

## **International Colloque**

### **« Consumed nature : biological diversity for food »**

(within the framework of the french comity of the International Commission for Anthropology of Food). 15-16 of december 2008  
Musée de l'Homme

#### **Objective**

The organization of such a conference is aimed the evaluation of knowledge on the relationship between biodiversity and sustainable food. It wants to be at the interface of the current concerns for a healthy and balanced diet based on a natural, economical and social environment.

Two issues will be concerned :

- **Agricultural biodiversity**
- **The spontaneous biodiversity in food**

**The scientific committee**, chaired by Igor by Garine, president of International ICAF, Emeritus Director of research at the CNRS, is composed of the national chairmen of ICAF as well as, for the Museum, of Serge Bahuchet, Professor and Chairman of the Department *Men Natures Societies*.

The last Conference Of the Parties of the Convention of Biological Diversity (2007), recognized that the biodiversity, by supporting food diversity, plays an important role in the fight against the under-nutrition associated with poverty, and against malnutrition, which causes diseases. The transformations of the food practices are associated with the urbanization, with a penetration in the urban and rural zones of manufactured food, and with a loss of access to the resources. These changes are also linked to a current trend of agriculture that promotes a reduced number of very efficient species (in terms of vegetation or animal).

The 8 COP decided the installation of an intersector program for “promoting the increased durable use of the biological diversity in the programs which contribute to food safety and a better human nutrition”, which in particular implies to analyze scientific informations and existing traditional knowledge, and to gather new data on the bonds between biodiversity, food and nutrition.

In this context we wish to bring together international specialists in the anthropology of the food, in order to tackle the questions of the food as “revealing” of the relations between human societies and biodiversity and of the associated representations:

- Spontaneous biodiversity as a source of nutrients, a supplementary benefit of the agriculture
- Agricultural biodiversity and the nutritional role of varietal diversity
- Levy practices, rules for access and distribution of the products

- food processing in conjunction with the changes in access to resources
- transmission of knowledge and practices related to food between generations and between social groups.
- relationship between biodiversity and agricultural productivity
- spatial organization of the food supply (eg. local products)
- seasonality and supply, picking and hunger products
- effects of fashion, of trend
- pressure on resources and the sustainable use of the products.
- new agricultural technologies in relation to the biodiversity and food.

This conference will coincide with the 27th meeting of the International Commission on the Anthropology of Food. Each national committee is responsible for organising an annual conference on a rotating basis. It is the French Committee, F. Aubaile is the chairwoman of , to organize the conference in 2008.

The overall objective of the *International Commission on the Anthropology of Food* (founded in 1977) is to promote and coordinate collaboration and research in Biological and Social Anthropology in the Sciences of Food and Nutrition particularly encouraging ' multidisciplinary approach. The french Committee is hosted at the Museum (USM 104, HNS) This conference fits in a multi-field research orientation of the UMR 5145 (CNRS-MNHN)

**Where the Symposium:**

Musée de l'Homme - 17, place du Trocadero - Paris, 75016

**Preliminary schedule**

Call for papers, April 20, 2008 - Deadline: May 30

Selection by the committee on June 15

The handing in the summaries, Oct. 15

Symposium, 15-16 December

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Eco Anthropologie

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