

CO-OPERATION PROGRAMME

FOR THE YEARS 2009-2010

**BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF FLANDERS
AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF HUNGARY**

**IN IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CO-OPERATION TREATY
BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF FLANDERS
AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF HUNGARY**

Budapest, May 19-20, 2009

The chairperson of the Hungarian delegation welcomes the Flemish delegation and presents the members of the Hungarian delegation:

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

- Vince Szalay-Bobrovniczky director
- Báborka Molnár G. counsellor

Ministry of Education and Cultural Heritage

- Kolos Gálffy senior counsellor

National Office of Research and Technology

- Péter Judák senior counsellor

Ministry of Health

- Tünde Czinder chief counsellor

Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

- Evelin Lantos counsellor

Ministry for National Development and Economy

- Edit Bátorfi director general
- János Gárdonyi director
- Teréz Paksa senior counsellor, secretary of the Joint Commission
- Zsuzsanna Drahos chief counsellor
- Ildikó Kecskés Leskó chief counsellor
- Márta Molnár Szabó chief counsellor
- Sándor Hidas senior advisor

ITD Hungary (Investment and Trade Development Agency)

- Mihály Gálosfai director

Ministry of Transport, Telecommunication and Energy

- György Kovács senior counsellor
- Ilona Vehman chief counsellor

Ministry of Environment and Water

- Judit Ijgyártó senior counsellor

Prime Minister's Office

- György Csepeli public policy director
- Györgyi Joó counsellor

The chairperson of the Flemish delegation thanks for the kind reception and presents the members of the Flemish delegation:

Department of Foreign Affairs

- Koen Verlaeckt secretary general, chairperson of the Flemish delegation
- Gaston Pulinckx desk officer Hungary, secretary of the Joint Commission
- André Hebbelinck diplomatic representative of Flanders in Vienna

Department of Culture, Youth, Sports and Media Administration of Youth

- Tim Beernaert policy advisor

Administration of Welfare, Public Health and Family

- Bart Lemmens project leader

Administration of Public Governance

- Jan De Mulder policy advisor

Department of Mobility and Public Works

- Ir. Etienne De Winne director-engineer policy

Department of Agriculture and Fisheries

- Aranka Delombaerde policy advisor

Flanders Investment and Trade

- Robert Giraud Flemish economic representative for Hungary

Both delegations, hereafter called the Parties, agreed upon the following:

With a view to intensifying the partnership between Hungary and Flanders under the new circumstances of the full EU membership of Hungary, taking into account the pivotal role Hungary plays in the region, both Parties agreed to explore the following avenues for the near future:

- the cooperation in the context of the Belgian and Hungarian EU Presidency in the policy domains where Flemish ministers represent Belgium in the Council meeting (e.g. environment, agriculture...),
- the need to share information on the strategy to tackle the economic crisis,
- the need to focus on a more limited number of policy priorities in future work programmes.

1. ECONOMY

1.1. General framework for cooperation

Both Parties underline the importance of cooperating concerning regional development policies and SME development.

1.2. Specific actions

The Flemish Party, i.e. the Agency for Economy of the Flemish government, proposes the following fields of expertise as topics for which it can guarantee a highly qualitative transfer and exchange of knowledge and information.

Regarding the execution of cooperation projects by project promoters, both Parties underline the importance of relevant European programmes and also the Flemish Cooperation Programme for Central- and Eastern Europe as a means of financing these projects.

1.2.1. General economic and regional policies concerning SME

Particular attention shall be given to:

- efficient instruments and means of financial support for companies;
- entrepreneurship (a.o. mentorship projects, promotion campaigns on entrepreneurship, strengthening business associations and networks...);
- efficient institutional support network for start-ups and SME (a.o. access to finance, marketing, management, business conduct, ...).

Both Parties will also focus their exchanges of experiences on sectors that are of mutual interest (for example ICT, biotechnology, pharmaceutical industry, logistics, machinery, ...). Special attention should be given to the automotive industry.

1.2.2. Regional development policy and the European Fund for Regional Development (ERDF)

Both Parties shall exchange experience, knowledge, documentation, work models and information about their activities in the field of regional development.

Amongst others the role, results and impact of relevant ERDF programmes (Objective 2 Regional competitiveness and Employment, Objective 3 Territorial Cooperation...) and domestic regional policy instruments will be considered.

With regard to the forthcoming 18-month EU presidency period between January 2010 and June 2011, when Spain, Belgium and Hungary will preside the Council of the European Union, both Parties shall also strengthen their cooperation in the field of territorial cohesion and urban development in particular where connections can be made with the ERDF.

