

Dear Dr. Kasalovsky,

At the outset, I wish to reiterate my most heartfelt appreciation for the great honor that was accorded to the World Food Prize Foundation and me personally with the presentation of the 2015 Peace Prize from Slovakia.

My wife Le Son, Nicole Barreca and Meghan Walters all join me in expressing our appreciation for all of the courtesy and warm hospitality that was extended to us during our visit to Bratislava for the award ceremony.

As you requested, I am sharing with you the following points which were outlined in my formal remarks during the award ceremony. I trust that this is the information that you need to have and that it is helpful to you in sharing with others my themes of *Peace Through Agriculture*:

Pax Agricultura - -Peace Through Agriculture

Key Points from Remarks by Ambassador Kenneth M. Quinn President of the World Food Prize Foundation at the Award Presentation Ceremony for the Peace Prize from Slovakia in Bratislava, December 12, 2019

- Slovakia is greatly changed from 35 years ago when, as a diplomat stationed in Vienna, my wife and I made our first trip to Bratislava. Specifically, there is now no hostile border control point; Slovakia has experienced significant economic development uplifting individual lives; the Euro is now the legal currency; the capital of Slovakia is no longer in Prague; and most significantly, Slovakia is a free, sovereign, independent and democratic country.
- My home state of Iowa, where the World Food Prize is headquartered, has a special connection to Slovakia in that the U.S. National Czech and Slovak Museum and Library is located in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, not far from the boyhood home of our founder Dr. Norman E. Borlaug.
- As a young boy, Borlaug attended a one room school house where half of the students were Lutheran Norwegians like him, while the others were Czech, Slovak Bohemian Catholics. They learned how to live together in peace.
- Borlaug founded the World Food Prize in 1986 to inspire and recognize the needed breakthroughs in increasing the quality, quantity and availability of food in the world, and thereby meet the "greatest challenge in human history;" can we nutritiously and sustainably feed the 9 - 10 billion people who will be on our planet by 2050.
 - this challenge is made even more difficult by new adverse developments in climate volatility as well as regional conflicts, insurgencies, and terrorism;
- To meet this challenge, the The World Food Prize Foundation carries out four main programs. First it presents a \$250,000 annual award that has come to be called the "Nobel Prize for Food and Agriculture." Its Laureates come from around the world. Including; M.S. Swaminathan of India, Yuan Longping of China, Catherine Bertini of

the United Nations, Evangelina Villegas of Mexico and Simon Groot of the Netherlands.

- The Borlaug Dialogue International Symposium, held in October in conjunction with the Laureate Award Ceremony, addresses key substantive issues in global food security and has attracted such prominent speakers as Bill Gates, Kofi Annan, Tony Blair, Princess Haya bint Al-Hussein as well as small holder farmers from Africa and South Asia;
- Other programs the World Food Prize implements are its youth education institutes for high school-aged students that impacts over 10,000 students each year, and the Dr. Norman E. Borlaug Hall of Laureates building in Des Moines that contains \$4 million in artwork highlighting great agricultural and humanitarian heroes and achievements in promoting peace;
- The World Food Prize counts among its great moments of its programs;
 - 2009 Bill Gates' launching his multi-billion dollar global initiative to end hunger;
 - 2012 Chinese Vice President Xi Jinping delivering keynote remarks at the U.S. China Agricultural Symposium at the Hall of Laureates
 - 2012 U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon joining in presenting the World Food Prize to Israeli irrigation pioneer to Daniel Hillel, who had been nominated for our award by three Muslim scientists from three Muslim and Arab countries.
 - 2014 the Dr. Norman Borlaug statue is unveiled in the U.S. Capitol, joining statues in Mexico and India;
 - 2014 World Food Prize President Kenneth Quinn travels to Iran to deliver keynote address at a symposium being held in honor of Dr. Borlaug.
 - 2015 Ambassador Quinn meets with Pope Francis
 - 2019 Ambassador Quinn receives the Aegis Trust Champion of Humanity Award for confronting genocide in Cambodia
 - In December 2019, Ambassador Quinn accepts Peace Prize from Slovakia. In his remarks, he indicates how proud he is to receive this award in Bratislava because this capital city is a symbol of what can happen in terms of peace when the will of the people prevails.
 - In 35 years, Slovakia has gone from being on the front lines of the Cold War with the threat of nuclear confrontation, to the front lines of promoting peace in the world.