

COUNTRY: BRAZIL

COMMITTEE: FAO ( FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION.)

AGENDA ITEM: ENSURING SUSTAINABLE FOOD PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION TO ACCOMMODATE THE INCREASING WORLD POPULATION.



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

Rio de Janeiro is the second largest city in Brazil and an iconic city that is famous for its beaches, music, outstanding scenery and its annual carnival which lasts for 2 weeks with one of the most flamboyant parades you're ever likely to see. The harbour of Rio de Janeiro offers a fantastic sight against the backdrop of the city's spectacular geographic features that include Sugar Loaf Mountain, Tijuca hills and Corcovado peak. Many consider the harbour and surrounding mountains to be one of the new Seven Wonders of the World.



Now I want to give some information about FAO. The [FAO Food Price Index](#), which tracks monthly changes in the international prices of commonly-traded food commodities, averaged 127.2 points in April 2023, up 0.6 percent from March.

At that level, the Index was 19.7 percent below its level in April 2022, but still 5.2 percent higher than in April 2021.

The FAO Sugar Price Index rose 17.6 percent from March, reaching its highest level since October 2011, due to reduced productions expectations and outcomes in India, China, Thailand and the European Union caused by dry weather conditions as well as to a slow start of the sugarcane crop harvest in Brazil, along with higher international crude oil prices, which can increase demand for sugarcane -based ethanol.

The FAO Meat Price Index rose 1.3 percent during the month, driven primarily by higher pig meat quotations, followed by poultry prices, which increased amid Asian import demand and production curbs spurred by animal health issues. International bovine meat prices also increased due to a decline in cattle supplies for slaughter, especially in the United States of America.

In the meantime, price indices for other major food commodity categories, with the exception of rice, continued their declining trend.



The FAO Cereal Price Index dipped 1.7 percent from March and averaged 19.8 percent below its April 2022 value. International wheat prices declined by 2.3 percent, due mostly to large exportable availabilities in Australia and the Russian Federation. World maize prices fell 3.2 percent as supplies in South America seasonally increased with ongoing harvests. On the other hand, against a backdrop of reduced harvests caused by higher input costs and adverse weather, especially outside of Asia, sales to Asian buyers sustained an increase in international rice prices.

"It is important that we continue to track very closely the evolution of prices and the reasons for increases in prices. As economies recover from significant slowdowns, demand will increase, exerting upward pressure on food prices," said FAO Chief Economist Maximo Torero. "At the same time, the increase in rice prices is extremely worrisome and it is essential that the Black Sea initiative is renewed to avoid any other spikes in wheat and maize," he added.

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