

SHIMON PERES CONFIRMS KEYNOTE ADDRESS AT WORLD NANO-ECONOMIC CONGRESS

New York, NY, July 16, 2003: Former Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres today confirmed his participation as a Keynote Speaker at the World Nano-Economic Congress (WNEC) (www.nano-economics.com), scheduled for September 8-10, 2003 in Washington, DC.

Mr. Peres' presentation is entitled "Perspectives on Scientific and Technological Leadership". Mr. Peres, who was awarded the 1994 Nobel Peace Prize, has been a strong advocate of nanotechnology research and development as an engine of economic development throughout the world.

"The participation of Mr. Peres at the World Nano-Economic Congress demonstrates the strategic importance that the governments of the world have placed on nanotechnology development," said Tim Harper, CEO of Cientifica, Chairman and Co-Organizer of the WNEC. "It also reflects both the global breadth of this conference and its focus on the entire value chain of nanotechnology from researcher to governmental leaders around the globe."

In addition to Mr. Peres, the organizers have secured presentations by US Representatives Mike Honda (D. Calif.) and Brad Sherman (D. Calif.), Richard Smalley, Nobel Prize Winner for his discovery of the fullerene, will also address the conference on the impact of nanotechnology on energy issues.

The 80+ speakers confirmed for the WNEC represent companies from the Fortune 100 such as Intel, Ford, General Electric, Motorola, NEC, Lucent, and Lockheed Martin. Speakers and Board of Advisor members represent countries including, Belgium, Austria, Sweden, England, Singapore, Taiwan, Germany, Canada, Switzerland, Ireland, and the United States.

Full event information can be found at www.nano-economics.com.

Notes to editors

ABOUT CIENTIFICA

Cientifica is the leading source of information on the near-term commercial opportunities in nanotechnology, with a network covering the globe. Ninety-five percent (95%) of all nanotechnology investments in the last 18 months have been made by subscribers to the company's information products. With a global network, Cientifica spans the entire nanotechnology world from basic science to business and investment analysis. Its mission is to empower business to make rational decisions about nanotechnology.

ABOUT THE INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH

The Institute for International Research (IIR) is the world's largest international conference company with 120 different business units and 4,000 employees in 36 countries. Founded in 1973, IIR continues to provide unbiased, leading-edge business information through our conferences, workshops, seminars, and the Internet.

To obtain further event information or to request a press pass please contact: Matt Godson, Marketing Director, Institute for International Research, 708 Third Ave., New York, NY 10017. Phone: 212-661-3500 ext. 3225. Fax: 212-661 8743 E-mail mgodson@iirusa.com