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	ORGANIZACION DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA LA AGRICULTURA Y LA ALIMENTACION	

Item III (b) of the
Provisional Agenda

COMMITTEE ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY

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STEPS TAKEN TO IMPLEMENT THE INTERNATIONAL UNDERTAKING:

CURRENT STATUS OF NATIONAL CEREAL STOCK POLICIES AND TARGETS

1. Under its terms of reference, one of the principal functions of the Committee on World Food Security is to "review the steps taken by governments to implement the International Undertaking on World Food Security". Under the provisions contained in Sections I, II and III of the Undertaking, subscribing countries have undertaken:

- to adopt national cereal stock policies which take into account the policies of other countries and result in a minimum safe global level of stocks;
- in formulating such stock policies, to take into account the agreed guidelines as well as the necessary safeguards to avoid adverse repercussions on the structure of production or international trade;
- to adopt national stock targets or objectives with the purpose of maintaining stocks at least at the levels necessary to ensure continuity of supplies including provision for emergency situations in case of crop failure or natural disaster;
- in fixing such stock targets, to take account of the special difficulties faced by developing countries and, where possible, to earmark stocks or funds for meeting international emergency requirements;
- in periods of acute food shortages, to make available for export on reasonable terms any stocks in excess of minimum safe levels;
- to make preparations for replenishment of stocks as soon as the supply situation permits.

2. This paper reviews the national stock policies of the 66 countries subscribing to the Undertaking, as well as those of 26 other countries for which information is available ^{1/}, in order to ascertain whether they are consistent with these provisions.

^{1/} Specific information on the policies of individual countries may be found in the Annex.

3. Delegates are invited to comment on the paper, providing supplementary data where possible. In order that the Committee can inform itself of the present status of national cereal stock policies, delegates are also invited to make country statements of the action being taken by their governments to review, formulate or establish national food stock and reserve policies in accordance with the provisions and guidelines of the Undertaking.

Action taken

4. (a) The formulation (or revision) of an explicit national cereals stock policy. This is one of the basic requirements under paragraph 3 of the Undertaking. For the purposes of this review, a stock "policy" is defined as a definite course or method of action established by a government in order to guide, influence or determine the level of stocks in the country concerned in accordance with certain defined objectives. According to information provided in official communications to the Director-General and from other sources, 40 of the 66 subscribing countries have explicit national cereal stock policies. The majority of these policies were formulated before the adoption of the Undertaking.

5. Of the 43 participating developing countries, 28 countries are recorded as having an explicit stock policy. Five of the remaining 15 participating developing countries are actively reconsidering their policies: Thailand is examining alternative stock policies in the light of the Undertaking and following the recommendations of an FAO Food Security Mission; Cameroon and Nigeria are formulating reserve stock policies; Colombia is reformulating its stock policy in the light of the Undertaking; and Ecuador has an implicit policy which is likely to become explicit when new storage capacity becomes available, again following an FAO mission. Uruguay requires international assistance in increasing storage capacity before a stock policy can be established; Burundi is seeking financial assistance to establish a stock policy; Madagascar is prevented from establishing a stock policy at present by its deficit food production coupled with the high price of rice on world markets; and in Nepal a bilateral aid project to strengthen its grain storage programme is about to commence. No information is available concerning the stock policies, if any, of Burma, the Congo, Gambia and Sierra Leone.

6. Of the 23 participating developed countries, 13 have so far not formulated an explicit national stock policy for cereals. Canada and the United States follow certain stock practices, but no explicit stock "policy" in the sense defined above. The EEC also has no official stock policy, although it aims to ensure a normal carryover stock as part of its market intervention measures. Some countries, such as Australia, Japan and New Zealand, are in the process of reviewing or formulating national stock policies in accordance with the Undertaking.

