

 <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

14 – 20 April 2011

WTO and Neighbourhood Policy

Ukrainian Prime Minister Mykola Azarov noted progress in negotiations on the Free Trade Agreement with the EU. At a joint press conference with Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk, the Head of Ukrainian Government said that the agreement would be signed later this year. "There is some progress in the negotiations. And we plan out our work schedules so as to complete the complex process of negotiations by the end of this year and to achieve a compromise between Ukrainian and EU's interests", Mr. Azarov said. Donald Tusk in his turn said that Poland will support the European aspirations of Ukraine during its EU presidency. "If it comes to European integration, we believe that all of Ukraine's inspirations to integrate into the European Union are reasonable and you can always count on our solidarity and support to all steps that you make in this direction", he said, adding that Poland will do its utmost for the FTA agreement to be signed under the presidency of Poland in the European Union.

www.liga.net, 14.04.2011

Ukraine's President Viktor Yanukovich and European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso hope the talks on signing the Association and Free Trade Agreements between Ukraine and the EU to be completed by the end of this year. Viktor Yanukovich in particular noted that Ukraine positively assesses the negotiation process on all sections of the Association Agreement, including that on creating a deep and comprehensive free trade area. "If the current dynamics in the negotiations is to be preserved, we will be able to agree on the agreement document before the next Ukraine-EU summit ", Ukraine's President said reminding that the next summit will be held in December 2011 in Kiev. In his turn, Mr. Barroso expressed hope that one will add dynamics to the negotiations and 2011 will be a decisive year in Ukraine-EU cooperation.

www.unian.net, 18.04.2011

The European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso called Ukraine EU's key neighbor and partner. The EU leaders have not yet used such a formulation while Barroso repeated it twice during his visit to Kyiv. "Ukraine is not just a border country for us. It is our key neighbor and partner. We believe Ukraine can join the European family of peoples ", Mr. Barroso said it first at a press conference and then repeated it verbatim at a meeting with Kiev students. At the same time such a formulation is not likely to satisfy Ukrainian diplomats since the phrase "a member of the European family of peoples" is not legally binding and does not affect the prospects for further integration of Ukraine into the EU.

Kommersant-Ukraine, 19.04.2011

While negotiating with the EU on the FTA agreement, Ukraine is ready to compromise on the issue of geographical names for products in return for compensation to Ukrainian manufacturers,

Ukrainian Prime Minister Mykola Azarov said at a meeting with Jose Manuel Barroso. "We are ready to compromise on the issue of the so-called "geographical names", but we need a transition period and compensation to be provided to our manufacturers", Mr. Azarov said. He also noted that the issues concerning quotas on agricultural export and trucking services require further discussions in the context of the FTA preparation.

<http://economics.unian.net/>, 19.04.2011

Ukrainian Deputy Minister of Economy Vasyl Marmazov met with Deputy Minister of Commerce of the People's Republic of China Jiang Yaopin. The parties discussed the preparation activities for the First Session of the Intergovernmental Commission on Collaboration between Ukraine and China and the extent of readiness to sign bilateral agreements in trade, investment, agriculture and industry.

The Press Service of the Ministry of Economic Development, 20.04.2011

Food Safety

Ukrainian Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources plans to carry out state environmental expertise of documents related to genetically modified organisms (GMOs) intended for use in open system. As it stated in the ministerial message published on its website, the draft Cabinet decree "On approval of tariffs for the state environmental expertise of documents related to genetically modified organisms intended for use in open system" was developed to regulate the procedure for carrying out the state environmental expertise and simplify the environmental permit issuing procedure.

<http://economics.unian.net/>, 14.04.2011

The decision № 15-2-23/3218 from 15.04.11 banned the imports of animals susceptible to Foot and Mouth Disease and products thereof from India. According to the official report of the International Epizootic Office, the massive spread of FMD was registered in India. The import of other food products and animals from this country shall be carried out in accordance with Ukrainian veterinary requirements.

