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## **PRESS-RELEASE**

## FNPAIA's Policy Book: debates, commitment, solutions

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The National Federation of Employers in Agriculture and the Food Industry (FNPAIA) from Moldova has discussed and adopted today its Policy Book during an open Council meeting. The Policy Book was developed in a participative process of 11 roundtables organized by the FNPAIA within August – November 2010, with support offered by the Dutch Employers Cooperation Programme (DECP).

The Policy Book targets the key problems faced in the agri-sector, including those related to subventions, crediting and monopolist practices, and it offers solutions, identified by the FNPAIA members, to overcome these problems.

"The Policy Book will help us in voicing what we expect from the state and what we should do, as the organization which promotes the interests of agri-employers", stated Alexandru Slusari, the FNPAIA Chairman, after the series of roundtables organized inclusively in Căuşeni, Orhei, Ştefan Vodă, Soroca, Cahul, Hânceşti, Edineţ and Bălţi.

The FNPAIA Policy Book targets fundamental policies, policies on production and trade of agricultural production, subsidies in agriculture, fiscal and customs policies, policies on combating monopolist practices, financial market policies, environment, rural development, policies on the system of social and medical insurance, land policies, policies on labour force, education in agriculture, etc.

"There is a huge interest in Moldova in these discussions, which are focused on identifying solutions for the problems which exist in the agri-sector. The agri-employers were very active during the roundtables and expressed their ideas openly and friendly", stated Jean-Marie Standaert, Special Adviser of the Dutch Employers' Cooperation Programme (DECP). The European expert moderated in August the first regional workshops, at which many proposals were made for the Policy Book, and he attended also the event where the final product of this common effort was launched.

The FNPAIA from Moldova was founded in 2003 and its mission is to create favourable conditions for agricultural enterprises and represent their interests in relationships with the public authorities and workers' organization. The FNPAIA struggles for improving the wellbeing of agricultural producers and their families through expressing and promoting their interests. Agriculture and the food industry is one of the most important sectors of Moldova and makes almost a quarter in the GDP. For the past years, the FNPAIA became notably visible for its initiatives on promoting social dialogue and combating the worst forms of child labour in agriculture.