Forty-fourth Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee

Panel Discussion: Strengthening the Role of Agrifood Trade in the Americas in Global and Regional Food Security

Agrifood Trade in the Americas and the status of collective actions under the Hemispheric Partnership with respect to trade

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Contents



1. AGRIFOOD TRADE 2021-2023



2. OPPORTUNITIES

- The region is the world's major exporter of agrifood products and it must promote free, transparent, predictable trade governed by science-based rules, in order to strengthen its contribution to sustainable development and food security.
- The region is the leader in the exportation of key products for global agrifood chains.

Exports within LAC and its subregions continue to be low, which represents an opportunity for growth.

3. MAIN CHALLENGES

- Increasing changes and fragmentation in economic and trade relations.
- The adoption of more protectionist measures in response to various crises.
- The possible decreased competitiveness of value chains, due to rising costs for production, marketing and transportation.
- The complex situation surrounding the multilateral trade system and the urgent need for it to produce results and generate agreements within the framework of the WTO.
- New standards that are being promoted to protect and preserve the environment, but which could become restrictions to trade and represent a significant economic and social cost for other countries.

4. Hemispheric Partnership

International and regional trade as a catalyst for sustainable development and food security.

Main **Achievements** 2023/2024

Networks and discussion forums:

- **Network of Agrifood Trade Negotiators to the WTO** (IICA/IFPRI).
- **Network of Agrifood Trade** Experts (IICA/BID/FAO).

Countries are increasing their participation in the WTO to foster open, transparent and predictable.

Capacity development:

- **Trade policy** 2,885 persons.
- **Preparing to export** 3,800 people.

Countries are challenging the that restrict agrifood trade.

Countries are increasing intraregional trade and making greater use of signed agreements.

emergence of rules

Knowledge creation:

WTO Manual.

- **Capacity Building Guide** for More Effective Use of Trade Agreements.
 - **Regional actions to** tackle the emergence of environmental rules.
- WTO Green Box analysis. **Best practices and EUDR** bottlenecks.

Trade promotion actions:

4 virtual business roundtables, registering 2,000 participating companies.

Other strategic actions

- **Regulatory convergence** with ALADI.
- **MOU** with WTO

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Thank you for your attention!