<http://www.vet.gov.ua/>, 15.04.2011

Presidential Decree № 464/2011 from April 13, 2011 approved the Regulation on the State Veterinary and Phytosanitary Service of Ukraine, the central executive body, whose activities shall be directed and coordinated by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine through the Minister of Agrarian Policy and Food. It shall ensure the state policy in the field of veterinary medicine, food safety, plant quarantine, plant protection, protection of plant variety rights and state control over animal breeding. The Presidential Decree № 459/2011 from April 13, 2011 approved the Regulation on the State Inspectorate for Agriculture, which, by definition, is a central executive body, whose activities shall be directed and coordinated by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine through the Minister of Agrarian Policy and Food. It shall ensure the state policy in the field of control over the agricultural sector.

www.agroua.net, 15.04.2011

Market Infrastructure

As for the first 3 months of 2011 the State Statistics Committee of Ukraine registered a 5% (745.9 tons) increase in meat production (sales of livestock and poultry for slaughter in live weight) and a 15,7% increase in eggs production compared to the same period of 2010. Milk production during the same period decreased by 1,3% to 1985.2 thousand tons. During the 1st

quarter of 2011 Ukrainian companies processed some 360.1 thousand tons of cattle and poultry in live weight, which is 9% more than during the corresponding period of 2010 and 875.8 tons of milk and milk products which is 3% less than in 2010.

LigaBusinessInform, 15.04.2011

China is willing to invest \$ 1 billion into the construction of a new potash plant in Kalush (Ivano-Frankivsk region), Ivano-Frankivsk governor Mychailo Vyshyvaniuk said at a press conference. "Chinese investments will equal one billion dollars", he said. Mr. Vyshyvaniuk noted that the Chinese also proposed to solve the problem of karst collapses in Kalush by means of ashes from the Burshtyn thermal power plant. The governor said it will make it possible to completely solve the environmental problems in Kalush. Today Ukraine annually imports \$ 250 million worth of potash fertilizers from Belarus.

<http://economics.unian.net/>, 18.04.2011

Issues related to the grain stocks as of April and prospects for grain exports were considered at the Second Session of the Working Group on Grain Market Functioning which was held under the chairmanship of the Working Group Co-Chairman, the Ukrainian Agrarian Confederation President Leonid Kozachenko. During the meeting the Economy Ministry representative reported on the current grain stocks numbers and said that her ministry proposes to estimate the transitional grain balance as of 01.07.2011 at 5.8 million tons. The Ukrainian Grain Association President Volodymyr Klimenko underlined the need to establish a dialogue between the Government and agricultural businesses and to soon hold a joint session of the relevant parliamentary committee to which the working group members should also be invited. The meeting participants decided to include into the Working Group the representatives of the European Business Association, the American Chamber of Commerce and the Union of Agricultural Service Co-operatives.

www.agroua.net, 19.04.2011

Rural Development

ANNOUNCEMENT

April 21, a round table discussion " Land Reform: Challenges and Prospects " will be held as part of the USAID-financed project " Legal State: Access to Justice and Legal Awareness ". Ukrainian MPs , representatives of central executive bodies, NGOs, professional associations and local authorities, scientists and experts will attend the event to discuss issues related to a possible introduction of agricultural land market.

www.pravovakrayina.org.ua, 14.04.2011

The parliamentary committee on Agrarian Policy and Land Relations recommends the Parliament to adopt as a basis the draft law On the State Land Cadastre. The draft law # 8077 provides amended procedures for keeping the State Land Cadastre which differ from those contained in the current Land Code. If today, as the authors stress, each transaction of land undergoes state registration involving issuance of state acts or registration of leases, the draft law will reduce the procedure to only assigning of a cadastral number to a land plot during the formation thereof. Moreover, the draft law proposes that only rayon offices of the central executive body on land resources should analyze the submitted documents and register all information concerning a land plot; and that information on a land plot after being put into the State Land Cadastre should be submitted in digital form together with its cadastral plan to the agency that carries out state registration of rights to real estate. The latter in its turn shall submit to the State Land Cadastre the information about a person to whom the land title was registered.

The draft law also provides for the state land acts to be cancelled starting from 2013.

<http://www.myland.org.ua>, 18.04.2011

Deputy Head of Khmelnytsky Regional State Administration Leonid Gural said during the "Put Your Question to Authorities" hotline that Iraq wants to buy pickled cucumbers in unlimited quantities. "In Iraq pickled cucumbers are being sold at \$ 5 for per half-liter bottle. The Iraqis are ready to immediately pay the money and buy an unlimited quantity of this product", he said. However, Mr. Gural expressed concern about lost food processing capacities in Khmelnytsky region. "Unfortunately, although it is the simplest way to process vegetables one is not using the pickling technology that actively anymore. The negotiations are now on to reopen the pickling facilities on the Dunayevets'kyi cannery. Investments are needed to make pickling pits ", he said.

www.agroua.net, 20.04.2011