

AGRO 2013 "World grain market - trends, risks, initiatives"



On May 22, EBA Executive Director Anna Derevyanko took part in **the International Forum: 'World grain market – trends, risks, initiatives'** as a moderator and guest speaker in the framework **of the XXV International Agro-Industrial Exhibition 'AGRO 2013'**. The forum was organised by the Ministry of Agrarian Policy and Food of Ukraine.

During the Forum a large audience had the opportunity to hear relevant and informative participant presentations. The Forum was opened by a speech from Minister of Agrarian Policy and Food Mykola Prysyzhnyiuk, who mentioned that the food issue is now a key

focus of the international community. 'The rapid increase of the global population and rising incomes in countries with fast-growing economies has led to a significant increase in demand for foodstuffs. That is why the grain market is a key and Ukraine as one of the world's grain industry leaders will play its part ensuring global food security', - the Minister commented.

Representatives of agro ministries from the Czech Republic, Poland and Lithuania as well as the UN Investment centre on food and agriculture, diplomatic corps and agro-business community also contributed to the discussion.

The EBA presentation focused on the main goals of the grain industry in Ukraine including concluding a Memorandum of Understanding between business and state officials. In addition, Anna Derevyanko mentioned the importance of amending certain legislative acts regulating the commodities market in Ukraine.

Undoubtedly, reforming and improving the permit system for grain export operations is also required. Furthermore, strengthening the FTA between the EU and Ukraine will create favorable conditions for investments.

During the meeting forum participants referred to risks and obstacles in this area arising from the regulatory framework, climate change and grain price fluctuations.

Resolving these problems requires transparency of decision-making, regulatory stabilization, and high standards of agricultural production taking into account the impact on the environment.

An example of a successful initiative is the Information System AMIS, which was established to fight against extreme changes in market prices of food. This system contains data about global supplies and agricultural production.

Every year there is a steady increase in the population of our planet. Moreover, some scientists predict a population increase by another 2 billion in the next thirty years. In such circumstances, modern society desperately needs the support of agricultural producers to increase the productivity and quality of products. Today Ukraine ranks 10th place in the ranking of cereals production and 7th for exports and has great potential for rapid development.

Therefore, lively continuing dialogue between business and government, as well as joint efforts for the benefit of agricultural production will accelerate stabilization and further determine the sector's growth potential.

Source: European Business Association (EBA)

<http://www.eba.com.ua/en/information-support/eba-news/important/item/7310-2013-5-22-1200>