



## CONFERENCE

### Scientific Support to agriculture: competitiveness, quality and sustainability

23 APRIL 2014  
Zappeion Megaron  
Athens, Greece

## PROGRAMME

**09.00 – 09.30** *Registration and welcome coffee*

**09.30 – 10.20** **OPENING SESSION**

**Athanasios S. Tsiftaris**, Minister of Rural Development and Food

**Maria Betti**, Joint Research Centre, Director, Institute for Environment and Sustainability

**Athanasios G. Konstandopoulos**, Member of the Board of Governors of Joint Research Centre, President of the Board of Directors of Centre for Research and Technology Hellas (CERTH)

**10.20 – 11.45** **SESSION I: *The Future of European Agricultural Systems***

**Moderator:** **Guy Van Den Eede**, Joint Research Centre, Adviser for Bio-Economy, Directorate of Scientific Policy and Stakeholders Relations

**Key note:** **Nikiforos Sivenas**, European Commission, DG Agriculture and Rural Development, Principal Adviser, "EU Agriculture – Global challenges and Policy responses"

**Sergio Gomez Y Paloma**, Joint Research Centre, Agriculture and Life Sciences in Economy Unit, Institute for Prospective Technological Studies, "EU island farming and the labelling of its products"

**Martijn Gipmans**, Global Sustainability Manager, Plant Biotechnology, BASF-The Chemical Company, "Innovations for a more sustainable agriculture – an industry perspective"

**Neil Hubbard**, Joint Research Centre, Head of Monitoring Agricultural Resources Unit, Institute for Environment and Sustainability, "Precision agriculture – improving both productivity and sustainability"

**Discussion**

**11.45 – 13.00** **SESSION II: *Climate Change and Resource Efficiency***

**Moderator:** **Maria Betti**, Joint Research Centre, Director, Institute for Environment and Sustainability

**Key note:** **Kostas Chartzoulakis**, Scientific Collaborator, Institute of Olive Tree and Subtropical Plants of Chania, Greece, "Sustainable water management in agriculture under climate change"

**Giovani Bidoglio**, Joint Research Centre, Head of Water Resources Unit, Institute for Environment and Sustainability, "The water demand of agriculture: the challenge of intersectoral management"

**Frank Dentener**, Joint Research Centre, Monitoring Agricultural Resources Unit, Institute for Environment and Sustainability, "Climate change impacts on agriculture"

**Discussion**

**13.00 – 14.00** *Networking lunch*

**14.00 – 15.10** **SESSION III: *Improving crop genetic resources for higher yield and sustainability***

**Moderator:** **Guy Van Den Eede**, Joint Research Centre, Adviser for Bio-Economy, Directorate of Scientific Policy and Stakeholders Relations

**Key note:** **Roberto Tuberosa**, Professor, University of Bologna, "Genomics-assisted approaches for sustainable intensification of crops productivity"

**Emilio Rodriguez-Cerezo**, Joint Research Centre, Agriculture and Life Sciences in the Economy, Institute for Prospective Technological Studies, "New plant breeding techniques"

**Panagiotis Madesis**, Researcher, Institute of Applied Biosciences, Centre for Research and Technology Hellas (CERTH), "Genomics and DNA Barcoding approaches in plant breeding, species identification, food authentication and adulteration traceability"

**Discussion**

**15.10 – 15.30** *Coffee break*

**15.30 – 16.30** **Round Table: *The plant – omics revolution (genomics, epigenomics, metagenomics) and its implications in plant breeding and cultivation***

**Moderator:** **Roberto Tuberosa**, Professor, University of Bologna, Italy

**Participants:** **Patrice This**, National Institute for Agricultural Research (INRA), Montpellier, France

**Sotirios Tsiftaris**, Unit Director, IMT Institute for Advanced Studies Lucca, Italy

**Fillipos Aravanopoulos**, Professor, University of Thessaloniki, Greece

**George Skaracis**, Professor, Agricultural University of Athens, Greece

**Dora Chimonidou**, Director, Agriculture Research Institute, Cyprus

**16.30 – 17.00** **Conclusions**

**Conference language: English**