27th International Congress of Actuaries
Closing Ceremony – Edward J. Levay
Friday 22nd March
16:30 – 17:40
Cancun - Mexico

Luis Huerta, Members of the Presidium, Colleagues and friends

For every event there is an end. I believe that you would agree with me, that the 27th International Congress of Actuaries, which we have experienced together during this past week, was successful, stimulating and memorable. But like all good things, unfortunately, the time for it to end is close.

During Jean Berthon’s ‘speech’ at the closing ceremony of the successful 26th ICA in Birmingham he approached Luis with the words: ‘I can imagine your great concern….’ referring to the undertaking that lay ahead for him and his team at this Congress. Luis and the Scientific and Organizing Committee seem to have taken seriously those words and the results speak for themselves. To organise an International Congress is always a big task, but to include during the same week, two International Colloquia for ASTIN & AFIR and the first International Healthcare Seminar was indeed a challenge. A challenge that the team has rose to.

Luis, Chairmen and members of the organising committees, you have managed it, managed it well and with great success.

Today, we can learn from you and from your experience. You have utilised the latest technology to read, approve and accept a vast amount of papers; sorting through themes and topics, and arranging the presentations in the most interesting and exiting way.

On top of this you have also managed to juxtaposition a series of enlightening and enjoyable experiences of the rich heritage of the MAYAN Culture and the beautiful country that has hosted all the members and guests for the Congress.

It was great to watch the ‘Invasion’ of Actuaries in Red and Blue shirts at Chichen Itza. We were even lucky to experience, at the very last moment the emerging of the shadow of a snake on the Steps of the Pyramid of Kukulkan.

We have shared with you a warm friendship; the history of your country and you will now have 2000 bright ambassadors to represent you in 62 countries.

You have proved your ‘motto’:

A New Millennium – a New Challenge for Actuaries’

and you have set an example that we should all follow.

On behalf of the IAA and myself I would like to heartedly thank you.
Lets hope that as we try to ‘make the future for our profession’ we leave as large an imprint on the memory as you have, and that all those present will go out there, and also be agents for the actuarial profession and promote it with enthusiasm and vigour.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank, on behalf of the IAA and myself all the Authors for their professional papers as well as the Moderators, Presenters and Contributors for their endeavours in bringing our profession forward.

Now, last but not least, to Jean Berthon and the French Organising and Scientific Committees, I can only say the challenge for the 28th ICA is moving to your court. I am more than sure that France and our French colleagues have great experience in organizing an ICA, particularly as this will be the third to be held in France. We will be more than willing to assist you in any manner, to continue the tradition of the International Congress for our Members and the profession.

We are already looking forward to be with you in Paris, with no doubts, that Paris is one of the most beautiful cities in the world. This is of course in addition to the Scientific Program. See you all in Paris, Au Revoir et à Bientôt.

Thank you for your attention.

Je déclare maintenant clos officiellement le 27ème Congrès International des Actuaires.

I now declare officially closed the 27th International Congress of Actuaries.