


May 2012

	منظمة الأغذية والزراعة للأمم المتحدة	联合国 粮食及 农业组织	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture		Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Alimentación y la Agricultura
---	--	--------------------	---	---	--	--

# COMMITTEE ON COMMODITY PROBLEMS

## Sixty-ninth Session

Rome, 28–30 May 2012

### PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND AGENDA NOTES

- 1) Organizational matters
  - a) Adoption of the Agenda and Timetable
  - b) Designation of the Drafting Committee
- 2) Statement by the Director-General
- 3) State of World Agricultural Commodity Markets
  - a) Market review: situation and outlook
  - b) Medium-term agricultural outlook: trends and emerging issues
- 4) Policy developments
  - a) Progress report on G20 initiatives, including the Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS)
  - b) Developments in the Doha Round agricultural negotiations and Regional Trade Agreements (RTAs)
  - c) Experiences with domestic food prices and food policy during 2007–2011
  - d) Policy interventions in support of smallholder participation in markets
- 5) International action on agricultural commodities
  - a) Reform of the CCP and the Intergovernmental Commodity Groups – Report of the Open-Ended Working Group on CCP reform
  - b) Work priorities under the terms of reference of the Committee on Commodity Problems
- 6) Any other matter
  - a) Election of the new Bureau Members of the CCP
  - b) Arrangements for the Seventieth Session

*This document is printed in limited numbers to minimize the environmental impact of FAO's processes and contribute to climate neutrality. Delegates and observers are kindly requested to bring their copies to meetings and to avoid asking for additional copies. Most FAO meeting documents are available on the Internet at [www.fao.org](http://www.fao.org)*

## 7) Adoption of the report

**AGENDA NOTES**

The Sixty-ninth Session of the Committee on Commodity Problems will open at 9.30 hours on Monday, 28 May 2012. The Committee is expected to adopt its report in the afternoon of Wednesday, 30 May 2012.

**1) Organizational matters**

## a) Adoption of the Agenda and Timetable

As first item, the Committee will adopt the agenda for the Session. The Provisional Agenda was prepared in consultation with the CCP Bureau taking into account the Committee's terms of reference, the recommendations of the Programme and Finance Committees and the suggestions made at the Sixty-eighth Session.

## b) Designation of the Drafting Committee

The Committee will designate the Chairperson and Members of the Drafting Committee.

**2) Statement by the Director-General****3) The State of World Agricultural Commodity Markets**

## a) Market review: situation and outlook

Under this item, the Committee will evaluate the state of agricultural commodity markets and related policy developments. A background document entitled *Major market developments and short-term outlook* (CCP 12/INF/5) will be provided to guide the discussion.

## b) Medium-term agricultural outlook: trends and emerging issues

With the assistance of document *Medium-term outlook for agricultural commodity markets: trends and emerging issues* (CCP 12/INF/6), the Committee will assess market prospects over the next ten years for production, utilization, trade and prices of the major food commodities. The Committee will also discuss the new drivers and major issues facing those markets over the medium-term.

**4) Policy developments**

Under this item, the Committee will have the opportunity to discuss major policy developments affecting commodity markets and trade.

## a) Progress report on G20 initiatives, including the Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS)

## i) Inter-agency food and agricultural price volatility report for the G20

Under the Food Security pillar of the Seoul Multi-year Action Plan on Development, the G20 "request[ed] that FAO, IFAD, IMF, OECD, UNCTAD, WFP, the World Bank and the WTO work with key stakeholders to develop options for G20 consideration on how to better mitigate and manage the risks associated with the price volatility of food and other agriculture commodities, without distorting market behaviour, ultimately to protect the most vulnerable". Under this item, and with the assistance of the document *Inter-agency food and agricultural price volatility report for the G20* (CCP 12/2), the Committee will be informed about the recommended policy options to deal with price volatility and its consequences.

ii) The Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS)

On the basis of the inter-agency food and agricultural price volatility report, the G20 Ministers for Agriculture, at their meeting in June 2011 in Paris, decided to launch a collaborative food information initiative – the Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS) to strengthen the synergies between major producing and consuming countries and international organizations. With a joint secretariat located at FAO headquarters and made up of nine international organizations, AMIS builds on and complements existing systems to improve global food market information as a public good for the international community. Document *The Agricultural Market Information System* (CCP 12/3) will present the details and working arrangements of AMIS.

b) Developments in the Doha Round agricultural negotiations and Regional Trade Agreements (RTAs)

Trade agreements have important contributions to make towards creating an enabling environment for agricultural development and food security, as well as to responding to high and volatile food prices. While Doha Round agricultural negotiations have faced setbacks since the end of 2008, the process has continued in some limited form. In the mean time, regional trade agreements have been proliferating. A background paper, *Developments in the Doha Round agricultural negotiations and Regional Trade Agreements* (CCP 12/4), will review these developments and related issues on the treatment of agriculture. It also highlights the Secretariat's trade-related activities and seeks the Committee's guidance on future work programme.

