

# **The AG-5 Group promotes a world platform to supply healthy, accessible and quality food.**

The Agriculture ministers and secretaries of Argentina, Canada, Mexico and the United States of America and representatives from Brazil met at the Agricultural Outlook Forum to assess the progress of works aimed at realizing a modern agriculture with sustainable development.

“The challenges arising from climate change force us to rethink how we produce, distribute and process food at the global scale”: Víctor Villalobos.



In the words of Víctor Villalobos Arámbula, Secretary of Agriculture and Rural Development, the strengthening of innovation and technology cooperation in the AG-5 Group of Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Mexico and the United States of America makes possible to boost its productive vocation and

position it, in the near future, as the world's leading platform to supply healthy, accessible and quality products.

In the context of his participation at the Agricultural Outlook Forum, and as representative of a member nation of the AG-5 Group, the Mexican Secretary of Agriculture stated, "the challenges arising from climate change force us to rethink how we produce, distribute and process food at the global scale, and here, where technological innovation plays a decisive role that drives the competitiveness and productivity of national agro-alimentary sectors."

Before producers, researchers, specialists and his counterparties Sonny Perdue, from the United States, Luis Basterra, from Argentina, and Marie-Claude Bibeau, from Canada, the Mexican officer pointed out that innovation has allowed the AG-5 Group member nations to be at the forefront of the world's production and commercialization of food, hence the importance of assessing at the meeting the progress of the integration of works aimed to drive a modern agriculture with sustainable development.

"Our countries concentrate one fifth of all agricultural lands in the world, and account for 73% of corn exports, 36% of wheat, 10% of rice, 58% of pork meat and 45% of beef, numbers that clearly demonstrate the fundamental role of the group in guaranteeing the world's food security", said the Secretary.

Moreover, the Secretary underlined that the world's food supply also entails compliance with quality and safety standards for the benefit of the consumers' health, an area in which Mexico excels by supplying food of the highest quality and sanitary standards.

### **AG-5 advances in agro-alimentary innovation and technology**

Víctor Villalobos Arámbula emphasized that events such as this forum provide the opportunity to analyze subjects such as policy and standards harmonization, through the coordination of the national standardization agencies, under the leadership of Canada, which brings closer the national positions on the subject.

In the same line of thought, he added that Mexico, under the direction of the National Service for Agro-Alimentary Public Health, Safety and Quality (Senasica), is leading the technical efforts of the AG-5 group regarding antimicrobial resistance, which will enable the integration of a wide catalog of technical knowledge from health agencies and produce favorable results for the agriculture and livestock sector and the national and international consumers.

Further, he said that, headed by Argentina, Brazil, Canada and the United States, similar efforts are being developed with regard to maximum pesticide residue levels and low presence levels thereof, and innovative technologies and sustainability, the results of which will take the form of deliverable technical guides that

undoubtedly will inure to the benefit of the agriculture and livestock activities of the Group.