

 МІНІСТЕРСТВО АГРАРНОЇ ПОЛІТИКИ ТА ПРОДОВОЛЬСТВА УКРАЇНИ	 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/UA</i>		

Overview of Latest Rural Developments 8-14 September 2011

WTO and Neighbourhood Policy

Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich has met with former Polish President and Special Representative of the Polish Presidency of the European Union Aleksander Kwasniewski. Yanukovich noted the special importance of an active dialogue with Poland during its presidency of the EU. Kwasniewski, in turn, confirmed close relations between the Polish presidency of the EU and Ukraine and the constant attention to what is happening in the country.

Yanukovich and Kwasniewski expressed hope for the forthcoming communication at the 8th Yalta Annual Meeting "Ukraine and the world: common challenges, common future," which will be held on September 15-18 at the Livadia Palace in Crimea, where current problems will be discussed in more detail.

The Presidential Press Service, 09.09.2011

Memorandum on bilateral cooperation programme in agriculture was signed between the Ukrainian Ministry of Agrarian Policy and Food and the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs.

The memorandum was signed by the First Deputy Minister of Agrarian Policy and Food Mykola Bezugly and the Swiss Ambassador to the WTO, the Representative of the Federal Council for Trade Agreements Lutsius Wasescha.

The MAPF Press Service, 09.09.2011

Ukraine intends to renegotiate the terms of its membership in the WTO this year. This is stated in the letter from the Prime Minister Mykola Azarov to the Head of the Ukrainian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs, MP Anatoliy Kinakh. The letter notes that by the end of the year the Government plans to initiate talks about changing tariff commitments which Ukraine took when joining the WTO. The letter was written as a response to the appeal Mr. Kinakh made that Ukraine should use its renegotiation right in accordance with Art. XXVIII of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). According to this article, the WTO members have the right to renegotiate customs duties every three years. The next three-year period is to be started from 2012. The experts recommend the Cabinet to prepare itself to match with other WTO members` requirements which are quite rigid. It should be noted that instead of 4 months the Government has only few weeks to submit the application. The application for starting the procedure of negotiations must be submitted within the period from 6 to 3 months before the end of three-year period, and, in addition, the rules of trade diplomacy involve prior consultation with major trading partners.

RBC-Ukraine, 09.09.2011

September 12, The National Institute for Strategic Studies under the President of Ukraine held the third meeting of the Working Group entitled the Regional Dimension of the European

Integration Strategy for Ukraine: Regional Development and Interregional Cooperation in the Framework of The National Convent of Ukraine on the EU. The meeting was held in partnership with the Slovak Foreign Policy Association Research Centre and with the support of the Slovak Development Fund (Slovak Aid). The topic of the meeting was "The Central region: inter-regional cooperation as a platform for cooperation between the regions of the EU". The meeting resulted in policy recommendations aimed at stimulating and supporting the participation of Ukrainian regions in interregional cooperation projects.

www.niss.gov.ua

ANNOUNCEMENT

The EU Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy Stefan Fuele will visit Ukraine on September 15-17 to attend the 8th Yalta Annual Meeting "Ukraine and the World: Common Challenges, Common Future".

According to the Ukrainian foreign ministry spokesman Olexander Dikusarov, Mr. Fuele plans to meet with Ukrainian officials, including Foreign Minister Gryshchenko. The parties will discuss the issues related to the conclusion of Association Agreement, creation of free trade area, and development of the visa-free dialogue.

www.unian.net, 13.09.2011

The Polish President Bronislaw Komorowski believes that current Ukrainian Government really wants Ukraine's integration with the European Union. This Mr. Komorowski said during a solemn speech in the European Parliament in Strasbourg on the occasion of the presidency of Poland in the EU. "I would like to express my deep conviction that Ukraine has a great disposition to obtain the conditions necessary for European integration. Included among these are actions aimed at improving its democracy standards," he said.

According to the Polish President, the EU Eastern Partnership summit which is to be held in Warsaw in late September should provide a clear signal on what partnership the European Union wants to maintain with its Eastern neighbours.

www.unian.net, 13.09.2011

ANNOUNCEMENT

September 26-27 2011, the European Economic and Social Committee and the National Tripartite Social and Economic Council on Relations Between the EU and Ukraine will hold a joint workshop in Kiev.

