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## Allocution de M. Dalton E. GANDY (U.S.A.)

Président du Comité Exécutif des Conférences sur le Tournesol

Ladies and gentlemen, it is difficult to realize that we met only two years ago in Memphis, Tennessee, USA, for the Fourth International Sunflower Conference. I am wondering how many of you here today attended that meeting in the United States? Will you please raise your hands? (Show of hands) That is a remarkable number of people who still have a strong interest in the sunflower industry.

On behalf of the International Sunflower Conference Executive Committee, we welcome each person here and the country he represents. We wish to commend Mr. A. Cauderon, Chairman of the Fifth International Sunflower Conference, and his committees responsible for arranging such an outstanding program and for providing such elaborate facilities here in beautiful Clermont-Ferrand, France.

There are 35 countries here represented by over 350 people from private industry and public institutions engaged in sunflower breeding, research, and extension. This fact alone is evidence of the importance being placed on the production and marketing of sunflowers around the world. We urge each of you to take advantage of this opportunity for a free exchange of information and discussion during the Conference.

It has been suggested that there is a great need for establishing international grades and standards for sunflower seed and its products in the commercial channels of trade. Would representatives from each country caucus and name a representative and an alternate to meet on Wednesday for a short period of discussion? Enter that person's name on the poster provided on the bulletin board near the registration desk which gives the time and room number for the meeting. From this group of representatives, a committee of five and a chairman will be appointed and will be responsible for collecting from each country trading rules on grades and standards for sunflower seeds. This committee will then study the returns and prepare for a thorough discussion on the program at the Sixth International Sunflower Conference in 1974. During the executive session on the last day, the Conference will be presented the final proposal for consideration.

The International Sunflower Conference Executive Committee will meet each day for discussion of suggestions submitted and a hearing from each country submitting an invitation for the site selection of the Sixth International Sunflower Conference in 1974.

We must now move on into the program, but before we do, I would like for those from the United States delegation to raise their hands. I wanted everyone to see that we have more than 60 delegates attending who are interested in sunflowers as a new and potential, alternate cash crop in our country.

Mr. Cauderon, again on behalf of those attending the Fifth International Sunflower Conference, we appreciate the opportunity of meeting in this beautiful city of Clermont-Ferrand, France and look forward to a worthwhile meeting.