Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the Italian Society of Clinical Biochemistry and Clinical Molecular Biology (SIBioC) and of the Congress Organizing Committee, it is a great pleasure to invite you to attend the 20th IFCC – EFCC European Congress of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (EuroMedLab) that will be held in Milano, Italy, on 19-23 May 2013 in the pavilions of the new Milano Convention Center.

Seventy scientific sessions involving more than 200 speakers are planned for this prestigious scientific event representing the most important European meeting in the field. The Scientific Programme Committee, in cooperation with the International Scientific Advisory Board, is taking great care to prepare a high-quality and varied programme that will incorporate the latest developments and concepts in Laboratory Medicine to be presented in the form of plenary lectures, symposia, educational workshops, oral communications, and posters. Young scientists are especially encouraged to attend the congress and present their research findings, and a number of bursaries will be available in order to promote their participation. A large exhibition of diagnostic products will also be hosted at the congress location.

Milano is ready to host scientists and researchers from Europe and Countries all over the World, by providing an atmosphere of true international spirit as the city has learned to deal successfully with the diversities of systems and the coexistence of different cultures. During your stay, don’t miss to visit the Duomo, the Leonardo Da Vinci’s painting of the Last Supper nor the Sforzesco Castle and La Scala Theatre. You may also like to venture further a field to the many wonderful historic and tourist places to be found in other parts of Italy that, together with the Italian cooking and fashion, are very famous worldwide.

I am looking forward to welcoming you in Milano for EuroMedLab 2013.

With warmest regards,
Mauro Panteghini
President of the Euromelab Milano 2013
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Scientific Highlights

Aim of the scientific programme will be to provide attendees with the most up-to-date information on a wide variety of topics related to the Laboratory Medicine and its clinical application. It will include an opening lecture, four plenary lectures, 23 Symposia (17 organized by the Scientific Programme Committee (SPC), 3 by IFCC and 3 by EFCC), 39 Educational workshops and a poster session.

Plenary lectures. Each day of the congress, from 11.45 to 12.30 Plenary lectures related to a specific disease or pathophysiological condition will combine clinical laboratory, research, future developments and clinical experience in a very attractive way.

Symposia. The 17 Symposia organized by SPC will cover a list of important topics, including new areas of research and development. They will consist of three invited lectures and 2 presentations selected from the posters’ abstracts.

Posters. The programme will give ample time to poster viewing and discussion. The posters will really represent the core part of each congress day.

Educational workshop. They will represent the real novelty of the Congress. Organized with the substantial support of Diagnostic Industry, they will be reviewed by the SPC to become integral part of the Congress.

Satellite meetings. A number of Satellite Meetings will be organized before and after the main Congress in collaboration with other Scientific Societies both Italian and from neighbouring countries.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

as of December 2011

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Europe's largest congress centre

Designed in 2002 and doubled in size in 2005, the current extension (2011) will place MiCo - Milano Congressi among the largest conference facilities in Europe and worldwide, catering for up to 18,000 people in 70 or so fully appointed conference rooms with permanent control booth.

Featuring two plenary rooms, one with seating for 4,000 and the other for 2,000 and an Auditorium that seats 1,500, it is the ideal venue for large-scale performances and for international conferences requiring a large number of rooms. In the same way, the exhibition halls offer 54,000 sq.m of exhibition space and can also be set up as extra plenary rooms accommodating more than 5,000 people.

The conference rooms feature the full range of technologies: video projector, sound system, translator booths, fixed video cameras, closed circuit TV, Wi-Fi internet access and optical fiber cables.

All of this in downtown Milan, with a parking lot for more than 1,100 cars, a heliport and direct access to Milan’s future subway line 5.

It’s all there.

How to get to Milano

BY PLANE
Milano’s three airports, Malpensa, Linate and Orio al Serio, have flight connections to all gateways in the world.
Malpensa airport. All intercontinental and most domestic flights take off and land here.
Linate airport. It is used by smaller airlines, flying domestic and European routes.
Orio al Serio airport. It is Italy’s first low-cost airport with many flights to National and European destinations.