As these topics may also be of interest to other policy domains, both Parties will involve the relevant ministries or agencies when cooperating on these issues.

1.2.3. Sustainable infrastructure and sustainable management of business premises

Particular attention will be paid to the results and outputs of a Flemish - European Union supported "Innovative Actions" project related to this issue.

1.2.4. Enterprise coaching programme: PLATO mentorship projects

Particular attention will be given to PLATO mentorship projects. PLATO projects aim at professionalizing the management of small enterprises and enhancing networking between enterprises. The strategy consists in setting up fixed groups of small enterprise managers with one or two counsellors to exchange experiences on a monthly basis during one or two years. The counsellors are executives from large companies or experienced self-employed persons who are gladly willing to put their experience at the disposal of other entrepreneurs.

1.3. Exchange of delegations

Both Parties are interested in the possibility of exchanging a limited group of experts and officials in the economic fields mentioned under 1.2 or other fields to be determined by common agreement.

This exchange will be aimed at transferring experiences, knowledge, documentation, work models and information on these fields as well as providing specific training.

2. FOREIGN ECONOMIC RELATIONS AND FOREIGN TRADE AND INVESTMENT

The Flemish Party is committed to further enhance and support the trade relations between Flanders and Hungary.

Flanders Investment & Trade (FIT), the agency of the Flemish government that supports Flemish companies and in particular SME's in their international trade and also assists foreign companies in setting up or expanding in Flanders, will do this by means of:

- Pointing out trade opportunities on the Hungarian market to Flemish companies;
- Supporting Flemish companies that want to expand their business to Hungary;
- Organising events related to Hungary, like seminars, trade missions, participations in trade fairs, etc.;
- Supporting Hungarian companies in their search for Flemish products and services, cooperation with a Flemish partner or investment opportunities in Flanders.

To this end, Flanders Investment & Trade has a Flemish Economic Representative in Budapest, Mr. Robert Giraud, who acts as liaison officer between Flemish and Hungarian companies and institutions.

Flanders Investment & Trade sets up an action programme, based on a regional strategy. This strategy is the result of a yearly discussion between FIT's domestic and foreign network and the main economic actors in Flanders. The strategy focuses on promising sectors in a certain market. As far as Hungary is concerned, the focus for the period 2008-2010 is on the sectors food & drinks, transport & logistics and environment.

For the period 2009-2010 following initiatives are planned:

- Market study on the Hungarian wholesale, September 2009.
- Invitation of Hungarian buyers and civil servants to Flemish companies active in the environmental sector, October 2009.
- Invitation of Hungarian buyers to the German food fair Anuga in order to bring them into contact with Flemish companies on the fair, Köln, 10 – 14 October 2009.
- Invitation of Hungarian buyers to the transport fair Trailer, Kortrijk, 20 – 24 October 2009.
- Seminar on the Hungarian transport sector, May 2010.
- Product Sample Booth on the environmental fair Okotech, October 2010.

The Hungarian Party is similarly committed to further enhance and support business links between Flanders and Hungary

Program Schedule for 2009 with strong Flemish business participation:

- March: Industrial / Techno Parks and Clusters Business Day
- March: Road – Show in Hungary to Boost Business Links with Belgium / Flanders
- April / September: Val Deal Innovations Business Day
- June: Printing and Packaging Business Day
- October: Hungarian Investment Opportunities Business Day
- October / November, Antwerp: Hungary Business Day in the framework of the Hungarian Week
- November: Real Estate Development Business Day
- December: North Hungary Business Day

The Hungarian party also wants to give priority to the "Suppliers Program" (supplier networking, enhancing supplier capabilities) launched by the Ministry for National Development and Economy and the ITDH. Both Flemish and Hungarian parties agree to exchange information and experiences in order to encourage cooperation between OEM suppliers, to enhance supplier capabilities and to survey other tools for integrating companies in the OEM's supplier chain.

Both parties are committed to exchange information on business opportunities and investment possibilities. Ad hoc and on the request of the other party, both parties will exchange information about their respective markets and sectors and share their knowledge and experience.

3. AGRICULTURE

- 3.1. The Flemish Party is willing, within the bounds of its budgetary possibilities, to make its knowledge and experience in the field of production, processing and marketing of fruit and vegetables – in accordance with Community legislation – available to the Hungarian Party. The Flemish Party also offers the possibility to exchange its knowledge and experience on the formation and functioning of producer organisations.

