUROPE

66th Session

Copenhagen, Denmark, 12-15 September 2016

Closing remarks by Dr. Ranieri Guerra, Head of Italian Delegation

Chair, Regional Director, colleagues, friends,

I am here today to abuse first of my privilege to close the session by thanking you all for your support and trust in re-electing Italy to the Executive Board after several years. Thank you all.

Secondly, I would like to add a final resolution to our intensive days. It is a resolution based on the evidence that sometimes not only miracles happen, but also happen when they are needed at the right time and to the benefit of right people.

Therefore:

We, members of the 66th Regional Committee:

- a) having considered the usual horrible weather affecting Copenhagen at the end of September,
- b) taking note of the fact that the new Nordic diet may take some additional time and refinement to become attractive, both in quantity and variety;
- c) recognizing that the Euro Region hosts some of the largest, most diverse, often competing and skeptical national communities in the world,
- d) understanding that material resources and stocks cannot buy intangible value – based public goods such as trust, confidence, team spirit, cohesion, partnership,
- e) converging on the need and opportunity to build a common, shared, equitable environment of peers,
- f) recalling all the work done during these days;

Adopt a Resolution of thanks,

Conveyed to the Regional Director and her staff for having made the following miracles happens:

- 1) excellent weather and Mediterranean outdoor life conditions for all;
- 2) productive, friendly and warm in-house working environment for all.
- 3) healthy feeding opportunity and acceptable coffee sources for all (when needed);
- 4) building up of team spirit and a sense of belonging for all;
- 5) best of each individual nationality, made collectively available, so that we did not incur into the usual nightmare of relying on Italian organizers and other partners' role that I am not going to disclose, as we don't want to offend anyone, but: [https://ploum.net /the -European-joke](https://ploum.net/the-European-joke) (with French translation) for reference for all;
- 6) collaborative atmosphere that contaminated positively even the least reluctant delegations who found areas of convergence and adapted most difficult decisions compromising successfully to identify acceptable solutions for all;
- 7) smiles for all, financial dialogues and agreements, despite tensions and rigidities that were successfully overcome with a very constructive team's spirit instilled into all;

- 8) a message of hope, trust and confidence to all that we will succeed and we will be able to make it, despite innumerable challenges we face and the innumerable resolutions we are called to adopt.

I wanted to complete this into a real decalogue, taking also advantage of the Holy See's presence to ask for two additional miracles, but decided to leave the floor to our imagination and possible further contribution with a mix of top-down and bottom-up strategy to comply with individual, geographic, ethnic, financial preferences and orientations.

In conclusion, I think we can all agree to express our gratitude for the endurance and resilience with which we have been conducted to enjoy a weeklong of 36 hours daily work. And perhaps this has been the best and most productive miracle of all: very few, if no defaulters, with very high adherence by all.

Thank you again Regional Director and all staff. We shall overcome all united.

For the sake of transparency and accountability, the incomplete list will be published in the relevant website for restricted consultation over the next 10 hours.