

## Ministerial Declaration on the Centenary of the International Organisation of Vine and Wine

Dijon 13 October 2024

At the end of two days of discussions and work, the Ministers meeting in Dijon at the Ministerial conference celebrating the centenary of the International Organisation of Vine and Wine (OIV), at the invitation of France, have adopted this declaration in which they reaffirm their commitment to this intergovernmental scientific and technical organisation and, through it, the importance of the vine and wine sector as a whole.

**Acknowledging** the contribution of multilateral dialogue as well as technical and scientific exchanges which, since the end of the 19th century, have made it possible at an international level to promote the sharing of information and the harmonisation of practices and standards, and to develop subsequent international cooperation and trade;

**Considering** the texts that have contributed to the creation and development of the OIV as a reference organisation at international level for the vine and wine sector, and in particular :

- a) The arrangement of 29 November 1924, creating the International Wine Office ;
- b) The agreement of 3 April 2001 establishing the International Organisation of Vine and Wine;

Ministers:

- 1) **Emphasise** the benefits that have resulted from the creation of an international intergovernmental organisation dedicated to vines, wine, wine-based beverages, grapes, raisins and other vine products, notably the sharing of scientific as well as technical knowledge, the harmonisation of practices and standards and the facilitation of international trade;
- 2) **Recall** in this respect the pioneering role played by the wine sector as the first agricultural sector with a dedicated international intergovernmental organisation;
- 3) **Welcome** the continued expansion of new member states and observers to the organisation over the century of its existence. The OIV was founded by eight States in 1924, seven of them in Europe, and today has fifty Member States from every continent, representing 75% of the world's vineyards, 37% of table grape production, 50% of raisin production, 88% of wine production and 71% of wine consumption;
- 4) **Emphasise** that the diversity of the member states and observers that compose the OIV as well as the diversity of their experts, from academy to winegrowers, wineries, enterprises, marketing or consumers associations, contributes to the

enrichment of its consensus work. The successive new memberships have strengthened the collective expertise developed within the organisation, whose competence is fully recognised on the international stage for the benefit of producers, consumers and the other actors of the vine and wine sector;

- 5) **Welcome** the recent successful conclusion of discussions within the Codex Alimentarius' Committee on Food Additives which have resulted in the introduction of a reference to the OIV code of oenological practices to some Members within the Codex standard relating to Food Additives (CXS 192-1995) due to the unique situation involving use of wine additives. This reaffirms the OIV objectives to assist other international organisations and contribute to the harmonisation of existing practices and standards. This underlines the status of the OIV as an international reference organisation for the vine and wine sector and for table grapes, both fresh and processed;
  
- 6) **Recall** their commitment to the highest standards of governance by the Organisation, particularly in terms of transparency and accountability, and their wish that the Organisation set an example in terms of respect for inclusiveness, diversity, multiculturalism and multilingualism, which are fundamental values of multilateralism;
  
- 7) **Reaffirm** the importance of vine and wine sectors in their societies as a source of value in each of the three pillars of sustainable development:
  - a) First, economically, with the vine and wine value chain involving a number of economic sectors, including vineyards and wine productions, research at all stages of the chain, grapevine nurseries, viticulture, production of wine, table grapes and their derivatives , auxiliary industries such as cork, barrels or bottles, distribution, marketing, trade, tourism, education, gastronomy and hospitality;
  - b) Second, socially, by helping to maintain and create employment opportunities, by reinforcing links to the territory, by promoting regional identity and added value, by embedding a culture and heritage that has evolved over thousands of years in many and varied regional expressions, all of which make an important contribution to the vitality of rural areas and enable investment in local communities and indigenous peoples;
  - c) Third, environmentally, by promoting the use of ambitious, resilient and sustainable practices, such as sustainable intensification, agroecological and other innovative approaches and responses to various ecological challenges, including providing reservoirs of biodiversity such as varieties of vines and the entire ecosystem around them, limiting soil erosion, capturing carbon or acting as a means of fighting fires and all the work to reduce waste and environmental impact to support a circular economy;

- 8) Stress** that the sector is facing new challenges in the light of the latest data, which shows :
- a) A reduction in the vineyard planted area worldwide, as well as irregular or even declining production in recent years;
  - b) A change in the way people consume wine and wine products, due to a number of factors linked in particular to changes in society, the response of consumers to an uncertain international environment, demographic changes, and the development of new consumer trends particularly among young consumers, who are focusing their preferences on new products;
  - c) A slowdown in the international wine trade, and the persistence of unjustified technical and non-tariff barriers affecting trade in a sector that is heavily dependent on exports;
- 9) Recognise** that the effects of climate change are factors amplifying the challenges set out above, in particular through :
- a) The negative effects of extreme weather events on vine-growing and wine-making, which make it difficult to manage production potential;
  - b) The risk of imbalances in the growing cycle and in the elaboration of products, impacting both vine varieties and the balance of wines;
  - c) A possible evolution in the geography of existing wine-growing regions in the medium to long term;
- 10) Renew** their commitment to dialogue within the bodies of the OIV, as discussed, in Brescia, Italy, on 12 April 2024 and insist on the following objectives in order to respond to the challenges of and opportunities for the sector:
- a) Promote the sustainability of the sector
- economically, by enabling production to adapt to changes in market demand, while ensuring high-quality production conditions, and by paying greater attention to consumer through information, transparency and education, to which initiatives to promote vine-based products can contribute while raising awareness of the importance of responsible consumption ;
  - socially, by enabling it to maintain its capacity to generate employment while ensuring that the conditions under which these professions are exercised can be a factor of attractiveness, in particular through education and training that will ensure the transmission of knowledge and skills and their necessary adaptation ;
  - on an environmental level, by supporting innovation, ambitious, resilient and sustainable cultivation and oenological practices which improve adaptation and contribute to mitigation of climate change as well as to biodiversity, such as conservation and use of vine diversity, experimentation of new vine varieties, sustainable intensification, agroecological practices and other innovative approaches, and more efficient management of water and soil resources ;

- b)** Promote the world vine and wine-growing heritage and its historical, cultural, human, social and environmental aspects and reaffirm the unique place of vine and wine in producers and consumers' countries;
- c)** Underline the important role of OIV in minimizing the negative impacts of harmful consumption of alcoholic beverages;
- d)** Pursue the greater dissemination of OIV works, including within other intergovernmental organisations, to ensure fair competition between producers, facilitate market access and guarantee uniform information for consumers;
- e)** Value the work of the OIV within their governments and relevant international bodies and to operators in the sector of vine, wine and other products made from them;

The ministers welcome the organisation of this ministerial meeting, which marks an important stage for OIV and offers promising prospects for the organisation's future activities to respond as effectively as possible to the challenges of and opportunities for the vine and wine sectors.

## **List of Member states endorsing the ministerial declaration**

- Albania ;
- Argentina ;
- Armenia ;
- Australia ;
- Austria ;
- Belgium ;
- Brasil ;
- Bulgaria ;
- Chile ;
- Croatia ;
- Cyprus ;
- Czech Republic ;
- France ;
- Georgia ;
- Germany ;
- Greece ;
- Hungary ;
- Italy ;
- India ;
- Luxembourg ;
- Malta ;
- Moldavia ;
- Montenegro ;
- Morocco ;
- Netherlands ;
- New-Zealand ;
- Peru ;
- Portugal ;
- Romania ;
- Serbia ;
- Slovakia ;
- Slovenia ;
- Spain ;
- Switzerland ;
- Ukraine ;
- United-Kingdom ;
- Uruguay.