

EXCELLENCES,
MESDAMES ET MESSIEURS,
CHERS AMIS,

JE VOUDRAIS TOUT D'ABORD VOUS REMERCIER DE VOTRE PRÉSENCE ICI, POUR CETTE 8^{ÈME} ÉDITION DE LA MONACO BLUE INITIATIVE. ET JE VOUDRAIS VOUS REMERCIER POUR LA QUALITÉ DE VOS INTERVENTIONS ET DE NOS ÉCHANGES, TOUT AU LONG DE CETTE JOURNÉE. JE VOUDRAIS REMERCIER MME LA MINISTRE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT ET DE LA MER DE LA FRANCE, MME SÉGOLÈNE ROYAL, M. LE MINISTRE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT D'ITALIE, M. GALLETTI ET M. KARMENU VELLA, COMMISSAIRE EUROPÉEN POUR LES AFFAIRES MARITIMES ET LA PÊCHE, POUR LEURS INTERVENTIONS ET LES ANNONCES QU'ILS NOUS ONT RÉSERVÉES.

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VOUS Y AVEZ TOUS CONTRIBUÉ. JE VEUX DONC VOUS DIRE MA RECONNAISSANCE, À VOUS TOUS QUI AVEZ FAIT L'EFFORT D'ÊTRE PARMİ NOUS AUJOURD'HUI, CERTAINS VENUS DE LOIN, POUR QUE NOUS PUISSIONS ABORDER ENSEMBLE CES QUESTIONS, ET TENTER DE FAIRE PROGRESSER ENSEMBLE LA SITUATION DE NOS MERS.

C'EST LE GRAND PARI DE LA MONACO BLUE INITIATIVE QUE DE MISER AINSI SUR L'INTELLIGENCE, LES COMPÉTENCES ET LA MOBILISATION DE PERSONNALITÉS ISSUES D'UNIVERS DIFFÉRENTS. ET C'EST SA FORCE QUE DE LES RÉUNIR, POUR QU'ENSEMBLE NOUS PUISSIONS AGIR PLUS EFFICACEMENT.

JE VEUX AUSSI DIRE MA GRATITUDE AUX MODÉRATEURS QUI ONT FAIT TOUT AU LONG DE CETTE JOURNÉE UN TRAVAIL REMARQUABLE.

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ET JE N'OUBLIE PAS LES ÉQUIPES DES CO-ORGANISATEURS DE L'ÉVÉNEMENT : CELLES DE MA FONDATION, BIEN SÛR, MAIS ÉGALEMENT CELLES DU MUSÉE OCÉANOGRAPHIQUE DE MONACO, QUI NOUS ACCUEILLE UNE FOIS DE PLUS CETTE ANNÉE.

JE VEUX ENFIN REMERCIER NOTRE PARTENAIRE ROLEX, POUR SON SOUTIEN FIDÈLE.

IT IS NOT EASY TO PROVIDE A RAPID CONCLUSION TO SUCH INTENSE AND FASCINATING DEBATES. BECAUSE THE MAIN CONCLUSIONS WE REACHED OVER THE COURSE OF THE DAY HAVE BEEN VERY ACCURATELY REVIEWED, I DO NOT NEED TO REFER BACK TO THEM IN DETAIL. I WOULD HOWEVER LIKE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE TIME THAT IS GIVEN TO ME TO SHARE A FEW THOUGHTS THAT TODAY'S PROCEEDINGS HAVE SPARKED WITHIN ME.

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FIRSTLY, WE ARE PRESENTED WITH A SERIES OF POSITIVE OPPORTUNITIES, WHICH WE NEED TO CAPITALISE ON.

LIKE ME, YOU WILL HAVE FOLLOWED THE PROGRESS THAT HAS BEEN MADE IN REGARD TO SEA ISSUES OVER THE COURSE OF THIS YEAR. THE WORK CARRIED OUT AT THE UNITED NATIONS ON THE BIODIVERSITY OF AREAS BEYOND NATIONAL JURISDICTION, THE HOLDING OF A SPECIAL OCEANS ACTION DAY AT COP22 IN MARRAKECH, AND THE LAUNCHING OF THE IPCC'S INTERIM REPORT ON OCEANS AND THE CRYOSPHERE, ALL BEAR WITNESS TO EXTREMELY POSITIVE DEVELOPMENTS.

THE VERY FACT THAT THIS MONACO BLUE INITIATIVE WAS HELD DURING OUR NEW MONACO OCEAN WEEK ALLOWS US TO BE A PART OF THIS DYNAMIC.

