

 <b>МІНІСТЕРСТВО АГРАРНОЇ ПОЛІТИКИ УКРАЇНИ</b>	 Проект фінансується Європейським Союзом	 Проект впроваджується консорціумом на чолі з WYG International
<i>Implementation of Ukrainian's Commitments under WTO and ENP Frameworks in the Rural sector EuropeAid/126205/C/SER/</i>		

## Overview of Latest Rural Developments

20 – 26 January 2011

### WTO and Neighbourhood Policy

Head of the EU Delegation to Ukraine Jose Manuel Pinto Teixeira hopes Ukraine and the EU will conclude the Association Agreement before the end of this year. "One always suggested the end of the year as the probable final date, year after year. Nevertheless, we hope that all the work will be completed before the end of the current year", he said. According to Teixeira, the next round of negotiations on the Association Agreement will be held in Kiev in early February. "We hope that the next round will be a constructive one. The previous round which was held in December in Brussels did not meet our expectations", he added.

UNIAN, 21.01.2011

Minister of Agricultural Policy and Food of Ukraine Mykola Prisyazhnyuk and Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Resources of the Republic of Serbia Sasha Dragin signed the Agreement on cooperation in agriculture on January 20, 2011 in Berlin, Germany. According to the press service of Ukrainian Ministry, both sides agreed to promote the development of economic, scientific and technical cooperation in agriculture and the food industry.

APK-Inform, 01/21/2011

Polish President Bronislaw Komorowski, while meeting in Warsaw with the diplomatic representatives, said that Poland is interested in developing cooperation and sustaining contacts with Ukraine. Komorowski underlined the continuity of Polish foreign policy in 2011 and noted that it is the first time this year that Poland will hold the presidency in the EU after joining the Union in 2004 and that it is "a chance to deepen European integration". The President said Poland wants to participate actively in shaping the eastern policy of the European Union and supports the continuing development of cooperation with Ukraine and other eastern neighbours, including the members of the EU's "Eastern Partnership" initiative.

UNIAN, 01.23.2011

### Food Safety

Ukraine will check the agricultural products that are being imported to it for the presence of dioxin, head of the State Sanitary and Epidemiological Service Sergiy Ryzhenko said at a press conference on January 20 in Kiev. According to him, the laboratory of the Medved's Institute of Ecological Hygiene and Toxicology (Kyiv) will carry out relevant tests. "All accompanying documents will be attentively studied and samples of food products sent to the lab to be checked for the presence of dioxin and other toxic substances in case of the slightest doubt about their safety", he said, noting that the Medved Institute has all the equipment to detect dioxin and other toxic substances. Ryzhenko explained that the need to carry out additional

inspection became apparent after dioxin has been once again found in agricultural products of German origin in early January. Meanwhile, the question remains: how did dioxin enter the foodstuffs.

Interfax-Ukraine, 01.21.2011

Ukraine has banned imports of live cattle and beef products from the republics of Congo and Gabon.

The State Veterinary Medicine Committee adopted the above mentioned decision after receiving the report of the International Office of Epizootics where it was said that cases of contagious bovine pleuropneumonia had been found among cattle in these countries. Other food products from these countries shall be imported in accordance with Ukrainian veterinary requirements.

LigaBusinessInform, 23/01/2011

In Ukraine all genetically modified organisms are illegal since not a single GMO line has been officially registered so far, the director of the Ecological Hygiene and Toxicology Institute, Mykola Prodanchuk said. "All GMOs are illegal in Ukraine, since, according to the law On Bio-safety, which was adopted in 2005, only registered GMOs can be used in food and feed. Meanwhile, none of GMOs has been registered in Ukraine so far", he said. Prodanchuk also noted that in Ukraine there is practically no food made from GMOs. He stressed that GMOs were found only in 24 cases out of 23 thousand tests conducted and added that in 99% of cases these were manufacturers and importers interested in proving the quality of their products that were asking the laboratories to carry out GMO tests.