For the period of 2009-2010, both parties shall examine the possibility to organise a consultation on the followings:

- Producer organisations (contact person from Flemish part: engineer-director Guy Lambrechts, Koning Albert II-laan 35, bus 40, 1030 Brussels, Guy.Lambrechts@lv.vlaanderen.be; from the Hungarian part: Mr. Márton Bittsánszky head of unit, Department for Agricultural Market, MARD, 1055 Budapest, Kossuth tér 11. e-mail: BittsanzskyM@fvm.hu);
- to exchange its knowledge and experience on the functioning of School Fruit Scheme in Flanders (contact person from the Flemish side: Guy.Lambrechts@lv.vlaanderen.be, from the Hungarian side: Mrs. Marianna Molnár chief counsellor, Department for Agricultural Market, MARD, 1055 Budapest, Kossuth tér 11. e-mail: MolnarM@fvm.hu).

Practical aspects (for example: duration of the seminar and financing, etc.) will be discussed upon concrete demand.

- 3.2.** The Flemish Party offers, inter alia, in co-operation with the experts of practical research centres and/or associations, the possibility (contact person from the Flemish part: Head of Division Johan Verstrynghe, Johan.verstrynghe@lv.vlaanderen.be, Koning Albert II-laan 35, bus 40, 1030 Brussels; from the Hungarian side: Rita Farkas counsellor, MARD, 1055. Budapest, Department for Supervising of Institutions, e-mail: FarkasR@fvm.hu) to train and enhance the skills of local practical teachers in giving after school education and extra training, paying priority attention to sustainable agriculture and organic farming. This will be realised within the bounds of the budgetary possibilities of each partner and with regard to possible European funding.
- 3.3.** The Hungarian Party can always contact the Flemish Party (contact person from the Flemish part: Monitoring and Studies Division of the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, Head of Division Dirk Van Gijsegghem, Koning Albert II-laan 35, bus 40, 1030 Brussels, Dirk.vangijsegghem@lv.vlaanderen.be; from the Hungarian side: Anna Makóvényi, head of unit, Department for Rural Development, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, H-1055 Budapest, Kossuth tér 11., +36 1 301 4343, makovenyia@fvm.hu) to share knowledge and experience or to ask technical consultation about the following aspects:
- assessments methods of the state of agri-environment;
 - use of agri-environment indicators;
 - development, work and use of monitoring systems in agri-environment management.

4. ENVIRONMENT AND NATURE

4.1. Nature and Environmental education

The Nature and Environmental Education Unit (N)EE-unit is prepared to invite a delegation to introduce them within the (N)EE-working, the educative environmental care projects and the structure on the Flemish level in a profound and participative way.

Taking into account the wishes/needs, the (N)EE-unit can organise 3 or 4 days with the following interests, possibly in a follow-up project (MOS, Ecocampus, ...):

- introduction of and making acquaintance with the working of the (N)EE-unit service within Flanders, with Education for Sustainable Development as the frame of reference, and with the networking on (N)EE (diverse target groups) and on ESD
- making acquaintance in a profound way with the MOS-project (Environmental Care at School), an educational and environmental care project from kindergarten to higher

education and, if preferred, linked with one or more school visits; getting acquainted with the educational means

- introduction of and making acquaintance with the Ecocampus-project, a new project to introduce environmental care in higher education and universities (curricula, internal management, student life), and, if preferred, linked with a visit to a university or an institution of higher education
- introduction of the procedure in Flanders on the phasing and implementation of the Strategy on ESD in the formal education and informal or/and non-formal education; making acquaintance with examples of good practices how ESD can be introduced in (N)EE
- site visit to one or more (N)EE-centres, linked with a Flemish nature reserve and to a provincial EE-service, getting acquainted with the common educational means

4.2. Expert exchange

Both parties are willing to co-operate and exchange experts on a demand-driven base in the field of *environmental protection and nature conservation*.

4.3. Waste Management and Soil Sanitation

The Flemish Public Waste Agency (OVAM) is prepared – within its financial possibilities - to invite a number of experts in the field of Waste Management and Soil Sanitation in order to exchange know how and information concerning specific items in this matter.

5. TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE

The two parties shall exchange information, documentation and expertise in the form of expert meetings and seminars, especially on the following fields:

5.1 Mobility Persons and Goods (Policy)

Priority will be given to the following topics:

- Exchanging and consulting know-how about toll-collecting, traffic pricing and other monetary techniques to curb interurban and urban transport (general or parking congestion of cars in urban areas)
- Methods for the categorizing of roads
- EU Directive for road safety management (national practice, legal background, changing rules etc.)
- Permanent adjustment of the rational use of means of goods transport: logistics and intermodality of transport of goods.

