

## ANNEX 9

### High Level Roundtable Rio+20

First of all I would like to thank all States' delegates of this Conference for having reached a common understanding for the final document of the Rio+20 Declaration and to express our gratitude to Brazil for its leadership in getting such understanding. But, we consider it as a first step to achieve the Conference goals and objectives.

The Scientific & Technological Communities Major Group has conducted a comprehensive program of activities for providing the Rio+20 Conference with scientific knowledge, engineering expertise and information on appropriate technologies that are timely and up-to-date, towards supporting the main objectives of the Conference and aiming at substantiating concepts under discussion.

We consider that our Major Group was included as one of the nine Major Groups to provide governments, policy makers and Society, the understanding of the limitations and parameters imposed by the Laws of Nature, and to tell them what is achievable scientifically and technologically, based on what we now know and on what we can do with the technological tools we have in hand, as well as with those being developed and that are demonstrating success potential.

We are certain that progress in all topical areas of the sustainable development debate will require substantial innovative advances in science and technology and a thorough analysis of the feasibility of proposed solutions.

It is our understanding that, for tackling the issues related to sustainable development, our role is to provide policy-makers and Society, updated, unbiased and reliable information on the different technical paths and technologies, based on scientific principles, engineering criteria and demonstrated technological development.

In particular, substantial technological improvements as well as sound, evidence based, policies are needed to assure access to fresh and safe drinking water, energy, sanitation and waste management, communications, shelter, and transport services.

The Scientific and Engineering Community is ready, willing and able to contribute its expertise, creativity and dedication to achieve the goals of this Conference.

We urge the world's leaders to accept this opportunity to engage our Community as a full partner in addressing the complex challenges as we evolve into a sustainable planet.

Jorge Spitalnik, Chair  
WFEO-UN Relations Committee