Interfax, 01.25.1911

## Market Infrastructure

January 21, international exhibition "Gruene Woche" has opened in Berlin. It will be held until 30 January 2011. Ukrainian Minister for Agricultural Policy and Food Mykola Prisyazhnyuk together with the Ambassador of Ukraine to Germany Natalia Zarudna took part in the presentation of Ukrainian exhibition stand. Ukraine has been a regular exhibitor on Gruene Woche for 13 years already and its total exhibition area in 2011 amounted to 600 sq. m. Agricultural Ministry's stand covers the main directions of Ukrainian agrarian policy. Ukraine also presented the following thematic exhibitions: "Alcohol Production", "Confectionery", "Beer and soft drinks", "Ukrainian wines", "Meats and sausages", "Ukrainian cheese". There are "Alcohol Tasting Centre" and "Varenychna" (dumpling shop) operating in the Ukrainian exhibition. One can taste Ukrainian national dishes and alcoholic beverages there. More than 80 Ukrainian companies are presenting their products on Gruene Woche.

www.agroua.net, 24.01.2011

Minister of Agriculture of Georgia Bakour Kvezereli is going to discuss with his Ukrainian counterpart further deliveries of wheat from Ukraine. Commenting on rumours of possible cessation of export of Ukrainian wheat, he said: "Tomorrow there will be a ministerial held in Berlin in which I will participate and where I am going to discuss these issues with my Ukrainian counterpart".

It was reported earlier that Ukrainian Government had decided to facilitate the smooth export of 150 thousand tons of wheat to Georgia, which were to be exported in accordance with the registered contracts between respective companies.

LigaBusinessInform, 01/22/2011

January 24, 2011, Minister of Agricultural Policy and Food of Ukraine Mykola Prisyazhnyuk

held talks with Minister of Agriculture and Food of Belarus Mikhail Rusij in Kyiv. Both sides agreed to develop a common balance of foodstuffs which are in short supply. The two Ministers also discussed the possibility of setting up joint ventures with a view to growing corn and alfalfa seeds and the way Ukrainian-Belarusian agricultural fairs will continue to be held in major cities of both countries.

MAPF Press Service, 24/01/2011

Foreign citizens, stateless persons, companies founded by foreign founders, foreign legal persons and foreign governments can not, as is stated in the draft law "On Land Market" published on the website of the State Agency for Land Resources of Ukraine, acquire ownership of agricultural land.

The document stipulates that agricultural land that was purchased by the foreign citizens or companies shall be subject to alienation within one year from the date of purchase. In case it was not alienated within one year, the land shall inevitably be sold at a land auction. According to the document, only Ukrainian citizens, legal persons established under the Ukrainian laws, the State represented by a specialized agency or local communities, represented by local authorities can purchase the land in Ukraine. As it was reported earlier, the draft law "On Land Market" will be adopted in Ukrainian parliament during the first quarter of 2011. The adoption of laws "On Official Land Cadastre" and "On Land Market" will render the moratorium on agricultural land void.

<http://economics.unian.net>, 24.01.2011

#### ANNOUNCEMENT

January 27, 2011 Minister of Agricultural Policy and Food of Ukraine Mykola Prysyzhnyuk, Director of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development in Ukraine Andre Kuusvek and managers of Ukrainian Grain Association and Ukrainian Agrarian Confederation will hold a press conference concerning the Memorandum on common actions to support the grain sector in Ukraine.

<http://minagro.gov.ua>, 25.01.2011

Imports of fruits and vegetables have grown in Ukraine over the past 5 years. In 2010 the total value of imports of fruits and vegetables has increased by 4,2 times compared to 2005, exceeding \$ 860 million. At the same time, the increase in weight of imported fruits and vegetables amounted to 77%. According to Ukrainian Agrarian Business Club (UABC), imports of those products which are traditionally produced in Ukraine deserve special attention. According to UABC experts, imports of potatoes, cabbage, onions, carrots, tomatoes and cucumbers have grown by 18.5 times over last 5 years and amounted to 190 thousand tons in 2010 and imports of apples, pears, cherries, and apricots equalled 210 thousand tons, which is almost five times higher than in 2005. According to the State Statistical Committee, in December 2010 the growth in consumer prices of vegetables equalled 20,9% compared with the end of 2009 and was almost as big as the growth in prices of cheeses. In particular, these were potatoes and cabbage whose price rocketed the highest.

LigaBusinessInform, 01/26/2011

## Rural Development

Ukrainian Ministry of Agrarian Policy and Food has prepared a draft Cabinet resolution adopting the procedure for using State Budget funds to support agricultural service cooperatives. The draft has been published on the ministerial site. Ministry of Agrarian Policy and Food shall be the main fund administrator and Crimean Ministry of Agriculture, agricultural departments of regional state administrations shall be its administrators at lower levels. The agricultural service cooperatives that have won regional competition in 2009 shall be grant recipients. MAPF will divide budgetary allocations into equal parts between regions, taking into account the scope of activities the service cooperatives carry out in each region. The grant shall be given only to cooperative, which was proclaimed the winner in local competition. The financial support is being given to cooperatives for them to be able to buy additional agricultural machinery and equipment.

LigaBusinessInform, 21/01/2011