

CLOSING SPEECH AND CONCLUSIONS

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Vice-President of CIEC

Mr. President,
Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great honor and a real pleasure that the president of CIEC – my dear friend Prof. Jelenić – has offered me the opportunity for presenting the closing address of CIEC.

As the president has already pointed out in his allocution at the opening of the congress, the golden jubilee of CIEC has received an excellent appreciation.

Proud of this 50th anniversary of an international society, CIEC will not consider this jubilee as a ceremony compared with that in the life of the human beings, but as a beginning of a new period of activities in order to fulfill the goals according to the statutes.

In this context, the structure of CIEC's acting bodies have been improved and approved by the General Assembly.

The crucial points for its activities in the future will be based on the results of this congress, especially on the conclusions reported by the coordinators and of which the principal and most important items may be summarized in the following:

- more effective soil erosion control to prevent the deterioration of soil fertility and to stop the tremendous losses of humus and soil-borne nutrients; better protection of agricultural land from all kinds of adverse processes (wastes, emissions, etc.) caused by man;
- improvement of crop rotation systems, in which legumes play a dominant role and where atmospheric nitrogen can be utilized to a higher degree by biological fixation processes;
- development of better methods for determining the N-requirement of plants; proper use of farm-produced organic fertilizer materials and suitable wastes of rural, municipal and even industrial origin to minimize losses by leaching and to avoid nitrate pollution of ground and surface waters;
- improvement of phosphate fertilizer efficiency by better placement and supplementary fertilization by foliar application with peculiar reference to the soils in the tropics;
- in irrigated areas better control of the salinization of soils, ground and surface waters and more research in the reuse of irrigation water; more studies in the improvement of salt tolerance of various plants;
- more consideration to micronutrient problems, especially on heavily cropped soils;
- with special reference to the developing countries the improvement of preservation methods and storage facilities for the harvested products to reduce the enormous losses during storage and transportation;
- to emphasize the need for countries to establish national fertilizer policies based on their own food production potential to provide a stable social and economic base for a prosperous development and to recognize the importance of the value/cost ratio in agricultural production policies to make fertilizers more profitable and attractive.

This resolution needs support by similar recommendations from all international organizations dealing with increasing food production to satisfy the demand of the growing world population. In order to achieve the various goals of the outlined resolutions close international cooperation is needed.

CIEC is willing to activate these contacts, and this congress – so efficiently and perfectly organized by the Hungarian Organizing Committee – may be already considered a remarkable contribution to these goals.

I am convinced that all participants are unanimously of the opinion that the congress was a real and full success. We are truly indebted to our hosts for this.