

43rd Session of the Conference

Secretariat Response to sub-item 12.2: Report of the 75th Session of the Committee on Commodity Problems (13-15 July 2022)

FAO thanks Members for their feedback and comments and expresses its appreciation for the wide support to the Organization's work under the mandate of the Committee on Commodity Problems (CCP).

The Secretariat takes note of the comments made by Colombia and expresses its appreciation for the positive feedback with regard to FAO's work on market transparency and trade. FAO shares Colombia's view that timely and up-to-date information is essential to optimize decision-making and is making every effort to provide Members with accurate and impartial information in a timely manner.

With regard to the comments provided by the United States of America, FAO recognizes the important role that trade and sustainable productivity and agrifood systems can play in improving food security globally. Moreover, FAO appreciates the strong support for its work on market transparency, namely under the Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS). In this regard, the Secretariat notes the planned expansion of the work of AMIS in analysing the fertilizer and vegetable oil markets. FAO supports the call to Members to commit to open and transparent sharing of market data to improve global coordination.

The Secretariat takes note of the comments made by Argentina and expresses its appreciation for the positive feedback on the role of FAO and AMIS. FAO shares Argentina's views on the significant role that trade can play in improving global food security, and on the importance of a trading system that is consistent with the World Trade Organization (WTO)'s rules. The Secretariat would like to note that there are discussions between FAO and the WTO with the objective to agree on a Memorandum of Understanding that will strengthen the existing collaboration between the two organizations, in line with their respective mandates. With regard to the name of the Committee, the Secretariat would like to inform that discussions have started by the Bureau, as mandated by the 75th Session of the CCP, and it is expected that a report will be presented to the next session of the Committee.

The Secretariat takes note of the comments provided by the Russian Federation, and expresses its appreciation for the support to the Global Soil Partnership (GSP), the promotion of soil research and the Glinka World Soil Prize. FAO takes note that the Russian Federation dissociates itself from paragraphs 9 (i) and (j), 11 (d), and 27 (d) of the Report of the 75th Session of the CCP.

The Secretariat notes Australia's comments and expresses its gratitude for the strong support to FAO's efforts to provide up-to-date and objective information on markets, monitoring policy developments, promoting dialogue and proposing policy recommendations. The support of Australia to the flagship publication *The State of Agricultural Commodity Markets* (SOCO) as a definitive global source of information and analysis for policy makers is also noted with appreciation. The next edition of SOCO, to be published in 2024, will cover the theme of trade and nutrition. FAO also wishes to thank Australia and express its appreciation for the additional funding provided to AMIS, which should help to strengthen the initiative and ensure its sustainability. With regard to the comment on repurposing food and agricultural policies, it may be noted that a CCP international event on "Repurposing agricultural support to transform agrifood policies" was organized on 1 June 2023. It may also be noted that the next edition of SOCO will be on trade and its linkages with nutrition and healthy diets.

The Secretariat shares Switzerland's comments with regard to the challenges faced by agrifood systems across the globe and agrees on the important role that trade can play in supporting sustainable agrifood systems transformation to ensure food security and nutrition in the long term. FAO also expresses its gratitude for the support expressed by Switzerland to the work and efforts to deepen the Organization's analytical work on the linkages between trade and sustainability and trade and nutrition. In this regard, it

may be noted that FAO is taking steps to increase the capacity of the Aglink-Cosimo modelling framework. For instance, the 2023 edition of the *OECD-FAO Agricultural Outlook* includes an analysis on the utilization and application of fertilizers as well as on food loss and waste. FAO is also working on the inclusion in the model of assessments of livestock productivity and feed use. In addition, the Secretariat notes the discussions in the context of the CCP Bureau on the organization of relevant and topical CCP intersessional events, as mandated by the Committee at its 75th Session in July 2022.

The Secretariat also takes note of the comments provided by Canada and shares the view that a trading system that is consistent with the rules of the WTO can contribute to ending hunger and achieving global food security.

With regard to the comments made by New Zealand, the Secretariat expresses its gratitude for the support to FAO's work and wishes to highlight the good collaboration between FAO and the WTO in the field of agricultural trade, within their respective mandates.

FAO express its gratitude for the strong support provided by the European Union with regard to market transparency and the provision of timely and up-to-date information, and shares the views expressed on the significance of trade for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). FAO would like to note the continuing good collaboration between FAO and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), not only on the preparation of the annual OECD-FAO Agricultural Outlook, but also with respect to the OECD-FAO Guidance for Responsible Agricultural Supply Chains. In this regard, FAO will prepare briefs and training materials on responsible investment and business conduct, risk-based due diligence, and Environmental and Social Governance (ESG) risk management in agricultural supply chains. Moreover, FAO will continue to facilitate, jointly with the OECD, the OECD-FAO multi-stakeholder advisory group on responsible agricultural supply chains. FAO agrees with the European Union on the important role of the Global Information and Early Warning System on Food and Agriculture (GIEWS) and AMIS and the need for continued support by the Members to these initiatives.

Finally, with regard to the comments provided by Japan, the Secretariat agrees on the distinct mandates between FAO and the WTO, and reiterates the excellent collaboration between the two organizations. FAO expresses its gratitude for the additional funding provided by the Government of Japan to AMIS, as well as with regard to the work undertaken for the development of the "Guidelines to increase the resilience of agricultural supply chains". The financial contribution to AMIS is essential for the strengthening and expanding of its monitoring work and for improving the analytical capacities of the initiative. It may be noted that while the *Guidelines to increase the resilience of agricultural supply chains* are already available on the FAO website (<https://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/CC5481EN>), FAO is developing a dedicated webpage with the objective to increase visibility and facilitate dissemination of the guidelines. The dedicated webpage should be ready and launched soon.