

Award Ceremony of the North-South Prize of the Council of Europe 2005



North-South Centre
of the Council of Europe



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Introduction



Bob Geldof and Bogaletch Gebre, 2005 prizewinners.
Photo: Louis Klipfel, Council of Europe.

Based in Lisbon, the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe was established in 1989 as a Partial Agreement in order to provide a framework for European cooperation designed to heighten public awareness of global interdependence issues, and to promote policies of solidarity complying with the Council of Europe's aims and principles.

Often presented as being the Council of Europe's window on the world, it asserts, through its programmes, the values defended by the same – respect for human rights, democracy and

social cohesion – beyond the European continent.

The North-South Prize of the Council of Europe has been awarded annually since 1995 to two public figures (one nominee from the North and one from the South, preferably a man and a woman) who are recognised for their deep commitment, outstanding achievements and/or the hope they have generated in the field of individual rights protection, the defence of pluralist democracy and North-South solidarity and partnership.

The North-South Prize Jury is composed of the members of the Bureau of the North-South Centre and the Secretary General of the Council of Europe. It is chaired by the Chairman of the North-South Centre's Executive Council.

The Prize, a sculpture, is the fruit of the joint creativity of two artists, one from the southern hemisphere, Lívio de Morais, and one from the northern hemisphere, João Murillo. The sculpture represents the North and the South and the ties between the two hemispheres, guided by a devotion to justice and the defence of human rights.

In 1995, one of the prizes went to Peter Gabriel, whose musical work contributed to the dissemination of music from different parts of the world. In



1992, he launched the Witness programme which provided logistical support to human rights militants worldwide. The other prize was awarded to Vera Duarte, the first woman to be elected to the African Commission on Human and People's Rights.

The 1996 North-South Prize went to Danielle Mitterrand, president of the France Libertés Foundation, for her position in favour of human rights protection and, symbolically, to Algerian women, for their daily fight for freedom.

Mary Robinson received the 1997 North-South Prize. Thanks to her sustained involvement in the field of human rights, the former President of Ireland was appointed United Nations Human Rights Commissioner. Patricio Aylwin, former President of Chile, passionately supported and defended the transition to democracy in his country. He was awarded the other prize in recognition of his work.

The 1998 prize was awarded to Graça Machel, chairperson of the National Organisation of Children of Mozambique for her outstanding work with war children in her country and, at the same time, for her dedication to the cause of education. Lloyd Axworthy, Canadian Foreign Minister, received the prize for his notable work in the fight against antipersonnel mines all over the world.

In 1999, European Commissioner, Emma Bonino, was rewarded for her commitment to major humanitarian causes through her direct intervention in war-torn countries and with disadvantaged populations. The other prize went to Abderrahman Youssoufi, Prime Minister of Morocco and a defender of human rights in Arab countries.

The winners of the 2000 North-South Prize were Marguerite Barankitse, for having set up and run children's shelters in Burundi, and Mário Soares, former President of Portugal. Ms Barankitse made her mark through her dedication to the cause of war children and of war orphans in particular. Mr Soares is well-known for his fight against the dictatorship in his country.

In 2001, the prize went to Maria de Nazaré Gadelha Ferreira Fernandes, lawyer for the Human Rights Defence Centre (Brazil). Her testimony to the existence of organised extermination and drug-trafficking groups in the state made her a target for serious threats. The prize was also awarded to Cornelio Sommaruga, former president of the International Red Cross Committee, defender of the Ottawa Process and an expert on the issue of antipersonnel mines.



The jury decided to award the 2002 North-South Prize to Albina du Boisrouvray, founder and president of the François-Xavier Bagnoud Association, known for its action in the protection of orphans and AIDS victims on different continents, and to Xanana Gusmão, President of East Timor and leader of the Timorese resistance from 1979 to 1999, recognised as a fervent supporter of the rule of law, pluralistic democracy and respect for human rights.

In 2003, the jury honoured parliamentarians by awarding the North-South Prize to Frene Ginwala, speaker of the South African Parliament and a militant in the antiapartheid movement, who lived in exile for many years and was the driving force behind the creation of the Pan-African Parliament, and to António de Almeida Santos, former speaker of the Portuguese Assembly of the Republic, who had an outstanding career as a Portuguese parliamentarian.

In 2004, the recipients of the North-South Prize were Nawal El Saadawi, Egyptian writer and psychiatrist, and Stéphane Hessel, Ambassador of France. As a result of her literary and scientific writings, Nawal El Saadawi has suffered countless hardships in her life and sometimes even received threats, which forced her to spend five years in exile. Stéphane Hessel is known for his courageous stand and his writing in favour of the disadvantaged and the defence of human rights.

Bogaletch Gebre and Bob Geldof were awarded the 2005 North-South Prize during an official ceremony taking place at the Portuguese Assembly of the Republic on 21 November 2005.

Victim of female genital mutilation, Bogaletch Gebre decided to dedicate her life to the education, training and public health of Ethiopian women, and the eradication of female genital mutilation. Being the first woman invited to join the Science Faculty of Addis Ababa University, Bogaletch Gebre also studied at the Hebrew University (Jerusalem), at the University of Massachusetts and at UCLA (USA), where she entered a PhD program in Epidemiology. In 1997, she founded the Kembatta Women's Self-Help Center (KMG), an Ethiopian nonprofit organisation whose mission is to educate and empower people to achieve a comprehensive and sustainable development. The work of KMG focuses primarily on women and youth, and the main areas of activity are health, livelihood, environment, social systems, human rights, gender and democracy. Gebre's work has been recognised and replicated nationally, particularly in the areas of prevention and control of HIV/AIDS, female genital excision and bride abduction. At the international level,



Bogaletch Gebre has received several prizes and was nominated for the 1000 Women for the Nobel Peace Prize in 2005.

Bob Geldof, former lead-singer and songwriter of "The Boomtown Rats", created Band Aid in 1984, a grouping together of many musicians to record a song for the victims of famine in Africa. In 1985, he organised the Live Aid concert and in 1986 the Sports Aid concert, and established the Band Aid Trust to administer the funds raised. Supporter of Jubilee 2000 (the worldwide movement to cancel Third World debt), Bob Geldof was involved in setting up DATA (Debt, AIDS, Trade, Africa), a lobby group focused on generating more resources and better policies for African countries. He is also involved in the Make Poverty History campaign, which is a coalition calling for trade justice, debt cancellation and more and better aid. He participated in the elaboration of the Africa Commission report. Nominated several times for the Nobel Peace Prize, Geldof organised, in July 2005, a series of concerts called Live 8, which took place in the G8 nations and South Africa, before the G8 summit. As a producer, he has received numerous awards for TV work.



