

23/09/2022

# Press Release

## **COPA 2022 election - Christiane Lambert is re-elected as President of COPA with a renewed vice-presidency**



**In a key moment of internal democracy, COPA, the European farmers' representative body, voted its new presidency today. Christiane Lambert (FNSEA, FR) was re-elected unanimously for a second term of two years, a first in more than 15 years. Alongside her, six vice-presidents were (re)elected: Massimiliano Giansanti (Confagricoltura, IT), Pedro Gallardo (ASAJA, ES), Mladen Jakopovic (HPK, HR), Tim Cullinan (IFA, IE), Marius Mihai Micu (AAC, RO) and Palle Borgström (LRF, SE).**

Following the announcement of her re-election Christiane Lambert said, *"I would like to thank all my colleagues for their trust and for their choice of continuity by reappointing me for a second term at the head of COPA. With the experience of my first mandate, I am particularly aware of the challenges that will arise over the next two years. We will have to deal with multiple crises resulting from the war in Ukraine, climate change or the historical tensions on energy prices. At the same time, the regulatory work around the Green Deal will enter its critical phase. Vigilance will be key to avoid hindering the adaptation and modernisation of the EU farming sector.*

*In this context, I intend to stay the course: EU agriculture has the capacity and the duty to pursue its sustainable growth model. The Covid crisis and the war in Ukraine have strengthened my conviction that only by reconciling these ambitions can we preserve a productive, innovative, and resilient agriculture. During my first term, we succeeded in bringing food security back on the agenda. I will ensure that this issue remains at the heart of*

*European decisions and that farmers are sufficiently recognised and considered by decision-makers."*

During her first mandate, the FNSEA and COPA President has succeeded in building a solid and committed team to deal with the many agricultural issues and public policies debated in Brussels. Out of the six appointed Vice-Presidents, five of them were re-elected by the members meeting in Praesidia. The COPA Presidency team was reinforced by Marius Micu from Romania. The members of the COPA Presidency are farmers committed at national level and are representative of the diversity of European agricultural production and practices.

**-END-**

Note to the editors, regarding the profiles of the President and the six elected Vice-Presidents of COPA:

- **Christiane Lambert, President (FNSEA, FR)** is the first woman elected president of FNSEA and COPA. Christiane and her husband, Thierry are associates in a limited company on a pig farm with 106ha of crops (corn, wheat, barley, peas and canola) and 230 sows including the production of solar energy, with 2 employees in the West of France (Maine-et-Loire).
- **Massimiliano Giansanti, 1st Vice-President (Confagricoltura, IT)** is President of Confagricoltura since 2017. He runs three agricultural holdings in Rome, Viterbo and Parma with an agro-industrial approach and a strong specialisation in cereal crops, kiwis, dairy products (Parmigiano Reggiano), and solar energy production.
- **Pedro Gallardo, 2nd Vice-President (ASAJA, ES)** is President of ASAJA Cádiz since 2016. He has been involved in CEJA and Copa-Cogeca working parties where he is currently chairing groups dealing with oilseed and phytosanitary issues. He is a 4th generation crop farmer in south Andalusia and manager of Carvaja y agregados C.B.
- **Mladen Jakopovic, 3rd Vice-President (HPK, HR)** was elected President of the Croatian Chamber of Agriculture in 2017. He is the founder and owner of family farm Jakopović, producing *Melissa officinalis* L. In 2009 he started processing *Melissa officinalis* L. into final products. The family farm Jakopović now produces 100 products of organic cosmetics.
- **Tim Cullinan, 4th Vice-President (IFA, IE)** was elected President of the Irish Farmers' Association (IFA) in December 2019. He is also a board member of Bord Bia – the Irish Food Board and FBD Insurance. Tim Cullinan is from Toomevara, Co. Tipperary where he runs a pig enterprise, alongside a feed mill operation in conjunction with the farm.
- **Marius Micu, 5th Vice-President (AAC, RO)** was the President of key Romanian organisations, a parliamentary advisor and secretary of state. He is involved in his family farm that is mainly focused on crop productions.
- **Palle Borgström, 6th Vice-President (LRF, SE)** is President of the Federation of Swedish Farmers (LRF). Since 1981, he runs a farm with arable crops and milk production together with his brother. He also takes care of a herd of dairy cattle with 170 cows, 350 hectares arable land and 200 hectares forest.

More details regarding the CV's will be added to Copa-Cogeca's website on the [COPA Presidency page](#).

Pages can be found and downloaded in high quality [here](#).

Translation in DE, FR, ES, IT, PL, and RO will soon be available on the Copa-Cogeca website.

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