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INDEED, THIS WEEK, BRINGING TOGETHER A WIDE VARIETY OF STAKEHOLDERS AND INITIATIVES FROM MONACO AND ELSEWHERE, MAKES US AWARE OF THE SHEER SCALE OF THE MOBILISATION. IT ALSO REVEALS THE DIVERSITY OF THE INITIATIVES THAT ARE BEING UNDERTAKEN TODAY, IN NUMEROUS FIELDS, TO PROTECT OUR SEAS, AND, IN THIS RESPECT, I WOULD ENCOURAGE YOU, IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO, TO SUPPORT THE MONACO MANIFESTO FOR THE OCEANS WHICH HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED.

HOWEVER, BEYOND THIS CONTEXT, WHAT I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE AWAY FROM OUR DISCUSSIONS IS THE CREATIVITY SHOWN AND THE WIDE VARIETY OF SOLUTIONS THAT YOU HAVE PUT FORWARD. THE PROLIFERATION OF THESE INITIATIVES TESTIFIES TO THE VERY WIDESPREAD MOBILISATION, NOT ONLY OF GOVERNMENTS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS, BUT ALSO OF CIVIL SOCIETY.

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OF CIVIL SOCIETY IN ALL ITS DIVERSITY AND RICHNESS, NOTABLY THROUGH THE SPECIFIC ACTIONS CARRIED OUT BY GROUPS, AS WELL AS PRIVATE BUSINESSES' CAPACITY FOR INVENTION.

THIS FAVOURABLE CONTEXT ALLOWS US TO ENVISAGE ACTION IN THE SIMPLEST, QUICKEST, MOST DETERMINED AND COLLECTIVE MANNER. IT IS ALWAYS EASIER TO MAKE PROGRESS IN A LARGE GROUP AND WHEN THE WINDS ARE NOT BLOWING UNFAVOURABLY.

BUT THIS RELATIVE DYNAMIC ALSO ALLOWS US TO THINK IN BOLDER WAYS.

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THE BATTLE OF IDEAS IS ALWAYS LONG. AND MOVES THROUGH DIFFERENT PHASES. NEW IDEAS NEED TO BE PUT FORWARD ONE BY ONE, IN ORDER TO ALLOW THEM WITH TIME TO BECOME ESTABLISHED. BUT, WE MUST ALSO SEIZE OPPORTUNITIES, MAKE INNOVATIVE PROPOSALS, WHEN THEY ARE APPROPRIATE IN THEIR TIMING.

FROM THIS POINT OF VIEW, THE NEW AWARENESS THAT SURROUNDS MARINE PROBLEMS SHOULD ENCOURAGE US TO ADVANCE MORE AMBITIOUSLY, TO PROPOSE MORE WIDE-RANGING AND MORE INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS.

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FOR EXAMPLE, I REFER TO THE ISSUE OF MARINE PROTECTED AREAS ON THE HIGH SEAS, WHICH WAS MENTIONED SEVERAL TIMES TODAY. THE MOMENT THAT THE HIGH SEAS FINALLY BECOME A RECOGNISED ISSUE FOR THE FUTURE OF OUR PLANET, AND THE MOMENT THAT THE BENEFICIAL EFFECTS OF MARINE PROTECTED AREAS ARE AGREED UPON, IT SHOULD BE EASIER TO CONVINCING PEOPLE THAT THIS ISSUE OF MARINE PROTECTED AREAS ON THE HIGH SEAS IS IMPERATIVE.

WE MUST SUCCEED IN CONVINCING PEOPLE ABOUT THEIR ADVANTAGES. WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO FOSTER MORE PROJECTS. AND, AS WE DID TODAY, WE MUST ALSO BE ABLE TO LINK ISSUES THAT WERE HISTORICALLY SEPARATED, SUCH AS CLIMATE CHANGE AND MARINE PROTECTED AREAS.

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THE SAME APPLIES TO MANY SUBJECTS WE HAVE DISCUSSED TODAY:

- WE NEED TO BUILD BRIDGES BETWEEN VARIOUS MANAGEMENT APPROACHES AND THE CONSERVATION OF THE SEA;
- BETWEEN THE VARIOUS PRODUCTION REQUIREMENTS OF HUMANITY AND THE VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES;
- WE HAVE TO BE ABLE TO DEMONSTRATE THE POSITIVE IMPACT OF EACH SOLUTION, THE FACT THAT WHAT IS GOOD FOR BIODIVERSITY IS ALSO GOOD FOR HUMANS, THAT WHAT ALLOWS US TO MITIGATE GLOBAL WARMING ALSO BENEFITS LOCAL INITIATIVES.
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ALL THIS WILL ALLOW US TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF ARGUMENTS AND WILL MAKE IT EASIER TO CONVINCING THOSE WHO ARE STILL UNDECIDED.

FINALLY, I WOULD LIKE TO FINISH BY RETURNING TO SOMETHING THAT IS NOT ONLY ONE OF THE RECURRING THEMES IN THIS MONACO BLUE INITIATIVE, BUT ALSO IN MY OWN ACTIONS TO PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT: THE NEED TO COMBINE LOCAL ACTION WITH A GLOBAL VISION.