Jaime Gama **President of the Assembly of the Portuguese** **Republic**

Representatives of the Council of Europe,
Mr Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation,
Ambassadors,
Members of Parliament,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Assembly of the Portuguese Republic is very proud to host the award of such an important prize to two personalities of international repute, Bogaletch Gebre and Bob Geldof.

And there is a good reason for the ceremony to be held here at the Assembly of the Portuguese Republic.

In 1984, 21 years ago now, it was here, at the Assembly of the Portuguese Republic, that the idea was born to set up a North-South Centre, during the first Council of Europe parliamentary colloquium on North-South relations. It came into existence in 1990 and is based in Lisbon, as part of the Council of Europe's decentralisation policy.

Since 1995, for 10 years now, the North-South Centre has formed a jury of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, the Chairman of the Executive Council and the Bureau and has awarded the North-South Human Rights Prize. It is an annual prize that goes to two personalities who, thanks to their commitment, their battles and their political attitude have come out firmly in the defence of human rights, pluralistic democracy and support of North-South partnership and solidarity.

This prize has already involved a vast range of people as interesting as the former President of the Red Cross Committee, Sommaruga or Xanana Gusmão, and including many other distinguished personalities.

This year it goes to Bogaletch Gebre, an Ethiopian woman world-famous for everything she has done for women's rights, of great significance not only



in Africa but also the rest of the world. She is known in today's society for her commitment to education, the fight against discrimination and the struggle for women's physical integrity in her great cause of the promotion of women's rights and the fight against disease in general and AIDS in particular. But, when all is said and done, her fight has been for women's dignity and so she is well worthy of this prize.

Bob Geldof, whom we all know, is the other winner. He has been a lively symbol - indeed he follows after Peter Gabriel in this prize as a great singer and musician - of the commitment of the countries involved in North-South relations to a new culture of solidarity with development. This was very clear in his Live Aid concert and in his role as a member of the Commission for Africa, which drew up the famous report Our Common Interest, which changed the way of thinking of developed countries with regard to adjustments in their aid policies. This opened interesting new doors, not only in terms of declarations but also of practical solutions, objectives that, indeed, have recently begun to bear fruit. This is our hope.

I wish to be brief and I would just like to congratulate the two laureates and say how proud we are here at the Assembly of the Portuguese Republic to see a prize that was born from an institution that was actually thought up and designed here with the whole Council of Europe. I hope that they will also use this prize to continue on their chosen paths in the defence of human rights, pluralistic democracy, public freedom and North-South solidarity.

I have no doubt that they deserve the prize and will also be worthy of it in their continued commitment, on which we all congratulate them and of which we are all proud.

Thank you very much.



Jaime Gama

Presidente da Assembleia da República de Portugal

Srs Representantes do Conselho da Europa,
Sr Secretário de Estado dos Negócios Estrangeiros e da
Cooperação,
Srs Embaixadores,
Sras e Srs Deputados,
Minhas Senhoras e Meus Senhores:

É para a Assembleia da República um motivo de orgulho poder ser o local da entrega deste tão importante prémio a duas personalidades de grande reputação internacional, Bogaletch Gebre e Bob Geldof.

E há alguma razão para a entrega ocorrer aqui, na Assembleia da República.

Em 1984, já lá vão 21 anos, foi aqui, na Assembleia da República, num colóquio parlamentar do Conselho da Europa, o primeiro que o Conselho da Europa dedicou às relações Norte-Sul, que nasceu a ideia de se constituir um Centro Norte-Sul, o qual passou a existir desde 1990, sediado em Lisboa, numa política de descentralização dos organismos do Conselho da Europa.

Desde 1995, portanto, desde há 10 anos, o Centro Norte-Sul, reunindo um júri com o Secretário-Geral do Conselho da Europa, o Presidente do Conselho Executivo, o Bureau, tem vindo a atribuir o Prémio Norte-Sul dos Direitos Humanos, um Prémio que é anualmente dedicado a duas personalidades que, pelo seu empenhamento, pelos seus combates, pela sua atitude política se têm comprometido firmemente na defesa dos direitos humanos, na defesa da democracia pluralista e, também, no apoio à parceria e à solidariedade Norte-Sul.

Este Prémio já envolveu pessoas tão interessantes - o leque é vastíssimo - como o antigo Presidente do Comité Internacional da Cruz Vermelha, Sommaruga, ou Xanana Gusmão, passando por muitas outras altíssimas individualidades.



Este ano - 2005 - vai ser destinado a galardoar Bogaletch Gebre, personalidade etíope mundialmente famosa por tudo o que tem feito em prol dos direitos da mulher, com um grande significado não só africano mas, também, mundial. O seu empenho na formação, no combate à discriminação, no combate pela integralidade da integridade física da mulher, na sua grande causa a favor da promoção dos direitos da mulher e, também, no combate à doença, em especial a SIDA e ao que ela tem representado na sociedade actual. Mas, fundamentalmente, o seu combate tem sido pela dignidade da mulher, por isso ela é inteiramente merecedora deste Prémio.

Também Bob Geldof, de todos conhecido, é um dos galardoados. Ele tem simbolizado - aliás, sucede a Peter Gabriel neste Prémio, enquanto grande homem da música e da canção -, de uma forma muito viva, o empenhamento dos países desenvolvidos nas relações Norte-Sul, numa nova cultura de solidariedade para com o desenvolvimento, muito patente no seu concerto Live Aid, e, sobretudo, também no papel que representou como membro da Comissão para África, que elaborou o famoso relatório "Our Common Interest", um relatório que, de certa forma, também veio modificar a maneira de pensar dos países desenvolvidos em relação aos ajustamentos a fazer nas suas políticas de cooperação para o desenvolvimento, abrindo aí novas e muito interessantes pistas, não apenas no plano declaratório como, também, no plano da indicação para soluções práticas, objectivas e que, aliás, começaram desde há pouco tempo a produzir os seus frutos e os seus bons resultados - assim o esperamos.

