



**TRADE AND AGRICULTURE DIRECTORATE
COMMITTEE FOR AGRICULTURE**

Cancels & replaces the same document of 05 June 2009

Global Forum on Agriculture

AGENDA OF THE GLOBAL FORUM ON AGRICULTURE

29-30 JUNE 2009

Please note a little change in session 2 (afternoon).

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GLOBAL FORUM ON AGRICULTURE

29-30 June 2009 Room CC9

OECD Conference Centre, 2 rue André-Pascal, 75016 Paris, France

The Global Forum on Agriculture is an important event in the OECD calendar for informed dialogue between senior officials from member countries and emerging/developing economies on agricultural-related issues. The 2009 Global Forum on Agriculture will examine the medium and longer term prospects for the sector and what policies are required to enhance future food security. The Forum will present recent analytical work from the OECD and FAO and the views of experts from around the world.

Theme for the 2009 Forum – Agricultural Outlook: Preparing for the Future

The world was unprepared for the recent commodity price shocks. The sharp rise in agricultural commodity prices from 2006 through early 2008 led to much higher food costs, reduced food accessibility and violent demonstrations in the streets of many Emerging/Developing economies. Affected governments reacted with ad hoc policy measures to ensure short-term food security (e.g. export restrictions, price controls, import tariff reduction, emergency stock building). International bodies increased humanitarian aid and stepped-up multilateral dialogue on longer term strategies to address the emerging food crisis.

By the end of 2008, agricultural commodity prices, for the most part, had dropped dramatically (as did oil prices). The commodity price outlook is now more in line with historical trends. But agricultural markets will remain volatile and production shortfalls will occur again. Governments, facing irate consumers, are at risk of reacting with the same “beggar thy neighbour” policy measures that can exacerbate the situation, send the wrong signals to producers and interrupt food supplies in other countries. What is a more appropriate policy response? What can be done to reduce the frequency of commodity price swings? What can be done to better deal with such events when they do occur?

In the longer run, food demand will rise with population and incomes. Global demand for food, feed and fibre is expected to nearly double by 2050. Agriculture will have to compete for scarce land and water resources while adjusting to climate change and to doing its part to preserve natural habitats, endangered species and biodiversity. Will we be able to feed the world? What types of investment and development are needed? Are existing policies appropriate for these future developments? What are the priority policy areas?

Forum outputs

All papers and presentation will be made available to participants on the dedicated Forum website www.oecd.org/agriculture/globalforum/june09 before the event if possible. A Chair’s summary will also be prepared following the Forum, circulated to participants for comment, and posted on the public Forum website.

Monday, 29 June 2009	
SESSION I: Agricultural Outlook: Preparing for the Future Chair: Neil Fraser <i>"The best way to predict the future is to create it!" -- Abraham Lincoln</i>	
9:30–10:00	Forum Opening Forum objectives/procedures - Neil Fraser. Forum Chair Opening remarks - Gerrit Meester, Chair, OECD Committee for Agriculture
10:00–13:00	Medium-term Agricultural Outlook The newly released OECD-FAO agricultural outlook will provide projections for cereal, oilseed, sugar, meats, dairy and biofuel markets over the 2009- 2018 period. The focus of the session will be on the implications of these projections, in terms of key pressures and opportunities, for Emerging/Developing economies. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medium-term Agricultural Outlook - Pavel Vavra, OECD • Issues for Emerging/Developing Economies - Alexander Sarris, FAO <div style="text-align: center;"><i>Coffee break</i></div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 minute panel commentaries to launch discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Linda Fulponi, OECD ✓ Christopher Delgado, World Bank ✓ Sarala Gopalan, IFAP, India • Open discussion
13:00–15:00	<i>Lunch break</i>
15:00–18:00	Longer Term Outlook for the Agri-food sector: This session will report on the outcome of an OECD symposium that brought together leaders and experts in the fields of policy, science and economics to help identify key drivers for the global agri-food sector over the next 20 years. The OECD environmental outlook to 2030 will provide analyses of economic and environmental trends and simulations of policy actions to address the key challenges, with a focus on agriculture. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agri-food in an Increasingly Globalised World – Frank van Tongeren, OECD • Agriculture and the Environment - Helen Mountford, OECD • 10 minute panel commentaries to launch discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Siwa Msangi, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) ✓ Jacques Bonou, IFAP, Benin ✓ Javier Blas, Financial Times <div style="text-align: center;"><i>Coffee break</i></div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open discussion
18:00-20:00	Evening Reception, OECD Conference Centre - hosted by the OECD

Tuesday, 30 June 2009	
SESSION 2 – Policy Directions and Priorities	
10:00–13:00	<p>Short-term Policy Responses to Higher and volatile Food Prices</p> <p>Governments responded to the sharp rise in food prices with wide-ranging policy measures to ease the burden on consumers and to ensure supplies. This session will examine the types of policies introduced while country experts will discuss domestic experiences and the possible implications for future approaches towards food security.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of Responses to Higher Food Prices - Andrzej Kwiecinski, OECD • China: Pressures, Responses and Outcomes, Xiande Li, CAAS • India: Pressures, Responses and Outcomes - Simrit Kaur, University of Delhi • Brazil: Pressures, Responses and Outcomes - Caio Galvao de Franca, Ministry of Agrarian Development, Brazil • South Africa: Pressures, Responses and Outcomes - Billy Morokolo, National Department of Agriculture • Open Discussion <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Note: no formal break but coffee available outside the meeting room</i></p>
13:00 – 14:30	<i>Lunch break</i>
14:30– 17:30	<p>Longer Term Policy Responses to Food Security</p> <p>This session will present a synthesis of knowledge about what Emerging/Developing and developed economy policies are most effective in tackling the structural causes and consequences of volatile food prices. It will also examine the technical challenges and investment needs that must be overcome if the agri-food sector is to meet the demand for food and fibre, which is expected to double by 2050.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Development Dimension of Food Security - Phil Abbott, Purdue University • Feeding the World in 2050 - Keith Wiebe, FAO • 10 minute panel commentaries to launch discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Tetsuo Ushikusa, Ministry of Agriculture, Japan ✓ Raul Hopkins, IFAD, Latin America and Caribbean Division ✓ Alain-Dominique Quintart, Syngenta ✓ Baris Karapinar, World Trade Institute (WTI) <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Coffee break</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open discussion
17:30 – 18:00	<p>Closing session</p> <p>Forum Summary - Wayne Jones, OECD</p> <p>Final comments from the floor</p> <p>Forum closing comments - Neil Fraser, Forum Chair</p>