Closing Speech by

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Bridging Sciences for Safety

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Dear Colleagues, ladies and gentlemen,

The 51th Congress of the European Societies of Toxicology concludes its works today, here, in the beautiful city of Porto.

The Portuguese Toxicology Society and the Local Organizing Committee excelled and offered to us all a complete, coherent scientific program, highlighting new and innovative science and current regulatory topics, as well as an exciting social program.

Porto, a World Heritage site, is a truly beautiful, vibrant, modern and dynamic city. I am sure that for us all its been a privilege to attend this Congress here and get to visit Porto, a city that has a rich history of science and engineering besides fado singers and the Porto wine.

Professor Carvalho and all members of the organizing committee, Congratulations and Thank you very much for your hospitality and a great Congress.

It is a great honor and Privilege for me as EUROTOX president to declare the opening and closing of this congress.

Such successful meetings render once again the realization that this position confers a particular obligation upon me as has to previous Presidents whose vision and faith in our noble profession and science have made EUROTOX a successful society.

But, ladies and gentlemen, we still nowadays face major and new challenges, as issues concerning Regulatory Toxicology, Food Safety, Human and Environmental Risk Assessment amongst others, are in the foreground, by most demanding ways than ever before.

As part of the Society's mission is to build for the future of toxicology and to promote the recognition of Toxicology by increasing the reliance of policy, regulatory and corporate decision-makers on the science of Toxicology, my vision is that EUROTOX will continue to foster toxicology, both scientifically and educationally, and actively harmonize toxicology education and training through the established back in 1994 ERT, in all countries of Europe and provide a venue to allow them to come together, exchange ideas, and develop collaborative approaches to research questions of common interest.

In order to continue being successful in these pursuits we must develop new strategies and strive to be on the cutting edge of knowledge, information and technology as it relates to our field. Much work lies ahead of us. Let us engage in this work in a collegial spirit, debating matters sometimes even from our opposing points of view but constructively, for the benefit of EUROTOX, for the benefit of human and environmental health. I look forward to work with all of you, to this effect.

Last but not least, I would like to thank the members of the EC for their commitment to EUROTOX, and all members of **EUROTOX** committees and sections for their constant dedication and support of EUROTOX activities.

As now we say goodbye to Porto, thanking this city's great hospitality and people, I invite you to join us again, in the attractive city of Istanbul and to take part in EUROTOX 2016. Hope to see you all there!

Thank you all, for your great participation to this Congress and for being actively present with and, for EUROTOX.