

# Sixth Session of the AMIS Global Food Market Information Group

FAO Headquarters, Green Room  
Rome, 9-10 October 2014

## AGENDA



# DAY 1: Thursday, 9 October 2014

## Morning: 08:30-12:30

08.30 Registration

09.00 1. Opening remarks (outgoing Chair) Ms Karen Schneider, Executive Director of Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences (ABARES)

09.15 2. Opening remarks (incoming Chair) Mr Ian Mitchell, Deputy Director and Senior Economic Advisor, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), UK

09.30 3. AMIS crops market situation and outlook Recent market developments and the short-term outlook for grains, rice and soybeans will be presented by the Secretariat. Contrary to past practice, the Secretariat intends to establish a more interactive approach by inviting the participating countries to express their expert view on global market trends and short-term outlooks for AMIS crops. This would be in addition to the participating countries providing the latest information on their own domestic market development. Countries may wish to send their market assessments (domestic as well as global) to the Secretariat in advance.

10.45 Coffee break

11.00 4. AMIS progress report: May-October 2014 (AMIS: IG/6 - 2014/2) To highlight main achievements in the period May to October 2014 and to provide an overview of upcoming activities, especially as regards the main output areas of AMIS:

- (i) Information collection
- (ii) Research
- (iii) Capacity development
- (iv) Dissemination
- (v) Policy Dialogue

More specifically on capacity development, the Secretariat will present progress and ongoing activities in countries targeted by grant-financed projects: India, Nigeria, Philippines, and Thailand. This agenda item will also provide an opportunity to familiarize delegates with the recently launched FAO Food Price Monitoring and Analysis (FPMA) website for domestic food prices.

12.00 5. AMIS evaluation framework progress report To report back to the Information Group on the progress completed so far in regards to the developing an AMIS Evaluation Framework

12.30 Lunch break



## DAY 1: Thursday, 9 October 2014

### Afternoon: 14.00-17:00

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| 14.00  | 6. Forecasting and remote sensing  | Countries, including Australia, Canada, EU and United States will present their forecasting methods and the ways in which they use remote sensing. GEOGLAM will also participate in this discussion and will brief the meeting on potential areas for collaboration.  |
| 15.00  | 7. Status of the forecasting exercise (AMIS: IG/6 - 2014/3)  | A summary presentation of the latest status regarding the supply and demand balances by the Secretariat will be followed by a Q&A session on related matters, including data gaps, methodology and timeliness of data delivery. In addition, the Secretariat will highlight a number of outstanding issues related to supply and demand balances of selected countries for discussion and eventual follow-up action.  |
| <b>15.45 Coffee break</b>                        |  |   |
| 16.00  | 8. Panel discussion on the monthly decomposition of supply and demand balances (AMIS: IG/6 - 2014/4) | At the last meeting of the Information Group, five participants (Brazil, EU, South Africa, Thailand and United States) agreed to intensify their collaboration with the AMIS Secretariat on improving the quality of their supply and demand estimates and forecasts. Together with the AMIS Secretariat, these five countries closely studied their balances with a view to determining each element's temporal distribution. The construction of such monthly balances will be instrumental in obtaining a more accurate picture of domestic supply and demand throughout the marketing season. Preliminary results of this collaboration will be presented and discussed under this agenda item. |
| <b>17.30 Reception (Aventino Room - terrace)</b> |  |   |



## DAY 2: Friday, 10 October 2014

### Morning: 09:00-13:00

09.00	9. Policy database	The Secretariat will present upgraded and new features of the AMIS policy database application and invites countries to provide feedback on the database content and tools. A technical workshop is organized in the afternoon to allow hands-on experience with the application.
09.30	10. Policy developments	<p>This session is devoted to AMIS participating countries reporting on major national policy developments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• “State policy for ensuring national food security as an element of global food security”, presentation by the Russian Federation.</li><li>• Other countries (participation to be announced).</li></ul>
10.00	11. Innovations in estimating feed use in a food balance sheet perspective (AMIS: IG/6 - 2014/5)	The Secretariat will present draft cereal balance sheets for AMIS participating countries that reflect innovations made in the model-based estimation of feed use. The methodology and assumptions underpinning the feed demand results will be discussed in detail. Countries will be invited to provide their feedback on the results and the methods, and on whether a similar approach for estimating their own (national) feed use would be deemed useful.
10.45	<b>Coffee break</b>	
11.00	12. Research initiatives by AMIS participating countries and partners	<p>This session is devoted to research initiatives by AMIS participating countries and member organizations of the AMIS Secretariat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• World Bank: “The Food Price Crisis Observatory: Getting Readier for the Next Food Price Crisis”, a presentation of an integrated framework that monitors global and national vulnerabilities to food price crises; the sociopolitical consequences of such crises; and prevention, coping and mitigation of public interventions against them. This framework provides a complementary tool to existing resources. But instead of being based on a rigid definition, the Observatory develops an empirical definition of crisis that is calibrated and tested using previous episodes of price hikes. The tool will be presented live.</li><li>• OECD: presentation of the main results relevant to AMIS of the 2014 report “Agricultural Policy Monitoring and Evaluation” which was released on 4 September.</li></ul>
12.00	13. Any other business	
12.30	14. Chair’s summary	
13.00	<b>Lunch break</b>	



## DAY 2: Friday, 10 October 2014

### Afternoon: 14.30-16.00

#### 14.30 15. Workshop on policy database

The Secretariat invites interested focal points to a workshop where the tools of the policy database application will be demonstrated in greater detail. The Secretariat will gather suggestions for further improving and refining the tools and the database. Delegates should note that they will need Mozilla Firefox or Google Chrome should they wish to use their own laptop.

