

WELCOME SPEECH

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AAA Chairman, Rector of Belarussian National Technical University (BNTU)



On behalf of the Academic Automotive Association, the Belarussian National Technical University, I would like to extend a cordial welcome to all the distinguished participants to the International Congress of Heavy Vehicles, Road Trains and Urban Transport to be held in Minsk from the 6 to 9 October 2010 organized by our Automotive Association under FISITA Patronage.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the members of the FISITA Executive Board and especially to Dr. Akihiko Saito, FISITA President 2006-2008, for their continuous understanding and support to realize our intention to bring together automotive outstanding researchers, lecturers, students, engineers, technicians, managers working with carmakers, component manufacturers, laboratories and universities in such wide-ranging fields as engineering, purchasing, manufacturing, research and development, designing and quality. Owing to our joint efforts we have managed to make our dream true.

It is a great honour for us to host the Congress in a country where the automotive industry undergoes rapid development. We have organized this Congress with the purpose to discuss new challenges facing the World automotive industry over the next decade: the global and sustainable changes and the response prepared by automotive engineers through technological and industrial innovations. We are thankful to all the Congress participants who represent automotive industry and address prospective, strategic and scientific orientations and their social, economic and organizational consequences.

The motto of the Congress is Road to Automotive Future. We have chosen this motto because we consider that only joint efforts can favour and enhance the latest intelligence to serve for the benefit of our human community.

So I sincerely hope that our Congress will provide an opportunity to continue moving towards global solutions and taking the required initiatives.

I would like to wish that every participant will find our Congress rewarding and I hope you go from our country with fond memories, not only of the city of Minsk but also of the friendliness and the welcome of the Belarussian people.