

AEMO proposes the revitalization of Recomed to become a reference of the Mediterranean Olive sector

The Spanish Association of Municipalities of the Olive Tree (AEMO) presided last November 12 in Imperia (Italy) the board of directors of the Network of Olive Oil Cities of the Mediterranean (Recomed), in which the president of both entities, Ana María Romero, has initiated its stage proposing the dynamization of this network of 12 coastal countries that have a common factor: the cultivation of the olive tree as a sign of identity. This Italian city was also the setting for the presentation of the EVOOLEUM Guide of the World's TOP100 EVOOs recognized at the EVOOLEUM Awards, organized by Mercacei and AEMO.

This meeting was held coinciding with Olioliva 2016, the Festa dell'Olio Nuovo held every year in this emblematic and olive-growing city of northern Italy, capital of Liguria.

AEMO presided over this renewed board of directors where the rest of the members of Recomed (Italy, Slovenia, Tunisia, Lebanon and Greece), were named at the last assembly held in Montoro (Córdoba) attended.

First, Ana María Romero thanked the work of her predecessor, Città dell'Olio, in the person of its president, Enrico Lupi, and stated that her priority will be to make all the members of the Network participate in strengthening this entity's teamwork waiting for action proposals from all members of the board.

The working session focused on the lines of action that Spain wants to reinforce and prioritize, which, in its opinion, can and should make this supranational Network a Mediterranean reference in the promotion of olive oil and in safeguarding the Olive growers.

In this line, the board proposed the presentation of a new European project within the European initiative ENI CBCMed whose call will open in the coming weeks and will be operational in the 2016-2020 horizon. This initiative promotes projects based on the joint action of EU countries with their Mediterranean neighbors.

In this context, as AEMO reported, it was agreed to present a project to encourage the employment of women and young people in the Mediterranean olive sector. In particular, the European specialist consultancy OPEN MED, based in Sardinia, will prepare the application dossier in the coming weeks.

Another proposed and approved line of work has been to strengthen links and relationships with different institutions in the global olive sector. In this regard, the president of AEMO and Recomed, Ana María Romero, will meet in Madrid this month with the Executive Director of the International Olive Council (IOC), Abdellatif Ghedira, in order to propose joint actions related to the promotion of olive oil as the healthiest fat known.

Recomed's board of directors approved to join efforts to increase the number of partners of the Network, with the incorporation of countries such as France, Albania or Egypt, in order to complete the Mediterranean arc. Actually, the entity is formed by Croatia, Greece, Israel, Italy, Lebanon, Montenegro, Morocco, Portugal, Slovenia, Tunisia, Turkey and Spain.

On the other hand, the board members agreed to have a presence at the Expoliva 2017 fair, to be held from May 10 to 13 in Jaén, through various actions such as the presentation of the Network in the Technical Forum, the presence of oils from its various countries in the Oil Hall and the holding of its next meeting in the framework of this exhibition.

The meeting concluded with the commitment and intention of all employers that, in the coming years, Recomed will become a reference for the Mediterranean olive sector with the capacity to operate and influence the different European and international decision-making bodies and to contribute from this Way "to dignify olive oil as the authentic flag of the Mediterranean Diet and as a true socio-economic and cultural engine of hundreds of thousands of families who have in the olive tree their true way of life."

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