



Dear fellow architects,

The history of humanity shows a constant process of « urbanisation ». The scale of settlement has changed in this process, various issues have occurred, and through history been solved one by one: social organization, nourishment, water, sanitation, traffic. Architects took part to the process, and built landmarks. Cities have gained their identity, and their soul.

By now, more than 50% of the world's inhabitants live in cities, by 2050 the rate will reach 70%. The process has reached an almost out of control momentum, and society has to anticipate, to find new ways of life, new behaviours, other schemes of social organization, other development strategies.

UIA has always been involved in the search of these new paradigms, and architects can and must make the difference.

Each of us has ideas, we can design these ideas, and we have to convince everybody including ourselves that these ideas are the good ones.

To check ideas with the communities is part of the social role of architects, it is their task. Today, 2012 World Architecture Day, I invite all the architects of the world to share this vision with the UIA and to practice and behave as responsible city changers.

I wish you all a great World Day of Architecture.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'A' that loops back and ends in a vertical line.

Albert Dubler
UIA President

1st Octobre 2012