7. Among countries which have not yet subscribed to the Undertaking, a considerable number (e.g. China, Lebanon, Peru, Kenya) operate explicit national cereals stock policies which are often consistent with the objectives of world food security. In addition, Brazil's stock policy is under review and, although Botswana has no stock policy at present, an emergency reserve may soon be established in line with the recommendation of the FAO Food Security Mission which visited that country.

8. (b) Objectives of stock policies. Formulation of a national stock policy entails the adoption of clear-cut objectives. In the Undertaking, the basic objective is to ensure the continuity of supplies to consumers including provision for emergencies. In fact, practically all the countries examined state that the maintenance of a regular flow of supplies for domestic consumers is one of the aims of their stock policy. The 8 developing countries which do not give this objective, as such, all have the aim of establishing emergency food reserves, which is their most urgent need and is thus given highest priority, and which in effect serves the same purpose.

9. Most of the developing countries examined include the establishment of emergency food reserves among the objectives of their national stock policies. Of the 28 developing countries subscribing to the Undertaking which have formulated an explicit stock policy,

only 10 countries (Bolivia, Burundi, Egypt, Indonesia ^{1/}, Liberia, Malta, Mexico, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda) do not include such a provision, although it can be confidently assumed that some part of any emergency demand would be met by stocks kept for more general purposes.

10. Among developed countries, which are less prone to crop failure and consequently do not usually require emergency reserves for their own use, only Japan, Federal Republic of Germany, Sweden and Spain express this objective as part of their explicit stock policy. A new development is that Finland's reserves take into account food aid requirements and Norway has made 10 000 tons of wheat available to WFP for emergencies in 1975 as well as proposing to increase its stocks to meet needs in case of emergencies. The Government of Sweden has decided to earmark up to 40 000 tons of wheat yearly for international relief operations. In addition, it is a long-established practice of countries such as Australia, Canada, and the United States as well as the EEC to make supplies available for emergencies abroad on an ad hoc basis, drawing on available stocks.

11. Most cereal exporting countries contribute to the continuity of world supplies by including the maintenance of a regular flow of supplies to export markets among their policy objectives.

12. A final policy objective referred to in the Undertaking is to offset fluctuations in production and prices. This is a declared aim in 25 developing countries (15 of which are participating in the Undertaking) but in only 3 developed countries. Nevertheless, many of the countries, particularly developed countries, which do not explicitly include this objective among the aims of their stock policy, operate price stabilization schemes which, in practice, involve purchases at guaranteed prices and the storage of cereals.

13. (c) National stock targets. The establishment of quantitative national stock targets is one of the key elements in the Undertaking. These provide a benchmark against which to measure the adequacy of actual national stocks and may subsequently form a key role in the assessment of the desirable size of stocks at the global level for world food security. Although many countries are willing to state general aims for their national stock policies, they are much less prepared to fix or publicly announce precise targets for their stock levels. In fact, less than half of the countries participating in the International Undertaking have announced stock targets. The majority of these are in the developing regions.

14. Among developing countries, 21 participating in the Undertaking and 15 non-participants have established stock targets. Of these targets, 7 - in Chad, Ethiopia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, Upper Volta - are for emergency reserves only. They range from 10 000 tons (Chad) to 70 000 tons (Mali). Korea sets separate targets for emergency and multipurpose reserves. The remaining countries have targets for multipurpose reserves which are often expressed in terms of a specified number of months' consumption requirements. These targets range from one to six months' supply. Pakistan and Morocco have recently raised their stock targets in view of increased requirements and the fact that stocks had attained their previous objectives.

15. Five developed countries (Finland, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland) - all participants in the Undertaking - have announced specific stock targets. It is understood that Japan is actively considering the establishment of a new stock target. The amounts involved, ranging from 10 percent to 100 percent of annual consumption requirements, are generally substantially higher in relation to national consumption than those in developing countries. In some cases they appear to include strategic stocks. Targets have recently been raised in Finland, Sweden and Switzerland, while in Norway it is proposed to increase the target to one year's consumption requirements.

