

Director-General

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Dear Mr. Atzori,

I would like to offer my sincere gratitude for your contribution to the event on Monday, 15 April “**500 Years of Innovation, from Da Vinci to ITER**” at ITER site in Saint Paul lez Durance. Your participation in the Panel organised by our Italian colleague Sergio Orlandi was invaluable. I thoroughly enjoyed the discussions that linked the challenges we face today with the genius of Da Vinci, but also offered fresh insights into your own work and Italian research.

china

eu

india

japan

korea

russia

usa

I highly valued your presence at the event and your willingness to travel and spend a day with us, as I am well aware of the time pressures you all face. The effort you made to join us for this important celebration was a clear indication of your commitment to ITER and the need for sustained innovation. I hope that the tour of the worksite offered you a glimpse of the progress we are making at ITER on our own version of a Da Vinci machine, and that you enjoyed the conference as much as I did.

I recently read a quote by Leonardo Da Vinci, which brought to mind our own ‘*urgency of doing*’ and the need for collaboration to achieve great things in our current, complex world:

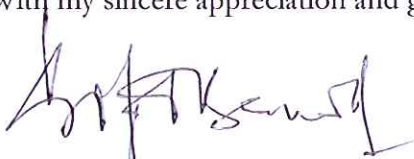
“*I have been impressed with the urgency of doing. Knowing is not enough; we must apply. Being willing is not enough; we must do*”.

Leonardo da Vinci

These words still ring true, and I have seen them applied through your actions and your commitment to making ITER a success that may benefit society for the next 500 years before we celebrate the 1000 years anniversary of Da Vinci—and for many more millennia to come.

I thank you again for your contribution to honour Italian researchers, inventors and engineers everywhere, and to remind us of Italy’s ingenious contributions that continue to benefit society to this very day.

With my sincere appreciation and gratitude,



Bernard Bigot
Director-General
ITER Organization