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

Overview of Latest Rural Developments

21 - 27 October 2010

WTO and Neighbourhood Policy

October 21, 2010 9th session of Ukrainian-Swiss Committee on Trade and Economic Cooperation, chaired by Deputy Economy Minister Marmazov, took place in Zurich. During the meeting special attention was paid to issues related to taxes and customs, intellectual property rights protection, energy and agriculture cooperation, etc.

It was noted that Ukraine considers the conclusion of FTA with the European Free Trade Association to be an opportunity to increase mutual trade and economic cooperation and an important step towards signing a similar agreement with the European Union.

At the end of the meeting, the minutes of the ninth meeting of Ukrainian-Swiss Committee on Trade and Economic Cooperation were signed.

Ministry of Economy Press Service, 10/21/2010

October 21, 2010 inaugural meeting of Thematic subgroup/Section A3 Development of Agri-Industrial Complex (including livestock, fisheries and forestry) took place in the Ministry of Agrarian Policy as part of measures to improve efficiency of international technical assistance for development of Ukrainian agri-industrial complex.

The meeting was chaired by Deputy Minister of Agrarian Policy M. D. Melnychuk. Representatives of international donors (European Commission, Canadian International Development Agency, U.S. Agency for International Development, Royal Netherlands Embassy, Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany, Swiss Cooperation Office, Turkish International Cooperation and Development Agency) and managers of ongoing international technical assistance projects took part in the meeting. The main objective of the meeting was to discuss priorities of international technical assistance for development of Ukrainian agricultural sector, taking into consideration "2010 – 2014 Program for Economic Reforms in Ukraine: Prosperous Society, Competitive Economy, Effective Government".

Test version of international technical assistance projects database, designed by foreign experts as part of the EU project "Implementation of Ukraine's Commitments under WTO and ENP in the Rural Sector", was also presented.

Foreign Economic Cooperation Department, 10.22.2010

October 26, Ukrainian Minister of Agrarian Policy Mykola Prisyazhnyuk met with Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of Austria to Ukraine Wolf Dietrich Heim.

It was an introductory meeting between the newly appointed Ambassador of Austria to Ukraine and Minister of Agrarian Policy. The sides discussed the state and future prospects of trade and economic relations.

MAP Press Service, 10/26/2010

Food Safety

ANNOUNCEMENT

November 2-3, 2010 Ukrainian Livestock and Veterinary Services Support Conference will be held in Kyiv as part of the Technical Assistance and Information Exchange Program (TAIEX). Ukrainian State Veterinary Medicine Committee, Ukrainian Veterinary Experts Association, European Union of Veterinary Hygienists are its co-organizers.

The aim of the conference is to facilitate understanding of European legislation and programs related to the veterinary profession. Related EU policy, which is based on the principle that 'prevention is better than cure', will be presented. Special attention will be paid to veterinary education, private practice licensing and creation of opportunities for the latter.

http://www.vet.gov.ua/, 20.10.2010

ANNOUNCEMENT

October 28, 2010 conference entitled Organic Food Processing and Sale (Kyiv 2010) will be held within the exhibition entitled The Entire World of Food 2010. The event is being supported by Ukrainian Ministry of Agrarian Policy, BIO Lan Ukraine Organic Producers Association, The Research Institute of Organic Agriculture FiBL (Switzerland), Royal Netherlands Embassy in Ukraine, International Centre for Organic Agriculture of Central and Eastern Europe "EkoConnect (Germany), Avalon International (Netherlands) and Grimco Trade Holland (Ukraine).

The conference will cover the following two areas: marketing and processing; each to be divided into 3 sessions: organic milk and meat; vegetables and fruits; crops. Experts from related fields are invited to participate in the sessions to meet particular participants needs. Special "questions and answers" format has been chosen to provide more practical information.

http://www.biolan.org.ua/, 21.10.2010

Experts from State Consumer Standard Committee found 20% of checked milk products to be defective. During 9 months some 200 tons of dairy products, worth UAH 2.8 million, have been checked. 20% of products, worth UAH 494.6 thousand, were found not to be in compliance with normative documents. Canned milk, dry milk, cottage cheese and cream cheese, casein, ice cream, milk and cream were among the products tested.