BY TRAIN
The main station is Milano Centrale. From here trains leave towards all parts of Italy and so do international connections to France, Switzerland, and Germany.
The station of Milano Cadorna serves the regional direct trains to the north of Milano.

BY CAR
Milano’s ring road is the end point of highway A4 coming from Turin (West) and from Venice and Verona (East), of A1 connecting Milano to Bologna, Florence and Rome; the A7 coming from Genoa and Liguria and the A8/A9 that go to Switzerland and to Lakes Como and Maggiore.

How to get to MiCo

From Linate
Take bus no. 73 in the "National Arrivals Exit" area to the terminal in Piazza San Babila. Take the Metro, Red Line 1 (Rho Fiera Milano direction) and get off at the “Amendola” stop – 700 m from MiCo.

From Malpensa
Take the "MALPENSA EXPRESS" train to the centre of Milan, arriving at the Ferrovie Nord "Cadorna" station. Take the Metro, Red Line 1 (Rho Fiera Milano direction) and get off at the “Amendola” stop – 700 m from MiCo.

From Orio al Serio
Take the "Orio EXPRESS" Bus to the centre of Milan in 40 minutes, arriving at the Ferrovie Nord "Cadorna" station.

From Central Station or Garibaldi Station
Take the Metro Green Line 2 (Abbiatigrasso direction) and get off at "Cadorna”. Here take the Metro Red Line 1 (Rho Fiera Milano direction) and get off at the “Amendola” stop – 700 m from MiCo.

From Cadorna Station
Take the Metro, Red Line 1 (Rho Fiera Milano direction) and get off at the “Amendola” stop – 700 m from MiCo.

Hope to see you in 2013
Panettone is a type of sweet bread loaf usually prepared and enjoyed for Christmas and is one of the symbols of Milano. This cake appeared in Milano a long time ago, around the 15th century, but consuming Panettone at Christmas is now a worldwide habit.

**Legend ... Pan del Toni**

How was Panettone born? There are many legends around this traditional product. They are almost all love stories, and we shouldn’t be surprised, since Milan, notwithstanding its aspect, its work-oriented attitude, its traffic, it has always been, and will always be one of the most romantic cities in the world. Here is the most fanciful of these legends.

It is the XVth century, at the Court of the Duke Ludovico Maria Sforza. Ughetto was the hawk breeder of the Duke. Ughetto was in love with Adalgisa, the beautiful daughter of a poor baker, Toni. Their love, as it often happened back then, was opposed by Ughetto’s family because of the social distance.

All at once, a series of misfortunes happened to the baker: another bakery opened up nearby and Toni started losing many customers, then the bakery boy fell ill and Adalgisa was forced to do all the heavy chores staying up at nights to attend the bread making process in her father bakery. Adalgisa was very sad and cried all night. Then Ughetto had an idea: he offered himself as the baker boy to help his beloved one; to see again a smile on Adalgisa lips, he thought to improve the bread adding some butter to the dough. It was an immediate success and it grew even more when Ughetto added some sugar to his recipe.

Some glutton found it out and the word got around in the neighbourhood and the customers were back. Ughetto and Adalgisa were both very happy and one night they added some candied citron and raisins and eggs to the dough which was ready for cooking. They created thus a very special bread and the following day, the shop was overtaken with a rush and Milano went crazy for Toni’s special bread, or “Pan del Toni” in Italian. Toni became rich and Ughetto’s parents were no longer grumbling over Adalgisa.

As every tale goes, the two youngsters got married and lived happily for ever.

From Pan del Toni came the name Panettone, a bread enriched with butter, eggs, raisins and candies, which we all can enjoy at Christmas.
The Congress Organising Committee and the Scientific Programme Committee together with the Organising Secretariat wish you a Merry Christmas.