Speakers

Mr. Victor Hugo Vazquez Mamani
Deputy Minister of Rural and Agricultural Development of Bolivia
A former Quinoa producer himself, Mr. Vazquez has been one of the leading figures in the promotion of the International Year of Quinoa and will be making the journey to the European Parliament to share his experience and his views with us.

Mr. Richard China
Director of the FAO Liaison Office with the EU
Throughout his career, Mr. China has worked in over 40 countries, acquiring deep knowledge of the food security challenges the population is confronted with in different regions of the world.

Mr. Ricardo Cortés Lastra
MEP (tbc)
As co-ordinator of the Socialists & Democrats group in the Development Committee (DEVE) in the European Parliament, Mr. Ricardo Cortés Lastra works with other MEPs from different political groups and countries to promote Fair Trade in EU policies and Institutions.

Following an initiative of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, the year 2013 was declared International Year of Quinoa by the United Nations with the objective of drawing attention to the high nutritional value of this Andean grain, in recognition of the traditional knowledge and practices of the indigenous peoples of the Andes, who in harmony with nature, protected and preserved this food for thousands of years.

The Andean countries have stated that through the International Year of Quinoa they want to share this food with the world, as a gift from the Andes for present and future generations. Bolivia proposes that Quinoa can be a tool for food sovereignty for peoples of the Global South, especially for those without sufficient access to food. The panellists will discuss the relationship between Quinoa, food security and food sovereignty.

*There will be a small Quinoa tasting at the end of the session.

Registration / Access

The persons who do not have a permanent badge to enter into the European Parliament should send, before the 12th of September their name, surname, birthday, ID number and nationality to:

paul-emile.dupret@europarl.europa.eu

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