Dear AMIS participants,

I am deeply honored to take on the role of AMIS Chair. Thank you for your trust and support when electing me into this important position.

First, I would like to thank Adriana Herrera and Mexico for their steady leadership over the last year. Adriana stepped forward to chair AMIS during a difficult period as the COVID-19 pandemic continued. She has maintained the momentum of AMIS as we have seen agricultural markets being roiled by supply shocks, war, and surging energy and input prices.

I want to congratulate all countries that have regularly participated in AMIS over the years, in particular over the last few years as we have all had a great deal of work on our plates to calm agricultural markets domestically.

It is a critical period for agricultural markets and the cooperation of nations. AMIS has been referenced numerous times as one of the needed contributors to navigate this period of market turmoil. As Chair, I’d like to see us build on our framework to exchange information regularly, and to discuss market developments as they occur. Meetings of the Global Food Market Information Group are a key component in this regard, as are the meetings of the AMIS Rapid Response Forum to review policy options and jointly decide on appropriate solutions.

The member organizations of AMIS have provided critical input on issues such as trade restrictions, production conditions in Ukraine and around the world, transportation costs and beyond. We value your contributions and active participation in AMIS highly, and we all will need to continue this close cooperation if we are to be successful in the future.

In closing, I would like us, as a group, to pull the less frequent participating countries back into the fold. I have participated in this group for several years now, and many of you would know me as a proud Iowan, but in my new role as AMIS Chair I promise you to let out my inner Frenchman, Chinese or Brazilian as the case may be. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any guidance or suggestions, and I look forward to engaging with each one of you.

Seth Meyer  
Chief Economist  
U.S. Department of Agriculture