CIHEAM
International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies

Launching of the MED-AMIN

MEDiterranean Agricultural Markets Information Network

Press Release

February 11, 2014

Gathered on the 22 and 23 of January 2014 in Paris, the CIHEAM member states launched the initiative « **MED**iterranean **A**gricultural **M**arkets **I**nformation **N**etwork **(MED-AMIN)**".

Participants from ministries of agriculture, statistical services or cereal offices of CIHEAM member states attended the meeting organized at the invitation of CIHEAM and of the French ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Forest (MAAF), in the headquarters of FranceAgriMer,

The meeting was marked by the intervention of the French Minister, **Stéphane le Foll** who recalled the priority given to the Mediterranean Area by his ministry, and expressed his particular interest in the establishment of this new network. The CIHEAM Secretary General, **Cosimo Lacirignola**, also participated**.**

The new network aims at fostering **cooperation and experience sharing among national information systems on agricultural markets,** following the request of the CIHEAM ' ministers made at their 9th meeting in Malta in September 2012. To start with, it will deal with cereal (wheat, corn, barley, and rice), strategic products for food security in the Mediterranean countries. The name of this network is a strong signal sent by the states, because the adjective *amin* in Arabic refers of the notion of "**trust".**

Coordinated by CIHEAM, and more specifically by its Mediterranean Agronomic Institute (MAI) of Montpellier, this regional network will operate in relation with the secretariat of the multilateral initiative **AMIS** (Agricultural Markets Information System) based in Rome, with **FAO**, and with the **European Commission**.

On the Occasion of their 10th meeting in Algeria on February 6, 2014, the ministers of agriculture of the 13 Member States of CIHEAM have officially ratified the creation of MED-AMIN, providing a great support for the development of this network as it is made clear in their final declaration *(to be consulted on www.ciheam.org)*.

The network will hold its second meeting in the fall of 2014 in **Turkey**, at the invitation of the authorities of this founder member country of CIHEAM in 1962.



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CIHEAM

*Founded in **1962**, the International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies (CIHEAM) is an **intergovernmental organisation** composed of **thirteen member states** (Albania, Algeria, Egypt, France, Greece, Italy, Lebanon, Malta, Morocco, Portugal, Spain, Tunisia and Turkey).*

*The CIHEAM is at the service of its member states to promote **multilateral cooperation** in the Mediterranean in the fields of agriculture, food, fishery, and rural territories, aiming to **respond to the needs of the States**. The CIHEAM pursues this cooperation mission through **specialised training**, **networked research, scientific diplomacy** and **political partnership.***

Thanks to its activities, the CIHEAM therefore contributes to the elaboration of a global, structural and engaging vision for development in the Mediterranean. Providing concrete solutions, sharing experiences and avoiding the waste of knowledge are among the main objectives of each one of its actions.

***170 permanent agents** and hundreds of consultants regularly work within the **5 headquarters** of the Organisation: the 4 Mediterranean agronomic institutes (MAI) based in Bari (Italy), Chania (Greece), Montpellier (France), and Zaragoza (Spain); the General Secretariat is located in Paris (France), and are at the same time active in the Mediterranean countries to develop activities and projects.*

*For more information: **www.ciheam.org***

