

**CO-OPERATION PROGRAMME**

**FOR THE YEARS 2003-2004**

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

**IN IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CO-OPERATION TREATY  
BETWEEN THE FLEMISH COMMUNITY AND THE FLEMISH REGION  
AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA**

**The Parties agreed upon the following :**

## **1. ECONOMY**

### **1.1. In general**

- Both Parties agree that long-term economic relations between both Parties, based on co-operation in several fields, are very important.

Both Parties will continue co-operation in the following fields :

- exchange of information, methods and experiences in the fields of economic policy and regional development policy
- promotion of permanent co-operation between the Slovene and Flemish partner institutions concerned in order to get acquainted with modern management techniques in the economic field.
- Both Parties shall send documentation and information with regard to the subjects mentioned above.
- Both Parties shall examine the possibility of exchanging experts in the economic fields to be determined by them.

### **1.2. Specific actions**

#### **1.2.1. Economic, industrial and regional policies**

1.2.1.1. Both Parties shall exchange information and experiences relating to the economic, industrial and regional policies and the regional development policy at the request of the other Party. Special attention shall be paid to co-operation between the regions themselves as well as co-operation with third regions in the corresponding EU programmes (ERDF).

1.2.1.2. Both Parties shall exchange a delegation of civil servants of the administrations concerned (Economy, Regional Policy) in the fields of economy and regional policy with the aim of exchanging information, experience and knowledge on the following subjects:

- sustainable industrial development;
- European Regional Development Fund;
- support to related industrial organisations and other institutions that offer support to the business world (e.g. Chambers of Commerce, confederations, Euro Info Centres, etc.).

1.2.1.3. Both Parties shall organise alternately economic seminars on the items mentioned earlier.

#### **1.2.2. Regional Development Policy**

Both Parties shall promote co-operation in the field of economic and regional development. To this end, they shall encourage mutual contacts between public and private institutions in Slovenia and Flanders.

Both Parties shall define the fields of mutual interests, which are of primary importance to their economic and regional development.

Both Parties shall exchange a small delegation of officials in the field of economy and regional policy with regard to the exchange of information, experience and knowledge on the following topics :

- economy and regional policy;
- aid to enterprises (especially with regard to SMEs);
- technological innovation;
- new technologies for the promotion;
- quality management and productivity.

#### Specific actions in economic, industrial, regional policies

At the request of the other Party, both Parties shall exchange information and cooperate in the field of the economic and industrial policies.

They shall pay special attention to the co-operation of regions threatened by structural recession and social destruction as a result of the decreasing competitiveness of certain industrial sectors and the loss of jobs.

#### 1.2.3. Small and medium-sized enterprises.

Whenever one of the parties shall organise economic seminars on investments, joint ventures (contracts and legislation), financial incentives for SMEs (seed and risk capital) and SME policy, it will invite the other Party.

Both Parties stress the importance of developing their co-operation with regard to SMEs to preparing Slovene SME's for the international competitiveness.

Both Parties shall encourage the development of direct contacts between Slovene and Flemish SMEs.

#### 1.2.4. Programmes for the guidance of enterprises: Mentorship projects

Both Parties shall exchange experience and knowledge in the field of mentorship projects.

Mentorship projects are aimed at the professionalisation of the management of small enterprises and the promotion of networking between enterprises.

The strategy shall be as follows: Permanent groups of managers of small enterprises shall meet each month during a period of one or two years with one or two mentors in order to exchange experiences. The mentors shall be executives of large companies or experienced self-employed entrepreneurs who are willing to put their experience at the disposal of other entrepreneurs.

## 2. **FOREIGN TRADE**

The Flemish Party has appointed a Flemish economic representative in Ljubljana since 2001 to promote trade relations with the other Party.

Both Parties shall organise economic seminars and missions, as the occasion arises. The Flemish Party will organise contact days on interior textiles in Ljubljana in May 2003 and invite Slovenian purchasers from supermarkets and food wholesalers to Flanders in the autumn of 2003.

The Flemish Party is planning an amalgamation of Flanders Export Promotion Agency and Flanders Foreign Investment Office in 2003. The new institution "FIT – Flanders Investment and Trade" will be responsible for various aspects of international business:

- export
- attraction of foreign investors to Flanders
- promotion of Flemish investments abroad, technology exchange, joint ventures, various forms of co-operation.

Both Parties shall exchange to this end and at the request of the other Party information regarding their respective markets and sectors, and their experiences and knowledge with regard to the promotion of international business.

