

**Remarks by
The Honorable Nancy C. Pellett, Board Member
Farm Credit Administration
At
FCA Diversity Day: "Welcome to Your World"
July 24, 2003**

Good morning everyone.

And what a great morning this has been. I am certainly looking forward to a wonderful afternoon as we continue the agency's Diversity Day celebration. I was not here last year but I find it hard to believe that it was any better than this year.

I know that this is not an easy event to arrange ...and that it takes a lot of hard work. The program mentions the offices that were involved in arranging this event but I would also like to recognize the following individuals who put in a lot of long hours to make this event happen. Irma Blankenship, Millie Dickens, Becky White, Dianna Becerra, Dana Wyckoff, Linda Toki, Dale Aultman, Nick Riccobono, Chris Quinn, and Eric Howard. Please join me in giving these individuals and organizations a nice round of applause. These people have prepared a wonderful program for you this afternoon with plenty of food and entertainment.

But before we begin this afternoon's portion of the program, I do have a few comments to make.

The longer I am here, the more I have come to recognize that the agency's strength comes from not only the dedication and experience of its employees, but also the diversity of its employees. It appears to me that the FCA has a strong commitment to promoting and supporting an inclusive environment that provides each employee the chance to work to their full potential. And that is good, as I believe diversity is an important and healthy aspect of all high quality organizations.

I personally believe we are born into a world of unlimited possibilities...each one of us has the potential to do great things, and given the opportunity, each of us can make a difference. All we require is proper encouragement and the opportunity to not only achieve but to excel. The challenge to us at FCA is to ensure that this opportunity exists. How we handle this challenge will clearly signal our professionalism and humanity, to others, but more importantly, to ourselves.

One of the speakers this morning made this statement..."celebrate humanity, respect its diversity." What powerful, powerful words!

Thank you for participating in today's program, and now, please join me in the atrium so we can begin celebrating "your world."