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منظمة الأغذية

联合国 粮食及 农业组织

Food and Agriculture Organization of the **United Nations** 

**Nations Unies** pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture

Organisation des Продовольственная и сельскохозяйственная Объединенных Наций

Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Alimentación y la Agricultura

## COMMITTEE ON COMMODITY **PROBLEMS**

## **Sixty-ninth Session**

Rome, 28-30 May 2012

## SIDE EVENT

**Italian Online Commodities Exchange** Borsa Merci Telematica Italiana (BMTI)

28 May 2012 – 12.30 hours, Red Room

## The Italian experience of commodity exchanges: An example of institution efforts supporting agricultural market development and transparency

A presentation of the Italian Online Commodities Exchange, organized by the Borsa Merci Telematica Italiana (BMTI)

The strengthening of both domestic and international trade of staple and processed agricultural products stimulates economic growth, which should be more widespread as markets become more transparent and competitive. The creation of commodity exchanges encourages the formation of competitive and transparent markets, multiplying the possibilities of access to markets, defining specific disciplines for the trading of commodities, providing prompt information on price trends and standardizing the methods to determine product quality.

In this Side Event the experience of the Italian Online Commodity Exchange (Borsa Merci Telematica Italiana - BMTI) will be presented. BMTI was established in 2006 by the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry Policies on the initiative of the Italian Chambers of Commerce<sup>1</sup>.

The BMTI is a regulated electronic market for agricultural, food and fish products. It operates through an online telematic platform – the only one at the national level, accessible from any remote site. It is a spot and not a futures market, reflecting real market dynamics. Following the conclusion of contracts on the platform, sellers deliver goods to buyers. The BMTI was created to modernize the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Chambers of Commerce are public bodies that provide services to the companies in the territory of competence to support their activity and development.

services that have been offered by the Italian Chambers of Commerce since 1913 through the physical commodity exchanges to support the trading of agri-food products and market transparency.

The presentation will be made by BMTI S.c.p.A., a non-profit public company, owned exclusively by the Italian Chamber System, which manages the Italian Online Commodities Exchange.

During the Side Event, the objectives, structure and functioning of the BMTI will be illustrated with a lively demonstration. The Italian experience can provide a practical example to those who are working on the construction of commodity exchanges in their countries and could open opportunities for future collaboration.

The Side Event will be conducted in Italian, English, French and Spanish.