



Statement on behalf of the European Union and its 27 Member States

75th Session of the FAO Committee on Commodity Problems
(13-15 July 2022)

Item 4.1: FAO's programme of work in commodity markets and trade under the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31

Madam/Mr Chair,

1. I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Union and its 27 Member States.
2. The candidate countries Albania, Republic of Moldova, Türkiye and Ukraine and the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate Bosnia and Herzegovina align themselves with this statement.
3. Commodity market and food security monitoring, assessment and outlook are crucial to prepare the international community for disruptions and crises affecting global food security. This is particularly important in a time of unprecedented shocks affecting food and agricultural commodity markets – shocks such as conflicts, pandemics, the climate crisis, biodiversity loss and extreme weather events. In this context, FAO's work in agricultural commodity markets and trade, in collaboration with the OECD and other international organisations, is essential for gathering up-to-date and comparable information, monitoring developments in markets – including input industries – and policy developments, and communicating these findings to policy-makers and the private sector alike.
4. We take note of the **achievements in FAO's work** in commodity markets and trade in 2020-21, and commend the variety and quality of the global public goods provided by FAO.

5. The EU and its 27 Member States would like to highlight the important role the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31 has to play in **supporting the implementation of Agenda 2030**. We also wish to stress that **following a systems approach** will be key to implementing the Strategic Framework in a way that takes account of the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development. We welcome FAO's intention to strengthen capacities within the Organisation and apply comprehensive approaches, such as the One Health approach.
6. As stated on paragraph 5 of the background document, we would like to underline the importance of **aligning FAO's Country Programming Frameworks** with the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework. We would ask FAO to include all relevant information on its country-level process and documentation in one part of its website for easy access by FAO's Members and other stakeholders.
7. In terms of **guidance on the priorities for FAO's work in commodity markets and trade**, the EU and its 27 Member States would like to provide the following remarks.
8. As a general remark, we would encourage FAO to continue to mitigate the immediate impacts of **Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine**. This aggression has a severe impact on food production in Ukraine and is undermining its harvest potential and export capacities. In addition, FAO should continue its effort to address impacts of events caused by the climate crisis and biodiversity loss, and of the COVID-19 pandemic, while also working to strengthen the longer-term resilience and sustainability of food systems.
9. Following the last CCP session, we would welcome FAO continuing to collect, analyse and disseminate data, information and short-term forecasts on **markets for tropical and agricultural products and raw materials, which is also relevant to the interpretation of Agenda 2030**.
10. On FAO's work on food security monitoring and assessment, we would like to underline the important role of FAO in the **Global Network against Food Crises**, which is a global alliance of humanitarian and development actors committed to tackling the root causes of food crises and promoting sustainable solutions. Following up on the last Council recommendation, the EU and its 27 Member States would like to ask FAO to provide a presentation to the Membership in the next Council on the relevant activities of this Network.

11. Finally, we welcome the FAO's efforts to promote responsible **global value chains** in collaboration with relevant partners and to promote the uptake of the OECD-FAO Guidance for Responsible Agricultural and of the Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS). We recognise FAO's contribution to the development of the European Union code of conduct for responsible food business and marketing practices. We also wish to praise FAO's work on the Sustainable Cocoa Initiative, including its active participation in the Cocoa Talks between EU stakeholders and the governments of Cote d'Ivoire and Ghana.

Thank you, Madam/Mr Chair.
