



REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE,  
FORESTRY AND FOOD

I FEEL  
SLOVENIA



Slovenian Beekeepers' Association



## Roundtable on “20<sup>th</sup> May, World Bee Day – opportunity for all”, 12 March 2016

### Final Communiqué

At the invitation of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food of the Republic of Slovenia, Ministers, responsible for agriculture, or their representatives, of the Republic of Austria, the Czech Republic, the French Republic, Hungary, Montenegro, the Republic of Slovenia and the Republic of Serbia, met on 12 March 2016 in Celje, to discuss the possibilities for further development of the beekeeping sector as well the promotion and sustainable development of other activities like agriculture, industry, tourism, through the World Bee Day initiative<sup>1</sup>.

The agriculture ministers assembled in Celje:

*Underline* the importance of bees and other pollinators for sustainable agricultural production and food security and nutrition in the world, and for the environment in terms of maintaining ecological balance and ensuring the conservation of biodiversity in nature;

*Desire to draw attention to the fact that* in the recent period, due to human activities and their impact on the environment, as well as other factors like new bee diseases and pests, climate change, bees are increasingly endangered;

*Reaffirm* the need to foster activities aimed at raising awareness of governments and the public about the importance of bees and beekeeping and *regard* the World Bee Day initiative as one of key tools in this regard;

*Call for* international cooperation, in particular strengthening our common care for the bees, in order to achieve better results in the protection of bees and their habitat as well as encouraging sustainable development of beekeeping;

*Are of the opinion* that joint efforts in this regard can contribute significantly to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, namely end hunger, achieve food security and improve nutrition as well as promote sustainable agriculture, protect the limited natural resources and halt biodiversity loss.

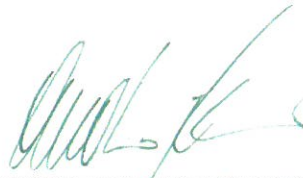
Celje, 12th March 2016

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<sup>1</sup> In the effort of building activities in the field of raising awareness of governments and the public about the importance of bees and beekeeping, Slovenia will, on the initiative of the Slovenian Beekeepers' Association, propose to the United Nations (UN) that May 20 is declared a World Bee Day.

On behalf of the:

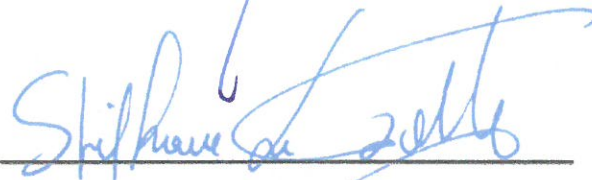
Republic of Austria:



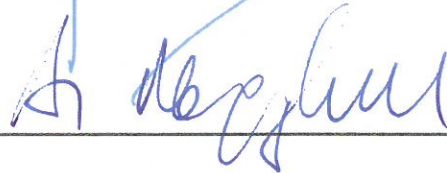
Czech Republic:



French Republic:



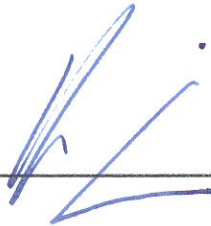
Hungary:



Montenegro:



Republic of Slovenia:



Republic of Serbia:



And

Slovenian Beekeepers' Association:

