

Agricultural/rural sector news digest 2-8 December, 2010

WTO and Neighbourhood Policy

Mr. Vasyliy Tsushko, Minister of Economy of Ukraine, and Mr. Daynius Kreywis, Minister of Economy of Lithuania has had a meeting during the session of the XII Inter-Governmental Ukrainian – Lithuanian Commission on Trade, Economics, and Scientific – Technical Cooperation.

As it was noted, the investment cooperation is promising for the Ukrainian part, with the elements of the Ukrainian goods placement in Lithuania as an EU-member in order to avoid a lot of barriers at their promotion to the European market.

During the meeting, a number of current state and further development issues of the Ukraine – Lithuania trade and economic relations were discussed, and of agricultural sector specifically.

MAP Press Service, 06.12.2010

On the 2^d December, 2010, Mr. Mykola Prysyazhnyuk, Minister of Agrarian Policy of Ukraine, has had a meeting with Mr. Martin Raiser, the World Bank Director in Ukraine, Bilorus, and Moldova (WB).

The Agrarian Policy Minister Mykola Prysyazhniuk stressed the WB leading part in overcoming the global financial economic recession effects; comprehensive studies it conducts; he informed that the land reform completing has a crucial role for the agrarian sector progress. Currently, the Ministry has initiated the "Adaptation of Agricultural Sector Standards to the EU Requirements Programme". As it was stressed by Minister, the Ministry is willing to fulfil the Programme in the liaison with the EU institutions, IMF and WB.

The WB Director Martin Raiser expressed his worry about the crops quotas set up by Ukraine, and offered the WB assistance in completing the Ukraine land cadastre legislation.

The Minister has offered to the WB Director the opportunity of meeting with the grain traders and the EBRD, for discussing the following steps in sector development.

http://minagro.gov.ua/, 07.12.2010

7 December, 2010 Mr. Mykola Prysyazhnyuk, Minister of Agrarian Policy of Ukraine, has had a meeting with Mr. Max Alier, the International Monetary Fund Permanent Representative in Ukraine. They discussed a current state and further development issues of the Ukraine agricultural sector, main macroeconomic factors influencing the sector, and prospective actions for keeping the situation under control.

The sides discussed specifically the sector's loan services, and the Government's policy in a grain market. IMF Representative stressed the importance of the reforms in agrarian sector and the assurance of public safety under growing food prices condition.

http://minagro.gov.ua/,07.12.2010

Food Safety

The State Committee of Ukraine for Veterinary Medicine expressed its dissatisfaction with the quality of animal production imported from Poland to Ukraine. Antibiotics and coliform bacteria are found periodically in the polish bacon shipments. Nevertheless, the Committee is hardly willing to prohibit the supply due to anticipation of price rises, experts are saying. After a similar ban in 2006, the meet and sausage production prices had increased to 45%.

The State Committee of Ukraine for Veterinary Medicine has complains to the quality of animal production imported from Poland to Ukraine, as Ivan Bisyuk, the Committee Head stated yesterday. According to him, the cases of antibiotics, mesophilic anaerobic microbes, and opportunistic kinds of coliform bacterium findings became more numerous.

Nowadays, the State Committee is still cooperating with the importers but if the non-quality production will come to Ukraine further, the actions to be taken, Ivan Bisyuk says. Namely, the State Committee can initiate the repeated audit for the Polish Veterinary Service and to prohibit the import of the production from certain enterprises. Previous audit took place after 2006, when the State Committee under Bisyuk's leadership banned all animal production from Poland. Since that, the permission was given to 80 Polish enterprises.

Commersant-Ukriane, 02.12.2010

The State Committee for Veterinary Medicine ceased temporarily (from 22 November, 2010) import to Ukraine of animal food production made by "Belwood Foods Ltd, UK" (Great Britain). The UNIAN was informed about that by the State Committee for Veterinary Medicine. Besides, it was said that the Draft Order on the temporary cease of animal food production import made by "Nung Vuong Corporation" (Viet Nam) is prepared.

It was also said that from 18 November 2010, import of animal food production made by "Santa Bremor" (Bilorus) was temporarily ceased. It is stated that the terminations were in action due to inconsistency of the mentioned productions quality to the Ukrainian legislation.

http://economics.unian.net/, 02.12.2010

GM plant registration is boosting in Ukraine. It was said by Olexiy Stetsenko, West Region Sales Manager "Monsanto Ukraine" Ltd. at the International Meeting "Agro Resources -2010", 3 December, 2010, in Kyiv. "Monsanto" has recently applied for registration the GM soya use as feed product and food. Registration for other cultures is terminated because the Ukrainian legislation approves only GM soya as feed product and food.

Ukraine is moving towards harmonisation of its legislation with the EU, where GM production is legal while it is marked with special GMO label. An expert believes that for Ukraine the harmonisation process takes about 3-5 years.

APK-INFORM, 03.12.2010

FVO Office inspectors mission on animal health control system takes place on 6-10 December, 2010 in Ukraine. The mission is due to assess poultry (meat, eggs) production and potential export to the EU countries.