16. (d) Provision for replenishment of stocks. Provisions for the replenishment of stocks are specifically contained in the Undertaking ^{2/} and are essential in the maintenance of a successful stock policy. Vary little information is available on this point. In fact,

^{1/} A new rice buffer stock policy is now being implemented by the Indonesian Government.

^{2/} International Undertaking paragraph 3(c).

among all the countries examined, only Indonesia and the Philippines indicate specific provisions for the replenishment of stocks. India has announced it is purchasing grains in 1975/76 partly for stock replenishment, and bilateral assistance is being granted to some Sahelian countries for this purpose. In general, it appears that serious consideration will not be given to measures for replenishing national stocks (e.g. setting aside budgetary funds for purchases) until supply conditions improve. Such arrangements would presumably be made as and when a precise stock target is established.

17. (e) Guidelines. As the majority of stock policies were formulated prior to adherence to the Undertaking, consideration could not have been given by the governments concerned to the guidelines under section II when establishing their stock policy. However, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland conform to one of the principal guidelines with their measures to assist developing countries. In its adoption of the Undertaking, the Government of Nicaragua stated that the guidelines were being complied with in its country, while Uruguay is prepared to comply with the guidelines subject to balance of payments considerations. In Ethiopia, whose stock policy has been formulated recently following the recommendations of an FAO Food Security Mission, there is evidence of initial consideration given to the guidelines. In countries in the process of formulating a national stock policy, such as Australia, New Zealand, Burundi, Cameroon, Colombia, Ecuador, Nigeria, Thailand and Botswana, the guidelines will presumably be taken into account. It is to be hoped that this will become the practice in other countries establishing or reviewing stock policies in the future.

18. Apart from explicit consideration of the guidelines, India, Nigeria and Turkey have, in accordance with the spirit of the Undertaking, stated their readiness to draw on their national reserves to assist other (neighbouring) countries suffering emergency food shortages. As noted above, Norway and Sweden have ear-marked stocks for this purpose.

19. (f) Necessary safeguards. The Undertaking stresses the need to avoid stocks giving rise to adverse effects on commercial markets. Rules governing the acquisition and release of stocks would be necessary for this purpose and also to avoid discouragement to production, especially in developing countries. One safeguard, noted in the Undertaking, is the observation of the principles and consultative obligations developed within the FAO and the Consultative Sub-Committee on Surplus Disposal. 20 of the 24 developed subscribing countries (excluding Luxembourg, Portugal, Hungary and Poland) adhere to the FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal and Consultative Obligations. Although a smaller proportion of the developing countries examined adhere to the Principles, those adhering include major developing exporters such as Thailand and Argentina. Apart from observance of the Principles of Surplus Disposal there is very little evidence of specific safeguards being established against the possible adverse effects of national stock policies on domestic and world production and international trade.

Conclusions

20. This analysis of national stock policies in relation to the International Undertaking on World Food Security leads to the following conclusions:

- (1) The majority of countries which already operate a stock policy, established it before subscribing to the Undertaking; hence the objectives are not always the same as those of the Undertaking.
- (2) Some countries are already engaged in the process of reconsidering or revising their national stock policies in accordance with the Undertaking; members from all other subscribing countries are invited to inform the Committee whether their governments have begun to review their stock policies, and, if not, when this "review" process will begin.

(3) Many of the national stock policies already established are consistent with some of the provisions of the Undertaking, but there are several important exceptions. These include:

- few of the developed subscribing countries, and none of the major grain exporting countries, have yet established national stock targets or objectives. This creates serious difficulties in evaluating the adequacy of stocks, as envisaged in the Undertaking;
- there is a general absence of provisions (budgetary or otherwise) to replenish stocks when the supply situation permits;
- only a few countries have so far taken special account of the needs of developing countries as provided for in the Undertaking.

