



FEDERATION OF THE AUTONOMOUS PRIORIES  
SOVEREIGN ORDER OF SAINT JOHN OF JERUSALEM  
KNIGHTS OF MALTA

*Grand Magisterial House*

**To all the honorable participants in the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Congress of IBSSA,**

**Both as Patron of IBSSA and as its representative for the Portuguese speaking countries, I deeply regret the fact that, due to urgent and important matters in hands, I had to stay in Africa longer than I expected and therefore I could not be present once again, as it was my intention and my desire, to this annual Congress of IBSSA.**

**However, this message of mine is a way to be with you in the important matters that you are discussing during this Congress.**

**In fact, the present and serious international Crisis and the new Terrorist threats ( as dramatically seen a few days ago in Kenya ) justifies, now even more than ever before, a serious discussion and a deep reflection about the importance, the role and the growing needs of Security in the all World.**

**For these reasons I would like to remind you all of the words of Mr. Rand Beers, Secretary for Homeland Security of President Obama, when he says that**

**“ The precondition to Freedom is Security. “**

**You, Security Professionals, you must never forget that you are also the guarantors of Freedom and of Democracy in your countries.**

**I wish to this Congress and to its participants a fruitful work and much success.**

**His Most Eminent Highness Jose, Prince**

**Grand Master and Head of State of KMFAP and Patron of IBSSA**