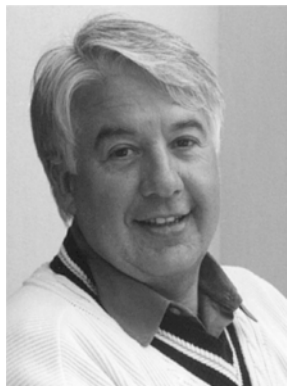


# Welcome to Vienna !

Prof.Dr.Helmut PECHLANER  
Director of Schoenbrunn Zoo, Vienna  
President of WWF Austria



Dear participants of the AATA-conference,

The whole team of Schoenbrunn Zoo takes great pleasure in hosting the AATA's 30<sup>th</sup> Annual International Conference in Vienna, from April 18<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup>, 2004.

Schoenbrunn Zoo celebrated its 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2002 and we are known as the oldest zoo in the world and today, one of the most modern ones. Schoenbrunn Zoo is the only baroque zoo - unique and a jewel of architecture. Situated in the south-eastern part of the Habsburger's summer residence, was Emperor Franz Stephan von Lothringen's - husband of Maria Theresia - private menagerie. In the summer of 1752, the Emperor built his menagerie.

The conference themselves will take place at Parkhotel Schoenbrunn, the former guesthouse of the Habsburg Monarchy which is close to Zoo Schoenbrunn. Schoenbrunn Palace and its zoo have been designated by UNESCO to be a part of the world's cultural heritage.

What makes the zoo so special is that the animals are kept in appropriate environments whilst ensuring the maintenance of the architectural heritage of the Baroque era. All the buildings of historical importance were restored by experts of international reputation, under the supervision of the state conservation authorities and serve present-day purposes without any loss of their splendour.

At Schoenbrunn Zoo, endangered species from all over the world are exhibited and bred according to international conservation standards. The animals are kept in natural and well-structured habitats which are equally attractive for both animals and the visitors. In the year 2003 more than 2 million visitors made Schoenbrunn Zoo the number one attraction in Austria.

Whilst in Vienna you will have the opportunity to get to know as many as possible from your colleagues from all over the world, but you may be focused on the centre of Europe, his history and his new position in the changed EU-map.

We are very proud to host this International Conference in Vienna and we will most pleased to introduce you to our wonderful, historical Schoenbrunn Zoo and to all the other fascinating sites in Vienna.

Yours sincerely



## Keynote Speaker



**Dr. Hannes FARNLEITNER**

Dr. Farnleitner is currently Adviser to the Federal Chancellor and former Federal Minister for Economic Affairs. Prior to that time, he was a member of the Economic and Social Committee of the European Communities, Vice-President of Agramart Austria (AMA), and Co-Chairman of the Economic and Social Council of the social partners.