Não queria alongar-me, queria apenas felicitar os dois laureados, dizer como nos orgulhamos aqui, na Assembleia da República portuguesa, de poder ver corporizado um Prémio que nasceu de uma instituição reflectida e concebida no nosso próprio Parlamento com todo o Conselho da Europa e esperar que eles também usem este Prémio para prosseguir o caminho que até aqui têm realizado na defesa dos direitos humanos, da democracia pluralista, das liberdades públicas e da solidariedade Norte-Sul.

Estou certo que eles mereceram receber o Prémio e que também vão ser merecedores dele na continuidade de uma acção muito empenhada, que todos felicitamos e de que todos nos orgulhamos.

Muito obrigado.



Claude Frey **Chairman of the Executive Council of the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe**

Mr President of the Assembly of the Portuguese Republic,
Mr Secretary of State,
Madam Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe,
Distinguished Laureates,
Ambassadors,
Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Like every year, we meet here at the Assembly of the Portuguese Republic, a place of history in Portugal, for the award of the North-South Prize.

On behalf of the Executive Council of the North-South Centre, we would like to express our appreciation to our hosts, the Government of Portugal and the Assembly of the Portuguese Republic. It is thanks to your cooperation and your welcome that the North-South Centre is able to fulfil its mission and organise the North-South Prize every year.

The President of Portugal has sent us a message of support that will be read to you in a moment. We would like to thank him warmly.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Over the years, the North-South Prize has become a symbol of the essential values that make up the identity of the North-South Centre, the defence of human rights and a certain idea of solidarity.

By every year distinguishing two personalities who have stood out for their contribution to the defence of human rights, the prize reminds us that, in a world in which interdependence of societies and economies is imperative every day, the promotion of these values is an absolute necessity.

In this pivotal period of history, only the voluntary affirmation of human rights everywhere and by all can help us to build a common future beyond the



shores of the North and South, a future bringing all the diversity in the world and each one's right to dignity.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

You will agree with me when I say that merely invoking human rights is not enough to guarantee that they become a reality. Demanding rights lies in action and a rejection of fatalism. It also lies in shared solidarity. It is this will to take action in the face of oppression and the rifts opened by poverty that guides the lives of our two prize winners, Bogaletch Gebre and Bob Geldof. Though they are from very different backgrounds, they are united in their altruism.

Ms Gebre,

You have been thrust forward by destiny. You could have taken refuge in complaints and lamentation and spent the rest of your life licking your wounds. You chose to stand up tall, to walk or even run, to travel the world on behalf of women who are still victims of a barbarous practice from days gone by, genital mutilation. Unfortunately, these harmful, discriminatory, mutilations are still going on at the beginning of the 21st century, cutting into the bodies and souls of countless women in Africa and the Arab world.

On awarding you the North-South Prize, we wish to pay tribute to your tenacity and your courage and to add our voice to yours and say loud and clear with you that the time has come to bring down the wall of silence surrounding these practices. This mutilation is not only a threat to the physical health and psychological balance of the women and girls of your continent but also a violation of their most fundamental rights.

Mr Geldof,

You have received all the glory that any well-known artiste can achieve. You could easily have locked yourself away behind your fame. You chose to take the road of generosity and creative altruism. After more than two decades living with the problems of Africa, feeling Africa's pain and hopes, you regularly remind us that justice cannot be divided and that humanity is indivisible.

By speaking through your music for the forgotten ones of our world, those who live from cradle to grave in the shackles of poverty, you remind us of our



duty of solidarity, our duty of humanity and you give us back our own humanity. Yes, what you say is true. No one has the right to turn their back when children are dying, in Ethiopia or elsewhere.

Mr Geldof, Sir Bob,

We are giving you this prize as a tribute and a sign of our wholehearted support of your actions, which call us to shared responsibility, which remind us that humankind is accountable for humankind.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Let us hope that our two laureates serve as an example. Let their will to help, to bear witness for others, for the most disadvantaged, overcome the barriers of language and generations.

Ms Gebre, Mr Geldof,

Please continue. Continue to warn, raise awareness, catalyse wills in favour of all those nameless ones whose destinies are scarred and mutilated by poverty and violence.

Thank you very much.



Claude Frey **Président du Conseil exécutif du Centre Nord-Sud** **du Conseil de l'Europe**

Monsieur le Président de l'Assemblée de la République portugaise,
Monsieur le Secrétaire d'Etat,
Madame la Secrétaire Générale adjointe du Conseil de l'Europe,
Madame la lauréate,
Monsieur le lauréat,
Mesdames et Messieurs les ambassadeurs,
Mesdames et Messieurs les invités,
Mesdames et Messieurs,

Comme chaque année, nous nous retrouvons dans cette enceinte de l'Assemblée de la République, haut lieu de l'histoire du Portugal, pour la remise du prix Nord-Sud.

Au nom du Conseil exécutif du Centre Nord-Sud, nous exprimons nos vifs remerciements à nos hôtes, le Gouvernement du Portugal et l'Assemblée de la République. C'est grâce à votre coopération et à votre accueil que le Centre Nord-Sud peut mener à bien la mission qui lui a été assignée et organiser chaque année le prix Nord-Sud.

Monsieur le Président de la République du Portugal nous a adressé un message de soutien qui sera porté à votre connaissance tout à l'heure. Qu'il en soit ici chaleureusement remercié.

Mesdames et Messieurs,

Le prix Nord-Sud est devenu, au fil des années, un emblème des valeurs essentielles qui fondent l'identité du Centre Nord-Sud : je veux parler de la défense des droits de l'homme et d'une certaine idée de la solidarité.

En distinguant chaque année deux personnalités qui se sont illustrées par leur contribution à la défense des droits de l'homme, ce prix nous rappelle



que dans un monde où l'interdépendance des sociétés et des économies s'impose à nous chaque jour, la promotion de ces valeurs est une nécessité absolue.

En effet, en cette période charnière de l'histoire, seule l'affirmation volontaire des droits de l'homme partout et pour tous peut nous aider à construire, au-delà des rives du Nord et du Sud, un avenir commun, porteur de toute la diversité du monde et des droits de chacun à la dignité.

Mesdames et Messieurs,

Vous conviendrez avec moi que la seule invocation des droits de l'homme ne suffit pas pour garantir leur transposition dans le réel. L'exigence des droits - du droit - se dessine dans l'action et le refus du fatalisme. Elle réside également dans le partage de la solidarité. C'est cette volonté d'action face aux oppressions et aux fractures creusées par la pauvreté, qui trace le sens de la vie de nos deux lauréats, Madame Bogaletch Gebre et Monsieur Bob Geldof. Si éloignés par leurs origines, ils sont si proches dans leur volonté altruiste.

