



A Greeting from the President of the Republic of Finland

Dear Chefs,

Welcome to Finland. For the first time, the WACS Meeting is held in the Nordic Countries and it is a great honour to have European chefs to visit our country during our EU Presidency.

In Finland we are proud of our strong national and regional food culture and chefs are highly appreciated. At its best, Finnish Food is pure, authentic and simple. The long, sunlit nights of our summers give arctic aromas to the treasures that can be harvested in our forests, fields, lakes and rivers. The Finnish cuisine has also been influenced by tastes both from the East and from the West.

I wish to express my warmest regards and wish all participants a successful conference and a pleasant time in Finland with Finnish cuisine.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Tarja Halonen". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

*Tarja Halonen
President of the Republic of Finland*