In second order attention can be paid to the following topics:

- Promoting desired (traffic) behaviour and choices, specific topics are: speeding, drinking and driving, traffic-aggression, drivers' fatigue, eco driving.
- Improving and managing the balance between available space and (car) traffic
- Internalization of external costs (methodology, contents, data)
- Methodologies for the evaluation of transport policy scenarios
- Organization of studies and measurements, laws and legislation
- Planning of public transport and intermodality of transport of persons

- Models of integrated transport systems and urban planning for passenger transport
- Mobility agreements and management
- Policy to improve facilities for disabled people (design for all)
- Implementing/ (spacial) planning of intermodal transfer points for multimodal use of bus and railway stations, and the Park & Ride system

5.2 Road and Traffic Agency (management of operations)

Priority will be given to the following topics:

- Road side safety equipments (traffic engineering, technical standards, marketing, manufacturing etc.)
- The control of the overloaded lorries running on the main road network (motorways)
- Mitigation of the environmental impact of traffic: noise reduction barriers and other measures along highways.

In second order attention can be paid to the following topics:

- Coordination centre for all road construction works
- Development of an internet site for public use e.g. about road works and regulations, travel planners and other 'pre trip' information
- Road safety: how to make priorities – how to deal with unsafe locations – handbook of road safety – road safety inspections and audits
- Road Datawarehouse of the Agency: all kinds of data which can be geographically referred is stored and handled by one application and one interface
- Application of the Geographic Information System for handling road and traffic related data
- Methods and materials for the control of the road condition
- Traffic light and speed camera
- Projects to improve the traffic circulation of public transport
- Telematics – national development program (network)
- Maintenance (general or winter) of roads
- Incident management: ensuring first aid services, emergency planning (, also the hoisting of vehicles when blocking traffic during rush hour in urban areas)
- Best practices (workshops, conferences, research experiences)
- Promotion of equal alternatives for road traffic to the use of the car
- Construction of intermodal transfer points for multimodal use of bus and railway stations, and the Park & Ride system
- State-of-the-art management of the public space in order to maximise the goal setting toward the benchmark, eg. improvement for pedestrians, cyclists, improvement of junctions.

5.3. Ports and maritime affairs

Priority will be given to the following topics:

- Environmental protection – green ports (the stimulation of the utilisation of green ports)
- Combined transport (promoting of the utilisation of the existing opportunities in the Ro-Ro traffic).

In second order attention can be paid to the following topics:

- Freight traffic: modal shift promotion
- General policy on ports (practice, criteria, the measure of support of common financing of the port development).

5.4. Inland navigation

Priority will be given to the following topic:

- New technologies: study of the possibilities in order to collect low water levels on the Danube.

In second order attention can be paid to the following topics:

- General policy on waterways (classical river regulation and swelling up)
- General policy on inland ports (practice, criteria, the measure of support of common financing of the port development)
- Policy in terms of regulation, operation, commercialisation and promotion of inland navigation (the conciliation of marketing policies of different organizations (ports, navigation, water management, logistics), the role of Flemish shipping and its ratio in the commerce of the Danube countries
- Freight traffic: modal shift promotion.

5.5 PPP

- Method for calculating the Public Sector Comparator
- Determining Value for money
- Arranging tender documentation.

5.6 Work visits and trainings

The Flemish Party offers to the Hungarian Party the possibility to send experts to the port training and port management seminars that are organised by APEC (Antwerp/Flanders Port Training Centre) during the years 2009, 2010 and 2011. The Flemish Party will inform the Hungarian Embassy of the calendar of the seminars.

The Hungarian Party will present its candidates for the above mentioned seminars. Participants will be selected by APEC. The Flemish Party covers the expenses for participation in the seminars. International travel expenses shall be covered by the participant or by the organisation on which he/she depends.

Both Parties are prepared to consider receiving three delegations of maximum four (4) Hungarian/Flemish experts for a period of three (3) days at the most in Flanders/Hungary to exchange information, training, documentation (including site visits to various locations to be determined) and knowledge about one or more of the aforementioned themes, according to their points of interest.

6. TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING, HOUSING POLICY AND IMMOVABLE HERITAGE

At the request of the other Party both Parties shall exchange information and experiences on Town and Country planning, Housing Policy and Immovable Heritage.