According to Consumer Standard Committee, some 40% of products do not meet the normative documents. The following are categories of products within which the most part of defective goods has been found: bread, pasta and confectionery products, sugar, meat, fish and dairy products, butter and fat, fruits and vegetables, tea and coffee, baby food and chicken eggs.

www.delo.ua, 21.10.2010

October 26-29, 2010 meeting of the Intergovernmental Council on Cooperation in the Veterinary Field of the Commonwealth of Independent States will take place in Odessa. The following items are included in the meeting agenda: presentation of Ukrainian Veterinary Service System; review of implementation of previous Council decisions on the Program of Joint Measures aiming at the prevention of and fight against foot and mouth disease and bird flu; consideration of draft rules for carrying out veterinary inspection of animals destined for slaughter and veterinary-sanitary inspection of meat and meat products; revision of Common Rules for Carrying Out Veterinary Supervision During International and Interstate Transportation of Livestock Goods; etc.

Heads of veterinary services from CIS countries, Poland and Latvia will take part in the event.

State Veterinary Medicine Committee Press Service, 10/22/2010

Russian Federal Service for Veterinary and Phytosanitary Surveillance (Rosselhoznadzor) has temporarily banned the supply of poultry meat to Russia from Myronivka Poultry Plant (which is part of Myronivka Breadproduct and Nasha Ryaba).

The relevant notice was published on the official website of the Service. "Due to the illicit and harmful substances found in animal products, that had come to Russia from Brazil, Germany, Slovakia, USA, Uruguay and Ukraine, the supply of products from several enterprises of the abovementioned countries shall be temporarily banned from November 4, 2010", the notice states. Ukrainian Myronivka Poultry Plant is among enterprises mentioned in the list.

www.unian.net, 22.10.2010

In the third quarter of 2010 experts from State Consumer Standard Committee have checked 80 tons of meat and meat products, worth UAH 1.3 million, during production and subsequent sale. 36 tons of products, worth UAH 387.3 thousand, representing 45% of products checked have been rejected due to non-compliance with normative documents.

http://economics.unian.net/, 22.10.2010

Market Infrastructure

China National Machinery Import & Export Corporation (CMC) is considering the possibility of building in Ukraine 20 elevators with the capacity of 50 thousand tons each.

According to UkrAgriLeasing press service, UkrAgriLeasing and CMC signed an agreement of intent during the official visit of Ukrainian delegation to China in early September. "Each of these crop storage facilities is designed for long term storage of 50 thousand tons of not less than 4 types of agricultural products" the report states.

http://economics.unian.net/, 22.10.2010

Grain and Feed Trade Association (GAFTA) is very concerned about the situation on Ukrainian grain market. In its letter to Ukrainian Government it is underlined that since GAFTA monitors compliance with the free trade principles it expresses concern that the situation on Ukrainian grain market still remains to be unpredictable and opaque. "We oppose the decision of the Ukrainian Government to introduce grain exports quotas, since it contradicts Ukrainian commitments under WTO".

GAFTA also believes that licensing and export quotas for Ukrainian grain have been introduced too quickly, without providing at least a two-week transition period for market participants. GAFTA urges Ukrainian authorities to find relevant solutions and rectify the situation on the grain market by enabling it to function according to international free trade standards as soon as possible.

APK-Inform, 10/22/2010

Rural Development

State Regulatory Policy and Entrepreneurship Committee agreed upon a draft law submitted by the Ministry of Agrarian Policy, which is intended to simplify the farm registration procedure and reduce the number of permits needed to set up a farm.

After adoption of the law, an individual wanting to set up a farm will not have to pass the selection process at a professional commission created by rayon or town council. Citizens interested in developing their own farm will have to apply for land and submit proof of their experience in agriculture or degree/diploma in agriculture. Experts believe such changes could improve business environment for setting up and development of farms.

APK-Inform, 10/22/2010