Dear AIPH Members,

It is my great pleasure to wish you all a Happy New Year. I hope that you and your families are all keeping safe and well through what has been a difficult time for many.

The pandemic has brought a mixture of impacts for our industry. Back in Spring 2020, our prospects looked very gloomy, but there has been a strong recovery for many in our sector since then.

It has now been nearly two years since we could meet together face-to-face, and that is why I am very much looking forward to March this year when we will hold our Spring Meeting in Dubai.

The AIPH team have worked hard to keep us all connected virtually, and we have even increased our memberships and approved new Expos during this period.

We have so much to discuss and update you on that I hope as many of you as possible will come.

Green City remains a key activity for AIPH, and we will be holding a Green City conference at the Spring Meeting. Last year we launched the AIPH Green City Awards, and I would encourage you to make sure your city is represented in this year’s edition.

We also want to involve more people from your organisations in the benefits of AIPH, so we have established an online community for members, something like a private version of LinkedIn, so please make the most of this too.

Many members are facing similar challenges simultaneously, and this online community provides a unique way of sharing and discussing in a closed environment.

For the 2022 season, we have launched the following events:

- **FloraCulture International (FCI)**
- **AIPH World Green City Awards**
- **AIPH Global Partnerships Programme for Expos**
- **International Grower of the Year Awards**

There is much more going on, including developing a Sustainable Production Programme for Expos and the re-scheduled International Grower of the Year Awards ceremony. We will be publishing these and other initiatives on our website and in our newsletter.

Thank you so much for your continued support for AIPH, and I look forward to seeing you all soon.

Yours faithfully,

Bernard Oosterom
AIPH President

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Many people have discovered the benefits of plants and flowers in their homes and gardens, and horticulture has been able to demonstrate the important role it has to play in tackling the many problems the world faces.

It has been more difficult for growers to sell flowers for events and special occasions, but the resilience of horticultural producers has been extraordinary.

Still, nothing truly replaces being physically present with each other. Dubai is currently hosting its World Expo, and we believe it is the best place in the world for handling international visitors just now.

Please take advantage of this opportunity to meet again with other members and enjoy a really inspiring programme. If you have never visited a World Expo before, Expo 2020 Dubai will be a fantastic experience.

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