The Flemish Party is willing to explain the Flemish policy in the field of immovable heritage. Subject to budgetary and staff constraints, follow-up and further development of this proposal can be discussed on the occasion of meetings of competent intergovernmental organisations (Council of Europe, UNESCO, etc.).

In the field of Town and Country Planning and in the field of Housing, the Flemish Party is willing to receive, at the request of Hungary, a delegation and give a brief presentation of the Town and Country Planning or Housing policy in Flanders.

7. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY

7.1. Both parties highly appreciate the results that have been achieved during earlier bilateral R&D cooperation and are willing to put in use the output of the joint projects and workshops organised in the last decade. To this preliminary discussions will be organised involving the representatives of the responsible S&T agencies in Hungary and in the Flanders respectively. In case of mutual interest further bilateral R&D actions will be implemented.

7.2. Both Parties will study ways to valorise their bilateral partnership in a multilateral context. For this purpose the possibility of organizing a workshop in Hungary and in Flanders respectively -with the potential involvement of third countries- in the next time period of cooperation will be explored. Potential participants: research units, innovative companies, S&T financing and managing agencies at regional, national and EU level.

In this respect, the European Framework Programme and the European Research Area are key points of attention.

8. CULTURE

8.1. Culture policy

8.1.1. Both Parties shall inform each other in an active way concerning important developments in cultural policies. That means that both Parties will keep each other informed, on a regular basis of policy matters and their international context, including the identification of the stakeholders involved and references to other sources that may be available.

Both Parties wish to clarify that the Flemish and The Hungarian cultural policy also includes policy making concerning non-formal adult education, the amateur arts, the local libraries and cultural centres; the circus and the initiatives that aim at increasing the participation of specific target groups in culture.

8.1.2. When common subjects, of considerable present political importance have been detected, the Parties may decide by consensus to organise specific projects in that field, such as exchanges, training, on the job training, seminars, residences, etc.

8.1.3. When one of the Parties participates in an important international project, it will associate the other Party – as far as possible – as a privileged partner.

8.1.4. On request of the Hungarian Party, the Flemish Party considers to support the activities of the Hungarian Cultural centre in Brussels (www.hungarianculture.be)

8.2. Visual Arts

During the validity of the present Programme the Flemish Party is willing to receive one (1) graphic designer for a working visit of two (2) weeks at the Frans Masereel Centre in Kasterlee. Free accommodation shall be provided as well as a per diem of € 50,00.

8.3. Performing Arts

Both Parties welcome the fruitful co-operation between Hungarian (Merlin, Trafó) and Flemish theatres and contemporary art ensembles.

8.4. Literature

The Flemish Party shall receive one (1) Hungarian translator at the Vertalershuis in Antwerp for a period of 1 (one) month during the validity of the present Programme in the cooperation with the Vlaams Fonds van de Letteren. Contrary to the usual financial arrangements when receiving individuals, this translator shall be given free accommodation and an allowance of € 1000.00.

Hungarian authors also have the possibility to enter the writers-in-residence scheme of het Beschrijf. Further details regarding the eligibility requirements and the registration procedure are available from the Ministry of Culture.

The Hungarian party is willing to host translators of Hungarian literary works into Flemish/Dutch/French at the Balatonfüred Translators House. (www.c3.hu/forditohaz)

Publishers wishing to publish Hungarian works are invited to apply for covering some parts of their costs to the Hungarian Bookfoundation (www.bookfoundation.hu)

8.5. Cultural Heritage

Both Parties are willing to exchange four (4) experts in the field of cultural heritage - tangible and intangible (e.g. museums, folk culture) to analyse the possibilities to develop joint projects (e.g. in the field of the digitising of cultural heritage).

In the framework of the UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of 17 October 2003, both Parties will study the possibilities to develop joint projects regarding the methods of registration and preservation of the intangible heritage of Hungaria and Flanders. During the first phase, the responsible units of the Flemish and Hungarian Ministry of Culture can exchange experience and know-how.

In the frame of the coming team presidency of the European Union (January 2010 until June 2011) both Parties will cooperate in the field of cultural heritage events, such as workshops and conferences on the collection mobility, on the European heritage label and other cultural heritage issues.

9. PUBLIC HEALTH

Both Parties shall collaborate and exchange information, documentation and expertise in the field of health care, including health care for the disabled.

9.1. General

- the general well-being policy, in particular scientific research regarding public health, quality management, inspection and monitoring, client consultation, co-operation between the public and the private sectors at the international, national, regional and local level;
- support to services and facilities.

9.2. Public Health & (Health) Care

- Prevention programmes, including
 - Primary care;
 - Vaccination;
 - Screenings;
 - Habilitation;
 - Rehabilitation;
- Development of environmental health.

