

ANNEX 5

Seminar on Sustainable Communities

WFEO Closing Remarks

Rio+20 - SEMINAR ON SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

Closing Statement

Engr. Jorge Spitalnik

(Chair WFEO-UN Relations Committee)

As you know, the Engineering Profession takes part of the Scientific and Technological Communities Major Group of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development, to act, together with the scientists of ICSU, representing the civil society's segment of Science and Technology.

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 demonstrating success potential.

Consequently, for tackling the issues related to sustainable communities, 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 conclusion, let me express the WFEO deep thanks to all participants of this Seminar and to UNESCO and the World Bank, as well as the sponsors and supporting organizations, for the opportunity they gave us –engineers- to produce the Engineering Declaration on Sustainable Communities, stating our views and position on the issues related to developing the sustainability of population communities.

With these words, I declare the closure of this Seminar.

Thank you all.