ГЛОБАЛЬНЫЙ ПРОДОВОЛЬСТВЕННЫЙ КРИЗИС И ПРОБЛЕМЫ КАЗАХСТАНА

GLOBAL FOOD CRISIS AND PROBLEMS OF KAZAKHSTAN

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Аннотация. На этой статье следует сосредоточиться на решении продовольственных проблем в развивающих странах и в Казахстане. Цель статьи является то, чтобы определить влияющие факторы ухудшения на продовольственные товары в мире. Выводы и рекомендаций обоснованные в статье будут полезны в дальнейшем исследовании данной сферы.

Abstract. This study focuses on solving the food problem in developing countries and Kazakhstan. The aim of the study is to identify the factors affecting the aggravation of the food problem in the world. The conclusions and recommendations justified in the article will be useful for the further research in the given area. Research method has revealed recommendations of government regulation and acceptance of the precise strategy.

Ключевые слова / key words: глобальная энергетика / global energy, рынок / market, развитие / develop, агрокультура / agriculture, Продовольственная и аграрная организация / Food and Agriculture Organization.

The current world food crisis has emerged under the conditions of a number of factors: instability in the global energy market, globalization of the international food market, significant growth in biofuel production, and the fall of food stocks level to the historical lows. Ultimately, the access to food provisions has decreased around the world, especially for the poor in many developing countries.

The consequences of the crisis affect mostly low-income countries that appear to be net importers of food. These issues are of great importance even in large developing countries like India and China, as well as in some Latin American countries. At the same time, the developed countries are not protected from the negative effects of the crisis as well. Thus, the rise in food prices increases the tension associated with inflationary pressures and poverty increase, which is already there as a result of the rise in energy prices and crises in the financial and housing markets.

Literature Review.

Since the mid-twentieth century there has been sharp acceleration of population growth in the developing countries. It occurs as a result of the demographic transition from one type of human reproduction to another. In countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America mortality rate is rapidly declining, but the massive decline in the birth rate is behind. As a result, the number of births begins to significantly exceed the number of deaths.

The problem of hunger in the world is closely related to the problem of demography. As well as demographic, the food problem depends on the level of economic and social development. Hunger is primarily a 'companion' of poverty. Rapid population growth in the economically backward countries that is not accompanied by a corresponding increase in food provision induces the «vicious circle of poverty» [1, 35p.].

In the analysis of the dynamics of population growth and the potential of land resources T. Malthus deduced that the economic development of society and improvement of its well-being are tantalizingly constrained. While developing these ideas he came to the conclusion that the fertility of the poor is the main reason for their low material well-being in society.

He published his views anonymously in the work «An Essay on the Principle of Population, as it affects the future improvement of society» in 1798. Six editions of his book were published during his lifetime. In 1805, he received the academic rank of professor of modern history and political economy at the College of the East India Company. Malthus considers land as the main natural resource, which differs by two main features: its limitedness and the law of diminishing returns. In his view, food shortages, reduced income, increased mortality due to diseases and other negative factors will lead to reduction of the population to a level that is the boundary of survival of [2, 79p.].

Continual malnutrition is the cause of the developmental lag of many countries in the world as the people there grow up unhealthy, and as a matter of course, have underdeveloped backward generation. In 2006, the common reporting data from a large study of UNICEF (UNICEF, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund) was announced. The data confirmed that the starving children either do not study because of illnesses, or study worse than their peers who receive adequate diet for brain development. Thus, expert evidence from Pakistan, claims that if the provision of the poor population with food improves, educational institutions are attended by 4% more boys and 19% more girls. There was also established the fact that the rural worker who received at least a primary school education produces agricultural products by 8.7% more than his neighbor, who did not receive any education.

Specialists of America's Second Harvest, who analyzed the same problems faced by low-income residents of many industrialized countries, have come to the conclusion that the only way to combat hunger and malnutrition is not a charity or social care, but the provision of all employable people with decent paying jobs [3].

Works of A. – K. Seine contain recommendations for avoiding hunger and limiting its consequences. Scholar believes that the most important prerequisite for solving the problem of hunger by the international community is to develop a proper understanding of the economics of the food problem. Hunger is not just a problem of «food and agriculture». The notion of hunger should be considered in a broader range of issues than the one that has been traditionally referred to the responsibility of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). According to the

estimations of A. – K. Seine, if to compare food production per capita in countries of Asia and Africa in 1993-1995 and in 1979-1981 there becomes obvious the decline by 1.7% in South Korea, 12.4 – in Japan, at 33.5 – in Botswana and 58% – in Singapore [4].

However, the hunger was not evidenced in these countries as the real income per capita increased quickly (due to the development of different industries). Achieving increasing incomes by the citizens of these countries expanded their ability to provide themselves with food, despite the decline in its production (Economic interdependence and the world food problem) [1, 2].

In the Republic of Kazakhstan, the problem of hunger is not evidenced, every year the government arranges minimum consumer basket that provides a minimum set of products for the normal existence of people with a minimum earning. Nevertheless, there is another problem which consists in providing the population of the Republic of Kazakhstan with domestic product that is not dependent on imports. Kazakhstan is not protected from the consequences of consumption of genetically modified agricultural products (transgenic animals, plants and genetically modified microorganisms).

