



2nd SESSION OF THE AMIS  
GLOBAL FOOD MARKET INFORMATION GROUP

ROME, FAO HEADQUARTERS

Wednesday, 3 October 2012 (08.45 - 17.30), Green Room

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AGENDA

- 08.45**      **1. Chair's opening remarks**  
(France and United States)
- 09.00**      **2. Welcome remarks and adoption of the Agenda**  
(AMIS secretariat)
- 09.30**      **3. AMIS progress: Statistics and methodology**
- 3.1 Statistical tool and Database: progress and lessons learned**  
(A. Abbassian and F. Grita/FAO)
- 3.2 Presenting the AMIS Crop Calendar: sponsored by Mexico - Based on document (AMIS: IG-12/1)**  
(Secretariat)
- 3.3 Methodology: towards best practices - Based on document (AMIS: IG-12/2)**  
(P. Paquotte/FAO)
- 10.45**      **Coffee Break**
- 3.4 Panel discussion on data collection and validation**
- Timeliness and regular flow of high quality information are critical for the success of AMIS. The discussion will concentrate on the main difficulties faced by countries in the collection of market information, but also in drawing commodity market estimates and forecasts. The panel will debate possible approaches to overcome such difficulties and discuss the validation process .
- Panel:** Four to five delegates from participating countries
- Moderator:** AMIS Secretariat
- 12.00**      **4. Market and policy indicators**
- 4.1. Overview: monitoring market and policy drivers to identify vulnerabilities - Based on document (AMIS: IG-12/3)**  
(S. Zorya and C. Cahill/World Bank and OECD)
- 4.2 Stock-to-Use Indicators - Based on document (AMIS: IG-12/4)**  
(Professor B. Wright, University of California at Berkeley)
- 13.00**      **Lunch Break**

#### **4.3 Panel discussion on thresholds for stock-to-use ratio**

In the not so distant past (up until the late 1990s), a threshold cereal stock-to-use range of 17-18 percent was used by FAO as a “safe level” for food security and when the ratio fell below this range, FAO issued alerts as this implied impending risks to the global food security. Given the fast changing developments in world agricultural markets, is it plausible to rely on new indicator thresholds as an early warning indicator?

##### **Panel:**

Professor B. Wright and representatives (3-4) from the AMIS Secretariat (International Organizations)

##### **Moderator:**

Josef Schmidhuber, Principal Officer, FAO Statistical Division

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| <b>15.15</b> | <b>5. AMIS Projects and Capacity Development Activities: Current situation and prospects</b>                                                    |
|              | <b>5.1 AMIS capacity development activities and capacity needs and strategy</b><br>(N. Keita/E. Carfagna/FAO)                                   |
|              | <b>5.2 Collective approach to capacity development: Identifying mutual learning areas amongst AMIS participating countries</b><br>(Secretariat) |
| <b>15.45</b> | <b>Coffee Break</b>                                                                                                                             |
| <b>16.00</b> | <b>6. AMIS work plan for 2012/13</b><br>(Secretariat)                                                                                           |
| <b>16.15</b> | <b>7. Statements by invited international bodies</b><br>(CFC, EBRD, GEOGLAM, IGC)                                                               |
| <b>16.45</b> | <b>8. Date of the next meeting</b>                                                                                                              |
| <b>17.00</b> | <b>9. Chair Summary</b>                                                                                                                         |