Message from the Committee Chair

2021 demonstrated again the importance of resilient agricultural markets and agro-food supply chains. Not only have our international systems and coordination carried our communities through the Covid-19 pandemic, but they also continue to improve their resilience in the face of increasing environmental and climate change related risks.

To this end, the Business at OECD (BIAC) Food and Agriculture Committee vigorously engaged across a myriad of interrelated issues at the OECD. Noting not only the strength but also the need to improve of our international food and agricultural systems our members advocated for more action and coordination to build resilience across the sector, and especially for supply chains. We stressed the importance of addressing environmental performance, sustainability, and risk management – all of which can be aided by investment in innovation and digitalization. Indeed on digitalization, we provided the OECD with clear positions and opportunities to embrace digitalization in the agricultural sector.

To crystalize our engagement at the OECD, summing up recent work and laying the groundwork for future advocacy, our committee released Food and Agriculture Business Priorities Paper – Recovery and Resilience. We established solid foundation to continue underlining the importance of OECD work and investment into digitalization, innovation, and value chains. Within our paper, we also jumpstart the conversation on food price inflation and sustainable food systems.

We look forward to continuing the strong collaboration of our membership with the OECD and other member governments in 2022 so, so that all OECD businesses and communities can reap the benefits of strong agro-food systems in the 21st century.

Metin Akman
Business at OECD Food and Agriculture Committee Chair
Anako Yumurta ve Ürünleri Gıda San. Ihr. İth. ve Tic. A.Ş.
The OECD is a global leader of statistics, forecasts, and evidence-based policy recommendations in the area of food and agriculture. Its annual publications, such as Monitoring and Evaluating Agricultural Policies and the OECD–FAO Agricultural Outlook, are closely followed by policymakers and industry. The OECD’s policy work contributes to bettering food systems towards in pursuit of the Sustainable Development Goals. The OECD contributes actively to the G20, including on the Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS).

Business at OECD (BIAC) is the officially recognized business advisory group to the OECD and represents the leading business and employers’ organizations in OECD countries. The work of our Food and Agriculture Committee enables private sector representatives to participate in high-level OECD sessions and regular policy meetings, exchange and network with governments and OECD leadership, access information and contribute to OECD policy recommendations, and build momentum with private sector peers to impact policy-making at all stages.

This activity report provides selected year highlights of the Business at OECD Food and Agriculture Committee in 2021, and includes a list of Committee releases and sessions. In line with the OECD’s priorities and the efforts of many others of our Committees, our activities in 2021 focused aligning core issues of the Committee with recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, amongst other important food and agriculture topics.
March

- In March, a large Business at OECD (BIAC) Food and Agriculture Committee delegation participated in **OECD Working Party on Agricultural Policies and Markets (APM)** meeting, to discuss the OECD work on Food Systems, Agricultural resilience to natural disasters and agricultural risk management policies, amongst other issues.

April

- In April, our Committee members attended the **OECD Committee for Agriculture (COAG)** meeting, and contributed to the discussions about future on agricultural supply chains, recent market developments and preparations for OECD meeting of agriculture ministers in 2022.

May

- In May, Business at OECD delegation led by Vice Chair Natasha Santos (Bayer) participated in the session of the **OECD Working Party on Agricultural Policies and Markets** and convened business messages on emerging issues from the digitalization of the agricultural sector, and discussed issues related to characterizing agricultural resilience.
Our Business at OECD Food and Agriculture Committee convened virtually to exchange on members’ trade priorities and discuss with Ms. Lee Ann Jackson, the Head of Division, Agro-Food Trade and Markets Division (OECD Trade and Agriculture Directorate) on the key priorities for the Organization on agriculture for the upcoming period.

June

In June, our Committee members attended the OECD Global Forum on Agriculture, held under the theme Policies for a more resilient agro-food sector, which featured discussions on agricultural resilience, agricultural risk management, lessons from Covid-19 for food systems resilience and other.