(4) Nearly all explicit stock provision for emergencies is made by developing countries. Certain Scandinavian countries have specifically earmarked stocks for meeting international emergency requirements as provided for in the Undertaking, but the majority of developed countries have no explicit policy, or section of a policy, regarding emergency reserves.

(5) In general, it appears that more time is needed by countries to formulate their national stock policies and targets or adapt existing ones in accordance with the Undertaking. The Committee may wish to consider, under item IV of the agenda, recommending a suitable duration for this transitional period at the end of which subscribing countries would be expected to complete formulation of the national stock policies.

ANNEX A

National Cereal Stock Policies with reference to the
International Undertaking on World Food Security

Country	Explicit Policy Formulated 1/	General Aims 2/	Target 3/	Guidelines taken into account 4/	Provision for Replenishment 5/	Safeguards 6/
<u>PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES</u>						
<u>SUBSCRIBING TO THE</u>						
<u>UNDEFTAKING</u>						
A. <u>DEVELOPING COUNTRIES</u>						
ARGENTINA	Yes	Maintain supply to domestic and export markets, price stabilization, meet emergencies, meet international commitments.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.
BANGLADESH	Yes 1/	Ensure domestic supply, price stabilization, meet emergencies.	700 000 tons all grains	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
BOLIVIA	Yes	Ensure domestic supply, price stabilization.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.
BURMA	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.
BURUNDI	Government seeking finance for stock policy.	Maintaining regular flow of supply to domestic customers.	n.a.	Will be taken into account	n.a.	n.a.
CAMEROON	Being formulated.	Maintain supply to consumers, price stabilization, meet emergencies	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
CHAD	Prepared by UNDP/FAO, agreed by Government	National emergency reserve	10 000 tons	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
CHILE	Yes	Ensure domestic supply, meet emergencies	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.

Country	Explicit Policy Formulated 1/	General Aims 2/	Target 3/	Guidelines taken into account 4/	Provision for Replenishment 5/	Safeguards 6/
COLOMBIA	Being re-formulated	Ensure domestic and export supply, price stabilization	2 months supply (rice)	Being taken into account	n.a.	n.a.
CONGO	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
CYPRUS	Not explicit.	Maintenance of minimal safe level of grain stocks.	Barley and wheat: 3 months consumption.	n.a.	n.a.	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.
ECUADOR	n.a. ✓	Maintain supply to consumers.	Envisaged that government would require control of 60 days' supply. Rice: 2 months consumption=25 000 tons	Will be taken into account.	n.a.	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.
EGYPT	n.a. ✓	Ensure domestic supply.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
ETHIOPIA	Yes ✓	Meet emergencies	60 000 tons	Yes	n.a.	Strict conditions for release of stocks.
GAMBIA	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.
HONG KONG	Yes	Ensure domestic consumption of rice, price stabilization, meet emergencies.	44 000 tons rice	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
INDIA	Yes	Operational stocks to provide smooth public distribution to consumers throughout the year, and to support price stabilization programmes, contingency stocks to meet emergencies.	7 million tons of all cereals neighbouring countries with food supply in cases of emergency.	Willing to help	n.a.	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.
INDONESIA	Yes	Ensure the domestic supply of rice at reasonable prices.	1 million tons of rice.	n.a.	Yes	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.

Country	Explicit Policy Formulated 1/	General Aims 2/	Target 3/	Guidelines taken into account 4/	Provision for Replenishment 5/	Safeguards 6/
KOREA, REPUBLIC OF	Yes	Maintain regular flow of supplies to domestic consumers, support price stabilization programmes and meet emergencies.	2 months consumption requirements for carry-over; 2-3 months of consumption requirements for emergency reserve.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
KUWAIT	No	-	-	-	-	-
LIBERIA	Yes	Ensure domestic supply.	35 000 tons of rice.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
MADAGASCAR	Not yet, owing to deficit production and high price of rice on world markets.	-	-	-	-	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.
MALTA	Yes	Maintain regular flow of supplies for domestic consumers.	10 000 tons wheat, 10 000 tons, other cereals	n.a.	n.a.	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.
MAURITANIA	Yes	Emergency reserve.	40 000 tons food-grains.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
MEXICO	Yes	Maintain supply to domestic consumers at reasonable prices, cover emergencies.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.
MOROCCO	Yes	Ensuring supply, price stabilization, emergency reserves.	500 000 tons of wheat, 3 months supply of rice.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
NEPAL	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
NICARAGUA	Yes	n.a.	n.a.	Being complied with.	n.a.	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.
NIGER	Yes 1/	Emergency reserve.	20 000 - 25 000 tons foodgrains	n.a.	n.a.	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.

