

Jim Corr, Chairman of ECAD – CONCLUSIONS

It only remains for me to bring down the curtain on the 18th Mayors' Conference of ECAD. You the delegates have been a perfect audience resisting the temptation to go out and relax on the golden sundrenched sands of the Black Sea and always engrossed with the speaker but, of course, in a critical manner because there is so much knowledge and experience among our delegates.

We have had a most interesting set of speakers and we thank them all for sharing their knowledge, convictions and opinions with us.

We thank the City of Varna for their extraordinary commitment to the task of organising the 18th Mayors' Conference and for their generosity to all of us delegates. Varna you did this conference in a well-nigh perfect manner and ECAD thanks you, Deputy Mayor Hristo Bozov and Senior Expert Ivan Popov, most sincerely.

We are engaged in a most complex and demanding task – namely to protect our brothers and sisters from the ravages of illicit drugs and to respond in a meaningful way when our brothers and sisters become addicts.

The ECAD office in Stockholm is always pleased when member cities contact the director and the administrator and we rejoice when cities send us accounts of their approaches to the drug problems. Please feel free to contact the office in Stockholm and read the correspondence which the officers send out.

United we will have success in the mammoth task which we are determined to pursue with vigour, knowledge and intelligence.

Thanks to so many delegates for making a long journey to Varna, our wish is that you will all have safe journey back to your homelands and that you will be encouraged by the commitment and enthusiasm shown at the Mayors' Conference by all elements of the ECAD movement.

Martin Luther King said "It is better to light one little candle than to curse the darkness". Over the past 18 years the cities involved in ECAD have been lighting little candles of hope for people across Europe, because the most noble service we can provide is service to vulnerable people and we do so because we are involved in mankind.

Our wish is that Europe will always be blessed by people of your calibre and commitment.

Thank you.