



ALLEGATO A

**THE 3RD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
ON TERRACED LANDSCAPES, 2016:
ITALIAN CANDIDACY**

Today, in Cusco, at the conclusion of the International Conference on Terraced Landscapes and Cultures organised by the Peruvian Committee together with the International Terraced Landscapes Alliance,

We, the Italian Branch of the International Terraced Landscapes Alliance, formally declare our desire and willingness to host the Third International Conference on Terraced Landscapes and Cultures in Italy in 2016.

The Italian Branch of the International Terraced Landscape Alliance was legally founded in November 2011 in Arnasco following the First International Conference of the Terraced Landscapes held in Yunnan Province of the People's Republic of China. Our five founder bodies are the Cooperativa Olivicola di Arnasco (SV), Arnasco Municipality, Consorzio della Quarantina (GE), Veneto Region and University of Padova. We have a continuously growing number of associate members who represent - through their personal status as citizens, farmers, artisans, public and private institutions, associations and researchers - the multidisciplinary richness linked to terraced landscapes.

We believe in the active implementation of the Honghe Declaration. We share the commitment, made by every participant at the First International Conference, to keep alive the interest in terraced landscapes through the formation and activity of the International Terraced Landscape Alliance.

We strongly believe in the multi-disciplinary values that terraced landscapes represent throughout the world. We are convinced that the future well-being of terraces, their inhabitants and their site-specific knowledges lies in the sharing of understanding, awareness and sensibility among all those who are truly motivated in this strategic task.

Italy, with its mountain areas and steep coasts, is widely characterized by terraced landscapes, dating back over hundreds of years. Some of these landscapes have been recognised at international level for their importance, for example Cinque Terre and Costiera Amalfitana on the UNESCO World Heritage List. Some are cherished by local communities. New forms of social management of terraces are successfully taking place in some parts of our country.

However, many other terraced landscapes in Italy are abandoned or are facing the same risks of collapse, banalisation or destructive urbanisation that terraced landscapes face throughout the world. Now is the time to press forward with a campaign to save these terraces, through their contemporary interpretation as assets for mankind.

We, who care for terraced landscapes, must show that these landscapes can meet contemporary needs such as community empowerment, participative heritage, food sovereignty, sustainable rural development, protection of soil fertility, water management, prevention of soil erosion and landslip. We must give voice to the wisdom inherent in terraced landscapes, to a long-term approach towards the care of our common world. We need to experiment and to share new sensible visions, new strategies and functions for terraces and their inhabitants in term of capability, inclusiveness, fulfillment and happiness.

To hold the Third International Conference on Terraced Landscapes in Italy would provide a powerful impetus for national efforts to protect and value terraced landscapes not only in Italy, but in the surrounding countries of the Mediterranean and of central Europe. It would offer participants from other continents a profound insight into the remarkable heritage of terraced landscapes in Italy and in Europe. Through the European Landscape Convention, signed in Florence in the year 2000, Italy has a leading role in European thinking and action related to the protection and valuation of landscapes generally, including the terraced landscapes which are found in very many European countries.

For all these reasons, we seek the opportunity and privilege of welcoming you in Italy in two years time.

*The Coordinator and the Scientific Committee
of the Italian Branch of the International Terraced Landscape Alliance*

Approved by:

Peruvian Scientific Committee

International Terraced Landscapes Alliance Coordinator

Cusco, 22 May 2014