Madame Bogaletch Gebre,

Vous avez été bousculée par le destin. Vous auriez pu vous réfugier dans la plainte et la complainte et passer le reste de votre vie à panser vos propres blessures. Vous avez choisi de vous remettre debout, de marcher, que dis-je de courir, de parcourir le monde au nom des femmes encore victimes de pratiques barbares issues d'un autre temps : les mutilations génitales. Hélas, ces pratiques nocives, discriminatoires, mutilantes continuent au seuil de ce siècle encore de porter le fer dans l'âme et le corps de nombreuses femmes d'Afrique et du monde arabe.

En vous décernant le Prix Nord-Sud, nous voulons saluer votre ténacité et votre courage et joindre notre voix à la vôtre pour dire haut et fort avec vous, que le temps est venu de mettre à bas le mur de silence qui entoure ces pratiques représentant non seulement une menace pour la santé physique et l'équilibre psychique des filles et femmes de votre continent, mais également une violation de leurs droits les plus élémentaires.

Monsieur Bob Geldof,

Vous avez reçu toute la gloire que peut connaître un artiste de renom. Vous auriez pu vous barricader dans les limbes de la notoriété. Vous avez



choisi d'emprunter les chemins de la générosité et de l'altruisme créatif. Depuis plus de deux décennies, imprégné de la terre africaine, familier de ses douleurs et de ses espoirs, vous nous rappelez régulièrement que la justice ne se divise pas, que l'Humanité est indivisible.

En témoignant par la voix de la musique pour les oubliés de notre monde, ceux qui vivent du berceau à la tombe dans l'enfermement des barbelés de la pauvreté, vous nous rappelez à notre devoir de solidarité, à notre devoir d'humanité, vous nous rendez notre propre humanité. Oui, vous avez raison : nul n'a le droit de tourner la tête quand la mort des enfants, en Ethiopie ou ailleurs, prend les couleurs du vécu.

Monsieur Bob Geldof, Sir Bob,

Nous vous décernons ce prix en hommage et en signe de notre adhésion de principe, de raison et de coeur à votre action qui nous appelle à une responsabilité partagée, qui nous rappelle que l'humanité est comptable de l'humanité.

Mesdames et Messieurs,

Puisse l'exemple de nos deux lauréats faire des émules. Puisse leur volonté de secourir, de témoigner pour autrui, pour les plus démunis, traverser les langues et les générations.

Madame Bogaletch Gebre, Monsieur Bob Geldof,

Continuez, continuez à alerter, sensibiliser, catalyser les volontés en faveur de tous les sans noms aux destins balafrés, mutilés par la pauvreté et la violence.

Je vous remercie.



Maud de Boer-Buquicchio Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe

Kahlil Gibran once said that desire is half of life and indifference is half of death. In fact, for many, far too many people on this planet, indifference does not only mean half of death, but a death sentence without appeal.

The reason why we are here today is to pay tribute to two exceptional persons who not only refuse to accept that some people should suffer because others don't care - but are also doing something about it.

At first look, these two persons could not be more different. They come from two different continents, have grown up in completely different circumstances and have a very different professional background. But these differences are superficial. A closer look will reveal that Ms Bogaletch Gebre of Kembatta, Ethiopia and Mr Bob Geldof of Dublin, Ireland have a great deal in common.

To start with, they both represent a remarkable story of individual accomplishment and success, achieved through exceptional personal talent, perseverance and hard work. Even if they have chosen two very different careers, they both succeeded to beat the odds and climb to the top.

To be absolutely honest - and I hope Bob Geldof will not mind me saying so - I would add that odds were even higher for Bogaletch Gebre. This is not because it would be easy to make it in rock music - this room is probably filled with people who, at some point, had to give up their dreams to make it to the charts - but simply because for someone who wants to become a musician Dublin is probably one of the best places in the world to grow up. Kembatta, on the other hand, did not offer these kind of opportunities - certainly not in the fifties - to girls wanting to go to school and get a PhD.

But the reason why Bogaletch Gebre and Bob Geldof were invited to Lisbon to be awarded the 11th North-South Prize of the Council of Europe is not their personal accomplishments - as remarkable as they are in themselves. The reason is what they did with them, and this is what is truly exceptional.

We should not forget that they both had the option of being satisfied with excelling in their respective professions and enjoying the fruits of their hard



work. But they decided not to. They are making a difference and this is why we should simply thank them, and encourage them to continue.

At this point, I should perhaps explain why a European Prize should be awarded to two persons whose action is focused on the situation in another continent. What, after all, have democracy and the protection of human rights in Europe - which is the mandate of the Council of Europe - to do with poverty, hunger and disease in Africa?

The reasons are clear and logical, and similar to those which led the Council of Europe to establish its North-South Centre sixteen years ago. It was thanks to the support of Portugal that our Organisation embraced this new dimension in the achievement of its objectives. Mr President, I am happy to recall that tomorrow, we will mark the 29th anniversary of accession of your country to the Council of Europe.

The first part of the response is the moral imperative of solidarity. To turn away from people in need just because they live outside Europe's borders would be an offence to our own human dignity. You cannot respect yourself if you do not care for others.

Secondly, the task of promoting democracy and human rights is not something that can be restricted to a limited geographic space. If we want to protect freedom in Europe, we must build bridges, not walls.

Thirdly, in the Council of Europe we know that freedom from poverty and exclusion is a precondition for a functioning democracy and an effective protection of human rights. If people are enslaved in a daily struggle for survival against hunger and disease, the respect for these universal values will remain approximate - at best!

In conclusion, I should like to thank the Portuguese authorities and especially the President of the Portuguese Parliament, Mr Jaime Gama, for their generous and valuable participation in the organisation of this event which pays tribute to two very special persons.

The chart of activities of the Bogaletch Gebre's Women's Self-Help Centre reads like the Kembatta's equivalent to the Council of Europe. It is active in the field of health, education, livelihood activities, environment, gender equality, democracy and human rights. The great willingness of Mrs Gebre to listen and to understand as well as her untiring efforts to empower women at local,



national and international levels certainly deserves our full admiration and, above all, support.

Bob Geldof is clearly a man who never gives up. After organising the historic Band-Aid more than twenty years ago, he relentlessly pursued his activities in favour of the most destitute communities in Africa and in the world. Not from a comfortable chair or a well equipped music studio but by listening to those whose life he intends to change for the better. For everything he has done between the Band Aid in 1984 and Live 8 this year, he has more than merited the North-South Prize of the Council of Europe.

I started my intervention with a quote and I will end it with another one, this time from Marge Piercy, an American Poet and novelist. "Never doubt that you can change history. You already have" she said.

I was never sure if it really applied to everyone, but I am certain that it does apply to Bogaletch Gebre and Bob Geldof.

Thank you.



Bogaletch Gebre Founder of the “Kembatta Women's Self-Help Centre” (Ethiopia)

"A person starts to live when he can live outside himself" - Albert Einstein.

I am so humbled and so honoured to accept this North-South prize, acknowledging millions and millions of the geographic south, particularly those of the African Continent. I especially feel, my presence today is a recognition and affirmation of the critical half of the South, women, the first volunteers of our world, principally, rural women of the African continent, who labour without pay, who give themselves and their love without condition, by doing so, who make life and peace possible for everybody else.

I want to deeply thank the European delegation in Addis Ababa for its recommendation, chiefly, Ambassador Timothy Clarke who not only has travelled from Addis Ababa several times to our project in the remote area of southern Ethiopia, but also brought 11 of the European Union Ambassadors to our Kembatta Women's Centre, who, by their presence, affirmed their solidarity with ordinary people in Ethiopia.

It certainly is great honor to share this award today with Sir Bob Geldof, not only because he took singular action during the 1984-87 Ethiopian famine and galvanized the world and demonstrated how those in the north, as people to people could assist when those in the south are in trouble. But, when I was at school some 20 years ago, his individual action inspired me that I, as an individual also could dream and dare to affect change in my own country. Moreover, when many came and went, he consistently works on higher level to end poverty in Africa. Thank you, Sir Bob Geldof, for being such a good neighbour of Africans, the Ethiopian people holds you close to their heart.

I would not spend this very short time and great opportunity I have talking lofty ideas but, as a woman, very practical wishes and pleas to this great Assembly to consider.

It is a historical reality that the North and the South need each other and that we live in increasing economic, political and cultural interdependence, yet we are radically divided by the poverty and constant conflict in the South. The



prosperity and security, and way of life of the North may depend how meaningfully the North responds to these dire circumstances facing those who are less fortunate and marginalized and mainly live in the South, particularly Africa. We may be connected in ways that demand deeper, more humane, acknowledgement and sustained commitment to action to this fact.

One way of making this historical linkage positively durable is through our youth, who are touted to hope for a better world? But what kind of world are we leaving for them to dream, to build upon and to lead? Who are their examples and their role models? Leaders, who cheat, lie and kill, to stay in power? Leaders who are afraid of their own people? Leaders who have no care for the environment, which we have borrowed from the future generation?

I humbly appeal to the Council of Europe to create much deeper and meaningful inter-youth dialogues, for young people to create their own vision of the world they want to see. I believe, as youth, their courage, vitality, ambition and hunger for a better and just world, would enable them to galvanize each other and their countries; decrease xenophobia and cultural parochialism by replacing fear of other with fascination for the other's (culture, literature, languages, arts, foods) and create movements where cross-cultural conversations and dialogues and true democracy building initiatives would resonate throughout the two hemispheres and beyond.

Secondly, I feel, Europe does not show its presence in Africa as close neighbour. For instance, in Ethiopia where the seat of African Union is based, there is no weekly newsletter, or monthly publication that informs citizens what Europe is doing with Africa; a good information resource centre/library to speak of Europe's presence was felt in Ethiopia during our exercise in our infant democracy; thanks to the very courageous role of Mrs. Ana Gomez (dubbed Hanna the courageous one, by the free press and adopted by Ethiopian people) and untiring and relentless shuttle diplomacy played by Ambassador Timothy Clarke. Between the opposition, among the civil society, by engaging all the key stakeholders, he managed to diffuse tensions and kept hope alive. My own knowledge of Europe as youngster was from history books about its territorial wars and colonialism and I do not think today's youth is informed and learning any different.

Equally important is to create public information programs in Europe through radio, TV, magazines and to inform the European youth and the public at large, about the African continent, its diversity, heterogeneity and its rich cultural heritage and natural resources, not only as a desperate continent.



Development progress first and for most is function of a country commitment and political will to govern justly, promote individual and economic, political and social freedom and invest on people. I believe, the interparliamentary dialogues have these inherent purposes to use parliamentary contacts in order to influence governments in the South, just to do that.

The North has been giving aid to Africa, however it has not helped to reduce poverty, bring security and dignity and human rights. I dare to suggest to this great assembly to change the way Europe does business with the African continent.

Women of Africa - rural peasants and city slum dwellers - are, to use an idiom from the industrialized world, "the canaries in the mines". Coal miners in England and the United States took these small birds into the mines, because they would normally sing almost constantly. But when poisonous gases began to overwhelm them, they would stop singing, thereby warning the miners of danger.

Ethiopia's women sing much less than they did when I was a child in the village. Women in Africa are singing less than since Beijing Conference. Will we be able to heed their warning in time?

Women in the geographic South can be described in three broad categories, but the largest group is made up of my "canaries", burdened with heavier work load, with less and less to support their families, as development leads to the denuding of the forest and pollution of water supplies, and destruction of other natural resources, destroying their connection to the land.

Second, there are women of the middle class, who have a certain degree of education, and work outside the home, and of course, work over and above in their unpaid position.

Third, there are a small number of women who are highly educated and affluent, who hold important jobs and social positions. For the most part, women of the second group perceive women of this last, tiny, elite group as their ideal.

Rural and urban poor women, on the other hand, perceive themselves as different. All their energies go to their families' survival in harsh and worsening conditions. In the village and in the city slums, a major part of their time and strength goes toward providing basic amenities of life, like carrying water long



distances, gathering firewood, processing and preparing food, caring for the aged, infirmed and children. Their aspiration is to have enough rain to bring in a normal harvest so their routine of life is not disrupted and they are not displaced from their homes.

Their higher aspiration is for their children to have some education, especially for their sons. They may hope, through their children, to see some improvement in the harshness of their own lives.