August

In August, following up on the new proposed OECD work on emerging issues from the digitalization of agriculture sector, we have released our Key Messages on Digitalization of Agriculture, outlining key aspects to be considered and addressed to strengthen the digitalization of the agricultural sector and promotion of new technologies.
November

- In November, business delegation participated to the **OECD Joint Working Party on Agriculture and the Environment (JWP AE)**, to discuss ongoing OECD work on policies to improve environmental performance, climate change and agriculture, and agriculture, trade and sustainability, amongst other things.

- Also this month, our **Business at OECD Food and Agriculture Committee** convened in hybrid format to exchange on member priorities and learn from OECD leadership on its joint work with the FAO on its annual Agricultural Outlook, and its work on agriculture value chains.

- A large Committee delegation led by Chair Metin Akman and Vice Chair Natasha Santos contributed to the meeting of the **OECD Committee for Agriculture**. In this context, we have released our **Business Priorities Paper – Agriculture Recovery and Resilience**, to contribute to OECD discussions on its future programme of work and budget for 2023-24.

*Above: Business at OECD Food and Agriculture Chair Metin Akman; below: Natasha Santos, Vice Chair. Both at the OECD Committee for Agriculture in November.*
Major Committee Releases

- Key Messages on Digitalization of Agriculture
- Agriculture Recover and Resilience - Business Priorities Paper

Sessions

**Business at OECD Committee Sessions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Session</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 May</td>
<td><em>Business at OECD Food and Agriculture Committee Leadership Meeting with OECD Trade and Agriculture (TAD) Director Ms. Marion Jansen</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>31 May</td>
<td><em>Business at OECD Food and Agriculture Committee Meeting</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>17 November</td>
<td><em>Business at OECD Food and Agriculture Committee Meeting</em></td>
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**OECD Sessions with Member Participation**

**OECD Committee Sessions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Session</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21-22 April</td>
<td>OECD Committee for Agriculture Meeting (COAG)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4-6 May</td>
<td>OECD Committee on Fisheries (COFI)</td>
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<tr>
<td>16-17 November</td>
<td>OECD Committee on Fisheries (COFI)</td>
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<tr>
<td>18-19 November</td>
<td>OECD Committee for Agriculture Meeting (COAG)</td>
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**OECD Fora**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Session</th>
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<tr>
<td>8-9 June</td>
<td>OECD Global Forum on Agriculture</td>
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**OECD Working Party Sessions**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>6 July</td>
<td>OECD Working Party on Agricultural Policies and Markets (APM) – ad hoc session</td>
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<tr>
<td>8-9 November</td>
<td>OECD Joint Working Party on Agriculture and the Environment (JWPAE)</td>
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<tr>
<td>24-26 November</td>
<td>OECD Working Party on Agricultural Policies and Markets (APM)</td>
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**Other OECD and Business at OECD Sessions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27 January</td>
<td>OECD Webinar on Making Better Policies for Food Systems</td>
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<tr>
<td>17 May</td>
<td>OECD-China engagement of the Trade and Agriculture Directorate</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 September</td>
<td>Business at OECD Session on Biodiversity Business Principles</td>
</tr>
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2022 Preliminary Meetings Outlook

16-17 March OECD Working Party on Agricultural Policies and Markets (APM)
7-8 April OECD Joint Working Party on Agriculture and the Environment (JWPAE)
11 April OECD Workshop on Agriculture, Trade and the Environment
25 April Business at OECD Food and Agriculture Committee
26 April OECD Global Forum on Agriculture
27-28 April OECD Committee for Agriculture (COAG)
10-12 May OECD Working Party on Agricultural Policies and Markets (APM) TBC
10-12 May OECD Committee on Fisheries (COFI)

Committee Leadership

**Chair**
Metin Akman
Anako Yumurta ve Ürünleri Gıda San. İhr. İth. ve Tic. A.Ş. (Turkey)

**Vice Chairs**
Natasha Santos, Bayer (Germany)
Mauricio García de Quevedo, Spanish Food and Drink Federation (Spain)
Patricio Caso, Coca-Cola (Mexico)
Pedro Rodrigues de Almeida Philip Morris International (Switzerland)
Graeme Taylor, Syngenta (Switzerland)

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