Country	Explicit Policy Formulated 1/	General Aims 2/	Target 3/	Guidelines taken into account 4/	Provision for Replenishment 5/	Safeguards 6/
NIGERIA	Being formulated 7/	Maintain domestic consumption, ensure food availability in times of disaster, stabilize prices.	250 000 tons of grain 1975-80, then 500 000 tons.	n.a.	n.a.	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.
PAKISTAN	Yes	Maintain a regular flow of supplies for domestic consumers at reasonable prices and meet emergencies.	1 200 000 tons of wheat.	n.a.	n.a.	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.
PHILIPPINES	Yes 7/	Assure domestic supply, particularly in times of scarcity; price stabilization.	100 000 tons wheat; 89 500 tons corn (maize)	n.a.	Domestic procurement.	Release of stocks when supply low or in "artificial" shortages.
SENEGAL	Yes	Ensure food security of population.	50 000 tons, of which 30 000 tons rice.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
SIERRA LEONE	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
SRI LANKA	Yes	Ensure equitable distribution of basic food-stuffs at reasonable prices. Adequate buffer stocks to meet emergencies.	Minimum of 6 weeks consumption.	n.a.	n.a.	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.
SUDAN	Yes	Meet shortages.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
TANZANIA	Yes	Maintain supply to domestic consumers, meet emergencies.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
THAILAND	Planning to adopt policy in light of Undertaking 7/	Maintain supply to domestic consumers, and export markets, price stabilization.	n.a.	Will be taken into account.	n.a.	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.
TOGO	Yes	Maintains supply to domestic consumers, price stabilization.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
TUNISIA	Yes	Ensure regular and sufficient supply of cereals to population, limit storage losses.	Minimum of 6 months national consumption.	n.a.	n.a.	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.

Country	Explicit Policy Formulated 1/	General Aims 2/	Target 3/	Guidelines taken into account 4/	Provision for Replenishment 5/	Safeguards 6/
TURKEY	Yes	Meet emergencies, price stabilization, strengthen Government's machinery of control over grain market.	400 000 tons of wheat, provision for doubling size of stock to take account of increasing demand. 15-20% domestic requirements of rice.	Will assist, if and when required, other countries suffering an emergency food shortage.	n.a.	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.
UGANDA	Yes		3 000 tons wheat, 36 000 tons coarse grains.		n.a.	n.a.
UPPER VOLTA	Steps being taken to establish a security stock.	Emergency reserve.	24 500 tons of foodgrains.		n.a.	n.a.
URUGUAY	Subject to international assistance to increase storage capacity.	Maintain supply to domestic and export markets, international commitments, price stabilization, meet emergencies.	30 000 tons wheat.	Subject to balance of payments considerations.	n.a.	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.

