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Продовольственная и
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Organización
de las
Naciones
Unidas
para la
Agricultura
y la
Alimentación

COMMITTEE ON COMMODITY PROBLEMS

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FOLLOW-UP TO THE GUIDELINES FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN THE OILSEEDS, OILS AND OILMEALS SECTOR IN 2006-2009 SUPPLEMENT

Table of Contents

	Pages
I. GUIDELINES FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN THE OILSEEDS, OILS AND OILMEALS SECTOR	
A. Scope and purpose	
B. General objectives of international cooperation	
C. Policies regarding production, processing and stability of supplies	
D. Trade policies	
E. Concessional sales and food aid policies	
F. Consumption policies	
II. TABLES	
Table 1: Oilseeds, oils and fats support prices in selected countries	
Table 2: United States: Prices and payment rates for oilseed market support programmes	
Table 3: United States: Government outlays for soybean and groundnut marketing	
Table 4: India: Basic import duties for selected vegetable oils	
Table 5: Argentina: Export tax for selected oilseeds and products	
Table 6: Concessional trade in edible oils/fats and in oilmeals	
Table 7: Biofuel policies in selected countries as of June 2009	

I. GUIDELINES FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN THE OILSEEDS, OILS AND OILMEALS SECTOR ¹

A. SCOPE AND PURPOSE ²

The main purpose of the guidelines is to help harmonise national policies in the light of agreed objectives for the world oilseeds, oils and oilmeals economy. It is understood that acceptance of the guidelines would reflect the intention on the part of member countries to take them into account when considering the formulation of policies at national and international levels. It is also understood that acceptance of the guidelines would not subordinate national policies to a global blueprint. The role of the guidelines is rather to serve as an overall framework within which each country would develop its own policies affecting oilseeds and oils according to its circumstances on a voluntary basis. Assessments would be undertaken of the progress made towards achieving the agreed objectives and policies covered in the guidelines.

B. GENERAL OBJECTIVES OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

The broad objectives of international cooperation should be to secure, within the context of a New International Economic Order, a balanced expansion of production, consumption and trade in the oilseeds, oils and oilmeals sector. In the achievement of these objectives, the interests both of producers and consumers, as well as of exporting and importing countries, should be taken into account; an appropriate balance should be aimed at between the interests of developed and developing countries, with special attention to sustaining the expansion of the sector in developing countries. In particular, national and international measures taken should:

- i) achieve and maintain reasonably stable prices, equitable to consumers and remunerative to producers;
- ii) lead to a progressive improvement in access to markets and a steady expansion of world trade, particularly for the products exported by developing countries;
- iii) facilitate greater participation of and increased exports from developing countries in a general expansion of world trade;
- iv) aim at ensuring continuity of adequate exportable supplies of oilseeds, oils and oilmeals to meet the requirements of importing countries;
- v) assist developing importing countries to obtain their import requirements on reasonable terms;
- vi) enable developing countries to develop more fully their production and processing potential in order to promote their greater contribution to the growing world supplies of these products and to improve their ability to meet consumption needs and their objectives in an expansion of world trade;
- vii) pay special attention to the interests of the developing countries that are heavily dependent on the production and trade of commodities within the sector;
- viii) promote the consumption of oilseed, oil and oilmeal products where per caput intake is low, so as to improve nutritional standards;

¹ These Guidelines were adopted by the Intergovernmental Group on Oilseeds, Oils and Fats during its 14th Session in April 1980..

² This reflects the understanding reached by the FAO Conference in adopting the FAO Guidelines on International Agricultural Adjustment in 1975.

- ix) Promote harmonious development of the world market with a view to avoiding any destabilizing impact on international trade.

C. POLICIES REGARDING PRODUCTION, PROCESSING AND STABILITY OF SUPPLIES

The objectives of national price and other production support policies for oilseed and oil crops should be to obtain reasonable incomes for farmers through remunerative prices for these crops, the protection of producers from excessive fluctuations in world market prices and, when appropriate, the provision of an incentive to increased production in developing countries. In setting support price levels within national production policies, governments should, as appropriate, take account, inter alia, of the world market situation. Policies should also pay due regard to consumers' interest in obtaining adequate supplies at reasonable prices.

