

SYNTHESIS OF THE REPORT ON THE MEETING BETWEEN THE WEST AFRICAN MARKET INFORMATION SYSTEM NETWORK (RESIMAO) AND THE WEST AFRICAN FOOD INDUSTRY ECONOMIC OPERATORS NETWORK (ROESAO)

Place: Palais des Congrès, Bamako, Mali
Date : March 14, 2003

Members of the meeting presidium

President : El Hadj FOFANA (ROESAO-Guinée)
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In accordance with the program of activities of the fourth edition of the West African agricultural outlook conference, the meeting between the West African Market Information System Network (RESIMAO in French) and the West African Food Industry Economic Operators Network (ROESAO in French) took place on Friday, March 14th, 2003 at the « Palais des Congres » conference center in Bamako, Mali.

The objective of this meeting was to push further the notion first raised at the previous Cotonou meeting, namely to develop a range of the economic operators' real and necessary needs for information. This would provide the MISs a guideline for systematically collecting relevant market information.

The session began with very enriching discussions between the participants.

These discussions led to a request for information on the following variables:

- Prices;
- Special offers to sell;
- Special requests for products;
- Levels of food stocks;
- Harvesting and trading seasons;
- Quality standards;
- Statutory rules;
- Transport costs;
- Routes with less administrative harassment;
- Addresses of the various operators (to be recorded in a repertoire).

Another conclusion of the debates was that the market information systems must develop further their methodology in order to satisfy the needs of the food industry economic operators. On the other hand, these economic operators were encouraged to provide a substantial support to the MISs to help them cover the costs of acquiring information.

However, a divergence in opinion arose during the debates regarding the diffusion of information on livestock prices. The majority of the participants considered that broadcasting prices is useful because broadcasting information related to trade in general and to prices in

particular, contribute to the markets transparency. In fact, price being an essential element in a market transaction, it must be revealed to the public according to trade laws.

With regards to the livestock sub-sector still, questions were raised regarding the methodology used to determine the price of «animaux au poids vif » (live animals ???) when these animals are sold according to their weight due to the lack of adequate infrastructure for weighting animals.

In response to all these concerns, the RESIMAO coordination team promises to make sure that the MISs will adapt themselves to economic operators' needs given their expertise in the domain of trade.

However one of the team's major concerns was the fact that some economic operators had the tendency to withhold information, which made it difficult for the MISs to function efficiently.

In the final analysis, there was a convergence of opinions with regards to the fact that the needs of both the RESIMAO and the ROESAO, expressed during the second MIS meeting held from the 16th through the 18th of January 2002, had been taken into account.

The following tables below show the needs expressed by economic traders during this meeting. See tables 1, 2 and 3 in the appendix

Thus the trade variables selected by the MISs are:

Wholesale prices expressed in F/Kg;

Consumer prices in F/Kg;

Price per head;

Supply Situation

The frequency for sending information agreed upon was once a week on the following days:

Benin: Wednesday

Niger: Wednesday

Côte d'Ivoire: Wednesday

Mali: Monday

Burkina Faso: Monday

Senegal: Monday

The Secretariat

Appendix

Table 1: IDENTIFIED MARKETS AND PRODUCTS BY COUNTRY

COUNTRY	TARGETED MARKETS	TARGETED PRODUCTS	
		Supply	Demand
Benin	Cotonou (Dantokpa market) Malanville	Corn, gari, yam, pineapple, orange, livestock, dry pepper, palm oil, karité butter	Onion, potatoes, niébé, rice, livestock
Burkina Faso	Sankaryaré, Ouahigouya, Bobo-Dioulasso, Pouitinga	Green beans, tomatoes, millet, sorghum, corn, mangoes, livestock, almond and karité butter	Millet, corn, sorghum, cola nut, gari, banana plantain, potatoes, attiéké
Côte d'Ivoire	Abidjan, Korhogo, Bouaké (Wholesale market)	Banana plantain, yam, attiéké, corn, peanut, mangoes, cola, soja	Onion, potatoes, white beans, green beans, green cabbage , millet, sorghum, livestock, tomatoes
Mali	Bamako, Ségou, Sikasso, Koutiala, Gao	Corn, millet, sorghum, potatoes, mangoes, livestock, échalote (???), violet de galmi (???), big white onions, bissap, fish, niébé, karité butter, fonio, sesame, karité almond, local rice étuvé(???)	Corn, millet, sorghum, cola nut , banana plantain, yam, violet de galmi (???), big white onions, salt, attiéké, sea fish, papaya solo, red oil, fonio
Niger	Niamey, Zinder, Maradi	Onion, niébé, livestock, sesame, souchet(???), voandzou (???), leather, gomme arabique (arabic glue ???), honey, souchet (???)	Millet, corn, sorghum, yam, orange, pineapple, potatoes, gari, honey
Sénégal	Dakar, Tambacounda, Thiès, Kaolack, Diaobé	Fish, salt, peanut, local white rice, bissap, niébé	Millet, sorghum, cola nut, livestock, corn, mangoes, karité butter, rice, pineapple, banana
Togo	Lomé, Cinkassé	Corn, pineapple, gari, yam, tomatoes, carrot, anacarde (???)	Livestock, onion, niébé, sesame, rice, tomatoes, fish, cola nut, orange
Guinée	Conakry, Kankan, Labé	Fonio, palm oil, pineapple, banana poyo, potatoes	Rice, livestock, karité (almonds and butter) , néré grain

	Products Prices	Wholesale Prices/ kg	Consumer Prices/ kg	Supply Situation
Market No____				

Table 2 : Framework for sharing information about agricultural products

Special Supply or demand:_____

Table 3 : Framework for sharing information about livestock

	categories	Average weights	Price/head	observations
Market No____				
	Bull			
	Taurillon (???)			
	Vache de reforme (???)			
	Heifer			
	Ox			
	Bauvillon(???)			
	Veau(calf ???)			
	Velle(???)			
	Ovines			
	Bélier(ram ???)			
	Antenais(???)			
	Brebis (sheep ???)			
	Antenaise(???)			
	Ovines			
	Goat			
	Chèvre (???)			