- Health care, including:
 - Home nursing care;
 - Chronic care;
 - Day care possibilities;
 - Care for the homeless;
 - Institutional and non-institutional health care for the elderly;
 - Mental health care.

- Quality improvement (Integral Quality Control), inspection and development of monitoring system

- Child health care and preventive health care in young childhood
 - Improving abilities, skills;
 - Hearing screening;
 - Vaccination;
 - Breastfeeding;
 - Injury prevention.

Both sides pay special attention to the issues of preventive health care, coordination and monitoring of vaccination programmes, prevention of infectious diseases and child health care as special fields of the health promotion programme of the Spanish-Belgian-Hungarian Trio Presidency.

Both sides will promote co-operation, including direct contacts among relevant institutions and experts of the two countries, in the following areas of mutual interest:

Co-operation between the Hungarian National Institute of Child Health and the Hungarian National Institute for Health Development and relevant partners in Flanders to enhance the transfer of information and experiences.

As regards to the issue of quality improvement, the Hungarian Institute for Healthcare Quality Improvement and Hospital Engineering is open to co-operate with its Flemish partner.

10. EDUCATION

10.1. Exchange of information and documentation

During the validity of the present programme, both Parties shall, at the request of the other Party, exchange relevant information on all types and levels of education.

The higher Education Policy Unit of the Department for Education and Training takes a particular interest in advanced academic programmes for foreign students, in the exchange of experience regarding the implementation of the Bologna Declaration and in the challenge of " the Bologna process beyond 2010". The next Ministerial Bologna Conference will be organized in Vienna and Budapest. The Flemish Party is very pleased to be informed that the Hungarian Party will second a staff member to the Benelux Bologna secretariat, located in Brussels, to prepare the next "Bologna Conference 2010" and to guarantee the continuity of the implementation of the Bologna Process.

10.2. Exchange of professors / teachers / experts / policymakers

Both Parties shall exchange each year two (2) experts / professors from a higher education institution / government for a stay of seven (7) days (2 x 7 days) at most in order to discuss the educational reforms following the implementation of the Bologna Declaration, to participate in seminars, symposiums colloquia.

These days can be used to make preparatory visits in order to start projects within the frame work of European programmes or to build a network of contacts and exchanges between institutions of higher education.

10.3. Specialisation scholarships

During the validity of the present programme the Flemish Party offers annually three (3) scholarships for recognized postgraduate programs (full-time programme of 60 ECTS study points) at higher education institutions of the Flemish Community.

The scholarships offered by the Flemish Party are valid for one academic year only. For a specialisation/postgraduate programme of two years, a new application needs to be made after the first year

All information on study opportunities in Flanders (useful addresses of university colleges and universities, accredited non Dutch-language courses) can be found at <http://www.studyinlanders.be/>.

10.3.1. Research Scholarships

The Flemish Party offers the Hungarian Party for each of the academic years 2009-2010 and 2010 – 2011 six (6) months for research at registered institutions for higher education. On request of the sending Party, these months can be divided in periods of three (3) months at least.

10.3.2. Summer scholarships: "Dutch Language and Culture" summer course

In order to promote the study of the Dutch language and culture in the Hungarian Republic, the Flemish Party shall annually offer the Hungarian Party at least a number of scholarships for participation in the "Dutch Language and Culture" summer course, held either at the University Hasselt or at the Talencentrum of Ghent University. These three-week courses are intended mainly for students of the Dutch language and literature enrolled in Hungarian public higher education institutions who wish to extend their knowledge of Dutch language and culture. Applicants are expected to have a reasonable command of the Dutch language at the Elementary Knowledge Level of the Certificate of Dutch as a Foreign Language.

The Dutch Language Union will send the "Dutch Language and Culture" brochure to all institutions where the Dutch language is instructed, also to the Belgian Embassy in Budapest. The brochure (including the English version) can also be found at the web site of the Dutch Language Union: www.taalunieversum.org/taalunie/summer_courses_in_dutch/

During the validity of the present programme the Hungarian Party offers for each academic years an unlimited number of scholarships (taking into consideration the number of foreign scholarships in the previously agreed upon Co-operation programmes) These scholarships can be applied for post-graduate courses, for doctoral or post-doctoral studies for research and for summer courses. (for any field of arts and sciences). Detailed information and the application form can be found on the homepage of the Office of the Hungarian Scholarship Board: www.scholarship.hu

According to the present legislation the Hungarian Scholarship Board can not grant a scholarship for courses, where tuition fee is required.