- ii) International aid-giving agencies and bilateral donors should consider assisting developing countries in their efforts to improve the efficiency of production, domestic marketing and processing industries within the sector by providing increased technical and financial aid.
- iii) Recognizing that considerable year-to-year fluctuations in output, particularly of annual oilseed crops, are likely to continue, governments should adopt measures, where feasible and economically advisable, to improve market stability, such as appropriate national stocking policies in order to help stabilize domestic and international markets and to help ensure continuity of supplies for importing countries.
- iv) International aid-giving agencies and bilateral donors should consider assisting interested developing countries to obtain the financial and physical resources needed to hold stocks of oilseeds and oils.
- v) Governments should, if a longer-term tendency towards over-supply develops, consider taking measures to promote consumption, including non-food uses, and to increase productivity so as to reduce unit costs of production.

D. TRADE POLICIES

- i) Governments should to the maximum extent possible avoid the imposition of any new tariff and non-tariff barriers to trade in the products of the oilseeds, oils and oilmeals sector.
- ii) Governments should move towards the progressive reduction and/or elimination of tariff and non-tariff barriers to trade in products of the sector.
- iii) Measures to improve access to markets should give priority to the progressive reduction and/or elimination of those tariff and non-tariff barriers which restrict the development of processing industries in developing countries.
- iv) Governments concerned should, whenever feasible, extend and improve the benefits of the GSP schemes by such means as increasing the number of products covered in the oilseeds, oils and oilmeals sector, improving the degree of preference given and limiting the circumstances under which preferences may be suspended.
- v) Those governments and international organizations concerned should consider, within the context of relevant schemes, the extension of compensatory payment arrangements with the purpose of stabilizing export earnings of developing countries,

particularly of those heavily dependent on the export of commodities within the sector.

- vi) Within the framework of increased economic cooperation between developing countries and recognizing that the increase in import demand for vegetable oils during the coming years is likely to be mostly in developing countries, governments concerned should make special efforts to encourage the expansion of trade between developing countries.
- vii) Interested governments and international organizations concerned should consider helping developing exporting countries increase their international competitiveness by improved marketing, including market information, market research and export promotion.
- viii) Governments should make every effort to enable developing importing countries, and especially low income developing countries, to obtain their import requirements on reasonable terms, including the provision of food aid.
- ix) Where feasible and economically advisable, interested governments should consider entering into long-term contracts for exports and imports over a period of years, especially if this would impart increased security of supplies, greater stability to world trade and/or favour trade between developing countries.
- x) In order to safeguard the interests of exporting and importing countries, all governments, whenever practicable, should undertake consultations in the appropriate manner and fora, particularly within the GATT, when either side takes action which would cause harmful interference with the normal patterns of international trade or which could adversely affect the development efforts of developing exporting countries.
- xi) Governments should pursue, within the Intergovernmental Group on Oilseeds, Oils and Fats, the systematic exchange of information on trade policies to keep developments in this field under regular review and, without duplicating activities in other fora, to consult on proposals for possible remedial action when any special difficulties arise.
- xii) With a view to avoiding overall imbalance between demand and supply in the oilseeds, oils and oilmeals sector, countries engaged in international trade in these products should, in formulating policies in this sector, take account of the conclusions and recommendations of the Intergovernmental Group on Oilseeds, Oils and Fats regarding the short, medium and long-term outlook for trade, as well as for production, consumption and prices of these products.

E. CONCESSIONAL SALES AND FOOD AID POLICIES

- i) Governments engaging in concessional sales and/or food aid transactions in commodities within the sector should follow the FAO procedures for notification, consultation and establishment of usual marketing requirements, within the context of the FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.
- ii) Taking account of nutritional needs, international agencies and bilateral donors should, where feasible, increase the participation of developing exporting countries in providing food aid in commodities within the sector through "triangular transactions" or by other schemes to finance purchases from developing exporting countries.