IN ORDER TO TACKLE ISSUES ON A SCALE AS ENORMOUS AS THAT OF THE OCEANS, WHILST RETAINING A SPECIFIC OPERATIONAL GOAL, IT IS INDEED ESSENTIAL TO ADOPT BOTH THESE APPROACHES.

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IT IS A PRACTICAL REQUIREMENT, BECAUSE NO EFFICIENT ACTION CAN BE CARRIED OUT WITHOUT KNOWLEDGE AND WITHOUT AN OVERALL PERSPECTIVE.

BUT IT IS ALSO A POLITICAL REQUIREMENT, BECAUSE NO EFFICIENT STRATEGY CAN BE IMPLEMENTED OR PROVE ITS EFFECTIVENESS, UNLESS IT IS BASED ON THE ACTUAL SITUATION ON THE GROUND.

NO LOCAL ACTIONS CAN, ON THEIR OWN, MITIGATE GLOBAL WARMING OR RESTORE ENDANGERED BIODIVERSITY.

HOWEVER, ALL INITIATIVES, NO MATTER HOW INCOMPLETE, ARE ESSENTIAL.

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THIS IS WHAT EMERGED FOR EXAMPLE FROM OUR DISCUSSIONS TODAY ABOUT THE CASE OF THE MEDITERRANEAN: FACED WITH A PHYSICAL REALITY, BUT ALSO VERY DIVERSE POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL REALITIES; FACED WITH A REGION THAT IS FULL OF CONTRADICTIONS, OFTEN THE ONLY APPROPRIATE LEVEL OF ACTION IS A VERY LOCAL ONE.

HOWEVER, THIS MUST BE INCLUDED IN A GLOBAL VIEW OF THIS SEA, OF THIS REGION AND ITS ISSUES, IN PARTICULAR THOSE LINKED TO POLITICS, THE ECONOMY AND SOCIAL ISSUES.

RECONCILING THESE TWO APPROACHES IS NOT ONLY THE BEST WAY OF ACTING EFFECTIVELY, BUT ALSO THE BEST WAY OF RAISING OUR CONTEMPORARIES' AWARENESS, IN HELPING THEM TO ORIENTATE THEMSELVES IN THE FACE OF COMPLEX ISSUES.

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AND, ABOVE ALL, THIS IS THE BEST WAY OF CONVINCING THEM ABOUT HOW USEFUL THEIR ACTION IS, IRRESPECTIVE OF THE DIFFICULTIES AND LIMITATIONS.

I BELIEVE THAT WE SHOULD NOW, MORE THAN EVER BEFORE, CONTINUE TO WORK TOGETHER, AND TO PROPOSE THESE TWO SIMULTANEOUS APPROACHES, THE ONLY ONES THAT ALLOW FOR TRULY PERTINENT ACTION TO BENEFIT OUR SEAS.

C'EST EN TOUT CAS EN CE SENS QUE JE CONTINUERAI À AGIR, EN CONCILIANTE LES NIVEAUX D'INTERVENTION, AVEC MON GOUVERNEMENT COMME AVEC MA FONDATION, EN MÊLANT INITIATIVES OPÉRATIONNELLES ET ACTIONS DE SENSIBILISATION, ET EN ESSAYANT TOUJOURS DE RECHERCHER CONJOINTEMENT LE PROGRÈS LOCAL ET LE PROGRÈS GLOBAL.

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A CET ÉGARD, JE SERAI HEUREUX DE VOUS RETROUVER L'AN PROCHAIN À EDIMBOURG, POUR LA 9^{ÈME} ÉDITION DE LA MONACO BLUE INITIATIVE. NOUS Y SERONS ACCUEILLIS PAR NOS AMIS DE L'UNIVERSITÉ D'EDIMBOURG, DANS LE CADRE DU PARTENARIAT ÉTABLI AVEC MA FONDATION.

CE SERA POUR NOUS L'OCCASION DE PROLONGER CE DIALOGUE AU SERVICE DES MERS, ET D'APPROFONDIR ENSEMBLE NOS RÉFLEXIONS ET NOS PISTES D'ACTION.

COMME LE DISAIT LE PHILOSOPHE FRANÇAIS HENRI BERGSON, « IL FAUT AGIR EN HOMME DE PENSÉE ET PENSER EN HOMME D'ACTION ».

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AU VU DES ÉCHANGES EXTRÊMEMENT FÉCONDS,
CONCRETS ET PROFONDS QUE NOUS AVONS EUS
AUJOURD'HUI, JE NE PEUX QUE VOUS FAIRE
CONFIANCE POUR CELA !

JE VOUS REMERCIE.