

 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

17-23 November 2011

WTO and Neighbourhood Policy

The Association Agreement between Ukraine and the EU should be signed by the end of 2011, but Ukraine must respect the rule of law and allow opposition to participate fully in politics. The European Parliament's Committee on Foreign Relations adopted such a decision on November 17. Committee's recommendations regarding negotiations on the Association Agreement were adopted with 2 votes against and 2 abstentions. The resolution urges EU negotiators to strive to make all the progress needed for the Association Agreement with Ukraine to be initialed soon.

RBC-Ukraine, 17.11.2011

There are no technical obstacles for Ukraine and the EU to move to a new stage of bilateral relations based on the principles of political association and economic integration, the Speaker of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Olexander Dikusarov told commenting the European Parliament's Committee on Foreign Affairs' draft recommendations for the EU Council, Commission and European Service for external Action regarding the Association Agreement with Ukraine. The Ukrainian foreign ministry also expects the European Parliament to adopt by the end of this year final recommendations on the Association Agreement between Ukraine and the EU "which we hope will be duly considered by relevant EU bodies and EU member states when adopting this historical document".

RBC-Ukraine, 17.11.2011

November 18, Kiev - the First Vice Prime Minister/Minister of Economic Development and Trade Andriy Klyuyev and the Minister of Economy of Montenegro Vladimir Kavarich signed the Free Trade Agreement between Ukraine and Montenegro. "The free trade agreement between Ukraine and Montenegro should seriously intensify our trade and economic cooperation", Mr. Klyuyev said after the signing ceremony. He also expressed his belief that the agreement will have a positive impact on the economies of both countries. According to Mr. Klyuyev, Ukraine is interested in supplying food to and organizing food production in Montenegro.

The Press Service of Vice Prime Minister/Minister of Economic Development and Trade, 18.11.2011

Ukraine and Lithuania have significant potential for agricultural cooperation, Ukraine's President Viktor Yanukovych said after the fifth meeting of Ukraine-Lithuania presidents' council. "Supplies of Ukrainian grain, crop selection, livestock breeding and fishing are among promising areas of cooperation", he said.

The Presidential Press Service, 22.11.2011

The Cabinet approved the regulation "On submitting the Agreement On Economic, Scientific, Technical and Industrial Cooperation between Ukraine and the Republic of Cyprus to the Parliament for ratification".

The agreement will contribute to the development of cooperation in areas of mutual interests.

The Cabinet Secretariat's Department for Information and Communications, 23.11.2011

Food Safety

ANNOUNCEMENT

The International Food Security Forum will take place on November 30. The world's best food security experts, managers of successful food companies, retailers, foreign investors and the State Veterinary and Phytosanitary Service representatives will participate in the forum. Among the companies that have already confirmed their participation there are: METRO, Danone, Bayer, Kolos, Myronovski hliboproducty, Coca-Cola, APK-Invest, Sun Trade, Globino, Ramburs, Ukrproduct, Agroholding LLC, Kontsernhlibprom, Technocom, Goodwill, Napoyi Plus.

www.agrievent.com.ua, 21.11.2011

Pursuant to Prime's instructions, the State Inspectorate for Consumer Protection checked the quality of meat and dairy products. According to its head Sergij Orekhov, the laboratory results showed that all the high grade cooked sausages which were chosen to be checked do not meet official standards. "The sausages were found containing dyes and soybean and their maximum moisture level was exceeded. One can say that consumers were being misled", Mr. Orekhov said, adding that inspection results have been submitted to the police. He also said that in October it is for the first time in recent years that UAH 1.7 million have been allocated for laboratory checks and UAH 24 million are foreseen for this purpose in State Budget 2012. In addition, a target programme on consumer protection will start to be implemented in December: "The list of offenders, including producers and sellers, will be published on our web-site".

The Cabinet's Secretariat Department for Information and Communications, 21.11.2011

The Government will introduce a new food quality control system in 2012, the Prime Minister Mykola Azarov said after visiting the Ukrainian laboratory for checking the quality and safety of agricultural products. "Our task is to implement this programme in 2012 so that we could be sure about the quality of what we eat", he said.