In contemporary world too, poverty is very much linked to women and has a woman's face. The successive UNDP Human Development Reports and numerous studies have consistently indicated that 70% of the world's poor are women. This holds true also to Ethiopia, where there are more factors that make women poorer. Ethiopia, as a traditional society where the fiercest patriarchal values are prevalent, and impoverished country the household and the family manages to exist mainly due to the sacrificial role of women. In short, women constitute the proletarians of our time. By the same token, development paradigms and strategies as well as the democratization process cannot do without the central role to be played by women and the gender perspective.

Peasant women of the Third World are forced into a symmetric participation in development, by which they bear the greatest costs but are excluded from the benefits.

This critical partnership is destroyed when a development scheme is introduced which excludes women from training and decision-making, and transforms women from active partner to passive "resources".

A critical point is the lack of respect for women's unpaid labour reflected in the way economic calculations are made. The UN System of national Accounts (UNSNA) is used to calculate each nation's Gross National and Gross Domestic Products (GNP and GDP). UNSNA is used to analyze past and present developments in national economies, make predictions, access revenue requirements, and make resource allocations.

This system of accounting is supposed to give information about the working of economies as a whole and the ways in which the various parts relate to each other. For there to be real accuracy this whole would have to include all goods and services produced and exchanged within the human community.



But this supposedly all-inclusive system does not include the unpaid labour of women. It leaves women statistically and economically invisible. Household services (that is, what women do in an unpaid capacity) lie outside the "production boundary".

In Africa households, housewives produce on their own small farm plots up to 80% of all food consumed, and bring from its sources to its places of use 70% of the volume of all water used. (In some locations, source and point of use may be as much as 15 kilometers apart).

Even when the UNSNA production boundary is extended to include non-monetary activities, as when the informal economy of drugs, prostitution, and other crime is "guess estimated", women's work in building and construction, health care of their families and of extended families; processing, storage, transportation and preparing of food, carrying water; collecting firewood, and subsistence crop farming is still excluded because the work is done by housewives. Women's primary productions, and the consumption of their produce by men and others in the household, are considered of insufficient importance to show up in the analysis of the way the economy works.

A woman sustains life, makes it possible for everyone else to go to work, bears and nurses children, and provides them with their earliest education. The failure of international and national governments to acknowledge these activities as value-producing robs women of their dignity, while all other activity is given some measure of respect by being quantified in the general economic analysis.

Without this unpaid work of women, no other production is possible. Unless the activities of women that do not involve exchanging money are included in the shaping of public policy, there will be no qualitative participation of the female half of the population in development, particularly in African continent. The situation of women is the key to any analysis of the economic underpinnings of a society, and to any realistic hope that there might be for sustainable improvement.

The development model imported from the industrialized countries is accelerating the flow of resources and capital out of the Third World a great deal faster than it is bringing wealth in.

Without clear social and environmental protections built into it, development aggravates and deepens devastating social inequities. It hastens the process of ecological degradation. Women's loss of political social control



over nature's sustenance base allows those resources to be drained away from the women, children, and poor people who are most in need.

The exclusion of women's productive labour from national accounting systems not only misleads nations in allocating goods and services to their people (particularly women and children), it also perpetuates the myth of the worthlessness of women, and undermines the education of young children, who learn the worth of women early. If mothers do not count for much, young girls perceive themselves as less than boys and do not see themselves as taking part as equals in African society. Parents do not put a high premium on girls' education, and this robs a nation of the best use of half its people's intelligence.

The discipline of economics itself came out of the industrial revolution of 18th and 19th century Europe. Women of the Third World are challenging the way economics is conceived, and the industrial concept of nature as an object of domination and exploitation. We see economics, defined as merely production for profit and capital accumulation, as dangerous to human survival.

In order to prove useful in the transformation towards a world in which women and all other oppressed people have some equitable part in economic activity, economics must be reconceived to include all human activity involving paid or unpaid exchange. Conceived in this way, "exchange activity" includes caring for one's family, community and the environment.

Education of women is one of the most reliable predictors both of their own and their children's survival. Education for women is the strongest link between economic growth and lower birth rates.

Mothers are primary educators whether or not they are so recognized, and whether or not they live in a literate or an oral society, or in something in between. If we truly desire to build a peaceful society, with dignity, women as primary educators of young children are in the best position to begin the nurturing of peaceful and compassionate people. But to be effective as teachers of peace and development they must be respected as women, and have access to education themselves.

Women must have access to education in order to gain a voice in modern political institutions. Where Women, the "Critical Half" (the largest numbers of people), have no political voice, there cannot be social and economic justice, without which peace preservation is impossible.



Peace and poverty reduction can only be achieved in Africa if we find a way to identify those practices and ideas, which foster conflict, oppression, and the destruction of the ways of life, women and environments, which support the largest numbers of our people. We must support women, who are essential to the survival of future generations and the very survival and integrity of Africa.

Respect for women's labour (reflected in the UNSNA), respect for the potential contributions of women's intelligence (reflected in an aggressive female literacy program), and respect for ecological knowledge carried by oral cultures (reflected in a program of national research) are, I believe, the foundation for peace in Africa, and the world over.

I beg this great assembly and Europe as a whole, to make a percentage of your giving to Africa to NGOs and civil society organizations that work to empower women and communities at the grass roots, as well to women's groups. "When you give to women, they would use it wisely, and benefit everybody".

When women play active roles in decision-making at the family, community and national levels, everyone benefits - stronger women means stronger nations.

This is not an abstract statement. In 2000, the European Commission invested close to 500,000 euros in our organization, Kembatti Mentti Gezzimma - Tope (KMG) - Kembatta Women's Self-help Ethiopia, an indigenous non-for profit organization, women focused, integrated community development organization. The grant was to reduce the prevalence rate of FGM by 25%, to improve reproductive health and to help prevent and control HIV/AIDS in the target area. Currently, linking ecological, economic, and social systems - KMG has enabled communities to stop FGM, bring about behavioral and altitudinal changes regarding the HIV/AIDS pandemic, established Mother-Child Health services, empowered women and communities to stand up for themselves and speak their mind, and demand their rights.

I hope my children and grandchildren would not have to ask you for the same things that I am. I beg you to have the courage to act now - our times present a crucial window of opportunity for expanding women's social, economic and political participation.

Thank you!



Bob Geldof Musician and producer (Ireland)

Everything I have to say after Boge is redundant, of course.

Mr Speaker, Mr Secretary of State, Excellencies, members of Parliament, Maud, thank you very much for this great honour. It is ridiculous that I stand beside a woman like this, it is ridiculous, I am embarrassed.

