



**Donation Ceremony of Enrico Fermi Bust
at the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)**

**Statement by Professor Marco Ricotti
Sogin President**

Mr Director General,
Madam Ambassador,
Delegates,
Guests and colleagues,

As a nuclear engineer and a university professor of nuclear installations, I have always looked at Enrico Fermi as one of the most prominent figures of our scientific community and at his legacy as the major contribution of Italy to the civil use of nuclear energy.

Born in Italy in 1901, Enrico Fermi's early research was focused on relativity and quantum mechanics in general, but he soon turned to the newer field of nuclear physics. He won the Nobel Prize in 1938 for his work on radioactivity and in 1942 he demonstrated the possibility to control the fission chain reaction and therefore the feasibility of the nuclear reactors.

Today I am honoured to contribute to the celebration on Enrico Fermi's memory through the donation of this bust, whose author, Mr. **Achille Guzzardella**, I wish to commend for the exquisite art-piece he created out of his passion and enthusiasm.

Let me extend special thanks to all the guests that have joined us this afternoon, and especially to professor **Augusto Sagnotti**, from the Scuola Normale Superiore of Pisa, Enrico Fermi's Alma Mother, and to professor **Carla Andreani**, member of the board of directors of the Fermi Centre in Rome.

Finally, I wish to extend my personal gratitude to the **Italian Government** and to **Ambassador Accili** for launching this initiative as well as to **Director General**



Yukia Amano, to **Deputy Director General Mihail Chudakov** and to all the IAEA staff for their cooperation and presence.