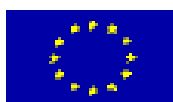




МІНІСТЕРСТВО
АГРАРНОЇ ПОЛІТИКИ УКРАЇНИ



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Проект впроваджується
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Implementation of Ukrainian's Commitments under WTO and ENP Frameworks in the Rural sector EuropeAid/126205/C/SER/UA

Agricultural/rural sector news digest 7-13 January 2010

▪ WTO and Neighbourhood Policy

Stephan Füle, candidate for EU Commissioner for Enlargement and the European Neighbourhood Policy, believes the "Eastern Partnership" to be the best way to bring Ukraine closer to the EU, he said while speaking to MEPs. "I think we need to pay regard to the fact that Ukrainians want to be closer to the EU, because I think we want the same, we want Ukraine and other Eastern European countries to be closer to the EU. We now have a great tool for that the "Eastern Partnership" program which we launched in Prague last year in May", said the candidate for EU Commissioner. He noted that the EU is ready not only to offer Ukraine an intensified political dialogue and agreement on free trade, but also take steps in ensuring mobility for citizens.

UNIAN, 13.01.2010

Spanish businessmen are interested in increasing export of Ukrainian grain, corn and sunflower oil. This was announced during the visit of Foreign Minister of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko to the Kingdom of Spain, where he met with the Spanish business confederation which unites about 1 million small and medium businesses.

In addition, the Spanish businessmen expressed interest to invest in the development of Ukrainian port infrastructure and agricultural sector. Spanish businessmen expressed a special interest in establishing cooperation in energy efficiency and conservation, implementation of environmental projects and tourism development. The Spanish side is interested in accelerating the conclusion of the Association Agreement between Ukraine and the EU, including agreement on the Free Trade Area (FTA), and expressed willingness to facilitate this process. It was noted that a rapid initiation of the FTA will be a powerful boost for a mutually beneficial trade, economic and investment cooperation between Ukraine and Spain.

BIZ.liga.net, 12.01.2010

▪ Food Safety

Prime Minister of Ukraine Yulia Tymoshenko took part in the opening of the State Biotechnology Innovation Centre. This centre was opened at the Institute of Veterinary Medicine of the Ukrainian Academy of Agrarian Sciences. "Primarily the State Biotechnology Innovation Centre will deal with drugs and vaccines development to fight various infectious diseases", said Tymoshenko at the opening of the centre while speaking to reporters.

She also added: "We are opening a special laboratory equipped according to European standards in the State Biotechnology Centre where one will be able to conduct any kind of research and carry out scientific development".

<http://www.vet.gov.ua>, 06.01.2010

In March 2010 the Law of Ukraine № 1779-VI from December 17, 2009 "On Amendments to Some Legislative Acts of Ukraine regarding the provision of information on presence of genetically modified components in products" will enter into force.

It is marked that the document will come into force 2 months after its official publication - March 6, 2010 (according to paragraph 1 of "Final provisions" section). The document was officially published in "Governmental Courier" 6.01.10.

This legislative act strengthened the requirements for producers (sellers) to provide reliable information

about products that contain genetically modified components. In particular, art. 15 of the Law on Consumer Protection (consumer's right to have information on the product) stipulates that products shall contain information about the presence or absence of genetically modified components in them. According to another requirement "in case inadequate information was given about the product (if it does not present harm to consumer's life, health or property) producer (seller) shall in one week withdraw this product from sale and give appropriate information about the product". In addition, new parts were added to the art. 156-1 of the Code of Administrative Violations, which establish administrative responsibility (penalty) for providing false information about the product and for failure to address these shortcomings. It was reported that Ukraine's President Viktor Yushchenko signed this law December 29, 2009.

AIC-Inform, 12/01/2010

▪ Market Infrastructure

The Government of Ukraine approved the Concept of the State Target Economic Program for advanced agricultural technologies implementation until 2016.

This is stated in the text of the decree from December 23, 2009 № 1650.

The program aims to increase production efficiency and competitiveness of agricultural products in domestic and foreign markets by reducing fuel costs by 26-40%, labour costs by 30-60%; direct operating costs by 22-50%, increasing crop yield by 30 - 40%, gross grain production by 10-15 million tons, meat production to 5.1 million tons and milk production to 20 million tons by implementing zonally adapted, saving and environmentally friendly agricultural technologies in crop and livestock production.

The problem is expected to be solved by:

- Improving agricultural, financial, credit and tax policy and developing organizational and economic mechanisms of state support for the agricultural sector, education and science;
- Increasing efficiency and competitiveness of agricultural production and introducing an innovative development model through technological upgrading;
- Developing domestic scientific, technical and productive capacity, improving its efficiency;
- Creating appropriate conditions for the recovery of livestock production to ensure the competitiveness of livestock products on domestic and foreign markets.

The program is expected to be implemented during 2010-2016.

AIC-Inform, 11/01/2010

Law of Ukraine № 1782-VI from December 22, 2009 "On amending some laws of Ukraine to support agriculture during global financial crisis" came into force, informed press service of the Ministry of Justice January 11, 2009.

It is noted that the document came into force on the day of its official publication, namely December 31, 2009 (according to the paragraph 1 of "Final Provisions" section).

The purpose of the law is to create favourable conditions for agriculture to prevent the negative effects of the global financial crisis.

It is reported that Ukraine's President Viktor Yushchenko signed this law December 30.

AIC-Inform, 11/01/2010

▪ Rural Development

Prime Minister of Ukraine continues to personally hand in state acts. Yulia Tymoshenko during working trip in Kiev region handed 3 thousand acts of property rights to land issued free of charge to residents of Brovary, Boryspil, Baryshevka, Pereyaslav-Khmelnitsky and Yagotin districts. Yulia Tymoshenko noted that by the end of 2009 the Government had issued 1 million acts free of charge. The Prime Minister said that it is necessary to issue 6.5 million of such acts.

Yulia Tymoshenko assured that the Government would bring the case to its logical conclusion and everyone who is entitled to receive state act of property to land will get it for free. "Tell everyone who has not received the certificate yet that we will bring the case to completion. In 2-3 months the entire country will have land acts issued free of charge", she said.

Office of Media Relations of Cabinet's Secretariat, 06/01/2010

The speaker of Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine Volodymyr Lytvyn believes that the inventory of Crimean land should be carried out not by the government officials but by people who enjoy credibility among the population of Crimea.

Volodymyr Lytvyn is convinced that the formation of the Crimean authorities should be extremely transparent, only indigenous Crimeans should have the right to elect and be elected to the Crimean authorities. "No strangers, who seek only to satisfy their own interests and interest of their clans, should interfere into land issues", he said, responding to questions from reporters on the future of Crimean land, January 8.

According to Volodymyr Lytvyn, the Crimea has 2600 thousands hectares of land. 70% of it are agricultural lands and 100 thousands hectares makes up the coast. And here, in his opinion, problems arise. Head of the Parliament considers it necessary to conduct a full inventory of land in the Crimea and throughout Ukraine. And this work, in his opinion, should not be carried out by the officials but by people who enjoy credibility among the population of Crimea.

www.myland.ua, 08.01.2010