F. CONSUMPTION POLICIES

- i) Governments should avoid measures specifically designed to limit the total consumption of commodities in the oilseeds, oils and oilmeals sector and should adopt, where appropriate, measures to increase consumption of fats and oils when per caput intakes are low, so as to improve nutritional standards.
- ii) Developing countries with persistently weak balances of payments should encourage, when appropriate, the consumption of fats and oils and oilmeals which can reasonably be produced and processed locally.
- iii) Governments should give emphasis to research and development programmes to find new end-uses for oilseed, oil and oilmeal products, both for food and non-food uses, and should, where feasible, promote the use of oilseed and oil products in preference to synthetic substitutes produced from non-renewable resources.

II. TABLES

- Table 1: Oilseeds, oils and fats support prices in selected countries
- Table 2: United States: Prices and payment rates for oilseed market support programmes
- Table 3: United States: Government outlays for soybean and groundnut marketing
- Table 4: India: Basic import duties for selected vegetable oils
- Table 5: Argentina: Export tax for selected oilseeds and products
- Table 6: Concessional trade in edible oils/fats and in oilmeals
- Table 7: Biofuel policies in selected countries as of June 2009

Commodities/ Countries	LOCAL CURRENCY PER TONNE										US\$ EQUIVALENT PER TONNE													
	in nominal terms					in real terms (deflated by CPI 2002=100)					in nominal terms					in nominal terms								
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009 (prel.)	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009 ^{3/}	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009 ^{4/}
Copra																								
India	33000	33200	35000	35700	35900	36200	36600	44500	33000	31983	32483	31783	30219	28646	26731	29762	679	713	772	810	792	875	841	903
Groundnuts (unshelled)																								
India	13550	14000	15000	15200	15200	15500	21000	21000	13550	13487	13925	13536	12795	12266	15337	14045	279	301	331	345	335	375	483	426
USA	355	355	355	355	355	355	355	355	355	347	338	327	317	308	297	298	355	355	355	355	355	355	355	355
Olive Oil																								
EU	3838	3838	3838	3838	disc.	disc.	n.a.	n.a.	3838	3760	3681	3602	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	3621	4312	4738	4798	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Rapeseed																								
Brazil	n.a.	347	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	302	302	14854	15139	14436	13571	13146	234	113	286	353	385	379	415	414	168
India	13000	13300	16000	17000	17150	17150	18000	18300	13000	12812	14854	15139	14436	13571	13146	12239	267	286	353	385	379	415	414	371
Mexico	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	4515	4515	13900	12500	9284	8995	8586	8309	10152	9296	209	273	205	205	205	205	205	326
Pakistan	12500	15750	disc.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	205	205	4200	15304	195	189	183	178	171	172	212	212	205	205	205	205	205	205
USA	212	212	205	205	205	205	205	205	4200	207	184	184	184	184	155	172	184	184	184	184	184	184	184	184
Soybeans																								
Brazil ^{1/}	170	183	233	233	233	233	233	380	170	160	191	178	171	165	156	242	58	59	80	96	107	119	127	174
India (black)	7950	8400	9000	9000	9000	9100	13500	13500	7950	8092	8355	8015	7576	7201	9860	9029	164	180	199	204	199	220	310	274
India (yellow)	8850	9300	10000	10100	10200	10500	13900	13900	8850	8959	9284	8995	8586	8309	10152	9296	182	200	221	229	225	254	319	282
Mexico	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	4200	4200	10250	10250	9284	8995	8586	8309	10152	9296	172	195	205	205	205	205	205	303
Pakistan	10250	11250	disc.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	10250	10831	175	169	164	160	154	155	1835	184	184	184	184	184	184	184
Rep. of Korea (grade 2)	2296	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	2296	184	184	184	184	184	155	184	184	184	184	184	184	184	184	184
USA	184	184	184	184	184	184	184	184	2296	184	175	169	164	160	154	155	184	184	184	184	184	184	184	184
Sunflowerseed																								
Brazil	n.a.	293	293	293	293	n.a.	n.a.	311	11950	255	240	224	215	11949	16177	198	95	100	121	134	134	365	509	142
India	11950	12500	13450	15000	15000	15100	22150	22150	11950	12042	12486	13358	12626	11949	16177	14814	246	268	287	340	331	365	509	448
Pakistan	14000	15750	disc.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	14000	15304	195	189	183	178	171	172	234	273	205	205	205	205	205	205
USA	212	212	205	205	205	205	205	205	14000	207	184	184	184	184	172	172	212	212	205	205	205	205	205	205
Butter																								
EU	3282	3282	3052	2824	2595	2463	2217	2340	3282	3215	2927	2650	2383	2215	1930	2025	3096	3688	3768	3530	3244	3374	3260	3391
USA (grade A)	1956	2315	2315	2315	2315	2315	2315	2315	1956	2264	2205	2132	2066	2008	1994	1946	1956	2315	2315	2315	2315	2315	2315	2315
Canada	5901	6106	5297	6870	6870	6870	6870	7102	5901	5942	5061	6422	6295	6164	5795	6184	3759	4361	4075	5678	6080	6421	6479	5774