11. TOURISM

Both Parties shall promote, and in case of mutual interest exchange delegations of officials, experts and researchers in the field of tourism, in order to mutually exchange information, experiences and knowledge about the following topics:

- legislation and regulation in the field of tourism, tourism statistics and tourism satellite accounts;
- studies on tourism development;
- implementation of cultural heritage in the field tourism;
- education and training in the field of tourism;
- sustainable tourism development and experiences in responding to the challenge of climate change.

Both Parties shall encourage the organization of study visits for journalists, radio and television reporters in the field of tourism, and also promote the organization of work-shops for the experts and professionals by the medium of the relevant marketing institutions of both countries.

12. AGREEMENT CONCERNING THE FUTURE COLLABORATION VIA PROJECTS IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE FLEMISH PROGRAMME FOR CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

Subject to the approval of the Flemish Government both Parties confirm their willingness to continue their cooperation by means of projects in the period 2009–2010.

Both Parties will try to build on previously established contacts and networks, and concentrate on the sectors where cooperation provides mutual advantages and may lead towards win-win situations.

The Hungarian Party will nominate a central contact point in order to coordinate projects submitted to the Flemish Cooperation Programme with Central and Eastern Europe. The tasks of the above mentioned contact point will be concentrated on contact coordination between all interested Hungarian entities (ministries, self-government authorities, project beneficiaries) as well as on giving support and assistance in case of project applications.

Both Parties will monitor the implementation (project proposals, information on procedures, cooperation between partners etc.) on a regular basis. The Flemish party may undertake site visits to check upon the execution of the funded projects, and will welcome the support the Hungarian Party can provide for such site visits.

All project proposals will be evaluated by both Parties on the basis of their own criteria and procedures. During a bilateral meeting the projects proposed for funding will be ranked and selected. Projects that do not fulfil the eligibility criteria will not be taken into account.

Both parties commit themselves to monitor and support the execution of these projects, as well as the projects that were funded during previous years.

13. PUBLIC GOVERNANCE

The Flemish Party (Public Governance Department) and the Hungarian Party will cooperate by exchanging information, experience, know how and best practices between the administrations. Contacts may be established between specialists in the fields of human resources management, recruitment policy, integrity policy, ICT, E-government, integration policy, urban policy and relationships with local authorities, the Flemish government architect and facility management, regulatory management and policy evaluation, as well as research activities. In particular the Flemish Party and the Hungarian Party will focus on exchanging information regarding developments in e-Government and ICT policies including process management, business intelligence and information management. This may be done by organizing study visits, workshops or other mutually agreed activities by the competent services or departments.

14. GENERAL AND FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

14.1. The exchange of scholarships under Articles 10.3 and 10.3.1. shall be governed by the following general provisions:

- The applicants should be under 35 years of age and they must have an excellent academic record. Hungarian applicants must hold a Master's degree or equivalent at the time of commencement of their stay in Flanders.
- The candidates shall be selected by the sending Party.
- **By 1 April** of each calendar year, the sending Party shall submit to the receiving Party the candidates' completed scholarship application forms and other documents as specified in the application form. All documents shall be submitted in Dutch or in English in the case of Hungarian applicants, Flemish applicants shall submit one file in Dutch, two in English:
 - o a detailed curriculum vitae mentioning the knowledge of languages;
 - o a detailed study- or work programme which the applicant wants to pursue at recognized institution in the host country;
 - o letters of recommendation and possibly also a letter of invitation or acceptance issued by the respective department of the receiving institution;
 - o transcript of records.
- By 1 July of each calendar year, the receiving Party shall inform the sending Party whether the candidates have been accepted, and shall at the same time communicate to the sending Party the names of the institutions accepting them for study stays.
- The sending Party shall provide precise and detailed information about each scholarship holder's arrival at least two (2) weeks before the commencement of his/her stay.