- The Ministry of the Economy and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry will organise in co-operation with the Flemish Party (Export Vlaanderen /Flanders Export Promotion Agency) a multisectoral business trip to Brussels. This business mission will be led by the Minister of the Economy.
- Within the preparation on the above mentioned Slovenian business trip the Flemish economic representative in Ljubljana will organise promotional presentation of Flemish Economy in co-operation with the Slovene Chamber of Commerce and Industry.
- Representatives of the Trade Investment and Promotion Office of the Republic of Slovenia and representatives of Export Flanders would exchange some experiences in the field of internationalisation as well as functioning on the collection and despatching system on foreign trade information for companies in the form of the possible study visits.
- Due the fact that Slovenia is preparing itself for the accession to the EU, meaning that its own trade policy instruments, which are now in force will no longer be designed by Slovenia itself, Ministry of the Economy of the Republic of Slovenia would appreciate to share Flemish experience regarding trade relations policy after the EU accession.
- Both Parties shall organise economic seminars and economic missions according to the opportunities that present themselves. To this end, both Parties shall exchange – at the request of the other Party - information on their respective markets and sectors and on their experiences and knowledge in the field export promotion.

### 3. AGRICULTURE

#### 3.1. General purposes

Co-operation should be developed in general by :  
exchange of information, documentation, methods and experiences in the fields of :

- preparing and implementing measures for improvement of agricultural structure;
- direct marketing
- agrotourism
- rural development policy;
- restructuring of food processing industry (meat industry);
- investment into technology and human resources;
- establishing vocational training network for farmers;
- permanent co-operation between Slovene and Flemish partner institutions in order to get acquainted with modern management techniques in farming;
- introducing E-technology and operation in agriculture
- exchange of experts for agriculture, rural development, with special attention to introducing additional activities on farms, restructuring of corporation, farming educational systems, floriculture.

### 3.2. Specific fields of co-operation

The Flemish Party shall examine the possibility of training evaluators of projects and impact of structural aid and subsidies in agriculture and rural development.

The Flemish Party is willing, within the budgetary possibilities, to exchange know-how and experience with the Slovenian Party in the field of processing and marketing of fruit, vegetables and fish, in accordance with the European regulations. The Flemish party also offers the possibility to the Slovenian Party to exchange know-how and experience concerning the establishment and management of grower's associations.

The Flemish Party also offers in co-operation with, amongst others practice centres, the possibility to educate vocational trainers, in educating continuing-education courses with special attention for sustainable agriculture and additional activities on farms.

The Slovenian Party is particularly interested in:

- management education in function of cultivation and less favoured area;
- practical work in greenhouses;
- techniques for sustainable agriculture and organic farming;
- producers associations and common marketing
- new marketing approaches and integrating small scale farmers in development activities and trends

## 4. ENVIRONMENT AND SPATIAL PLANNING

4.1. The Public waste management Agency of the Flemish Region (OVAM) is prepared, on the condition of certain financing possibilities, to co-operate in the field of waste management problems and soil decontamination.

Both Parties will co-operate, exchange information and assist in the field of waste management:

- developing plans for domestic- and industrial waste management
- collecting waste data
- introducing pilot projects with regard to various waste streams
- supporting the development of waste management plans
- experiences on selective collection of waste, processing and good use of waste in technical and juridical sphere

Both Parties will co-operate, exchange information and support each other in the field of soil sanitation:

- protection of the soil and the subsoil and the management of polluted sites with regard to the rights and duties of the users;
- soil sanitation

OVAM can present its expert assessment in function of the largest issues on the waste- and soil sanitation policy and its implementation.

4.2 Both Parties are prepared, on the condition of certain financing possibilities, to co-operate in the field of environment on the following issues:

The Flemish Party is prepared to offer its expertise in the field of soil/waste, environmental policy planning/Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), water, nature and environmental education and forestry. In the frame of these domains, Flanders is prepared to examine the proposals of the Slovenian Party and to invite

a delegation of specialists (5 senior managers, fluent English required) for 5 days in Flanders during the period of validity of the co-operation programme, in order to exchange know-how and to establish contacts with the Flemish actors in these fields.

- 4.3 Both parties are aware of the importance of the protection against marine pollution. For that reason special emphasis will be given to the area of Mediterranean sea protection. The project "Development and implementation of a National Oil and Chemical Spill Contingency Plan for Slovenia" covers this important issue and will be given the highest priority of both parties.
- 4.4. Both Parties will examine the possibility of enlarging the realised project about the regional development and action plan in the Koper region with regional structure planning phase and elaboration of regional conception of spatial development. Regional conception of spatial development will be an important tool for the implementation of regional development. Both Parties will examine the possibility of enlarging such projects to the other regions, in the framework of the Flemish programme for Central and Eastern Europe.

## 5. TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE

### 5.1 Waterways and Maritime Affairs

Both Parties are willing to exchange information and experiences concerning:

#### 5.1.1 Infrastructure, port management and policy

- design and construction of port infrastructure (maritime and interior ports);
- renovation of port infrastructure (design and execution);
- dredging operations;
- regulations for the treatment of dangerous cargo in port areas;
- regulations for maritime transport (governmental control in ports, shipping safety, etc.)

