

Election Speech of Mr. Alejandro Kuri Pheres WLCU 18th World Congress Buenos Aires - Argentina 21 - 24 October 2014

Dear Mr. President Michel Douaihi Dear Secretary-General Very dear World Presidents Dear organizers of the 18th World Congress Very dear and respected brothers

I deeply appreciate the love and the trust given to me today electing me as your President for the next 2 years, granting me the honor to address the fate of the ULCM and Lebanese emigration throughout the world.

With this honor comes a great responsibility that I will know how to comply with intelligence and prudence but also with great energy and heart ahead.

Before talking about future plans it is my duty to recognize and appreciate the work of our President Michel Douaihi for their wise work at the forefront of our institution. His work generated unit and kept the Lebanese Union as undisputed leader of the emigration. I want to ask a warm round of applause for him.

As I said when I use of the word yesterday, we must be the institution that crystallizes the desire of all the Lebanese emigrants in the world, form a global community organized and recognized. We must be the institution that works with international bodies and world leaders looking for props to protect autonomy, freedom, independence and territorial integrity of Lebanon.

We are and we will remain during my management, an independent organization that represents the interests of all the descendants of Lebanese in the world, no matter what their country of residence, religion, economic status or their political affiliation.

We fought all these years by being a free and autonomous institution in an open battle for a Lebanon that is also free and autonomous. This battle our affects many very powerful interests that have become our worst enemies.

In this way we have found, inside and outside Lebanon, those who trust, **like me**, that the country of the Cedars is eternal and that will not go away ever and that only is passing through one of many crises that will be overcome as many others in his long and brilliant history. There are other "Lebanese" who think that the Lebanese cause is lost and they betray Lebanon every minute of his existence and there are those who are not defined and work in both directions. They also betray to Lebanon.



In this atmosphere of treachery the ULCM work has been developed for many years, in a struggle that has been draining, as the enemies of Lebanon and emigration have constantly worked to undermine our resistance and divide us from inside, creating sterile conflicts between siblings, companions of thousand battles, causing boredom and deep doubts. I Repeat. I firmly promise that I will work intensely over these 2 years to restore the cordiality and promote unity, based on the dialogue and firm commitments. I would not be fair that after delivering our time, our resources and our hearts for so many years for a noble cause, we suffer the penalty of losing the friendship of some of our brothers in the fight. I will try during my management to integrate all in the daily work of the Union, taking into account all opinions and all points of view, provided we make a Pact of respect, respect for the right communication channels and respect to the lines of command at any time.

It was always my father's will and mine will be to give <u>equal participation</u> to all regions of emigration. At the time he attained, of dialogue and goodwill, total integration into the ULCM of the collectivity of Brazil, the elder sister of emigration, as he called it. No political system is perfect, however, will be a permanent goal during my term the search for the best ways to improve our democracy.

In the next few days I will be in direct contact with each one of you to define the position in which each one want and can participate, establishing strong working and results commitments.

I explained yesterday the main work program lines and do not want to repeat them since many have them written and probably all will be receiving them soon through various releases, however, I want to extend points 3 and 4 of the program of action, concerning the economic independence and the unification of communication within the Union and for this I want to invite to this microphone to Mr. Alfonso Olvera the director of INNOMIUS technologies, based in Houston, Texas who for months is working on the development of an application for smartphones and tablets that will serve as the backbone in the strategy of communication, link, and financing of the Lebanese Union in the future.

Thanks to the organizers of this Congress, Thanks to my beloved Latin Council Thank you, thank you, and thank you.