



## Final Communiqué of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Berlin Agriculture Ministers' Summit 2011 in Berlin on January 22<sup>nd</sup> 2011

At the “3<sup>rd</sup> Berlin Agriculture Ministers' Summit”, agriculture ministers from 48 countries came together to exchange experiences and ideas on how trade at local, regional and global level could contribute towards food security.

They are convinced that sustainable and regional production and an integrated, rules-based trading system, are prerequisites for making food security and the right to food a practical reality.

The agriculture ministers assembled in Berlin

- *welcome* the opportunity to have an open exchange about the role of trade in food security;
- *note* that the development of the agricultural sector and rural areas plays a key role in meeting the needs of the growing global population for sufficient and nutritious food, and is inextricably linked with economic growth and the fight against poverty;
- *emphasise* the need to increase public and private investment in agriculture and rural development and to promote research and innovation;
- *underline* in this regard the responsibility of all governments to secure, and increase both quantitatively and qualitatively, national food production in accordance with national food security strategies;
- *note further* that, in view of scarce resources and increasing risks linked with climate change, global food security requires an integrated and sustainable approach for the development of agriculture and rural areas;
- *affirm* the outcome of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Berlin Agriculture Ministers' Summit of 16 January 2010 on “Agriculture and Climate Change: Concept Proposals from Policymakers and Industry”
- *emphasise* the key importance of the development of local and regional markets for strengthening value creation in the agricultural sector and for facilitating a dynamic development of rural areas;
- *affirm* that linking agricultural producers to markets and cross-border integration of regional markets can contribute towards food security and the participation of agriculture in the global economic development;
- *underline* in this regard the importance of functioning and fair competition for the participation of producers in value creation at local, regional and global levels;
- *pay due regard to the fact* that smallholder farmers in developing countries need particular support to integrate themselves better into local, regional and global markets;
- *acknowledge* the role of trade in creating a balance between the different levels and actors;
- *highlight* the role that functioning markets play in the trading system;

- *see the necessity* of supporting developing countries in overcoming technical and institutional obstacles to trade;
- *stand by the aim* of creating fair and balanced rules for the agricultural sector within the Doha Development Round;
- *appeal* in this regard to the chief negotiators at the WTO to bring the Doha Development Round to a timely, ambitious and balanced conclusion and to bear in mind its contribution to global food security, especially in the poorest countries;
- *regard* free and transparent price formation as a key prerequisite for markets to function;
- *are considering*, in view of the price volatility on agricultural markets evident throughout the world, reinforcing the importance of risk-protection measures;
- *are concerned* that excessive price volatility and speculation on international agricultural markets might constitute a threat to food security;
- *welcome* the initiative of France to put this issue on the agenda of the G-20;
- *appeal* to the Heads of State and Government in the G 20 and the relevant international organisations to endeavour to strengthen the ability of agricultural markets to function properly, to improve market transparency and market information and to fight the abuse and manipulation of prices.