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Welcome Address

Discours de bienvenue

Willkommensansprache

Kurt WIDBOM
Chairman
The Finnish Group of IABSE
Helsinki, Finland

Arvoisat kutsuvieraat,
Mesdames et Messieurs,
Meine Damen und Herren,

Mr. President,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Finnish Group of the International Association for Bridge and Structural Engineering, together with the Association of Finnish Civil Engineers has the great honour and pleasure of welcoming you all to the 13th IABSE Congress in Helsinki.

The Congress with its theme, "Challenges to Structural Engineering", is dedicated to new concepts in Civil Engineering. The theme will be highlighted through deep analysis of the achievements of today and presentations of new and exciting tools and methods for design, decision making and implementation.

The Helsinki Congress will give us a glimpse of the future, and we hope that all of you will gain something to take home for the benefit of your own work.

We are also pleased to present you the unique Finnish scenery at its best. Finland is famous for its clean and untouched nature. There are thick forests everywhere – the Finnish green gold. Thousands of lakes with their islands, and the nightless nights of northern Finnish Lapland attract the visitors from all over the world.

Helsinki, the capital of Finland, which was founded in 1550, is called the Pearl of Baltic – and with a good reason. Sea and islands, big ships, yachts and small boats, lively market places and cool, green parks are typical features of Helsinki.

The best of Finnish architecture can be found here – for example the Finlandia Hall, designed by the world famous architect Alvar Aalto, venue of our IABSE Congress.

Mr. President,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Bienvenue à Helsinki!
Willkommen in Helsinki!
Welcome to Helsinki!
Tervetuloa Helsinkiin!

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