

Alphonse Weicker Foundation

Luxembourg, 9 October 2013

PRESS RELEASE

Luxembourg: 2012 to 2030 Scenarios revisited and 12 current challenges

On Wednesday, 9 October 2013, the Alphonse Weicker Foundation held a conference on the theme, "Luxembourg: 2012 to 2030. Scenarios revisited and 12 current challenges". The conference, led by Manuel Baldauff, Gérard Hoffmann, Yves Nosbusch, Kik Schneider and Thierry Wolter, took place on the fifteenth anniversary of the publication of the book *Europe 2012: Les Scénarios Luxembourgeois*.

In 1997, with the euro's introduction approaching, the Alphonse Weicker Foundation carried out a broad inquiry concerning Luxembourg, with the participation of the most active political, economic and social forces of the period.

At this conference, the book's authors re-examined the analysis made fifteen years earlier. They compared the original scenarios with what has happened since the book was written, and they adapted the three main scenarios for Europe to the year 2030.

They also outlined the future challenges facing the country, drawing on ideas that came out of a series of interviews conducted by the Alphonse Weicker Foundation with representatives of the political, economic and social spheres in Luxembourg and the Grande Région.

Our country is facing major challenges today, but these challenges are well defined, and they are not insurmountable. Now it is a matter of rapidly developing a clear and pragmatic strategy for attacking them and, most important, moving into action. With this in mind, the authors proposed a novel approach that could bring the vital forces of the nation together in a concrete and unifying action plan that would truly put Luxembourg on track to long-term growth.

The report titled *Luxembourg: de 2012 à 2030. Les scénarios revisités et les 12 défis actuels* (Luxembourg: 2012 to 2030. Scenarios revisited and 12 current challenges) can be ordered free of charge from Karine Minetti (karine.minetti@bgl.lu, tel. 4242-3395).

The Alphonse Weicker Foundation

Established in 1989 and chaired by Kik Schneider, a member of the Management Board of BGL BNP Paribas, the Alphonse Weicker Foundation promotes scientific research in Luxembourg. It organises specialist conferences and seminars and provides support for research in fields such as biomolecular science, health, information technology, politics, sociology and art history. Named after Alphonse Weicker, one of bank's founders and later its Chairman, the Foundation is an invaluable resource for BGL BNP Paribas, allowing it to pursue the central role it has played in the economic and social development of Luxembourg since 1919.

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