



CIHEAM

Sharing Knowledge, Feeding Future

## 136<sup>th</sup> CIHEAM Governing Board Meeting in Antalya (Turkey)

### Press release

Antalya, Turkey, 31 of May 2016

*The 136<sup>th</sup> Meeting of CIHEAM Governing Board took place during the International EXPO 2016 in Antalya, on 30 and 31 May 2016. The Governing Board welcomed the dynamism observed during the last months leading to the development of several activities based on the new CIHEAM Strategic Agenda 2025 and stressed the importance of the next Meeting of the Ministers of Agriculture of the 13 Member States which will be held in Tirana (Albania) on 22 September 2016. During the meeting, M. Cosimo Lacirignola, was elected unanimously new Secretary General of the Organization for a period of 4 years.*

At the invitation of the Turkish authorities, the Member country Delegates from Albania, Algeria, Egypt, France, Greece, Italy, Lebanon, Malta, Portugal, Spain, Tunisia and Turkey, the Representative of the Near East Office of UN-FAO and the CIHEAM Staff met for the 136<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Governing Board in Antalya, the venue of the International EXPO 2016.

Accompanied by the President Masum Burak, the CIHEAM Delegation took the opportunity to visit the international EXPO 2016 which is focused on themes very close to CIHEAM's missions and priorities. The claim of the first Turkish EXPO, EXPO 2016 Antalya, is "Cultivating a Green Life for Future Generations". History, Bio-Diversity, Sustainability and Green Cities are the four subthemes of EXPO 2016 Antalya.



The Governing Board welcomed the dynamism observed during the last months to develop projects aimed at optimizing the Organisation management but also to stimulate initiatives increasing its visibility in the Member States, in the Mediterranean region and among other international organizations. The Board also welcomed the establishment of the new CIHEAM Strategic Agenda 2025 focusing on a number of thematic priorities in line with the Post-2015 Global Agenda for development and opens a valuable prospect for its cooperation mission in the Mediterranean. The Governing Board decided that the CIHEAM Strategic Agenda 2025 should be the reference framework for its training, research, technical assistance and development activities. Recognizing the importance of this document, the Governing Board proposed that it should be presented at the next meeting of the Ministers of Agriculture of the 13 CIHEAM Member States which will be held in Tirana (Albania) on 22 September 2016.

It also emphasized that the new CIHEAM policy can improve synergy within CIHEAM, help promoting joint initiatives with other actors (International Organizations, International Financial Institutions, and national development agencies or private sector) involved in cooperation across the Mediterranean and support the establishment of CIHEAM affiliated Centers.

The Governing Board unanimously elected M. Cosimo Lacirignola, the candidate proposed by the Italian authorities, Secretary General of CIHEAM. He will enter office from 1st January 2017, after an interim period on a voluntary basis.

## CIHEAM

Created in 1962, the CIHEAM is a Mediterranean organization which works for improving sustainable agriculture and fisheries, for ensuring food and nutrition security and for developing rural and coastal territories. The organization gathers 13 Member States from both shores of the Mediterranean (Albania, Algeria, Egypt, France, Greece, Italy, Lebanon, Malta, Morocco, Portugal, Spain, Tunisia and Turkey) and works with several international and regional institutions. CIHEAM's actions rely on a bottom-up collaboration and are problem-solving oriented, connected to the peculiar needs of the countries. With our Member States, public and private partners and academics we strive to meet the 4 following challenges:



Struggling against "triple waste" (Knowledge-Natural Resources-Food)



Boosting Sustainable Agriculture and Food



Investing in new generations and fragile territories



Preventing risks and managing tensions

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