

**OECD MEETING OF AGRICULTURAL MINISTERS | THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2022**  
**REPUBLIC OF TÜRKIYE STATEMENT FOR PLENARY SESSION : “TAKING ACTION TOGETHER FOR GLOBAL FOOD  
SECURITY: LESSONS FROM RECENT CRISES”**

**Esteemed Ministers,  
Dear Participants,**

First, I would like to express my gratitude to address you on this occasion.

Developments in recent years pointed out that our **responsibilities to minimize food security problems are** much more important than ever.

In 2021, hunger affected 278 million people in Africa, 425 million in Asia and 56.5 million in Latin America and the Caribbean.

It is estimated that nearly 670 million people will still be undernourished in 2030 amounting to 8 percent of the world population, which is the same percentage as in 2015 when the 2030 Agenda was launched.

As we entered the Decade of Action to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030, many of the world's food systems were fragile and not fulfilling the right to adequate food for all.

The COVID-19 pandemic, climate change and now the war in Ukraine worsened the situation.

This increased the pressure on global food security. In order to reverse the situation and respond these global and regional challenges, we need to cooperate collectively and effectively.

As a country always acting with the understanding "**Leave No One Behind**", we are actively taking part in the relevant multilateral initiatives at the UN, G20 and other platforms.

Within this scope, in order to address the negative impacts of the ongoing crisis, Türkiye declared a **package of measures to support the Global Food Security Call to Action** at the Ministerial Meeting held in May at the UN.

**Under the leadership of our President His Excellency Recep Tayyip Erdoğan,** Türkiye has made great efforts in cooperation with the UN to launch the “Black Sea Grain Initiative”.

This initiative has enabled the resumption of exports from Ukraine of grain and other foodstuffs, through a safe humanitarian maritime corridor, to the rest of the world since 22 July 2022.

As of 1 November 2022, 9,8 million tons of grain and other foodstuff were shipped to world markets.

60.9% of the shipments made through Ukrainian ports had destinations in Europe, 20.1% in Asia, 13.4% in Africa and 5.4% in the Middle East.

589.881 tons of wheat were shipped to the least developed countries, corresponding to 6% of the total shipment.

As you know, we observed immediate and positive impact of this initiative, which was followed by a drastic decrease in wheat prices.

As you would also be aware, Russia had announced the suspension of the Grain Corridor. However, as a result of the initiatives of our President H.E. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, Russia changed its decision and returned to the agreement. Shipments will resume.

As Türkiye, our priority is not only to secure the food supply chain, but also to ensure world peace and security for all humanity.

However, this is a task that requires global cooperation.

So we should work together to make our agri-food systems more efficient, more inclusive, more resilient and more sustainable.

Thank you...