



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Morelia, 08 October 2025

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## PRESS RELEASE

The global GI community convened in Morelia, Mexico, for a landmark 2025 oriGIn Biennial Meeting, marking the official launch of oriGIn America Latina.

On October 8, the global GI community gathered in Morelia, Michoacán, Mexico, for an historic 2025 oriGIn Biennial Meeting. The event is hosted by Casa de Artesanías de Michoacán de Ocampo, with support of the State of Michoacán. Over 650 representatives from GI groups, public authorities, international organizations, diplomats, law firms, private companies, and academia across 35 countries convened in Morelia – a UNESCO World Heritage site – for a unique three-day event where tradition meets innovation.

"We are delighted to host the oriGIn 2025 Biennial Meeting in Morelia, a city rich in tradition and cultural heritage. This event presents a unique opportunity to showcase **Michoacán's craftsmanship** as well as the **quality of our agriculture**. Likewise, we are proud to contribute to the establishment of **oriGIn Latin America (LatAm)**, with the objective of fostering collaboration in region and throughout oriGIn global network," said **Cástor Estrada**, **Director of Casa de Artesanías de Michoacán de Ocampo**.

At today's Statutory General Assembly, Riccardo Deserti, Director General of Consorzio del Parmigiano Reggiano, was re-elected as President of oriGln. "I am honored by the trust that oriGln's members have placed in me once again," he said. "I am especially proud of the ambitious strategic plan we've approved for the next biennium: the launch of oriGln LatAm to strengthen our presence in a region that is key for Gls, the reform of our Statutes to enhance the cohesion of our global network, and the consolidation of our Secretariat in Geneva. I am also pleased that, in recognition of our status as a global Gl alliance, all major Gl sectors — wines, spirits, agricultural products, and crafts — will be represented on the oriGln Board for the 2026-2027 biennium. The challenges facing Gls on the global stage are significant: from the erosion of the multilateral, rules-based, free, fair, and transparent global trading system to the rise of new, subtle forms of Gl infringement and the impact of revolutionary technologies on promotional initiatives and consumer perceptions. I am confident that in Morelia, we have laid solid foundations for oriGln to effectively respond to these challenges as well as to seize emerging Gl opportunities in the field of sustainable development and tourism," concluded Deserti.

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As part of the 2025 Biennial Meeting, the **GI Expo** featured more than 70 stands showcasing local and international products. The **official opening** was marked by the **symbolic cutting of a wheel of** *Parmigiano Reggiano* (Italy) and *Queso Cotija* (Mexico). The 9 October gala dinner commemorated two landmark anniversaries – the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of diplomatic relations between Mexico and Ireland and the centenary of protection of the French PDO Roquefort – with a tasting of Irish whiskey and Roquefort cheese. oriGln 2025 Biennial Meeting concluded on 10 October with field visits and the first edition of the oriGln **GI Awards**, celebrating GI stakeholders that have made outstanding contributions and achieved landmark results. Such initiatives within the Biennial Meeting, celebrating partnership and shared values and highlighting the long-term value of GIs driving sustainable growth and cultural connection, confirm the uniqueness of oriGIn gatherings.