

Investiture du Président
du
Centre International des Hautes Études
Méditerranéennes
CIHEAM

Speech of
Prof. Mohammed Sadiki,
New President

Paris, le 21 December 2018

Distinguished delegates of the Board of Directors of
CIHEAM and Dear Colleagues,

Mister SG

Honorable the Directors

Administrators and employees of CIHEAM

Dear friends,

- At this moment, in which you allowed me to access to the position of Chairman of the Board of CIHEAM, I feel both a great honor and a strong emotion.
- I would like, first of all, to tell you, honorable Delegates, how much affected I am by this mark of confidence and express to you my deepest gratitude. Working for the CIHEAM is a great privilege and particular pride and honor for me.
- The confidence that my country has placed in me by presenting my candidacy for this position and the

one you have just placed in me today with unanimity is highly matched by my firm will, my total determination and my great motivation to be up to the task and to the extent of the responsibilities of which I am now custodian and of which I fully appreciate and measure all the challenges.

- I would like to express my deep gratitude and appreciation to His Excellency Aziz Akhannouch, Minister of Agriculture, Maritime Fisheries, Rural Development and Forests, who has submitted and supported my candidacy and fully sustains the Mediterranean action of CIHEAM.
- The Mediterranean is above all an atmosphere, a feeling, a passion that we cultivate commonly. It is clear that this requires, above all, collective

commitment, teamwork and a strong sense of belonging.

- I take the opportunity of this moment to tell you and especially to Mr. Secretary General and the directors and administrators, how my determination is total for careful listening and put all my strength to work with you, together and with everyone to give a new impetus to the rhythm of work of CIHEAM, while respecting the missions and responsibilities of the entities and their harmony.
- My role today is to work, in line with the orientations of this honorable Board, with all of you, in order to contribute to endowing the governance of the Center with a dynamics of management and results-

based management and work for a renewed strength of its influence.

- I would like to take this opportunity to briefly underline that, despite the uncertain regional context, where tensions exist and where, unfortunately, conflicts are hardening, there is also good news in the Mediterranean. They are less publicized certainly but we can not succumb to the sirens of the emotional. Skills are aggregating, investments are increasing, economic partnerships are developing, progress is being made in the fight against exclusion and poverty. Let's learn how to turn this challenging context into opportunities to work more together and try to reduce risks and uncertainties. The southern Mediterranean needs

Europe and Europe cannot turn its back on the Mediterranean. It's not just a formula from the history books. I am convinced that the future will go through a regionalization of globalization in which the great Euro-Mediterranean region must find its place. Or rather find its role, because for a long time, this space was the political, economic, scientific and cultural lung of the World. In saying this, I realize moreover that it has never ceased and that this permanent effervescence of the Mediterranean Basin certainly makes its charm and its specificity. It is perhaps in this space that we will succeed in humanizing globalization, let us be optimistic.

Honorable delegates,

- Finally, I take this moment to express my deep attachment to this Mediterranean idea and therefore to CIHEAM, which represents a very concrete case of organization in which national identities do not fade away. In the opposite, they are being mobilized to share projects and solidarity by placing the Mediterranean as the common denominator.
- I would like to affirm here solemnly my infallible commitment to be worthy of this position. I will do my best with all my efforts to fulfill this mission to the best of my ability and to meet the expectations of all CIHEAM member countries.
- I conclude by words by extending my thanks to Dr. Masum Burak, President of CIHEAM, and I pay tribute

to all the previous presidents who have served CIHEAM.

- My deep thoughts to our late friend and colleague, Cosimo Lacirignola, who left us prematurely. All my sympathy for his family.

Long life to CIHEAM and Long life to the Mediterranean.

Thank you for your kind attention.

*Prof. Mohammed Sadiki
New President of CIHEAM*