Positive outcome of the mission depends on the conclusions after visiting Ukrainian enterprises in Odesa, Kyiv, and Cherkasy Oblasts. The European Commission, possibly, in May, 2011, makes a decision to entitle Ukrainian poultry producers to supply their production to the European market.

It was said by Ivan Bisyuk, Leading State Veterinary Inspector last week. He noted that the General Directorate EC (DG SANCO) inspectors will carry out repeatedly an audit of the Ukrainian poultry meat and eggs production control system from 6 to 10 december, 2010. According their conclusions, the future of the Ukrainian poultry export to EU will be shaped.

3 December, 2010, in the presence of the President of Ukraine, Victor Yanukovych, and President of Syria, Bashar Al-Asad, the ceremony of signing of bilateral documents, - President's Press Service informs.

Namely, the Cooperation Agreement in quarantine and plant protection area was signed by the Ministry for Agrarian Policy of Ukraine and the Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Reforms of Syria. This Agreement is intended at forming the legal frameworks for cooperation in the area of prevention of the regulated noxious organisms entry and dissemination. The document defines a mechanism of bridging the quarantine areas, and encourages economic and trade relations between Ukraine and Syria.

АПК-ІНФОРМ, 06.12.2010

Market Infrastructure

The Russian Agricultural Inspection (Rossilgospnaglyad) allows the supplying fish production into the Russian Federation for six Ukrainian enterprises. This information was given to UNIAN in the State Committee of Ukraine for Veterinary Medicine.

The Committee is working on the elimination of the inconsistency to the RF and the Custom Union veterinary – sanitary requirements and norms. During 13 - 24 September, 2010, the Rossilgospnaglyad specialists have inspected 8 Ukrainian fishery enterprises, in order to entitle them with the right to export their production to the RF. According the inspection, this right was granted to 6 enterprises: "Bastion" (Dnipropetrovsk Oblast); "Aquafrfost" (Odesa Oblast); "Interflot" (AR Crimea); "Istok" (Odesa Oblast); "Kerchkholod" (AR Crimea); and "International Group of Seafood" (Kyyiv Oblast).

It is stated that as on the 1st December 2010, the right to export their production to the RF possess 41 Ukrainian enterprises, namely, 10 - milk processing, 5 - meet processing, 3 - poultry processing, 6 - fish processing, and 17 feed products and supplements enterprises. Temporary cease is active for 16 Ukrainian enterprises, of them: 4 - milk processing and 12 meet processing.

http://economics.unian.net/, 02.12.2010

The Ministry of Agrarian Policy of Ukraine suggests to make amendments to the Law of Ukraine "On the State assistance to agriculture of Ukraine". The Draft Law was released on 7 December, 2010 at the MAP web-site.

Particularly, as the MAP states, the document was developed by the Ministry to determine the legal ground for commodity exchanges to get eligibility conclusions on service provision in drafting and registration of buy and sell agreements of agricultural production and food for the state and regional needs, compensation debts, and of drafting and registration of international contracts.

The main objective of the Draft Law is to define an authority of the Cabinet of Ministers in part of regulation of providing the commodity exchanges with an eligibility conclusion.

APK-INFORM, 07.12.2010

Commercial Court of Kyiv brought a case on the bankruptcy of the State Incorporated Enterprise "Khlib Ukrainy" after the application of F.J. Elsner & Co Gesellschaft mbH (Austria). This information was given by the "Ilyashev and Partners" Law Company. The argument for application was the non-fulfilment of the contractual commitment by the "Khlib Ukrainy".

www.agroua.net, 08.12.2010

Ukraine was given a USD 195 million loan by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development according to the Loan Agreement, which was ratified in 2004 for realization in 2004 - 2012 of Rural Land Titling and Cadastre Development Project.

The Accounting Chamber annually makes an inspection of using the funds of the mentioned above loan, results of which for the year 2009 have once again proved that usage of loan funds for the given project has actually been failed.

State Committee of Ukraine on Land Resources and Ministry of Finance haven't created an effective system of project management, what leaded to loan reduction in general for USD 105 million, or 53.8 percent. As a result, objectives of the project can not be reached in full scale.

Over 6 years of Project implementation State Committee of Land Resources and State enterprise "Center of State Land Cadastre" has used only USD 23,7 million from the total amount of the Loan (or 12,1%), and till the end of the project - 30.06.2012 – there is a risk of non-using the funds of the Loan, envisaged by the IBRD for completion of the project after its restructuring.

Social objectives of the project, and namely, free of charge substitution of certificates on ownership rights, land, state acts, also are not reached, and source of financing is lost. Over all period of project implementation only 422 thousand of state acts on land ownership were issued instead of the certificates, which make only 11% of defined scope of papers exchange.

There remain risks of non-fulfilment of certain agreements regarding creation of basic and index cadastral maps which are foreseen by the project, also risks of additional pressure on state budget of Ukraine in connection with the necessity of bringing the results of completed agreements in accordance with the requirements of current legislation.

www.myland.org.ua, 06.12.2010