

OPENING ADDRESS : MORNING

BY ALDO DAINOTTO

PREFECT,

**PRESIDENT OF THE ITALIAN SECTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON CIVIL STATUS,
HONORARY PRESIDENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON CIVIL STATUS,**

CHAIRMAN OF THE MORNING SESSION

*Presidents, Secretary General, Dean,
Ladies and gentlemen, dear colleagues,*

It is a great pleasure for me to welcome you today in Strasbourg, the seat of the Secretariat General of the International Commission on Civil Status since 1981, for this Colloquy on « Current problems in the law of persons in the ICCS States » that has been organised to mark the 50 years of existence of our Organisation.

I extend a very warm welcome to all those who are present.

It is with very great satisfaction that the organisers of this Colloquy welcome so many distinguished personalities from the legal services, the Bar, law faculties, ministerial and local administrations and international organisations who are here today, at the invitation of the ICCS, in this lecture theatre, close to that great river that constitutes the backbone of Europe. Some of them have not hesitated to make a long journey in order to be with us.

My special thanks are due to those, foreign and French, who most willingly accepted to prepare reports that will enable us to benefit from their knowledge, experience and talents.

In expressing, all too briefly, my thanks, I must not omit the University of Strasbourg, its President and the Dean of the Law Faculty, who offered us the use of these premises, and the Centre de droit privé fondamental which has given us invaluable assistance.

Ladies and gentlemen,

As you know, our programme for this day is very full. I shall therefore without more ado give the floor to Mr Mestre, the President of Robert Schuman University, our host today.