Country	Explicit Policy Formulated 1/	General Aims 2/	Target 3/	Guidelines taken into account 4/	Provision for Replenishment 5/	Safeguards 6/
B. DEVELOPED COUNTRIES						
AUSTRALIA	In process of developing a national cereals stockholding policy.	Maintaining supply to domestic consumers.	No government targets. Australian Wheat Board minimum carryover stocks, 550 000 tons.	Being taken into account.	n.a.	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.
BELGIUM	see EEC	-	-	-	-	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.
CANADA	Stock practices. As production has exceeded demand, the development of a national reserve programme with explicit carryovers has not been necessary.	(of practices). Maintaining regular flow of supplies to domestic and export markets, meet international commitments, meet emergencies.	No	-	-	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.
DENMARK	see EEC	-	-	-	-	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.
EEC	No official policy.	Maintain regular flow of supplies to domestic and export markets, intervention to support prices.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Member countries adhere to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.
FINLAND	Yes	Fulfill needs of domestic consumption and food aid programmes, stabilize prices.	Proposed: 410 000 tons bread grains; 500 000 tons feed grains.	n.a.	n.a.	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.
FRANCE	Not explicit	Maintain supplies to domestic and export markets.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.
GERMANY, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF	Yes	Maintain supply to consumers, support prices, meet emergencies, strategic reserves.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.

Country	Explicit Policy Formulated 1/	General Aims 2/	Target 3/	Guidelines taken into account 4/	Provision for Replenishment 5/	Safeguards 6/
IRELAND	Yes	Maintain regular flow of supplies to consumers.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.
ISRAEL	Yes, for wheat.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.
ITALY	See EEC.	-	-	-	-	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.
JAPAN	Yes	Maintaining regular flow of supplies for domestic consumers, meet emergencies.	1.4 million tons husked rice, 1.1 million tons wheat, 482 000 tons coarse grains.	n.a.	n.a.	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.
LUXEMBOURG	See EEC.	-	-	-	-	n.a.
NETHERLANDS	See EEC.	-	-	-	-	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.
NEW ZEALAND	No stocks of grains maintained by Government, but this policy is currently under review.	n.a.	n.a.	Being taken into account	n.a.	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.
NORWAY	Yes	Maintain regular flow of supplies for domestic consumers. Proposed increase to meet need in case of emergency.	Actual: 280 000 tons bread grains, 400 000 tons other coarse grains. Proposed: one year's consumption bread grain and animal feed.	10 000 tons of wheat available to WFP for emergencies in 1975.	n.a.	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.
POLAND	Not explicit	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.

Country	Explicit Policy Formulated 1/	General Aims 2/	Target 3/	Guidelines taken into account 4/	Provision for Replenishment 5/	Safeguards 6/
PORTUGAL	Yes	Maintain regular flow of supply to consumers.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
SPAIN	Yes	Maintain supply to export and domestic markets, price stabilization, meet emergencies.	Wheat: 1.400 000 tons, Coarse grains: 2.800 000 tons.	n.a.	n.a.	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.
SWEDEN	Yes	Maintain regular flow of supply to consumers, meet emergencies.	40 000 tons for international relief operations. 235 000 tons wheat. 65 000 tons rye.	Intended to use more of surplus production of grains for aid to developing countries.	n.a.	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.
SWITZERLAND	Yes	Maintain regular flow of supply to consumers.	510 000 tons bread grain, 360 000 tons coarse grains.	Ready to assist developing countries wishing to establish national stock policies.	n.a.	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.
UNITED KINGDOM	See EEC.	-	-	-	-	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.
UNITED STATES	Not explicit. Encouragement of farm and commercial sectors to hold stocks.	Maintaining regular flow of supplies to domestic and export markets, meet international commitments, meet emergencies.	No	n.a.	n.a.	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.
YUGOSLAVIA	Not explicit.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.