c) Experiences with domestic food prices and food policy responses during 2007–2011

During periods of high and volatile prices in the world food markets during 2007-2011, food prices surged in many countries. This triggered many and varied policy responses aimed at containing the price rise and volatility, and also addressing longer-term food issues. There is much to learn from this experience. A background paper, *Experiences with domestic food prices and food policy responses during 2007–2011* (CCP 12/5), will inform about developments on domestic food prices and policy and analytical issues.

d) Policy interventions in support of smallholder participation in markets

Drawing on recent analytical studies and field experience, notably under the EU-funded All ACP Agricultural Commodities Programme, the Multi-Disciplinary Fund (MDF) project on *Enabling Environment for Markets to Improve Livelihoods and Rural Development* and CFC commodity development projects, this item will first consider the propensity of, and constraints, facing different categories of smallholders in accessing alternative market outlets. It will then outline alternative policy interventions supportive of increased market participation and consider their appropriateness in different contexts. The item will highlight the importance of giving greater attention to the determinants of smallholder market participation in formulating policy interventions, and the need for improvements in both the evidence-base and the capacity of policy-makers to utilize that evidence. Two documents: *Identifying appropriate policy interventions in support of smallholder participation in markets* (CCP 12/6) and *Enhancing the impact of IGG commodity development activities on smallholder value chain integration* (CCP 12/7) will assist the Committee in addressing this agenda item.

**5) International action on agricultural commodities**

For information, the Committee will receive the reports of the various intergovernmental commodity groups (IGGs): *Report of the Fifth Session of the Intergovernmental Group on Bananas and Tropical Fruits* (CCP 12/10); *Report of the Joint Meeting of the 36th Session of the Intergovernmental Group on Hard Fibres and the*

*38th Session of the Intergovernmental Group on Jute, Kenaf and Allied Fibres (CCP 12/11); Report of the 20th Session of the Intergovernmental Group on Tea (CCP 12/12); and the Report of the Extraordinary Intersessional Meeting of the Intergovernmental Group on Grains and the Intergovernmental Group on Rice (CCP 12/13). It will also receive the Report on product and market development activities including those undertaken in collaboration with the Common Fund for Commodities (CCP 12/INF/9).*

- a) Reform of the Committee on Commodity Problems and the Intergovernmental Commodity Groups (IGGs) – Report of the Open-Ended Working Group on CCP reform

At its Sixty-eighth Session in June 2010, the Committee decided to establish an Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG) under the chairpersonship of the CCP Chairperson to review the roles and working arrangements of the CCP and its sub-committees. The Committee will have the opportunity to review the work of the OEWG and deliberate on the recommendations made by the Group with regard to the reform of the CCP and its subsidiary bodies. The Committee will be assisted by the following documents in covering this agenda item: *Report of the Open-Ended Working Group on the CCP reform (CCP 12/9); Review of the CCP Intergovernmental Commodity Groups (CCP 12/INF/7); International Commodity Bodies (CCP 12/INF/8); and Way forward for the CCP Sub-Committees (CCP 12/INF/11).*

- b) Work priorities under the terms of reference of the Committee on Commodity Problems

Under this agenda item, the Committee will discuss the priorities for analytical, advisory and capacity building work falling under its terms of reference. In debating this item, the Committee will be assisted by the document *Key issues and work priorities in international commodity markets (CCP 12/8)* and document *Global Trends and Future Challenges for the Work of the Organization (CCP 12/INF/12)*. The Committee will also have the opportunity to discuss a draft CCP multi-annual work plan, with the assistance of document *Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPow) 2012–16 of the Committee on Commodity Problems (CCP 12/INF/10)*.

## 6) Any other matter

The Committee may wish to raise any issue related to the information documents presented to the current Session and/or to propose possible topics for consideration for the next Session.

- a) Election of the new Bureau Members of the CCP

The Committee will elect the Members of the new Bureau who will remain in office until the end of the next Session. The current Chairperson is Ms Gothami Indikadahena (Sri Lanka) and the First Vice-Chairperson is Mr Elías José Guía López (Spain) and the Second Vice-Chairperson is Mr Gustavo Infante (Argentina).

- b) Arrangements for the Seventieth Session

Under this agenda item, the Committee will consider the dates of its next Session and any relevant organizational matters.

## 7) Adoption of the report

The Committee will consider the draft report for adoption. The report of the 69th Session will be submitted to the FAO Council at its 145th Session in November 2012 and to the FAO Conference at its 38th Session (15–22 June 2013).