



## Iran Organic Association

The **18<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Iran Organic Association (IOA)** and simultaneously the **10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of IFOAM- IRAN establishment** successfully took place in Iranian Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture in September 16<sup>th</sup> 2024 in Tehran. At the same time, an exhibition of organic products around 30 local certified producers took the opportunity to involved in the event. The one-day conference addressed the themes:

- Climate change
- Innovations in organic agriculture
- Sustainable production systems with considering environmental issues
- Importance of qualitative parameters as well as packaging criteria's for export
- Social inclusiveness and the importance of branding for organic products
- Organic inputs and using technologies to produce degradable materials for packaging
- Concern on environmental issues
- Importance of smallholder farmers and the challenges for keeping large size agricultural lands

In the opening ceremony the participants received the remarks of IOA President (Mr. Seyyed Reza Nourani), IFOAM-Asia President (Mr. Mathew John- Recorded Video), the Executive Director of the Conference (Dr. Hossein Mahmoudi), Deputy Minister of Horticulture -Ministry of Agriculture (Dr. Broomandi), Executive Secretary of IOA (Mrs. Shabnam Vosoughi) as well as the Director of IFOAM-Iran (Prof. Reza Ardakani). In addition to the conference itself, participants could take advantage of visiting the certified organic products of Iran such as vegetables, rice, olive oil, tea, pistachio, saffron, honey, medicinal plants as well as organic inputs such as biofertilizers, plant bio-stimulators and bio-products for plant protection. The host provided an ideal opportunity to catch up on the latest information and discussions in the organic sectors and the organic concepts brought the sense of the health to the country via 17 speeches combined from governmental authorities, organic producers, private sectors, exporters, academia as well as IOA board members as the leading NGO at the country.



**IFOAM-Asia President Mr. Mathew John (Recorded Video), congratulated the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of IFOAM – IRAN as well as 18<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Iran Organic Association and emphasized on the role of the IFOAM activities for supporting organic farmers globally and the importance of IFOAM-IRAN for developing organic farming systems in the region (Photo by Dr. Mahmoudi).**



The participants had an acknowledgement to the IOA President (Mr. Nourani -3<sup>rd</sup> from left) and the board members for all of their country efforts as well as organizing such a great event (Photo by Agrofood News).



Almost 300 participants have attended from different disciplines such as governmental authorities, organic producers, private sectors, exporters, academia, ... (Photo by Agrofood News).



The booths of certified organic products of Iran provided the sense of potential of organic growers in the country for the visitors (Photo by Agrofood News).

**Report prepared by: Dr. Reza Ardakani**

**September, 19<sup>th</sup> 2024**