The following issues will be discussed at the workshop: the progress of negotiations on the Association Agreement between EU and Ukraine, participation of civil society in the reform process; progress of negotiations on deep and comprehensive free trade area between Ukraine and the EU; the role of civil society in trade agreements; the Ukrainian agricultural sector and convergence with EU policies; sustainable development and green agriculture; rural development and agricultural employment.

www.eesc.europa.eu, 08.09.2011

Food Safety

The international conference for the prevention and treatment of rabies is being held in Seoul. The conference is attended by the OIE Director General Bernard Vallat, World Health Organization leaders, the FAO Representative Katinka de Balogh, the European Commission Representative Panagiotis Demetrius and by some 450 participants from all over the world. Ukraine is represented by the Head of the State Veterinary Committee Dmytro Moroz and the director of the UkrVetPromPostach Volodymyr Solodchuk.

<http://www.vet.gov.ua>, 08.09.2011

In Vinnytsia oblast the veterinary police officers revealed illegal food production facilities in a canteen cellar. 248 kg of meat products of dubious quality were removed from circulation. In Kiev the veterinary police officers suspended the operations of 8 kiosks which were manufacturing and selling meat dishes without proper permits and under unhygienic conditions. The meat processing equipment and 104 kg of low quality animal products were seized.

www.agroua.net, 12.09.2011

The Working Subgroup On Veterinary Trainings, which operates in the framework of the Programme entitled The Biological Threat Reduction in the Veterinary Field in Ukraine met in the Kiev office of the Black & Veatch Special Projects Corp. to discuss the organization of trainings in epizootology. The Working Group to Coordinate the Implementation of the above mentioned programme met in the State Scientific Control Institute of Biotechnology and Micro-organism Strains to discuss the draft regulations On the Central State Reference Laboratory and On the Training Centre.

<http://www.vet.gov.ua>, 13.09.2011

Market infrastructure

The Pioneer Hi-Bred company, which is part of the DuPont Corporation, is investing \$ 10 million into the construction of a seed storage centre in the village of Stasy, Poltava oblast. The construction is planned to be completed by the beginning of 2012 sales season. Some 4,000 sq m will be destined for storing seeds, with half of the area equipped with air-conditioning. Fifteen full-time workers will manage the centre.

LIGABusinessInform, 08.09.2011

During the first 7 months of 2011 the growth in livestock production amounted to almost 3%, compared to the same period last year, the Minister of Agrarian Policy and Food Mykola Prisyazhnyuk said at a press conference entitled "The Agricultural Sector Outcomes during the first seven months in 2011." The production growth in the livestock sector is 2.8% due to the qualitative structural changes introduced by the Government. The agri enterprises increased their volume of livestock and poultry production by 6.4%, of pig production by 11%, and of poultry production by 6.8%.

LIGABusinessInform, 09.09.2011

According to the APK-Inform: Vegetables and Fruits project experts, professional potato producers have serious difficulties with selling their products at reasonable prices in Ukraine, since small-scale farmers agree to sell potato at prices considerably below its cost. The intermediaries are now buying potatoes from small-scale farmers for 0,7 – 0,9 UAH/kg to resell it in winter and spring. In the western regions the wholesale prices have already decreased to 1,2-1,4 UAH/kg due to excess of supply. It was 3.5 years ago that such a low price was observed for the last time, but the cost of growing potato then, however, was about 2 times lower. "The cost of growing late varieties of potato on specialized farms will in 2011 be from 1.5 to 2.0 UAH/kg. The cost of growing potato on small-scale farms is not being estimated, but in most cases it is even higher than that," the APK-Inform: Vegetables and Fruits project director Tatyana Getman said.

"APK-Inform: Vegetables and Fruits", 13.09.2011

Rural Development

September 16-17 2011, the tenth Slobozhansky Fair will be held in the town of Zmiev. The representatives of all districts and cities of Kharkiv and neighbouring regions as well as foreign delegations will participate in the event. Some 200 businesses and folk art masters and more than 25 local art bands will attend the fair. The fair's programme includes the presentation of expositions, trading, concerts, awards in recognition of best expositions etc.

www.kmu.gov.ua, 09.09.2011

September 10, a new fair-market with more than 200 places for selling agricultural products and food at below-market prices was opened in the Global UA Trade and Entertainment Centre in Zhytomir.

The agricultural producers and processors from 19 rayons of Zhytomyr oblast presented their products. It is expected that Global UA will regularly hold such events. Several thousand Zhytomyr residents attended the fair.

<http://economics.unian.net/>, 12.09.2011