



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

COMMITTEE ON COMMODITY PROBLEMS (CCP)

“Trade and the 2030 Agenda for
Sustainable Development”

Trade event



FAO HEADQUARTERS
TUESDAY, 24 OCTOBER 2017
14:00-18:00, **GREEN** ROOM



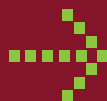
Background

Eradicating hunger, achieving food security and improving nutrition by 2030 are key goals in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development that Members of the United Nations adopted in September 2015. The new Agenda contains a set of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 targets.

The 2030 Agenda recognizes that transparent, non-distorted and well-functioning global agricultural markets are an essential element in the global effort to end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture (SDG 2). SDG 17 on the means of implementation and strengthening the global partnership for sustainable development contains a separate section on trade, including a specific target to “promote a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system under the World Trade Organization”.

Today there is enough food produced globally to feed everyone in the world, yet 815 million people continue to be chronically undernourished. Agricultural trade can play a central role in the fight against hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition, and increasingly so in the context of climate change.

Trade helps balance food deficits and surpluses across countries, facilitating the availability of food and contributing to price stability. Trade broadens the choice for consumers, and affords them with a more diversified diet across all seasons. It can also help generate incomes in the agricultural sector and rural areas. This is why trade is recognized as one of the means of implementation to achieving the SDGs.



The event presents a unique platform for dialogue and discussion, with the following primary objectives:



Inform and sensitize the Members about the state of play of the WTO agricultural trade negotiations and the preparation for the 11th WTO Ministerial Conference



Debate and highlight the role of trade in achieving food security and improved nutrition and the articulation of food security needs in the multilateral trading system, in the context of the 2030 Agenda



Boubaker.BenBelhassen@fao.org

However, greater trade openness to international markets also poses additional challenges. The objective is therefore to ensure that trade expansion contributes to ensuring positive food security and nutrition outcomes. Trade agreements, in particular under the auspices of the WTO, play a significant role in this regard. They influence the patterns of trade, food production and consumption, and, therefore, affect all dimensions of food security – food availability, access, stability and utilization.

In December 2015, at the 10th WTO Ministerial Conference held in Nairobi, Ministers agreed to the elimination of export subsidies as well as new rules on export credit and international food aid, all under the export competition pillar of the negotiations on agriculture. Ministers agreed to build

on this momentum and continue negotiations on each of the three pillars of negotiation (i.e. domestic support, market access and export competition). Argentina will host the next WTO Ministerial Conference (MC11), scheduled to take place in Buenos Aires on 10-13 December 2017.

During the fourth ministerial meeting on commodity markets and prices, held in FAO on 3 October 2016 on the theme "Long-term commodity price trends and sustainable agricultural development", participants highlighted the significance and importance of transparent and fair rules in achieving food security and fighting malnutrition. Moreover, they noted the importance to find the right balance between domestic policies for food security and the required compliance with international trade rules and agreements.



PROVISIONAL AGENDA



14.00-14.20 | OPENING/INTRODUCTION

- MR KHALED EL-TAWEEL, CCP CHAIRPERSON
- MR JOSÉ GRAZIANO DA SILVA, FAO DIRECTOR-GENERAL
- MR ROBERTO AZEVÊDO, WTO DIRECTOR-GENERAL (VIDEO MESSAGE)

SESSION 1: WTO AGRICULTURAL NEGOTIATIONS AND PREPARATION FOR WTO MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE



14.20-15.00 | STATE OF PLAY OF THE WTO AGRICULTURAL NEGOTIATIONS

- MR ALAN WOLFF, DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL, WTO
- MR EDWINI KESSIE, DIRECTOR, AGRICULTURE AND COMMODITIES DIVISION, WTO



15.00-15.30 | WTO MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE: PREPARATION AND EXPECTATIONS

- MINISTER GABRIEL ARTURO MARTINEZ, DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ARGENTINEAN MISSION TO INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN GENEVA AND CHIEF NEGOTIATOR IN AGRICULTURE



15.30-16.00 | QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

LAUNCH OF THE FAO E-LEARNING COURSE ON TRADE, FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION AND THE RELEASE OF POLICY GUIDANCE NOTE 9 ON TRADE

SESSION 2: TRADE AND THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



16.15-17.45 | PANEL/PLENARY DEBATE (INTERACTIVE SESSION)

- MR RICARDO MELÉNDEZ-ORTIZ, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR TRADE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (ICTSD)
- MS CARMEL CAHILL, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, TRADE AND AGRICULTURE DIRECTORATE, OECD
- MR JAMIE MORRISON, STRATEGIC PROGRAMME LEADER, FOOD SYSTEMS PROGRAMME, FAO



17.45-18.00 | CLOSING OF THE EVENT