

# THIERRY DE MONTBRIAL

President and founder of the World Policy Conference

Ladies, Gentlemen, dear friends, I hope that you've been able to get some rest after last night's festivities, and I would simply like to tell you, in a few words, about the programme for this second day. In a moment, we are going to hear, and this will be very brief, a short message that has been sent to us by Henry Kissinger who wanted to come, but has been unable to because of a rather complex time schedule. After a day that was devoted to general aspects of world governance, today we are going to deal with some topics that are more focused. In a moment, we are going to have a report from yesterday's workshops which will be followed by a session — indeed this is the first time that we have introduced this subject to the WPC — on the governance of cyberspace which is a subject of the greatest importance.

After that, at the end of the morning, we will have a session on the G20 with the benefit of Korean and French officials present. Korea, as you know, will be hosting the G20 that is due to meet in Seoul next month. France will take over the baton and I think we are going to have an extremely interesting, highly focused session on the G20. Then, at lunch, our keynote speaker will be Mr. Mohamed Ibrahim who is a regional and world celebrity who has established a prize that bears his name. It is a very generous prize. It amounts to 5 million euros plus an income of 200,000 euros per year and is awarded to an African head of state who has left power, shall we say, with a good reputation, a head of state who leaves his country in a better state than he found it when he arrived. There have been some years in which it has been difficult to award the prize or it has not been awarded at all. But, it is obviously an extraordinary initiative and Mr. Ibrahim will be our guest of honour at this lunch. Then, I have very good news or rather a confirmation: the start of the afternoon will be free. You might even go swimming, go for a walk, etc. At the end of the day, a session, which I believe, promises to be fascinating for those who, I hope, will come in even greater numbers, will be devoted to the emerging powers and particularly the "BRIC" countries. We will, in particular, meet Madam Fu Ying again, whom we heard yesterday evening. That is the programme, and now I give the floor to Henry Kissinger.