

# **Report of the 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Food Vision 2030**

## **High Level Implementation Committee**

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2023

### **Attendance:**

**State Agencies:** Professor Frank O'Mara, Teagasc; Jim O'Toole, Bord Bia, Caroline Bocquel, BIM; Laura Burke EPA; Mark Christal, EI.

**Other Government Departments:** John Conlon, DPER; Gary Ward, DETE

**DAFM:** Brendan Gleeson, Secretary General; Sinéad McPhillips, Assistant Secretary; Paul Savage, Assistant Secretary; Sinead McSherry, Assistant Secretary, Patrick Donohoe, Minister's Advisor; Liam Brennan, Redmond McEvoy, Climate Change Division; Gerard Kelly, Mary Callan, John Clarke, Ian Fox, Economics and Planning Division.

**Secretariat:** Seán Bell and Wila Bruce, Economics and Planning Division

**Apologies:** Dr Pamela Byrne; FSAI, Leo Clancy, EI; Pauline Mulvihill DETE; Bill Callanan DAFM

### **Item 1: Introduction**

The minutes from the sixth meeting on 8 February 2023 were agreed.

The Minister wished Sinead McSherry well in her new role as Assistant Secretary for Seafood and the Marine in DAFM.

The Minister updated the Committee on recent events and of note in terms of Food Vision goals since the last meeting on 8 February:

- A meeting of the Horticulture Industry Forum took place, where the challenges facing the sector were discussed. The new draft National Strategy for Horticulture, is currently open for public consultation.
- Minister of State Heydon led Irish involvement at a major Agriculture and Climate Summit in the US. The goal of "AIM for Climate" is to address climate change and global hunger by bringing together partners to significantly increase investment in climate-smart agriculture and food systems innovation.

- On the research theme, the Minister recently opened with colleagues DAFM Thematic Research Call 2023, a €20 million call for pioneering research in areas such as climate mitigation and adaptation, biodiversity and water quality, sustainable farming, animal health and welfare, social sustainability, the bioeconomy, agri-digitalisation, and safe, healthy sustainable food. A world-first scientific breakthrough that can enable the reduction of methane from the Irish cattle herd through animal genetics. The research to underpin this is a result of a €3 million project 'GREENBREED', funded by the Department.
- The second annual online survey for primary producers in the food supply chain by the Department's Unfair Trading Practices Enforcement Authority was announced. The Agricultural and Food Supply Chain Bill is currently going through the legislative process, which will provide for the establishment of the new Office of An Rialálaí Agraibhia, or the Agri Food Regulator.
- A new round of funding under the Brexit Inshore Fisheries Business Model Adjustment Scheme for the Inshore Fisheries Sector was announced.
- The important progress which has been made under the current Common Fisheries Policy was announced. The Commission's Communication recognises the fundamental role played by stakeholders in driving these positive changes. However, the Commission's Review of the CFP has failed to analyse and address the impacts of Brexit, which has been the most significant and enduring challenge faced by the fisheries sector for generations.

## **Item 2: Food Vision Environmental Working Sub-Group Update**

The Food Vision Environmental Working Sub-Group is a standing item on the HLIC agenda.

The monitoring and implementation process of Food Vision is key to ensuring delivery of the strategy and a key part of implementation of mission 1 is the work of this Group.

Redmond McEvoy updated the Committee on the work of the EWSG, including data collection and work on a dashboard.

## **Item 3: Update on the Seafood Sector**

Caroline Bocquel, CEO, BIM presented on moving the seafood sector towards adding more value, utilising innovations and reducing reliance on labour for resilience and growth as follows:

- Irish Seafood Sector
- Impact of Brexit
- Brexit Adjustment Reserve
- Seafood Processing Sector
- BAR Processing Capital Scheme
- Scheme Uptake and Impact
- A Viable and Resilient Sector

A discussion followed.

#### **Item 4: Food Vision Tillage Group**

*(Barry O'Reilly, Head of Crops Policy, Evaluation and Certification Division attended)*

Barry O'Reilly, presented on preparations for the new Food Vision Tillage Group as follows:

- Tillage in Ireland
- Food Vision 2030
- Climate Action Plan 2023
- Crop Areas 2012 – 2022
- Food Vision 2030 Tillage Group

A discussion followed.

#### **Item 5: Food Vision Annual Report 2022**

John Clarke, Economics and Planning Division gave an update on the first Food Vision Annual Report as follows:

- Food Vision Annual Report 2022 – Outline
- Table of Contents
- Chapter 1 : Introduction and Background
  - Overview of Progress
- Mission 1 A Climate Smart, Environmentally Sustainable Agri- Food Sector
  - Key Achievements
- Mission 2 Viable and Resilient Primary Producers with Enhanced Wellbeing

- Key Achievements
- Mission 3 Food which is Safe, Nutritious and Appealing Trusted and Valued at Home and Abroad
  - Key Achievements
- Mission 4 An Innovative, Competitive and Resilient Agri-food Sector driven by Technology and Talent
  - Key Achievements
- Monitoring and Implementation
  - Implementation Plan
  - HLIC and Environmental Monitoring and Reporting
  - Environmental Protection Agency
- Future Food Vision 2030 Annual Reports

A discussion followed. The work on the dashboard for Mission 1 will be replicated across all Missions

## **Item 7: AOB**

The next meeting will take place on Thursday 5 October 2023.

**Food Vision 2030 Secretariat**

**May 2023**