FIFTH SESSION OF THE AMIS
GLOBAL FOOD MARKET INFORMATION GROUP

MEXICO CITY, MEXICO

20-21 May 2014

Chapultepec Castle
Bosque de Chapultepe

AGENDA
DAY 1: Tuesday, 20 May 2014

Morning: 08:30-13:00

08.30 Registration

09.00 1. Welcome address - His Excellency Mr Enrique Martinez, Secretary of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fisheries and Food (SAGARPA).

09.15 2. Opening remarks - AMIS Chair, Ms Karen Schneider, Executive Director of Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences (ABARES).

09.30 3. AMIS crops market situation and outlook in 2014/15

Recent market developments and the short-term outlook for wheat, maize, rice and soybeans will be presented by analysts from the FAO and the IGC in the AMIS Secretariat. Participants are invited to comment on the Secretariat’s assessments and to provide the latest information with regard to their country’s situation.

10.30 4. The GEOGLAM Crop Monitor: status, new developments and next steps (AMIS: IG/5 - 2014/2)

To update delegates on the collaboration between AMIS and GEOGLAM, especially as regards the monthly “Crop Monitor” that has become a regular feature in the AMIS Market Monitor since September 2013. The presentation will highlight new developments, next steps, and items for review and discussion.

- Presentation - Dr Inbal Becker-Reshef (GEOGLAM).
- Questions and Answers.

11.00 Coffee break

11:30 5. AMIS progress report and programme of work (AMIS: IG/5 - 2014/3)

To highlight main achievements in 2013 and to provide an overview of upcoming activities in 2014, especially as regards the main output areas of AMIS: (i) Information collection; (ii) Research; (iii) Capacity development; (iv) Dissemination; (v) Policy Dialogue:

- Presentation - Mr Abdolreza Abbassian, AMIS Secretary.
- Questions and Answers.

12:00 6. Status of country collaboration and balances/forecast work (AMIS: IG/5 - 2014/4)

To discuss with countries their level of engagement in sharing crucial market information with the Secretariat, highlighting the importance of these contributions for the goals of AMIS.

- Presentation - Mr Philippe Paquotte (AMIS Secretariat).
- Panel discussion on submission of forecasts with countries that have not been able to provide regular and complete forecasts - the respective countries will be notified in advance of the meeting.

13.00 Lunch break
**Afternoon: 14:30-16:30**

**14:30**  
7. **International commodity benchmarks and producer prices** (AMIS: IG/5-2014/5)

As a follow-up to the October 2013 meeting of the Information Group (4th Session), AMIS has reviewed the extent to which producer prices follow global benchmarks such as futures prices at the Chicago Mercantile Exchange; the components along the supply chain that facilitate or impede the transmission of prices; and the overall relevance of futures prices – whether global or regional – to producer price realization.

- Presentation - Ms Ann Berg (AMIS Senior Consultant) and Ms Estefania Puricelli (AMIS Secretariat).

- Panel discussion with target countries of the review: Argentina, Brazil, China, South Africa, Ukraine and the United States.

- Questions and Answers.

**15:30**  
8. **Estimating cereal use for feed** (AMIS: IG/5-2014/6)

Feed utilization is a largely unknown component in supply and demand balances. Improved methodologies to estimate these numbers are therefore of great relevance for AMIS. Based on a series of country case studies, the AMIS Secretariat has reviewed currently used methods for estimating feed utilization in order to identify best practices to be applied in both developed and developing countries.

- Presentation - Mr Denis Drechsler (AMIS Project Manager).

- Panel discussion with target countries of the review: China, India, Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam.

- Questions and Answers.

**16:30**  
Guided tour of the National History Museum “Castillo de Chapultepec” followed by a cocktail
DAY 2: Wednesday, 21 May 2014

Morning: 09.00-12:30

09:00  9. Research initiatives by AMIS participating countries and partners

This session is devoted to research initiatives by AMIS participating countries and member organizations of the AMIS Secretariat.

• Prediction of seasonal climate-induced variations in global food production (Dr Motoki Nishimori, National Institute for Agro-Environmental Sciences, Japan)

• Improving forecasts and estimates in maize and soybeans (Mr Joe Glauber, United States Department of Agriculture)

10:00  10. Roundtable discussion on recent policy developments relevant for AMIS

This session will review recent policy developments that may have an impact on AMIS crops – particularly domestic and global supply. Countries are invited to present major policy changes that have occurred since the last meeting of the Information Group in October 2013, outlining the rationale for these changes and highlighting potential implications for markets.

• New Farm Bill in the United States

• New EU CAP (Common Agricultural Policy)

• New rice policy in Japan

• New food security act in India

11:00  Coffee break

11:30  11. Presenting the AMIS policy database

Building on work presented at the 4th Session of the Information Group, the AMIS Secretariat has constructed an online policy database covering six types of policy measures: biofuel policies, export restrictions, export subsidies, import tariffs, tariff quotas, and in-quota tariffs. The web-based application will allow AMIS participating countries to verify the historical baseline and continuously expand the database with new information.

• Presentation - Ms Annelies Deuss (OECD, AMIS Secretariat)

• Questions and Answers

12:30  Lunch break
Afternoon: 14:30-17.00

14.30  12. New initiatives on capacity building

- Visiting exchange programme for national focal points (AMIS: IG/5-2014/7):

  To inform countries of a new initiative that will allow national focal points work with the AMIS Secretariat in Rome and present nominated candidates for the first round of the programme starting in September 2014. All AMIS countries, especially those participating in the programme, are invited to voice their expectations and share their ideas on how to structure the exchange.

- Promoting closer collaboration amongst the AMIS participating countries for capacity building and development (AMIS: IG/5-2014/8):

  To discuss capacity building needs in AMIS participating countries and to identify the best way forward, including through peer support among AMIS countries. For this reason, AMIS participants will be invited to discuss participant capacity building needs and possible ways to address them. The discussion would focus on areas that are critical to fulfilling their obligations toward AMIS, and highlight any skills or expertise that they could offer to assist other countries.

16.00  13. Any other business

16:30  14. Chair's summary

17.00  Closure