



**ICARDA**  
Science for Better Livelihoods in Dry Areas

ICARDA is a  
member of  
the CGIAR  
consortium  
and leads the



RESEARCH  
PROGRAM ON

**Dryland Systems**

**Mahmoud Sohl**  
Director General

ICARDA is very pleased to participate to this important event which stresses the importance and benefits of saving and using the agrobiodiversity in sustaining the livelihoods of rural communities and in continuing to supply adaptive genes to overcome actual and future challenges to food security under the changing climate. ICARDA focus on the non-tropical drylands lays over four major Vavilovian centers of diversity for crops and forages of global significance, is playing a crucial role in promoting the conservation and sustainable use of dryland agrobiodiversity. I hope this Congress will emphasize further the needs to support concerted national, regional and global efforts for enhancing the conservation, the use and exchange of genetic resources for food and agriculture along with benefit sharing.

Date : 16 September 2016

**Mahmoud Sohl**

MESSAGE