



## ADV. ISRAEL MAIMON

Chairman of the Israeli Presidential Conference Steering Committee

Greetings,

*Facing Tomorrow 2013*, which took place in Jerusalem on June 18-20, marked a dual milestone. On the one hand, we celebrated five consecutive years of bringing the best minds of a generation to explore the challenges and opportunities for a better tomorrow for Israel, the Jewish people and all humankind. On the other hand, we honored our President, Mr. Shimon Peres on his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. In marking the life and decades of achievement of President Peres, the Israeli Presidential Conference highlighted a roadmap of the history of the State of Israel and its challenges and accomplishments.

This year's event set a new record for participation. Over three days, more than 5000 people gathered at the Jerusalem International Convention Center, joining some 180 fascinating leading speakers from around the globe, who debated a diverse range of issues. With six extraordinary plenary sessions, 27 panels, seven master classes and three roundtables, made up of leading experts in their fields, an intellectual thought process transpired and together we created a promising anthology of creative ideas to deal with the challenges and opportunities anticipated in our future. In addition, the fifth Israeli Presidential Conference was viewed by millions in Israel and around the world via television and online via live broadcasts on our website and social networks such as Facebook, Twitter, and Youtube.

Although the full contents of the fifth Israeli Presidential Conference cannot be packaged into one publication, I am pleased to present this summation, which is being disseminated to Conference participants as well as decision-makers in Israel, the Jewish world and around the globe. The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, our partner in bringing this remarkable Conference to fruition, has prepared summaries of the major themes that were interwoven in the various sessions. The Round Table policy papers featured at the end of this publication were prepared by the Jewish People Policy Institute (JPPI) and the Head of the National Economic Council at the Prime Minister's Office and summarize the event's closed roundtables

I wish to thank the talented members of our production and public relations teams who once again exceeded both benchmarks and expectations, and of course the 2013 Steering Committee for their exceptional commitment and professionalism in conceiving and producing an outstanding Conference. I would like to thank the President of the State of Israel Mr. Shimon Peres, whose relentless optimism, spirit and youth continue to inspire us all, and to the Israeli Presidential Conference Board of Trustees, who believe as we do in the importance of our gathering, we express our profound thanks for their loyalty and support.

We look forward to seeing you in Jerusalem again.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Israel Maimon". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Adv. Israel Maimon**, Chairman  
Israeli Presidential Conference Steering Committee