



Council of the
European Union

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PROBA 23
AGRI 353
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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
On:	26 June 2023

Subject:	EU's commitment to tackle the challenges in the commodity sectors - Council conclusions (26 June 2023)
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Delegations will find in the annex the Council conclusions on EU's commitment to tackle the challenges in the commodity sectors, as approved by the Council at its 3961st meeting held on 26 June 2023.

COUNCIL CONCLUSIONS**on****EU's commitment to tackle the challenges in the commodity sectors****THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION:**

1. MINDFUL that many developing countries, especially the least-developed countries are still heavily dependent on commodity production and revenues and that the development of commodities and their successful transition up the value chain helps reduce poverty, especially amongst vulnerable groups, in particular small farm producers and women; CONSCIOUS that the security of commodity supplies is of high importance for the European Union;
2. CONCERNED about the unprecedented food crisis the world is facing, affecting in particular the poorest countries and most vulnerable populations, and thereby deepening inequalities;
3. ACKNOWLEDGES that commodity markets remain highly volatile and UNDERLINES the importance of remaining strongly committed to the evolution of commodities and emerging issues, in line with the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its SDGs, while maintaining focus on sustainability;
4. REAFFIRMS its strong commitment to multilateralism and the rules-based international order to provide effective responses to the major challenges of our time that call for global solutions;

5. EMPHASISES the EU's commitment to tackle the challenges and emerging issues in the commodity sectors, such as food security, sustainable production chains and climate change, to strengthen its role within the International Commodity Bodies (ICBs) and to enhance collaboration with other international organisations, in particular UNCTAD, WTO and FAO, with a view to ensuring the consistency of EU action at global level;
6. STRESSES the key role of the ICBs as fora for promoting cooperation in commodity matters and for consulting and sharing best practices between producer and consumer member countries as well as with the private sector, civil society and other relevant stakeholders;
7. ENCOURAGES the ICBs to work towards the achievement of their objectives, while at the same time making the best possible use of their resources; SUPPORTS gender equality, diversity and inclusiveness within the ICBs; SUPPORTS ICBs' efforts to better cope with crises and exceptional circumstances, including the need to consider adjusting the ICBs' procedures and rules, as necessary;
8. CALLS ON the Commission and the Member States, acting within their respective competences, to advance the work and interests of the EU on commodities within the context of the EU Green Deal and the EU trade and sustainable development goals;
9. ENCOURAGES the Commission and the Member States to explore, where appropriate, possibilities for enhancing the EU's collaboration with the ICBs in a manner that reflects their importance for the EU; in this regard TAKES NOTE of the Commission's practice to follow and analyse market developments and trends in the commodity sectors; RECOMMENDS that the Commission and the Member States continue the dialogue with the private sector and civil society in order to ensure that commodity-related initiatives meet the market needs and current challenges.
