



UNITAB

MOTION

The 300 delegates from 11 EU Member States and Switzerland, who have met in Sofia, from 17 to 19 October, during the 35th UNITAB Congress:

- Reaffirm their commitment to this production that sustains more than 65,000 families of farmers and generates 300, 000 direct jobs, thus contributing to maintain the vitality of regions which are often amongst the poorest of the European Union.
- Require EU authorities (whose absence in Sofia was conspicuous) to recognize this production and his farmers who have their whole place in an agricultural market which has been affected by an economic and social crisis without precedent.
- Call for a clear orientation in the future CAP towards a diversified and human sized agriculture, source of employment and vitality of rural areas, and a radical change with unbridled liberalism leading to over-intensification and specialization of agricultural exploitations, both socially and environmentally catastrophic.
- Refuse the regulations on the plant and tobacco products (nicotine limitation, exclusion of tobacco from WTO Trade negotiations, art. 5.3 ...) planned by the WHO COP7 which will be held in New Delhi, in early November and based on demagoguery and demonization of a sector, rather than on a real improvement of public health.
- Claim the fair and legitimate recognition of their quality efforts, adaptation to markets and to social and environmental sustainability, unlike the manufacturing industry that sometimes favors short-term profit in third countries rather than responsible and sustainable partnerships.
- Undertake to increase efforts to improve their competitiveness through technological innovation and to reinforce unity of the sector by putting in place, through the first EU interbranch (all crops included), the rules deleted by Brussels through the withdrawal of the Tobacco CMO.
- Intend to establish a monitoring mechanism and to report regularly between members to ensure that the European tobacco growers speak with only one voice.

Sofia, 19th October 2016