Country	Explicit Policy Formulated 1/	General Aims 2/	Target 3/	Guidelines taken into account 4/	Provision for Replenishment 5/	Safeguards 6/
OTHER SELECTED COUNTRIES						
AUSTRIA	Not explicit	Maintain supply to domestic consumers.	n.s.	-	n.s.	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.
BOTSWANA	No 1/	-	-	-	-	-
BRAZIL	Under review	Maintain supply to domestic and export markets, price stabilization, meet emergencies.	No official target but policy under review.	-	n.s.	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.
CHINA	Yes	n.s.	n.s.	-	n.s.	-
COSTA RICA	Yes	Maintain domestic supply, price stabilization.	n.s.	-	n.s.	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.
EL SALVADOR	Yes	Price stabilization, meet emergency requirements.	n.s.	-	n.s.	n.s.
GHANA	Yes	Maintain supply to domestic consumers, price stabilization.	30 000 tons of maize.	-	n.s.	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.
GUATEMALA	Yes	Ensure domestic supply at reasonable prices, meet emergencies.	n.s.	-	n.s.	n.s.
GUYANA	Yes	n.s.	3 000 tons wheat, 16 000 tons maize, 6 000 tons rice.	-	n.s.	n.s.
HUNGARY	Yes, determined in national plan.	Maintain supply to domestic consumers, meet shortages.	n.s.	-	n.s.	n.s.
IRAN	Yes	Meet emergency demand, stabilize prices, maintain supply to domestic consumers.	44 000 tons rice, 200 000 - 300 000 tons rice.	-	n.s.	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.

Country	Explicit Policy Formulated 1/	General Aims 2/	Target 3/	Guidelines taken into account 4/	Provision for Replenishment 5/	Safeguards 6/
IRAQ	Yes	Maintain regular flow of supply to consumers.	Minimum 6 weeks' requirements.	-	n.a.	n.a.
JORDAN	Yes	Establish a reserve stock of wheat.	50 percent of annual domestic demand.	-	n.a.	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.
KENYA	Yes	Maintain supply to domestic consumers.	90 000 - 180 000 tons of maize, 40 000 tons of wheat.	-	n.a.	n.a.
LEBANON	Yes	Minimum reserve stocks to meet shortages.	4 months' requirements of wheat.	-	n.a.	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.
LIBYA	Yes	Ensure domestic supply.	6 months' consumption requirements.	-	n.a.	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.
MALAWI	Yes	Meet current requirements of urban population, overcome shortfalls in rural areas.	n.s.	-	n.a.	n.a.
MALAYSIA	Yes	Meet imbalances in supply and demand, and emergencies.	3 months' consumption of rice, 4 months' consumption of other grains.	-	n.a.	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.
MALDIVES	Yes	Maintain supply to domestic consumers, price stabilization, strategic reserves.	n.s.	-	n.a.	n.a.
MALI	Tentative	Meet emergencies	70 000 tons (including 20 000 rice).	-	n.a.	n.a.
MAURITIUS	Yes	Maintain supply to domestic consumers.	3 months' supply of rice and flour.	-	n.a.	n.a.

Country	Explicit Policy Formulated <u>1/</u>	General Aims <u>2/</u>	Target <u>3/</u>	Guidelines taken into account <u>4/</u>	Provision for Replenishment <u>5/</u>	Safeguards <u>6/</u>
PERU	Yes	Maintain supply to domestic and export markets, price stabilization.	Wheat 130 000: Rice 65 000: equivalent to 2 months' supply.	-	n.a.	n.a.
RWANDA	Implicit	Maintain supply to domestic consumers, meet emergencies.	n.a.	-	n.a.	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.
SAUDI ARABIA	Yes	Maintain domestic supply, price stabilization.	6 months' supply.	-	n.a.	Adheres to FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal.
SOMALIA	Yes	Ensure domestic supply, price stabilization, meet emergencies.	50 000 tons	-	n.a.	n.a.
SYRIA	Yes	Maintain supply to domestic and export markets, meet emergencies.	n.a.	-	n.a.	n.a.
ZAMBIA	Yes	Meet domestic consumption requirements, encourage domestic production of grains.	6 months' supply of maize.	-	n.a.	n.a.

Notes: Source references in the International Undertakings: 1/ Para. 3(a) 2/ Paras. 1, 3(a) 3/ Para. 3(b) 4/ Paras. 5 and 6 5/ Para. 3(c) 6/ Paras. 7 and 8

1/ Recommendations of FAO Food Security Mission under consideration.