



**Paolo De Castro**  
CHAIRMAN

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPEMENT

## **The EU Fruit and Vegetables CMO in the Framework of the New CAP**

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Good morning,

I would like to thank all the participants and organizers of this important event about fruits and vegetables sector, which is one of the most important of the European food system.

Special thanks go to the National Institute of Agricultural Economics for its continued commitment, its valuable scientific contribution that allowed INEA to become an important European stakeholder in research and knowledge spread.

The current debate is part of a very sensitive moment for the European Institutions. In few hours, the Commissioner Dacian Ciolos will present to the European Parliament the draft proposal to reform the common agricultural policy post-2013: that is the most important economic policy implemented by the EU in its fifty years of history.

The fruit and vegetables sector, as well as all the other food sectors, deals with a context, which has dramatically changed from the past.

The economic and financial instability and the volatility of prices have forced many famers to leave the sector, due to a great and unsustainable suffering.

What we need are innovative agricultural measures that meet the goal to enhance and improve the system of management of emergencies linked to the market risk and the volatility of agricultural prices.

In this context, the mid-term evaluation of the results of the lastly reformed Common Market Organization and the wide debate on the CAP post-2013 are two sensitive issues for the European fruit and vegetables sector.

For the last months, in order to achieve these objectives, the Parliament has been working on reform projects, which provide flexibility margins to face crisis situations.

This goal is reflected both in the Report of July about the CAP 2020 and in the EU budget by increasing the resources of fruit and vegetable producers' organizations (250 millions), as requested by the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development and endorsed by the Committee on Budgets.

We face a great responsibility. Europe must find solutions to reduce the effects of crisis and market emergencies and to protect farmers from price volatility, meant to become stronger and stronger than the one experienced so far.

In this context, I am sure that the study realized by INEA and the Policy Department B of the European Parliament, are an important contribution.

**Thank you and have a good work!**