

Closing remarks

Manuel Marfán¹

Thank you very much, Jan.

As I said yesterday at the meeting of the IFC Committee, it is an honour and pleasure for me to take over the Chairmanship from you. I knew about the activities of the Committee through the formal decision we took in 2006 at the Central Bank of Chile to become an institutional member of the IFC. I also received positive feedback from my colleagues on the past meetings organised by the IFC. I have now seen the Committee in action over the last two days and am very impressed. It is clear that IFC member central banks send very competent and motivated officials to participate in the IFC conferences, to present papers, to act as discussants and to chair sessions. I have learned a great deal at the conference, both in terms of the key issues we discussed and the sharing of experience across a broad range of countries from all different regions of the world. I really look forward to participate in future IFC events.

I realise it will be a challenge for me to continue in your footsteps. Thanks to your efforts a proper governance structure has been put in place for the Committee. I will be able to work with a competent Executive and will benefit from the professional and dedicated support of the Secretariat at the BIS. Opportunities have been created to strengthen the cooperation with the ISI and its various groups. And, of course, a number of activities are already planned for the coming year. To a large extent I can follow the road that you have traced.

We are all very grateful to you for the leadership you have provided to the Committee over the last three years. Your commitment and enthusiasm has been clear to all of those who have worked with you during the period of your chairmanship. We have greatly valued your diplomatic skills, your experience and wisdom, and the energy you have spent on moving the Committee forward. On behalf of all of us I would like to sincerely thank you for everything you have done and achieved! You will now become an honorary member of the Committee and we hope to see you at future meetings, in particular at next year's meeting in Durban.

Ladies and gentlemen, before closing I would like to say again that I look forward to chairing the Committee and to work closely with all the institutional members, the ISI and the BIS. This is your Committee and I welcome any suggestions and proposals that you might want to make with respect our future activities or our internal governance. Please feel free to contact me directly or through the Secretariat. I look forward to seeing you or other colleagues from your organisation next year in Durban.

Thank you.

¹ Chairman of the Irving Fisher Committee on Central Bank Statistics.