Houston and Texas have gained relevance as the most significant success story in the United States, thanks to a combination of natural resources and growth-oriented policies that have brought the Lone Star State to grow at 4.6% in 2012. The GNP of Texas accounts for 9% of the entire US GNP, a size which is comparable to the entire economy of Canada.

The growth of Texas, further boosted by the recent success in the production of energy from non conventional sources, did not go unnoticed in the rest of the world. Houston is the destination of countless visits by delegations seeking opportunities to expand their business.

I therefore express my strong appreciation for the initiative undertaken by the Italy America Chamber of Commerce to organize 'Exhibitalia'. This venue will provide a new and relevant opportunity to promote Italian products in one of the most important cities of the United States, home to a sophisticated and discerning market that has a strong appreciation for Italy's best products. Exhibitalia will also provide a platform to further strengthen the already excellent relationship that binds Italy and the United States.

Fabrizio Nava Consul General of Italy

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