

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

Overview of Latest Rural Developments

7 - 13 April 2011

WTO and Neighbourhood Policy

The European Union Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy Stefan Fuele named the EU priorities in its relations with the neighbours, which will be considered during the revision of the European Neighbourhood Policy. "The key result of the revision will be to put a new emphasis on differentiation of the Neighbourhood Policy so as to meet the needs and desires of each partner country", he said. The Commissioner noted that some EU partners want to develop the relations with the EU as far as to join it, while others aim only to draw more benefits from the ENP. "Whatever happens, the values of democracy which we share, the rule of law and respect for human rights will be in the heart of the revised Neighbourhood Policy to all partner countries", Mr. Fuele said. As the UNIAN reported earlier, the European Commission plans to present a Communication on the revision of the European Neighbourhood Policy in May this year.

www.unian.net, 07.04.2011

Ukraine wants to cooperate with the Customs Union according to a "three plus one" formula, Ukraine's President Viktor Yanukovich said, delivering in the Verkhovna Rada his annual address on the internal and external situation of Ukraine in 2011. "I think that further development of relations with the Customs Union will be based on a new contractual framework of free trade agreements and on a possible package cooperation agreement based on the "three + one" formula", Mr. Yanukovich said. The President believes it will enable our country to implement a real policy to converge the European and Eurasian economic spaces. He stressed that Ukraine's Eurointegration has not been and will not be an obstacle to the development of strategic partnership between Ukraine and Russia.

www.unian.net, 07.04.2011

Ukraine and the EU succeeded in progressing in three out of the five most difficult issues of the FTA negotiations, Deputy Minister of Economic Development and Trade of Ukraine Valery Pyatnitskij told Ukrainian journalists in Brussels on completion of the 16th round of talks. "The situation on three out of five issues can be characterized as the one where the light in the end of the tunnel is already being seen and I think that now there is a concrete opportunity to soon complete negotiations on these three issues, so this may well occur during the next round of talks", he said. The Deputy Minister said that the progress has been achieved on issues related to tariff quotas on agricultural products, geographical names, etc.

APK-Inform, 08.04.2011

The Council of Europe and Ukraine are preparing a new Action Plan for Ukraine, Director General for Political Affairs of the Secretariat of the Council of Europe Jean-Louis Laurens, told

Ukrainian journalists in Strasbourg. "We are now discussing ways to extend the program", he said. The Council of Europe representative said that the issue of providing a second Action Plan for Ukraine will be discussed on April 28-29 at a meeting of the Steering Committee, which will be held in Kiev. Mr. Loren noted that the second Action Plan is scheduled to be implemented during 2012/3. The amount of funding and specific projects are not yet determined. He also said that, as during the implementation of the first Action Plan, the European Commission will participate in financing the plan's measures.

www.unian.net, 12.04.2011

Food Safety

The U.S. Embassy in Kiev held a video conference with the directors of the State Veterinary and Phytosanitary Service, State Research Institute for Veterinary Drugs and Feed Additives Control, State Scientific Control Institute for Biotechnology and Strains, State Research Institute for Laboratory Diagnostics and Veterinary Examination and the FDA's Centre for Veterinary Medicine, GIPSA, and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)'s Centre for Veterinary Biologics and with the participation of the representatives of the US Department of Foreign Agricultural Service. Questions related to the registration of GMO products and related regulations adopted in the United States were discussed and the list of documents regulating the sampling process and standards that have to be used in determining and identifying GMOs and in real-time validation of the GMO detection method were defined.

<http://www.vet.gov.ua/>, 07.04.2011

As a result of the sixteenth round of talks between Ukraine and the EU on Free Trade Area (FTA), which were held on 6-7 April 2011 in Brussels, agreement was reached on previously problem issues related to Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures section. Ukraine agreed to adapt its regulations to EU sanitary legislation and establish clear scope of products to which the FTA will be applied. Both delegations agreed that the European side will participate in the development and coordination of a comprehensive strategy to harmonize Ukrainian legislation with that of the EU. The EU side reiterated its willingness to support Ukraine in dealing with problematic issues if needed, provided that its advices will be implemented, and limited to technical support.