Source: Compiled from official and other sources

^{1/} Prices shown apply to regions Sul, Sueste, Centro-Oeste, and the state of RO until 2008; from 2009 onward, price applies to entire country except the states of MT, RO, AM, PA and AC.^{2/} Price applied from February to August; in September, the price was raised to 7046 CA\$/mt.^{3/} Values are preliminary because at the time of writing indices available did not yet cover the entire year.^{4/} Values are preliminary because at the time of writing exchange rates available did not yet cover the entire year.

disc. = discontinued

n.a. = not available

prel. = preliminary

Table 2 United States: Prices and payment rates for oilseed market support programmes						
<i>Crop year</i>	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
	soybean (in USD/bushel)					
loan rate	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
target price	5.80	5.80	5.80	6.00	6.00	6.00
direct payment rate	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44
max. counter-cyclical payment	0.36	0.36	0.36	0.56	0.56	0.56
	groundnut (in USD/metric ton)					
loan rate	355.00	355.00	355.00	355.00	355.00	355.00
target price	495.00	495.00	495.00	495.00	495.00	495.00
direct payment rate	36.00	36.00	36.00	36.00	36.00	36.00
max. counter-cyclical payment	104.00	104.00	104.00	104.00	104.00	104.00
	other oilseeds (in USD/Lb)					
loan rate	0.093	0.093	0.093	0.101	0.101	0.101
target price	0.101	0.101	0.101	0.123	0.123	0.123
direct payment rate	0.008	0.008	0.008	0.008	0.008	0.008
max. counter-cyclical payment	-	-	-	0.018	0.018	0.018

Source: USDA

Note: 2007/08 is the last year covered by the 2002 Farm Bill (Farm Security and Rural Investment Act), while the new 2008 Farm Bill (Food, Conservation, and Energy Act) covers the period 2008/09 to 2012/13.

Table 3 United States: Government outlays for soybean and groundnut marketing programmes							
<i>fiscal year</i>	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009 (est.)
in million USD							
soybean	907	595	1140	591	337	446	644
groundnut	1562	259	408	404	336	144	81

Source: USDA

Notes:

- Refers to net outlays by the Commodity Credit Corporation.
- The outlays shown for 2003-2008 include the impact of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002, while outlays shown for years 2008 through 2009 also include the impact of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008.
- The 2009 figure is estimated from the FY 2010 President's budget based on November 2008 supply and demand estimates.

