



## *Election of the new President of CIHEAM Governing Board*

### Press release

30 March, 2015

At its 133<sup>rd</sup> meeting in Cairo on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2015, the Governing Board of CIHEAM, formed by delegates of its 13 member countries, has elected Pr. **Masum Burak** (Turkey) as the new President of the Board. He will begin his four-year term on 1 April 2015, succeeding Pr. **Adel El-Beltagy** (Egypt). Pr. **Masum Burak** is the General Director of Agricultural Research and Policies at the Turkish Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock (*short biography below*).

During the meeting, the Board also elected the delegates of Egypt, Italy, Morocco and Spain as new Vice-Presidents. They are now members of the Steering Committee of the Board with the President and the Secretary General.

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

*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. The Organisation pursues this cooperation mission through specialised training, networked research, scientific diplomacy and political partnership.*

*The Governing Board of the CIHEAM is the managing body where political, financial and administrative strategic decisions are taken. Composed of one delegate from each of the thirteen member countries, the Board meets twice a year.*





**Pr Masum Burak** has a PhD from the Uludag University. He started his career in 1980 as a researcher and then Head of Department, Deputy Director and Acting Director at the Yalova Atatürk Central Horticultural Research Institute, until 2005. In 1993, he was awarded as Associate Professor by the Turkish Higher Education Council. Deputy Director General of Agricultural Research and Policies at the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock during one year and a half, he became Director General in October 2006.

Concerning his international activities, **Pr Masum Burak** was the President of CIHEAM Advisory Committee from 2009 to 2012. Since 2007, Masum Burak is the Delegate of Turkey in the FP 7 of European Union in Theme 2 (agriculture, food, fisheries and biotechnology) and in the Standing Committee for Agricultural Research of the European Union since 2008. Member of ExCo of Borlaug Global Rust Initiative and of the Advisory Board of the Turkish Scientific and Technological Council, he is also since 2010 member of Board of Trustees of ICARDA. Since 2013, he is Member of Board of EXPO 2016 in Antalya and Delegate of Turkey in Horizon 2020 of the European Union SC2 since 2014. At last, **Pr Masum Burak** is member of the International Society for Horticultural Science, of the Turkish Society for Horticultural Science and of the Chamber of Agricultural Engineers. He has authored about 100 publications in Turkish and English.

**Pr Masum Burak** is married and has two children. He speaks Turkish, English and French.

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