

Agenda

OECD REGIONAL MEETING ON AGRICULTURAL POLICY REFORM

24-26 September 2007, Bucharest, Romania

Introduction

The OECD has long been working on agricultural policy issues with a large number of Central and Eastern European Countries. In particular, for such countries as Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, and Ukraine, the OECD has prepared comprehensive reviews of agricultural policies followed by monitoring reports. As the majority of these countries have over the last three years become the European Union members, a set of new issues emerged on how to integrate them best into the regular agricultural policy analysis the OECD undertakes for the European Union as a whole. The Romanian government has offered an opportunity to discuss these issues within the framework of the OECD regional meetings, each providing a broad overview of the OECD analytical tools, but also focussing on agricultural policy reform issues of particular interest for the countries concerned. So far, such meetings were organised in the Philippines, Argentina and Senegal.

The meeting is made possible through voluntary contributions by the Romanian government and the European Union.

Objectives

The main objectives of the meeting are: (i) increased familiarity with OECD analytical tools and OECD advice for designing effective policy measures; (ii) stronger integration into the OECD work on agricultural policy issues; (iii) exchange of policy experiences.

The meeting will have an analytical rather than a political character. There will be no attempt to negotiate agreed conclusions of the discussion.

Participation/audience

The workshop will be attended by around 60 government officials, academics and researchers from Romania, other new members of the European Union, and the OECD Secretariat. Representatives from the European Commission and other OECD member countries will also be invited.

Organisation of the meeting

The meeting will be held over two days in Romania. It will be organised by the Romanian Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) and the OECD's Trade and Agriculture Directorate. Romanian-English simultaneous interpretation will be provided.

The meeting will consist of four main sessions during which presentations by invited speakers will be followed by an open discussion. The wrap up session will focus on conclusions from the meeting. On the third day, the MARD will offer a field trip area to demonstrate some of the agricultural policy issues and how the Romanian authorities try to resolve them.

Information concerning logistics and all documentation for the meeting as they become available will be placed on the website www.oecd.org/tad/meet/ad (Login: oecdtad; Password: oecdtadad; click on arrows (go); click on "OECD Regional Meeting on Agricultural Policy Reform"). This website will be updated on a regular basis.

Session 1: continued

Chair: Hedwig Wögerbauer, Austria

14:00-14:20 **Presentation**

AGLINK: purpose and use in policy analysis Pavel Vavra, OECD

14:20-14:40 **Discussants:** Gyöngyi Kürthy, Hungary; Gejza Blass, Slovakia

14:40-15:30 **General discussion**

15:30-16:00 *Tea/coffee break*

Session 2: Review of Policy Evaluation Model parameters

16:00-17:30 *This session will provide a look at the value of the parameters chosen for the model component representing the new member countries. Participants will be invited to offer feedback regarding the choice of these parameter values and the alternatives available.*

Chair: Jesus Anton, OECD

16:00-16:40 **Presentations**

Policy Evaluation Model: connecting the PSE to economic outcomes Roger Martini, OECD

Policy Evaluation Model: its purpose and use in policy analysis Martin Banse, the Netherlands

16:40-17:00 **Discussants:** Miroslav Rednak, Slovenia; Nedka Ivanova, Bulgaria

17:00-17:30 **General discussion**

18:00 *Dinner hosted by the Romanian MARD*

Second day, 25 September 2007

Session 3: Achieving national policy objectives

9:00-16:30 *This session will focus on designing effective policy measures drawing on existing OECD work on such topics as targeting, decoupling, multifunctionality, rural development and agri-environmental objectives.*

Chair: Viviana Vasile, Romanian MARD

9:00-10:00 **Presentations**

The challenge of decoupling and targeting support	Jesus Anton, OECD
Coherence of agricultural and rural development policies	Dimitris Diakosavvas, OECD
Rural development issues in Romania	Georgiana Sarbu, Romanian MARD

10:00-10:20 *Tea/coffee break*

10:20-10:40 **Discussants:** Miroslava Georgieva, Bulgaria; Wanda Chmielewska-Gill, Poland.

10:40-12:30 **General discussion**

12:30-14:00 *Lunch break*

Session 3: continued

Chair: Dinu Toma, Romanian USAMV

14:00-14:40 **Presentations**

OECD's approach to agri-environmental policy monitoring and analysis	Kevin Parris, OECD
Global biofuel growth – implications for agricultural markets and policies	Martin von Lampe, OECD

14:40-15:00 *Tea/coffee break*

15:00-15:20 **Discussants:** Benone Velcescu, Romania; Ginta Jakobsone, Latvia

15:20-16:30 **General discussion**

Session 4: General conclusions

16:30-18:00 *This session will wrap-up the meeting and will focus on concrete suggestions as resulting from the meeting.*

Chair: Gejza Blaas, Slovakia

16:30-17:00 **Summaries:** Mihaela Luca, Romanian MARD; Catherine Moreddu, OECD

17:00-17.45 **General discussion**

17:45-18:00 **Closing remarks:** Cornelia Harabagiu, Romanian MARD; Carmel Cahill, OECD

18:00 **Close of discussion**

18:00 *Cocktail hosted by the Romanian MARD*

Third day, 26 September 2007

One-day study tour organised by the Romanian MARD to illustrate some of the agricultural policy issues and how the Romanian authorities try to resolve them. Return to hotel is foreseen at 19:00.