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**EIMA Agrimach: the big challenges for Indian agriculture**

***A solemn opening ceremony opened the eighth edition of the International Exhibition of Agricultural Mechanics in Bangalore this morning. Representatives of economic sectors and organisational leaders intervened. On the agenda of the four-day event are the themes of sustainability, technological innovation and specialised skills.***

The eighth edition of EIMA Agrimach India, the international agricultural machinery exhibition organised by FICCI in collaboration with FederUnacoma, with the support of the Ministry of Agriculture and the Indian Council for Agricultural Research, opened this morning in Bangalore at the University of Agricultural Sciences.

The exhibition - which held its first six editions in New Delhi and from 2022 has been moved to Bangalore in Karnataka, to meet the technological needs of a region of the Subcontinent whose agriculture is largely centred on fruit and vegetable production - will be on stage until Sunday 3 March with the display of models in the covered halls and demonstration trials in the outdoor areas of the exhibition centre. An important event, that of EIMA Agrimach, which was underlined by the solemnity of the inaugural ceremony that saw, in front of the large audience of the congres hall of the exhibition centre, the presence of the highest representatives of the organising bodies and the industries of the sector.

In his greeting to the audience, the FICCI Karnataka State Council Chairman Ullas Kamath recalled the vigorous economic growth of Indian economy and underlined the significant improvements of India’s primary sector. The exhibition - this emerged from the speeches by representatives of FICCI Manish Singhal, of SBI V. N. Sarma and of PWC Guna Nand Shukla - confirms itself not only as a promotional and commercial event aimed at economic operators, farmers and agri-mechanics technicians, but also as an opportunity to analyse trends in agriculture and to highlight the great challenges facing the primary sector in India and in all major regions of the world. In this regard, the Italian consul in Bangalore Alfonso Tagliaferri underlined the importance of the commercial and technical partnership between Italy and India, especially in the field of agricultural mechanics and in that of high technology agricultural machines.

Mariateresa Maschio, President of FederUnacoma, the federation of Italian agricultural machinery manufacturers, which has been an organising partner with FICCI of the Indian exhibition since the first edition in 2009, focused on the main topics of EIMA Agrimach 2024

«The issues that will be covered during the four-day event, which concern the sustainability of agricultural production, new technological and digital frontiers, training of technicians, but also the use of water resources, soil fertility and all the salient issues for the agricultural sector», said Mariateresa Maschio, «are of primary interest for India, but they are also of interest for agriculture globally». «With its companies, its institutions, and its university and research system», concluded FederUnacoma's president, «India presents itself as an immense laboratory for a new model of agriculture, one that meets the needs of the present, and guarantees the right resources for the future».

**Bangalore, 29 February 2024**