Now that Boge has described completely the condition of women in Africa, let us talk of our world.

We have never been wealthier, we have never been healthier, we have never indulged in such surplus. And it strikes me that to die of want in a world of surplus, is not only intellectually absurd, it is, of course, morally repulsive. Standing here today, in Lisbon, knowing that Africa is 350 km from this route, closer than Brussels or Strasbourg, we enter a completely different universe, almost like it has been disconnected, this continent 8 miles from Europe has been disconnected from this world of plenty.

I spoke to the great musicians of Portugal last night, and I said to them that tonight, like every night, 98% of the children of Africa will go to bed hungry. Every night, hungry. And we think that it is normal, it is a boring statistic. This year, more people will die of hunger, of want, than AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis, polio and conflict combined, 8 miles from our continent. That is not only tragic, it is disgusting.

I am so completely honoured to be in the Portuguese Parliament, it is a overwhelming personal experience, because we are reminded [by these paintings] of what Portugal means in our history and in African history. And we need Portugal now, and I am addressing the Parliamentarians particularly. We need the Parliament, we need Portugal's Parliament, right this moment. And I will explain that.

There is no greater political problem in our world today than the condition of the poor of Africa. No greater political problem in the world today. Iraq is a nightmare, and many more will die before that nightmare ends, but it will end. But Africa? 50% of Africans are under 15 years old, it is a continent of chil-



dren in the facts Boge pointed out. Many of the female children are HIV, but all will go to bed hungry tonight.

Now, I understand that Portugal is at the low point of the economic cycle, but that is relative. It will come back around, and even at its low point, it is a very wealthy nation. It has international responsibilities that it has accepted, but it must live up to. The promise of the powerful to the weak is more sacred than the promise of a parent to a child. We all know that if we break our promise to our children, they will never trust us again. But the promise of the powerful to the weak, once broken, will kill them. So, everything which regards to our relationship with Africa is of another order.

Africa can receive our moneys, as again Boge pointed out, it can receive our debt restructuring and cancellations, and that is all good because poverty is a structural phenomenon, it is not normal nor natural, it is structural. And the structure can be altered. Poverty is systemic, you can change systems. And the way to change systems, in our world, is through the political order. Poverty is political.

It is not normal to die of poverty. In fact, it is completely abnormal in our world. Thank God in Portugal we do not die of drought, but they die of drought in Africa. Why? Because they are poor. Thank God in Lisbon we do not die of AIDS anymore, but they die of AIDS in Africa. Why? Because they are poor. We do not have war very much in our world. Why? Because there is no point in fighting, there is nothing to gain, we can lose too much. There is conflicts in Africa because there is so little to go around, they fight for it. Conflict is poverty, poverty is political. And that must stop.

And you must engage with the process, and you must alter the system. And that is what you, ladies and gentlemen, are engaged in. And because of your unique historical responsibility in Portugal, one indeed that perhaps you share with Britain and France, you need to do more. You have a smaller economy than the giants of Europe, but you have a greater moral responsibility because the majority of the economies of Europe are small. When the big guys promise something, you must make sure they do it.

We can deal with the structures of death or we can deal with the structures of aid. There is a third part to this: trade. Africans need to be allowed to produce and trade with the world. Today, Africa has 1% of world trade, 1%. Nothing. And, as Boge said, where is the European voice in Africa, well, where is the African voice in Europe? Where is the African voice in Hong

Kong at the World Trade talks? The developing world needs to have a breakthrough in these talks. They want an agriculture breakthrough. They need to be able to feed their people and they need to enter our markets fairly. But we do not engage in free or fair trade. We say we do, but we do not. The European Union and the United States are protectionist rackets. Al Capone will be very proud of the European Union. We need to deal with this.

I had long talks last night with the Secretary of State of Foreign Affairs and Co-operation, who is going to Brussels this evening to have a development meeting. Portugal needs to hold the big countries to account for what they promised, Portugal needs to live up to his own promise - that is to arrive at 0,33% ODA next year -, and it needs to create within the Council of Europe a monitoring process that holds these governments to account.

But right now, this moment is where the power that the Portuguese people gave you comes into a fact. Because Portugal must engage with the European Union and demand that they begin negotiating seriously, on behalf of the poor of this world, to create an opening in the deadlock that the trade round is now. It is going to fail. And if it fails, it will be catastrophic for the poor of this world. Catastrophic. It will be a complete disaster.

You have great interests in Mozambique and Angola, and specifically in Brazil. The Mozambican farmers cannot bring their sugar to Europe and compete with us, they cannot do it. And so we cripple the lives of an entire, viable country. That is a Portuguese responsibility. The developing world will not allow the great global industries of Portugal to enter their markets unless you do an agricultural round first.

What the European Union has put forward on the table has been rejected by the developing world, Australia and America. We need to go back and revisit it, and it needs to happen now. I hate to be so empirical, I hate to be so practical, I hate to be so political in a moment like this. But unless we deal with the structures of poverty, then all of Boge's tears are in vain.

We need to get politically very serious indeed. We have seen the pictures of men and women who walk through deserts, deserts the size of the United States, to get to our land, for a better life. And when they get there, they meet the barbed wires. And they meet the billions of euros we spend to post armies on our southern shores to stop them coming, but come they will.

Sixty years ago, a bankrupt, ruined, starving continent got huge amounts



of aid from another continent, America. And we built up Europe to be the most dynamic economy in the planet. Now we are closing the gates. It is not going to work. It is not going to work. We need Africa to be healthy, self-interested, we need trading partners very close to us, we will be extracting our raw materials. America will be taking 25% of its oil from Angola and Nigeria in ten years, China is extracting all its raw materials out of Africa to fuel its economic boom. We need to take the economic absurdity of the common agricultural policy, for which Portugal receives the second lowest income per country and the third lowest per capita. We need to protect the small farmers of Portugal, but we need to keep the same amount of money that you receive and use it for retraining jobs for the modern economic world. And we need to allow Africans enter that global world. Or else, forever, we will have individuals, heroic individuals, like Boge, crying to us, with the true voice of Africa. I will not accept that.

