

Mrs. Pappalardo, Commissioner for Sustainable Development, the representative of the French Government,

MR. Director, the representative of the European Commissioner for Research,

MR representatives of the Czech, Swedish, and Spanish Governments,

I have the great honor to present you what we call the "Declaration of Lyon".

As all the European statements, it should be read at two levels:

- the first level, which I will hold on, is the level of key messages
- the second level, more reserved to specialists and experts, translates these key messages into the European common language, the "Brussels english", which then can be used by all the concerned stakeholders in an operational way.

Thus I will hold on key messages. Before that, I would like to congratulate and thank all the persons - our "sherpas" - managed by Jean-Pierre Médevielle, who helped us to identify the key messages on the one hand, and to ensure the best possible draft on the other hand. They spent much time and did many efforts, and I would like to thank them under your name.

There are six key messages:

- The first key message is the alignment of our seven logos: the vast majority of the European transport research, structured in our associations and networks of excellence, is gathering, meeting and regrouping in this common draft. We are sure that our circle will keep on widening.

- Second key message: we want to implement the 2020 Vision of the European Research Area, as it was approved by the Council of Ministers of last December 2nd, in our activity sector, transport: the excellence of European research should find its roots in strong regional "clusters", linked with each other through solid and structured networks. We represent these European networks, and we commit ourselves to ensure the best complementarity, the best possible coordination, through the setting up of our "common working task force".

- Third key message: our societies have big challenges to face today: energy, climate change, globalization, the new technologies of information and communication, the ageing of our populations; in the field of transport, we all are faced to them, since transport and society are a daily life issue; these challenges also are specific to transport challenges: congestion, safety, security. We are ready to mobilize our strengths, our energy in order to cope with these challenges together, through a permanent dialogue with public authorities, economic and industrial stakeholders, and with the whole society too. We namely consider the dialogue with the technological platforms ERRAC, ERTRAC, WATERBORNE as extremely important, especially to identify the most promising actions relative to the competitiveness of the European economy and industry.

- The fourth key message: the affirmation, through the 2020 vision, of a "fifth European freedom", the free movement of researchers, invite us, beyond the mobility of persons that we must facilitate and promote, to welcome and train the new generations of researchers in a definitely European area. This fifth freedom invites us to continue our efforts for the mutualisation of our research infrastructures, especially for those which make it easier to collect and disseminate knowledge. In this minding, we finalised yesterday the organization of the next session of our "young researchers" seminar, common to ECTRI, FEHRL, and FERSI, which will be held in Torino on next spring. Yesterday too, we proceeded to the official launching of the European Transport Research Review, the first scientific multidisciplinary journal in open access, created by the European research for the European research, which we want to see at the best rank among the scientific journals in the world.

- Fifth key message: we acknowledge the will of the Member States, expressed in the 2020 vision, to reinforce the joint programming of research in the planning of strategic agendas, in the drafting of the national and European programs, in the calls for the projects of the ERANET mechanisms. Our transnational research networks will bring their contributions, prepared in our joint working groups, to each of the Member States and to the European Commission. So far for the updating of the FP7, we just did it; this is the result of the intensive work achieved by our working poles and our networks of excellence during the two latest days. For example, the FERSI, with the assistance of ECTRI's ad hoc group has developed significant proposals for a strategic research agenda on road safety.

- Sixth and last key message: Europe is opened on the rest of the world, should stay opened, and international scientific cooperation should develop in a cooperation spirit, without naivety, especially concerning intellectual property rights. I would like to mention here the next issue of the "International Cooperation in Transportation

Research" report, which was elaborated by ECTRI and TRB, which will be very useful for those who wish to develop scientific cooperation between the Europeans and the Americans, and beyond that, to promote our scientific cooperation with the rest of the world.

I am very glad to invite my colleagues and friends now to join me and sign the "Declaration of Lyon".