



Press Release - Montpellier, 20 June 2019

Patrick Caron elected President of Agropolis International



The unanimous election of Patrick Caron by the Agropolis International Executive Board on 9 May (2019) was just endorsed by the association's Board of Directors on 13 June. His term as President will run until December 2021.

"Louis Malassis' seminal work was a visionary and stimulating intellectual policy endeavour that I am happy and proud to pursue with Agropolis International," says the incoming President Patrick Caron.

Patrick Caron has been a CIRAD researcher for 30 years and Vice President for International Relations at the University of Montpellier since February 2019, while being International Director of the Montpellier University of Excellence MUSE I-Site project since July 2017 (<https://muse.edu.umontpellier.fr>). He has been Chairman of the High Level Panel of Experts (HLPE) of the United Nations Committee on World Food Security (CFS) since October 2015. He is founding Director of the Montpellier Advanced Knowledge Institute on Transitions (MAK'IT, <https://muse.edu.umontpellier.fr/presentation/international/makeit>). He was formerly General Director for Research and Strategy at CIRAD (July 2010 - July 2016).

Patrick Caron is a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (*Ecole nationale vétérinaire de Lyon*), while also holding a Master's degree (DEA) in Public Health in Developing Countries (DEA from the Institute of Health and Development, Pierre and Marie Curie University), a PhD and an Accreditation to Supervise Research (HDR) in Development Geography (Paris-Nanterre University).

The new President—with the support and on behalf of all Agropolis International members—applauded the relevance of the association's new roadmap for 2019-2020, which was drawn up by an *ad hoc* working group of association members that met several times over the last two months. It concertedly and legitimately outlines the strategic guidelines and priorities to be implemented for the association's future, while accounting for the major changes that have taken place in the regional academic institutional and political setting.

The Agropolis International Board of Directors is delighted with this new appointment, which will strengthen international and national recognition of Agropolis International as one of the world's leading players in the development-oriented agricultural research field.

Patrick Caron succeeds Jean-Luc Khalfaoui, who has been President since January 2018 and who has joined the Agreenium team as an international project manager.

**AGROPOLIS INTERNATIONAL**

Agropolis International is an association that merges—in Occitanie region—an outstanding scope of skills and expertise in areas related to agriculture, food, biodiversity and environment, while being oriented towards the development of Mediterranean and tropical regions. Alongside French and foreign scientific and technical structures, the association brings together many economic and rural development and civil society stakeholders: agricultural and agrifood technical institutes, representatives of agricultural industries and companies, NGOs, chambers of commerce, competitive clusters, etc. Local authorities (Occitanie Regional Council, Hérault Departemental Council, Montpellier Méditerranée Métropole, City of Montpellier) also support Agropolis International. www.agropolis.org

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