Table 4 India: Basic import duties for selected vegetable oils				
	soy oil crude	soy oil refined	palm oil crude	palm oil refined
	in % ad valorem			
March 2005	45	45	65	75
from April 2005	45	45	80	90
from August 2006	45	45	70	80
from January 2007	45	45	60	67.5
from April 2007	45	45	50	57.5
from July 2007	40	45	45	52.5
from March 2008	40	45	20	27.5
from April 2008	zero	7.5	zero	7.5
from November 2008	20	7.5	zero	7.5
from March 2009	zero	7.5	zero	7.5

Source: Compiled from various official and other sources

Table 5 Argentina: Export tax for selected oilseeds and products			
	soybeans	sunflowerseed	soybean oil & meal
	in % ad valorem		
December 2006	23.5	23.5	20
from January 2007	27.5	23.5	24
from November 2007	35	35	32
from March 2008	45	39	32
from July 2008	35	32	32
from December 2008	35	32	32
from January 2009	35	32	32

Source: Compiled from various official and other sources

Table 6 Concessional trade in edible oils/fats and in oilmeals						
calendar year	1995-99 average	2000-04 average	2005	2006	2007	2008
	in '000 metric tons					
Total concessional trade in edible oils and fats	328	439	417	340	268	276
main supplying countries						
USA	218	344	293	236	183	180
Canada	19	7	20	8	15	12
EU	73	68	53	60	43	39
NGOs & private donors	5	3	8	10	3	2
Total concessional trade in soymeal	218	211	44	120	23	n.a.
main supplying country						
USA	218	211	44	119	23	n.a.

Source: WFP (Interfais)

Notes:

- Concessional trade refers to direct transfers, triangular purchases as well as direct purchases.
- Data shown for the EU include concessional trade funded through both Community resources and bilateral aid programmes operated by individual member countries.
- Data for the latest years in particular are subject to revisions.

n.a. not available

Table 7 Biofuel policies in selected countries as of June 2009

REGION/COUNTRY	MANDATE OR TARGET	PRODUCTION INCENTIVES INCL. SUBSIDIES, TAX BREAKS/REBATES, PUBLIC INVESTMENTS
Europe & N. America		
CANADA	2012 - diesel fuel and heating oil require 2% renewable content	direct payments to producers of biodiesel (20 cents per litre for 3 years) various incentive packages for private sector investments in biofuel production: Ecoagriculture Biofuels Capital incentive Biofuel Opportunities for Producers initiative Ecoenergy for Biofuels initiative
EU27	2010 - voluntary 5.75% use of biofuels as transportation fuel 2020 - mandatory 10% biofuels in transportation fuel	from 2003, direct payments to energy crops producers: 45 Euro per ha; discontinued in 2009/10 various support measures in individual member countries: tax incentives for biofuel producers and distributors concessional loans for biofuel production facilities biofuel incorporation obligations for fuel distributors
RUSSIAN FED.	draft programme for 2-3% biofuels in motor fuel by 2015	none
UKRAINE	biofuel production targets up to 2010, non-mandatory	direct payments to energy crop producers (rapeseed) 2009 - tax benefits to biofuel producers
USA	2010 - target production of 500 million gallons of biodiesel 2012 - target production of 1 billion gallons of biodiesel 2022 - target of total renewable fuels production of 36 billion gallons	2004 - initiated tax benefits to fuel distributors adding biofuels; currently extended to 2010 various federal incentive packages for private sector investments in biofuel production: Rural Energy for America Program CCC Bioenergy Program (discontinued in 2006) National Biofuels Action Plan Food, Conservation and Energy Act
Central & S. America		
ARGENTINA	2010 - mandatory 5% biodiesel blending	2010 - long-term fiscal incentives for biofuel producers (for domestic consumption, for export)
BRAZIL	2005 - voluntary 2% biodiesel blending 2008 - mandatory 2% biodiesel blending, later raised to 3% 2009 - mandatory 4% biodiesel blending 2010 - mandatory 5% biodiesel blending	subsidized credit for energy crop producers, especially small family farms fiscal incentives for biodiesel producers
CHILE	voluntary biodiesel blending at 2% and 5%	tax exemptions for biodiesel
COLOMBIA	2008 - mandatory 5% biodiesel blend 2009 - mandatory 7% biodiesel blend in Northern Colombia 2010 - mandatory 10% biodiesel blend 2012 - mandatory 20% biodiesel blend	promotion of remunerative prices for energy crop producers long-term fiscal incentives for investments in permanent energy crops fiscal incentives for investment in productive assets and reforestation with energy crops sales tax exemption for domestically produced biofuels
COSTA RICA	2009 - mandatory 2% biodiesel blend	none
HONDURAS	none	2008 - fiscal and other incentives to promote biofuel production 2009 - regulations on biofuel commercialization
MEXICO	none	2008 - legislation regulating promotion and development of biofuels
PARAGUAY	2009 - target of 5% biodiesel blend	fiscal incentives to investment in biofuel production
PERU	2009 - mandatory 2% biodiesel blend 2011 - mandatory 5% biodiesel blend	2007 - legislation regulating production and consumption of biofuels
URUGUAY	2009-2011 - mandatory 2% biodiesel blend 2012 - mandatory 5% biodiesel blend	2007 - specific biofuel legislation financial and technical support to biofuel producers fiscal incentives to investments in biofuel production and tax exemptions on biofuel sales

