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When we met about a year and half ago, in a nice hotel by a lake close to Geneva, we obviously thought about what would happen at this meeting and that was part of the selection process at least of the members and speakers. Each one of you was in fact screened not on a personal basis but on your record, and we were interested to see what would happen with the blend. In many cases we took you out of your traditional area of work but we expected you would do a good job and you all have done a terrific job. I think the mix of this micronutrient-rich group in fact has created a unique experience, and I think we have all learned from each other and we have also learned from the cross-breeding of different disciplines. We have had basic sciences, we have had molecular work, we have had a lot of very good epidemiology, and as with any good conference, we have generated more questions than answers for the people in the audience to reflect upon. At the same time I think this experience proves that there is something to be gained from having scientific interactions, unrestricted and also uninfluenced by any other factors, but information sharing and data. In this sense I would like to thank the Nestlé Company for not interfering with the process, and I think this is very important because this is for the improvement of health and nutrition of populations. Scientists need to be able to interact on a free basis and present their ideas and their thoughts. At the same time though, I think that there are lessons to be learned by commercial interest, not only in this area but for all of us. Somehow knowledge needs to become application, and application usually comes from the commercial industrial sector, and the close communication between industry and scientists in the right environment, and looking at and keeping the public benefit in mind, is crucial. So I think in my way of seeing this experiment, this meeting has been a success relative to my expectations, and I hope it has also been a good experience for both the participants and the members of the audience who also have been active in bringing out what happens in the field or with the patients. Thank you very much for having come, and we hope we meet again, if not before, in the September 2005 International Nutrition Congress in
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South Africa, and I give you this advertisement for the IUNS International Congress of Nutrition. Thank you.

Ricardo Uauy

The interesting thing about being a co-chair together with Dr. Uauy is that he is doing all the talking, so what is there for me to say in addition. I think what we should say, and perhaps there will be another opportunity this evening when we see each other again, is that we are very enthusiastic about the way our Chinese colleagues organized this meeting and we are impressed by their great hospitality, the warm welcome we had and the fantastic atmosphere. I think this was a very good workshop, not only because of the science, but it was also a very nice workshop because of the social contact and for that I think we should give our Chinese colleagues a hand, and for the rest we will see each other tonight.

Gerard Hornstra