

Your Excellency the Minister,

Excellencies,

Ladies and gentlemen,

Dear friends,

It is a great pleasure for me to be here with you this evening, and it is with great emotion that I will be giving out the very first prizes awarded by my Foundation.

The Prince Albert II Foundation expresses a will that has always inspired me: protecting Nature and caring for our environment.

Very soon, I realized that our duty was to take action to save the riches of our Planet and preserve future generations from a foreseeable disaster.

Thanks to our determination and support from co-founders, donors and international partners to whom I would like to express all my gratitude, I wished for the Foundation to become involved from its creation in June 2006 in concrete, efficient and ambitious projects, in response to immediate emergencies.

Today, mankind has understood that our territory extends well beyond any country and, from now on, our destiny is closely tied to that of

the entire Planet. This awareness has given rise to unprecedented philanthropic impetus mobilizing public opinion and rousing individual consciences.

In awarding these prizes this evening, I am paying tribute to the careers of three truly exceptional personalities who, carried by their conviction, have put their ardour, intelligence and talent to the service of environmental protection.

I would like to address my warmest congratulations to Jane Goodall, Sunita Narain and Alain Hubert.

Thank you