www.agroua.net, 11.04.2011

Market Infrastructure

The European Union considers it unjustified that Ukraine has extended the grain export quotas. This was announced by John Clancy, the European Commission representative. He stressed that the EU is closely following the imposition of export quotas on grain, and addressed the Ukrainian side on this issue for the first time in October 2010. "Ukraine has provided a response explaining internal reasons for taking such measures and confirming their temporary nature," the EU representative said. After having analyzed Ukraine's answer the EU requested consultations with Ukraine within the framework of Article 12 of the WTO Agreement on Agriculture. Such consultations were held in February and March this year in Geneva. "The EU concluded, on the basis of answers given by the Ukrainian side, that the measures were not justified and were applied in a discriminatory way", Mr. Clancy said. "Therefore, we believe that there is no justification for the quota regime to be extended after March 31 ", he said.

www.liga.net, 07.04.2011

94% of fish Ukraine consumes is imported. This was said by the Minister of Agricultural Policy

and Food of Ukraine Mykola Prysyazhnyuk on Zhytomyr regional television. He said that the Government is concerned about the decline of the fishing industry. "94% of the fish we consume is imported. It is clear that in Ukraine we can not grow ocean fish, but we can grow most of the river species ", Mr. Prysyazhniuk said. He added that the Government had already adopted measures for fishing industry development. "The Government is developing together with regional authorities appropriate development programs, and conducting a full analysis of national water bodies. After this a regulatory framework will be prepared to regulate investments into the fish processing industry and determine policies related to lease of water bodies, volumes of fish to be caught etc.", he said.

<http://economics.unian.net/>, 11.04.2011

The Deputy Head of the State Agricultural Inspection of Ukraine O. Hryhorowych met with Heinz Strubenhoff, the manager of the German-Ukrainian Policy Dialogue project. The latter is supported by the Institute for Economic Research and Policy Consulting. During the conversation Mr. Strubenhoff talked about the priorities of this project, the key among which are improving the investment climate in Ukraine and providing support to German investors. He also noted that German experts provide advice to Ukrainian authorities on law reform, agricultural policy and market economy principles. The parties have agreed on further cooperation in the development of operational mechanisms for the State Agricultural Inspection with the use of the European experience in effective management and control in agriculture and of methodological support and advice.

MAPF Press Service, 12.04.2011

According to the State Statistics Committee, during the first two months of 2011 Ukrainian exports of meat and by-products increased in value terms by 100.1% to \$20.81 million compared to the same period of last year, while imports of these products declined significantly by 18,8% to \$31.82 million. Exports of milk and dairy products, eggs and honey grew by 19,2% to \$ 105.47 million while their imports increased by 30% to \$ 198.3 million.

LIHABusinessInform, 13.04.2011

Rural Development

Ukrainian Agrarian Business Club (UABC) initiates creation of European Farmers' Club to bring together the most efficient farmers working in Ukraine."Since UABC has recently launched the "Agri Efficiency" project, within which a comparative analysis of productivity and efficiency of Ukrainian farms is conducted, it seems appropriate to create an opportunity for the most efficient farmers to share their experience. Accordingly, the goal of the new UABC's initiative is to unite farmers through a platform for active dialogue and exchange of knowledge and information", Deputy Director General of UABC and coordinator of European Farmers Club Karen Fischer said.

Currently, in European Farmers' Club, there are 19 members from Ukraine, the Netherlands, Austria and Germany.

<http://economics.unian.net/>, 07.04.2011

Putting into circulation of agricultural land should certainly result in the infrastructure development of Ukrainian villages and in protection of the rights of the land shares owners and in the same time it should stimulate rural development. That is why there is a need for immediate legislative reforms. This was announced by the Ukrainian Minister of Agrarian Policy and Food of Mykola Prysyazhniuk. "A team of highly qualified experts participates in the land reform today. They are the members of the working group. The main task is to reform the laws regulating the circulation of agricultural land so, that each land owner could fully own its land", the Minister said. According to him, these are the land shares owners who themselves know how

to dispose of their land that need the land reform the most. "Currently there is no need for a referendum on land reform. It would have been logical to carry one before the land had been distributed and not now when each land share has its owner, who himself has to decide what to do with his documented and legally protected property ", Mr. Prysiazniuk said.

MAPF, 12.04.2011