



## Foreword

### *Bet on family for a better world!*

*“Living in a better world” should become an important goal for each of us and a constant common effort needs to be done in this direction. People are concerned about the future and what legacy they leave their children.*

*The United Nations has developed an ambitious set of eight millenium development goals which aim to address the most important vulnerabilities of today’s world: eradicate extreme poverty and hunger, achieve universal primary education, promote gender equality and empower women, reduce child mortality, improve maternal health, combate HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases, ensure environmental sustainability and build a global partnership for development. Now it’s time to evaluate our achievements and think to the future and what will be next for 2015.*

*In my opinion, two goals should garner more attention : ensuring environmental sustainability and building a global partnership for development in order to ensure better living conditions in a better world for our future generations.*

*Human development must be based "on the satisfaction of fundamental human needs, on growing self-reliance, on the construction of organic articulations of people with nature and technology, of global processes with local activity, of the personal with the social, of planning with autonomy, and of civil society with the state" (Max-Neef, 1991)*

*The truth is that we live in a far from perfect world. Poverty, disease, a lack of education, environmental destruction – the problems are all too obvious. But the real question is, can we do something about it? The answer I think is yes, together we can and we can do so starting with our own family. Let’s educate our children with respect to the environment, let us make them aware of those less fortunate around them and more importantly, let us stimulate their desire to become active in helping people in need. It’s time to enhance our children’s creativity in order to improve their capacity of generating wealth for themselves and for others, and we can do this by translating our wisdom to them in using creativity for generating good and durable things for society.*

*United Nations officials were using this year’s International Family Day to highlight the vital role these critical social units, found in every society, play in achieving globally agreed upon development goals and in advancing towards a better world for all.*

*“We need to rethink social development and how it relates to climate change, how it impacts migration, how it contributes to social cohesion [...] Strengthening of social pillar in the work of the United Nations is vital for the well-being of families and societies,” says Daniela Bas, head of UN DESA’s Division for Social Policy and Development, and I fully agree.*

*It is vital to strengthen the family as a social unit, keeping in mind that human beings are social beings and that they can act not only for their own good but for that of human welfare. Today, united efforts can change things on a small scale, but the next generation can make a real difference for a better world.*