That is your job. It is not a job coming up here and taking beautiful awards. It is your job, it is where Portuguese traditional internationalism begins to play. You have responsibility and you have a role in this world. And now is the time to flex your weight within the European Union. Secretary of State, I urge you tonight, I am serious, we talked last night, but I urge you tonight to raise this as a matter of extreme urgency within the European Union. We cannot afford the trade round in Hong Kong to be a failure. I am very afraid. Ladies and gentlemen, I want you to hold the Secretary of State to account when he returns from Brussels. I urge you to do that.

We have already asked the musicians to gather together and I beg Portuguese civil society to come together, as we did in July at Live 8. Some of the great Portuguese artists representing this country were there, again I thank them for being there. Great artists from all over the world. Great artists articulate their culture, they articulate their nation, politics only articulates the economy. That is what we are dealing with: empirical, political measures. Boge can speak for the people.

It is unbelievable, it is unbelievable to consider that, 250 miles from us, people receive, on average, 1 dollar a day. One dollar. And here in Portugal, and in every other member state of the European Union, each cow receives 2,5 dollars, today and everyday. A human being, one dollar, a cow, unnecessary surplus, 2,5 dollars. Are you seriously telling me that the life of a redundant animal is two and a half times worth the life of 850 million Boges? Are you seriously telling me that? What absurdity do we live in? How dare we? I do not want to live in a world like that.



It can be altered, Portugal can benefit, we all can benefit. We need Africa in the world, they need us as part of their world. This relationship [depicted in the paintings] is over, but this relationship is what gives you a specific responsibility.

I am proud to receive this, I am more proud that I can talk to you. I hope my anger has not made you feel that I am a horrible person, because I am. But I am desperate, I am worried, I am really worried.

Ladies and gentlemen, please go back to Parliament, and please consider this, and then tell your government the time has come, left or right, it does not matter. This is an absurd argument, it is above politics, it becomes moral. The imminent demise of a continent of 850 million people is not political, it is way, way, way beyond that. Left and right, we can agree. Please go back to the chamber and please start forcing Portugal to make the others in Europe change.

Thank you very much.

Message from Jorge Sampaio President of the Republic of Portugal

Due to prior engagements, and contrary to my practice since I first took office as President of Portugal in 1996, this year I will not be able to participate in the North-South Prize award ceremony. I feel this absence very deeply. In no way does it diminish my admiration for this Council of Europe initiative, which is highly symbolic of the fight for respect for human rights, dialogue and solidarity between the two hemispheres.

I would like to take the opportunity to warmly welcome this edition of the North-South Prize, which pays tribute this year to two extraordinary civil society figures, who have dedicated much of their time and energy during their lives to civic and humanitarian works.

In the award of this prize to Ms Gebre and Mr Geldof, which fills us with joy, it is the exercise of global citizenship and the defence of humanitarian causes and human rights that are exalted, in the conviction that it has the dual significance of a personal tribute to the laureates and a powerful incentive to the community. It reflects the necessary confidence, which we all share, in the construction of a fairer, more caring world, marked by the growing progress and welfare of all peoples.

With the choice of Bogaletch Gebre and Bob Geldof as this year's laureates, the North-South Prize once again fulfils its purpose, helping to strengthen North-South solidarity, to value freedom, democracy and justice and to increase respect for the rights of men and women in the world.

At a time when Portugal is completing its six-monthly presidency of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, in a year in which the organisation is celebrating the 50th anniversary of the European flag, with all that it symbolises in terms of the construction of a united, free, peaceful Europe, and in a year in which the United Nations is celebrating its 60th anniversary and reiterates its determination to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, it is a particular pleasure for me to send my warm congratulations to this year's laureates and pay sincere tribute to them on behalf of myself and my country. It is thanks to your actions and your example that I believe we have additional reasons to trust in the progress of humanity!



I would also like to send my best wishes to all those who have been brought together by the award of this prize in Lisbon.

Mensagem de Jorge Sampaio Presidente da República de Portugal

Por obrigações assumidas anteriormente e contrariando a prática que tem sido habitual desde o início do meu mandato como Presidente da República, em 1996, não poderei este ano participar na cerimónia de entrega do Prémio Norte-Sul de Lisboa. É uma ausência que muito me penaliza, mas que em nada diminui o meu apreço por esta iniciativa do Conselho da Europa, de grande simbolismo no plano da luta pelo respeito dos Direitos Humanos e do diálogo e da solidariedade entre os dois hemisférios.

Não quero assim deixar de saudar calorosamente a presente edição do Prémio Norte-Sul, que este ano homenageia duas extraordinárias figuras da sociedade civil que, ao longo das suas vidas, têm dedicado muito do seu tempo, energia e empenho à intervenção cívica e humanitária.

Através da atribuição desta distinção à Senhora Bogaletch Gebre e ao Senhor Bob Geldof, que nos enche de júbilo, é o exercício da cidadania global, bem como a defesa de causas humanitárias e dos direitos humanos que são exaltados, na convicção de que este Prémio reveste o duplo significado de tributo pessoal aos galardoados, mas também de poderoso incentivo à colectividade, traduzindo outrossim a necessária confiança, por todos nós partilhada, na construção de um mundo mais solidário e justo, marcado pelo progresso e pelo bem-estar crescentes de todos os povos.


Com a escolha de Bogaletch Gebre e de Bob Geldof para galardoados deste ano, o Prémio Norte-Sul cumpre, uma vez mais, a sua finalidade de forma exemplar e, contribuindo para o reforço da solidariedade Norte-Sul, para a valorização da liberdade, da democracia e da justiça, e para um maior respeito pelos Direitos dos Homens e das Mulheres no mundo.

Num momento em que Portugal termina a Presidência semestral do Comité de Ministros do Conselho da Europa, num ano em que esta Organização festeja o quinquagésimo aniversário da criação da bandeira europeia, com tudo o que ela simboliza em termos de construção de uma Europa unida, livre e pacífica, e em que as Nações Unidas, ao festejarem o seu 60º aniversário, reiteraram a sua determinação em cumprir os Objectivos de Desenvolvimento do Milénio, é-me pois particularmente grato felicitar



calorosamente os galardoados deste ano e prestar-lhes sincera homenagem, em meu nome pessoal e no do meu país - graças à vossa acção, ao vosso exemplo, temos, penso, razões suplementares para confiar no progresso da humanidade!

E a todos aqueles que a atribuição deste Prémio reúne em Lisboa em torno dos nossos laureados, não quero, também, de deixar de dirigir cordiais saudações.



Award Ceremony of the North-South Prize of the Council of Europe 2005

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