Mr. Azarov also added that the Government considers abolishing the rule of notifying producers 10 days before the inspection. "One should not notify producers about the inspection in advance when it comes to human health", the Prime said.

Ukrinform, 22.11.2011

The EU is afraid of toxic products from Ukraine. The European Parliament Recommendation reads, as follows: "It is important for the EU that Ukraine ensures the proper disposal of toxic and nuclear waste on its territory so as to protect food quality and safety."

The EP is preparing another resolution on Ukraine regarding the Association Agreement between the EU and Ukraine, which will be considered on December 1. The resolution will contain recommendations to the EU's executive bodies on how to negotiate with Kyiv.

Glavcom.ua, 22.11.2011

Market infrastructure

According to the market players, the Egypt government is actively looking for new suppliers of cheap and high quality wheat. After the visit of GASC (the Egyptian state's main wheat buying agency) representatives to Ukraine, agreements were reached on the requirements for the quality of Ukrainian grain and Ukrainian wheat producers became full participants in GASC tenders. Despite all the vicissitudes that Ukrainian wheat has experienced, it is again highly valued. GASC audits, which were carried out in ports, showed that Ukrainian wheat fully meets the relevant requirements. The GASC representatives minimize their risks when they trade with traditional wheat producers. During recent tenders GASC bought some 400 thousand tons of Ukrainian wheat, with protein content not less than 12%. The price of Ukrainian wheat was much cheaper than European and even Russian one. According to market players, GASC intends to keep on purchasing high-quality grain at favorable prices.

APK-Inform, 18.11.2011

During first 10 months of 2011 Ukraine's foreign agricultural trade turnover amounted to 15.53 billion USD. 61.9% (USD 9 612.9 million) were processed food products, which is USD 1 918.3 million or 24.9% up compared with the corresponding period last year. Ukraine's foreign agricultural trade balance was positive (USD 2 468.4 million), which is 159.4% compared to the last year's figure.

<http://minagro.gov.ua/>, 18.11.2011

In January-October 2011 Ukrainian fisheries caught 157.6 thousand tons of fish and other aquatic products, which is 10.2% less in comparison with January-October 2010. Total fish catch decreased by 11.6% to 152.2 thousand tons. Total catch of other aquatic products increased by 1.6 times and amounted to 5.4 thousand tons.

LIHABusinessInform, 18.11.2011

Rural Development

Rural development will be MAPF's priority in 2012, the agricultural minister Mykola Prisyazhnyuk said after the Cabinet meeting. According to him, cooperation was established with the Association of Village Heads to implement strategic plans for the countryside's revival. "More than 14 million of Ukrainians live in rural areas. Rural employment generation is extremely important for our country. It will be our next year's priority", the Minister said. He said that the Ministry will support rural small business and small-scale farms. "We propose to implement projects for dairy farms ("Mayetok" (Estate)), pig farms and vegetable and fruit farms. The Government will actively provide financial support for these projects", Mr. Prisyazhnyuk said.

www.myland.org.ua, 17.11.2011

The Ukrainian Parliament sent for repeated first reading the Government draft law On Land Market. Before such a decision was approved with 255 votes in favour, there was a rating vote on all proposed draft laws on land market with government draft gaining 240 votes; that of Gregory Smityuha (Party of Regions) – 6 votes; and that of Oleg Lyashko (unaffiliated MP) - 1. After that, it was decided that the working group will finalize government's draft for it to be repeatedly considered in first reading.

<http://economics.unian.net/>, 18.11.2011

The purpose of the agrarian reform is to create transparent land trade mechanisms based on the Uniform State Land Cadastre, Ukraine's President Viktor Yanukovych said, welcoming

agricultural sector employees in the "Ukraine" Palace. "The land reform should protect farmers` interests and stop "black" land privatization schemes.It is also necessary to increase the investment attractiveness of Ukrainian agricultural sector, set up competitive agricultural markets and introduce European agriculture support systems", Mr. Yanukovich said.

RBC-Ukraine, 18.11.2011