

Speech of Professor
Lello Orci
Cop Winner of King Faisal International Prize
For Medicine 1986/1406H.
Sunday 9th March 1986 (28.6.1406A.H.)

You're Royal Highness,
My Lords,
Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

The distinguished international nature of the King Faisal Award is especially meaningful to me. I am a native of Italy but have been adopted by Switzerland as a forum for my work. Thus for the University of Geneva, for my native country Italy and my adopted country Switzerland, this award is a great tribute. Because of the prestige of this prize in the International Scientific Community, Saudi Arabia accomplished what I expect it truly intended. That is not only to honour both individual and collective scientific accomplishment, but to serve as an important stimulus for further scientific progress. Thus, the prize that you honour me with, truly links the International Scientific Community in our quest for knowledge.

Science and Medicine, Your Royal Highness, is perhaps the most international, world-wide human preoccupation. It is capable of true progress only by free exchange and deep mutual respect for facts, people and organisations that contribute the building blocks of the scientific structure. Being honoured herein Riyadh in the name of King Faisal and your country, I, an Italian, a Swiss, a European and scientific citizen of the world, feel deeply thankful and privileged to have been selected for this symbolic expression of international goodwill and scientific understanding.