

## **Closing Speech**

By

**Gen. Isp. Pietro FINOCCHIO, President of the AFCEA Rome Chapter**

**On**

***"AFCEA International Symposium on Aerospace Technologies and Applications for Dual Use"***

*Organized by*

*AFCEA – Rome Chapter*

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**Excellency the Italian Minister of Defence;**

**Excellencies;**

**Honorary President Professor;**

**Honorary Chairman;**

**Honorary Director;**

**Honorary Professors;**

**Distinguished Colleagues;**

**Distinguished Guests;**

**Ladies and Gentlemen!**

I was very pleased and honoured to have organized this international meeting, and I wish to take the opportunity to express my sincere thanks to all contributors.

Over these days we have gone through aerospace technologies and applications for dual use, we have set the scene and exchanged ideas about applications and technologies that will affect our future. We have addressed a number of key topics to think about.

We went into dual use, where many applications are possible and many examples have been shown, both in the military and in the civilian domain. We have identified a strong request for interoperability, together with the demand for scalability and expandability, and the need of deploying assets in expeditionary operations while keeping high levels of availability and communications.

We recognised new trends and challenges. There is an increasing trend towards the integration of communications, navigation and observation domains. Space is also the new frontier for the extension of internet: the World Wide Web is already gone out of this World!

We have identified actors and roles:

- Industry: large, medium and small industries have their own respective roles and are complementary to each other;

- Europe needs to clarify its role, to be able to withstand the challenge with the major competitors, e.g. USA, Russia and China;
- Public and Private sectors should proceed to a deeper integration, not only on financing, as it is necessary to examine needs and define scenarios jointly, share competencies and maximize benefits from investments.

I've appreciated so much interest and active participation, as well as many useful comments and suggestions.

I hope you had also the time and opportunity to enjoy Rome, and I am confident that many of you will stay over the weekend and be back soon to have a closer look at this unique city and its treasures.

I am sure that on this occasion many personal contacts have been reinforced, and new ones established, so that this meeting will bring a trail of positive co-operation in the forthcoming future.

For the conclusion of this symposium I wish to express my enthusiasm and appreciation for the work performed, which I am confident will continue through a strong and effective co-operation. Please do not forget to send, to the organizing secretariat of the ACFEA Rome Chapter and by the end of November, your articles and all the material you propose for publication in the book coming out March 2008 in Bombay.

Before closing, I want to express my warmest thanks to the organizing committee and to the secretariat of the ACFEA Chapter of Rome, for their outstanding, careful and patient work, and for all the support they provided me.

With these brief remarks and wishes, I declare the *AFCEA International Symposium on Aerospace Technologies and Applications for Dual Use* officially closed, and I wish you all a safe way back home.