Table 7 Biofuel policies in selected countries as of June 2009 - cont'd

REGION/COUNTRY	MANDATE OR TARGET	PRODUCTION INCENTIVES INCL. SUBSIDIES, TAX BREAKS/REBATES, PUBLIC INVESTMENTS
Asia		
CHINA	2020 - target 15% replacement of transport fuel with biofuels biodiesel production targets for 2010 and 2020	2008 - farmer subsidy for energy crops on marginal lands incentives to biofuel production using non-food feedstock tax reduction on biodiesel sales
INDIA	2017 - target 20% replacement of transport fuel with biofuels	tax exemptions for biofuel sales various incentives for cultivation of non-edible energy crops promotion of remunerative prices for energy crop producers
INDONESIA	2009 - mandatory biodiesel blend in transport 1% 2009 - mandatory biodiesel blend in industry and commerce 2.5% 2009 - mandatory biodiesel blend in power plants 0.25% 2010 - mandatory biodiesel blends, above, raised to 2.5%, 5%, and 1%	2006 - Roadmap for Biofuel Development subsidy on biofuel sales (matching fossil fuel subsidies) concessional loans for energy crop farmers and state-backed biofuel producers planned variable subsidy on biofuel sales to guarantee economic viability
JAPAN	2010 - target some replacement of transport fuel with biofuels	fiscal incentives to blenders of biofuels
KOREA REP.	2009 - target 1% biodiesel blend 2012 - target 3% biodiesel blend 2030 - target 12% renewable fuels in total energy consumption	multiple and long-term tax exemptions on biodiesel sales
MALAYSIA	2010 - mandatory biodiesel blend in transport and industry 5%	2009 - public finance to encourage investments into biofuel production planned variable subsidy on biofuel sales to guarantee economic viability
PHILIPPINES	2007 - mandatory 1% biodiesel blend 2009 - mandatory 2% biodiesel blend 2010 - 3% biodiesel blend under consideration	fiscal incentives for biofuel production and commercialization concessional loans for energy crop producers regulations and standards in place to govern biofuel promotion, production and sales
THAILAND	2008 - mandatory 2% biodiesel blend 2011 - mandatory 5% biodiesel blend	concessional loans to energy crop farmers sales tax incentives
VIETNAM	none	public support to research and development and public promotion measures 2007 - national biofuel development project to 2025
Oceania		
AUSTRALIA	2010 - national biofuel production target	2008 - tax rebate to producers of qualifying biodiesel blends
NEW ZEALAND	2008 - mandatory blending requirements withdrawn	exemption from carbon tax for nationally produced biofuel additional tax exemptions for sustainably produced biofuels

Source: Compiled from various official and other sources

Note: This compilation only aims at providing a broad overview of policy measures in place or under consideration in certain countries; it focuses on measures that are of relevance to the oilcrop sector. The list is not exhaustive, does not provide details and is subject to continuous updates and revisions.