The Czech Republic would like to express its appreciation to the Secretariat for this balanced and comprehensive document reflecting current food and agriculture system issues, including those of developing / developed country interface.

We support the incorporation of the Committee’s work into the OECD horizontal strategies, activities and programmes (like e.g. the Green Growth Strategy, the Innovation Strategy, the Strategic Response to the Economic Crisis, Climate Change, Horizontal Water Programme etc.). In this context we would like to put emphasis on the mutual cohesion and regular evaluation of these activities and their outputs.

Further we believe it is important that the focus on domestic issues, policy performance and specific recommendations for the OECD countries should be kept.

The Czech Republic in particular wishes to highlight the importance of the following steps:

- Take measures that will have a balanced effect on ensuring food, energy as well as environmental security (e.g. contribute to prevention of progressing soil degradation and improving soil quality).
- Define non-commodity outputs more clearly for wider public, including their classification according to global / regional / local benefits of activities.
- Address all steps of policy cycle, and particularly the implementation (policy delivery systems), public awareness and training. Policy targeting is necessary here but also taking into account any possible transaction costs of this shift in the policy cycle.
- Ensure continued holistic approach in management of risk, including incentives for diversification in agriculture while ensuring the necessity of labour liberation in the sector, namely in developing countries.
- Seek a breakthrough in lowering agricultural trade barriers, a fair value distribution in the food chain and a synergy of public and private standards.
- In terms of development issues, focus on institutions and infrastructure, and not exclusively on technological and technical assistance.

The Czech Republic calls on the OECD to lead the effort to provide a wider toolbox of specific instruments for governments in this context that would also be better understood.