



*The Vice President of the Chamber of Deputies*

*Marina Sereni*

*has the pleasure to invite you  
to the Conference on*

**THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF PULSES:  
RESEARCH AND POLICIES FOR SUSTAINABLE  
AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY**

*Friday, 7 October 2016 - 10:30 a.m.  
Sala del Mappamondo*

*Palazzo Montecitorio  
Main entrance*

The International Year of Pulses ([www.iyp2016.org](http://www.iyp2016.org)) will be celebrated on 7 October at the Italian Chamber of Deputies with a meeting organized in cooperation with a number of Italian research institutes. The United Nations declared 2016 the International Year of Pulses. Pulse crops, such as beans, chickpeas and lentils, are an important low-fat source of proteins, fibres and vitamins. These crops play a key role in contributing to food security and promoting sustainable agriculture, thus reducing greenhouse gas emissions and mitigating climate changes. Moreover, pulses are the key to a healthy diet and help prevent serious diseases.

In Europe, today as in the past, pulses are a central part of farmers' diet; in poorest and disadvantaged countries they are the main source of proteins and an important source of other nutrients, such as vitamins and minerals for rural populations in developing countries. Beans, chickpeas and other pulses are indispensable elements of a sustainable agriculture that contributes to increasing soil fertility and are a possible valuable source of non-animal proteins that have a beneficial impact on health.

This meeting will provide the opportunity to present development and research initiatives on pulses at a national and international level, with special reference to the research project BEAN\_ADAPT, coordinated by the Polytechnic University of Marche, aimed at identifying the genes in common bean that are responsible for adaptation to new environments. BEAN\_ADAPT proposes to make available technologies and germplasm directly to seed companies and farmers, so as to implement efficient plant breeding programmes and contribute to a multilateral system to access and share in the benefits deriving from research and the use of genetic resources.

## WELCOMING ADDRESS

**Marina Sereni**

*Vice President of the Chamber of Deputies*

## INTRODUCTORY TALKS

**Marcela Villarreal**

*Director Partnerships, Advocacy and Capacity Development at FAO  
FAO Secretariat International Year of Pulses*

**Roberto Papa**

*Coordinator of BEAN\_ADAPT,  
Polytechnic University of Marche, (UNIVPM)*

## CONTRIBUTIONS

**Elisa Bellucci**

*Scientific Manager of BEAN\_ADAPT,  
Polytechnic University of Marche (UNIVPM)*

**Giovanni Giuseppe Vendramin**

*Director of the Biosciences and Bioresources Institute (IBBR-CNR)*

**Mario Marino**

*International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food  
and Agriculture (ITPGREA)*

**Teodoro Cardi**

*Director of the Horticulture Research Centre (CREA)*

**Francesca Sparvoli**

*Researcher at the Institute of Agricultural Biology and Biotechnology  
(IBBA-CNR)*

**Giuseppe Carli**

*President of Assosementi (European Seed Association – ESA)*

## CONCLUSIONS

**Pietro Sebastiani**

*Director General for Development Cooperation  
of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs*

**Andrea Olivero**

*Vice Minister of Agriculture, Food and Forestry*



*R.S.V.P. before Tuesday 4 October 2016*

*cerimoniale.adesioni@camera.it*

*Please specify the date and time of the event*

*Admission will be permitted*

*until 10.15 a.m.*