



## ***PRESS RELEASE***

### ***OriGIn officially presents in Alicante the new location of OriGIn's Secretariat***

***Alicante. April 26, 2007.*** - A delegation of producers of geographical indications members of OriGIn – the International Network of GI producers – met the Spanish media in Alicante (Spain) last 25 of April to present the new location of OriGIn Secretariat, placed in Alicante for 2007.

The decision to move OriGIn's Secretariat from Brussels to Alicante in 2007 was adopted as a result of the Extraordinary General Assembly of OriGIn, which took place in Geneva (Switzerland) on 9 and 10 November 2006. Due to the increasing number of producers around the world willing to join the international network, OriGIn agreed that the new location of OriGIn's Secretariat will allow for the achievement of its strategic objectives for 2007 in an efficient manner and with the required staff.

During the official presentation of the new location of OriGIn's Secretariat office, Jose Enrique Garrigós, Vicepresident of OriGIn for Western Europe and Ester Olivas Cáceres, Secretary General of OriGIn, insisted on the importance to promote the GI concept and call for a better GI protection at a worldwide level, main priorities of the organization. Among the key actions for this year, OriGIn is closely working with third countries which are currently studying means to promote and protect the added value of their traditional products, in particular countries like USA or Mercosur countries among others. Seminars and conferences on those countries to explain the importance of choosing the GI route are being organized by the international network.

Several Spanish producers, members of OriGIn, participated in this meeting. They stressed the importance to enhance the protection of their GI products, in order to avoid the abuses against these names that they often face. Representatives from PDO Alicante wines, the PGI Citricos Valencianos, PGIs Jijona and Turrón de Alicante and Ecologic Agriculture from the Valencian Community took part in this meeting.

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For more information, you may contact the Secretary General of OriGIn, Ester Olivas Cáceres, at the following phone number: +34.96.520.11.33; E-mail: [info@origin-gi.com](mailto:info@origin-gi.com); Website: [www.origin-gi.com](http://www.origin-gi.com)

OriGIn is the first international network of Geographical Indications' producers. Launched in 2003, OriGIn represents producers in excess of two million from all over the world: Africa, Asia, North and South America, Eastern and Western Europe. OriGIn promotes Geographical Indications as a development tool, in particular through direct partnerships between producers. It also lobbies in favour of better protection of Geographical Indications at the international level.