Factors affecting aggravation of food situation in the world:

- Rapid population growth in the countries with low soil fertility;
- Geographical conditions;
- Lack of drinking water;
- The development of the global transportation, technologies and world trade;
- Economic backwardness and conservation of developing countries;
- The political situation in the world;
- The process of industrialization;
- Uneven dynamics of food production;
- Environmental situation;
- Lack of resources (technical, financial, land);
- Reduction of the planet's arable lands;
- Technical and technological backwardness;
- Crop yield limiting factors, and etc.

These factors greatly affect the growing food problem in the Republic of Kazakhstan. The gap between scientific achievements and food market, growth of the population of the Republic of Kazakhstan (17 million people), freshwater shortages, technological backwardness, the uneven dynamics of food production, reduction of arable lands, historically formed weak socialinfrastructure ofthe village – this is an incomplete list of problems emerged in the foodprovisionof the Republic of Kazakhstan [3].

Methodology.

Solution of the problem requires complex approach. This methodology assumes to establish close links between scientific research and the entities of the food market.

The use of the given methodology is quite important in today's conditions; it allows solving large variety of problems. However, the methodology has some disadvantages.

1. The food market participants are not always aware of the results of modern scientific inventions.

2. Ignorance of laws and unwillingness to risk hinders the process of implementation of innovations and innovative technologies to the development of agriculture.

3. Very low level of qualification prevails in agricultural production, i.e. employers are generally without any adequate education.

4. The lack of unified data collection technique in different countries leads to the fact that data on different countries diverges in different statistical sources.

5. Planning of the food security development is complicated as the food market is affected by too many factors (e.g., weather, climate, etc.), moreover, the degree of impact of many of them cannot be evaluated quantitively.

6. It is very difficult and risky to apply the methods of food market development on the example of one country to the model of another country, because of the economic, environmental and natural diversities of countries.

Results.

The following conclusions have been made during the study:

1. The problem of food security exists throughout the history of mankind, but its scientific formulation first appeared about 200 years ago in the writings of T.R. Malthus. Thus, for two centuries the science has been analyzing the factors of the food problem and finding ways to resolve it.

2. Modern science has great potential to increase food production in the world due to the following factors: improvement of soil fertility; use of biological resources of the sea and ocean waters; widespread use of solar energy as well as achievements of genetics and selection for the improvement of agricultural crop and breeding more productive breeds of animals.

3. The sharp rise in food prices has led to growth of population that constantly experiences hunger. In 2012 its number reached 7 billion people, reaching the historical peak. This shows that the issues of providing the population with food have become a global problem, and the sphere of food production requires responsible public policy. In terms of aggravation of the global food problem, the food aid received from international organizations and developed countries comes into great importance.

4. FAO is the main international organization working on the easing the global food problem [8].

5. The global food problem is largely explained by the current geographical structure of world agroindustrial complex: inequality of food production is determined by the geographical features of food consumption in the world. The structure of food production is dominated by a limited number of countries with developed agriculture. For example, in 2011, 82.8% of world production of maize, 66.4% wheat, 92.8% of soybeans, and 68% of pork were accounted for the top five producing countries. Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan has integrated into the global food markets and is actively involved in the formation of the trade balance. It takes 17.6% of total exports and 15.3% of total imports [4,5].

6. However, there has been formed an import dependence of Kazakhstan in many kinds of derived products of agroindustrial complex. As the result, there is a high level of import dependence in fruit and vegetables, derived products from meat and milk. In 2011 area under crops in the Republic of Kazakhstan amounted to 21 083.0 thousand hectares. Wheat occupies about 65.6% (13 848.9 ha) of the total area under crops. For cereal crops there was allocated 76.5% (16 125.9 ha) of the total area under crops in 2011. The number of livestock at the beginning of 2012 was 5.7 million head of cattle, 18.1 million head of sheep and goats, 1.6 million horses, 1.2 million pigs, 0.17 million camels and 32.9 million birds [6,7].

Conclusion and Implications

As the result of the conducted research the following provisions have been suggested:

1. Reduction in the production of biofuels by developed countries and the redistribution of cereal crops in favor of developing countries will reduce the level of starving population.

2. The continuing disproportion between domestic supply and demand exacerbates the situation; in this regard we suggest involving entities of the agroindustrial complex to the international business by promoting government intervention and support of the international organizations (FAO).

3. Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan has integrated into the global food markets and is actively involved in the formation of the trade balance. It takes 17.6% of total exports and 15.3% of total imports. However, there has been formed an import dependence of Kazakhstan in many kinds of derived products of agroindustrial complex. Thus, there is a high level of import dependence in fruit and vegetables, derived products from meat and milk. In this regard, we propose to increase the area under crops and grazing lands at the expense of lands owned by individuals, by transferring them to state ownership, as the lands aren’t used for their intended purpose.

4. The main constraining factors for the development of the process industry sector are: low quality and raw materials shortage, as well as underdevelopment of logistics of provision, transportation and storage of raw materials, which results in incomplete workload of refining capacity; imperfection of trade and logistics infrastructure that results in the functioning of many small players and unjustified increase in the cost of production in the food market; low competitiveness of domestic agricultural products and derived products in the domestic and foreign markets.

5. It is necessary to increase state control over the safety and quality of foods including laboratory tests for compliance with the requirements of technical regulations, as well as on the presence of counterfeit products (non declared vegetable oils, soy supplements and other substitutes, preservatives, flavors, colors, etc.). In its turn, this will require metrological examination of the existing technical regulations and taking measures for the construction and modernization of deficient testing laboratories, strengthening their material and technical base, as well as developing standards and test methods.

6. Lack of the highly-qualified personnel in the sphere of agriculture, indirect labor, technical staff etc.

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