14.2. The exchange of scholarships under Article 10.3. (scholarships for postgraduate programs) shall be governed by the following financial provisions:

The sending Party shall cover:

- In Flanders: the return expenses for international travel to and from the predetermined destination
- In Hungary the return expenses for international travel to and from the predetermined destination

The receiving Party shall cover:

- In Flanders:
 - o a monthly allowance of EURO 840,00;
 - o health insurance and third Party insurance in accordance with Belgian legislation.
 - o the Flemish Party shall provide the admitted applicants with a sum designed to cover enrolment fees payable to a Flemish Community institution or an institution subsidised by the Flemish Community. The maximum amount of which shall be determined annually (in the academic year 2008-2009 the maximum amount is EURO 540,00); if an applicant applies for a more expensive programme, she/he has to cover the difference between the actual enrolment fees and the amount awarded by the Flemish Party by herself/himself.
- In Hungary: The Hungarian party offers - with the exception of the summer course participants - for every candidate a monthly allowance and contribution to the accommodation costs. The amounts of the allowances differ according to the different categories of scholarships. The actual amount of the allowance can be found in the Call for application on the homepage of the Office of the Hungarian Scholarship Board: www.scholarship.hu

14.3. The exchange of scholarships under Article 10.3.1. (Scientific research scholarships) shall be governed by the following financial provisions:

categories of scholarships. The actual amount of the allowance can be found in the Call for application on the homepage of the Office of the Hungarian Scholarship Board: www.scholarship.hu

14.3. The exchange of scholarships under Article 10.3.1. (Scientific research scholarships) shall be governed by the following financial provisions:

The sending Party shall cover:

- In Flanders: the return expenses for international travel to and from the predetermined destination
- In Hungary: the return expenses for international travel to and from the predetermined destination

The receiving Party shall cover:

- In Flanders:
 - o a monthly allowance of EURO 800,00;
 - o a starting allowance of EURO 185,00 granted at the first arrival in Flanders, on the condition that the stay in Flanders takes at least one month;
 - o health insurance and third Party insurance in accordance with Belgian legislation.
- In Hungary: The Hungarian party offers - with the exception of the summer course participants - for every candidate a monthly allowance and contribution to the accommodation costs. The amounts of the allowances differ according to the different categories of scholarships. The actual amount of the allowance can be found in the Call for application on the homepage of the Office of the Hungarian Scholarship Board: www.scholarship.hu

14.4. The exchange of scholarships under Article 10.3.2. (scholarships for participation in summer language courses) shall be governed by the following general and financial provisions:

- The organizational arrangements applying to the submission of applications by Hungarian candidates for participation in the Dutch language and culture summer courses are specified by the Dutch Language Union (cfr. brochure).
- The Flemish Party shall inform the Hungarian candidates for participation in the Dutch language and culture summer course about the selection by 1 April at the latest.
- The Hungarian Party shall inform the Flemish Party at the latest by 15 May of each calendar year, whether the nominees have been admitted and shall simultaneously communicate to the Flemish Party the names of institutions admitting them.
- The Flemish Party shall cover the enrolment fees incurred by applicants admitted under Article 10.3.2. as well as their board and lodging, expenses for their participation in excursions within the framework of the course programme, and their health insurance and third Party insurance in accordance with Belgian legislation.
- The Hungarian Party offers for Flemish summer course participants, free accommodation, meals, tuition and a daily allowance of HUF 300,00 will be provided.

14.5. Exchange of persons

- The receiving Party shall confirm it is prepared to receive the nominees concerned six (6) weeks before their departure. The time of departure shall be confirmed at least two (2) weeks beforehand.

The sending Party shall cover:

- In Flanders: the return expenses for international travel to and from the predetermined destination
- In Hungary: the return expenses for international travel to and from the predetermined destination

To be covered by the receiving Party:

- In Flanders:
 - o accommodation and breakfast;
 - o a fixed allowance of EURO 37.00 per day (excluding transport costs) or EURO 50.00 per day (including transport costs);
 - o health insurance and third Party insurance in accordance with Belgian legislation.
- In Hungary:
 - o accommodation and breakfast;
 - o a fixed allowance HUF 3.000,00 per day;
 - o health insurance.

The provisions of the present Co-operation Programme do not preclude the possibility of implementing other activities, exchanges or projects that will be negotiated and agreed upon by the Parties through diplomatic channels, the preferential partner of the Flemish side being the Representative of the Flemish Government in Budapest.

Both Parties will agree on the conditions for each specific event through diplomatic channels. All disputes concerning the interpretation or realisation of this programme of activities will be settled through negotiation between the Signatories.

Both Parties will agree on the conditions for each specific event through diplomatic channels. All disputes concerning the interpretation or realisation of this programme of activities will be settled through negotiation between the signatories.

Both Parties agree to hold the next meeting of the Joint Commission in Brussels in 2010.

Drawn up in 2009, in two (2) original versions, each one in Dutch, Hungarian and English language. Both texts are legally valid. In the case of dispute, the English text will prevail.

For Flanders,



Koen Verlaeckt

For the Government of the Republic of Hungary,



Edit Bátorfi Szilágyi