

Welcome letter

by Brigita Schmögnerová, *Under Secretary General United Nations and Executive Secretary UNECE*



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Under Secretary General
United Nations and
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*“Dear Summit Participants,
it is my pleasure to welcome you to Rome and to the European Real Estate Summit, the first UNECE-Real Estate Advisory Group (REAG) meeting of its kind. We are pleased to note the participation of representatives from over 35 countries and the UNECE hopes that each of you will benefit from these intensive two days of talks and discussions surrounding the topic of Land for Development.*

The contents of the Land for Development Programme will be discussed at this meeting and Summits will take place regularly thereafter to review progress achieved and fix priorities. Our first Summit will focus on the following key features: enforceable property rights, fair and transparent pricing of property and housing finance instruments, and the development of mortgage markets.

We are honoured to have many distinguished country speakers on our panels, strong support from international donors and institutions working in the regions of Southeast and Central Europe, the Caucasus and the CIS, members of the private sector who are active in these regions in the real estate sector. We are also fortunate as our Keynote Speaker, Professor Hernando de Soto, world-renowned expert on the topic of economic development through extending property rights to the poor.

Based on the discussions over the next two days, and on the results of the Survey, we will identify “pilot project” proposals for development of the real estate markets in some of the countries represented here in Rome. On behalf of UNECE I would like to thank you Tecnoborsa, the main promoter of this event in Rome.” •



*The entrance of
Hadrian's Temple,
Chamber of Commerce
of Rome, Italy
(139-145 a.D.)*