#### 5.1.2 Waterways

- design and execution of structural waterworks
- water control and fight against flooding
- recycling of construction materials for structural waterworks
- maintenance of waterways (dredging operations)

#### 5.1.3 New Techniques

- construction of environmentally engineered banks
- development of a "Hydro Meteorological System"
- dredging, processing and storage of polluted dredging materials
- development of a "Global Marine Distress Safety System"

#### 5.1.4 Scientific co-operation

The Hydraulics Research Laboratory of the Ministry of Flanders is willing to make new contacts with administrations and scientific institutes of Slovenia in order to develop co-operation programmes in one or more of the following study areas:

- hydraulic and hydrological studies by means of physical and mathematical models;
- port engineering and planning, maritime access channels and dredging works;

- environmental studies concerning environmentally friendly engineering structures along waterways;
- nautical studies and training by means of a navigation simulator and towing tank

## 5.2 Road Traffic and Transport in General

The Flemish Party is willing to receive two (2) delegations of six (6) experts for a period of five (5) days in order to give, in function of the interesting points, information, formation and documentation (including on-the-spot inspections on different locations):

- Traffic plans with loops and small buses, one way traffic.
- Mobility plans and mobility agreements.
- The creation and the functioning of a Flemish Traffic Centre; traffic management by the federal police (for example blockdriving and a road side emergency telephone network).
- The draw up and interpretation of multimodal traffic models.
- Variable message signage and traffic monitoring, moveable road information devices, the co-ordination of traffic lights control, priority measurements for public transport in road traffic (traffic lights influencing).
- The development of an internet site on road construction works and traffic regulations.
- The development of an intranet and CD-ROM applications about road markings at road works areas and related to road signs.
- Reduction of traffic jams and safety measures because of road works on motorways.
- Information about GIS (Geografic Information System), the organisation of traffic census inquiries and traffic measures, the application of digital image processing (video cameras) for traffic management; RDS-TMS systems.
- Information about projects on controlled access, the introduction of an alternative merging system to join the traffic on traffic lanes, the construction of roundabouts and speed reducing designs, measures on carpooling, the construction of cycle tracks and footpaths, the construction of car parks.
- Cycle tracks management.
- Pedestrian track management.
- Facilities for disabled people.
- Road safety measurements in school areas.
- Information about road safety in general: traffic safety and communication with road users, road safety education in schools, road users awareness rising and main research methods.
- Public private partnership (PPP).
- The cleaning and maintenance of roads; system of road management.
- Surface friction testing on road markings by the methods SRT and Grip Tester.
- The organisation of activities and principles in cases of emergency works needed.
- A temporary (on peak hours) overtaking prohibition for trucks on certain motorways.
- Noise reduction barriers on motorways.

At the request of the Slovenian Party, the Flemish Party is willing to assist them in providing expertise within the following fields and under conditions to be agreed upon later:

- Safety audits of existing roads, as well of projects audits, collecting data about road accidents and set up a data base including the required activities for analysing the causes of road accidents.
- Introduction of technical safety measures on urban and non-urban roads.
- Organisation of a technical specialised visit (training) for three (3) experts in the field of implementation and deployment of newest technologies for traffic management in Flanders ( ITS in road management, multimodal information centre and video processing techniques) for employees of the Ministry of Transport of Slovenia – Directorate for Roads and DARS d.d.
- Providing expertise on the preparation of law on road safety and the road safety programme with a view to the year 2005 ( the harmonisation of the Slovenian law concerning the regulation of the public road transport, related to the E.U. requirements).
- Co-operation in then area of road safety communication and sharing of information methodology, expertise and in co-operation on road safety education and research planning.
- In connection with the utilisation of the public urban and interurban transport, the following expertise can be put at the disposal:
  - data communication between vehicles and the fixed installation as a combination between radio, GPS and devaluation systems.
  - The integrated exploitation and information systems with, in the near future, travel information derived from those systems will be available on the Internet.
  - The construction of intermodal transfer points for the multimodal usage of bus and railway stations and for P/R.

Both parties agree on co-operation and exchange of information in the following fields:

- External costs (methodology, projection contents, data),
- Transport policy (implementation and projections),
- Review of programme tools for the evaluation of transport policy scenarios,
- Public passenger transport and urban planning (experiences and plans for the future),
- Intermodality (existing state, projections, evaluation methodology).

## **6. PRESERVATION OF MONUMENTS**

The Flemish Party is willing to consider all suggestions or proposals concerning the preservation of monuments and sites.

## **7. EMPLOYMENT AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING**

Both Parties shall co-operate in the field of employment and vocational training. They shall exchange information on the labour market, regulations, employment policy, legislation, statistical information and other information on employment and vocational training upon request.

Both Parties shall foster contacts between their public and private bodies in the field of employment and vocational training.

At the request of the Slovenian Party the Employment Administration shall receive a Slovenian delegation (3 to 5 people) in the course of 2003-2004. In order to be able to properly organise and prepare the visit, the Flemish Party will expect the Slovenian Party to request information on the specific topics and issues which they are interested in.



Both Parties shall promote co-operation in the field of the European Social Fund and shall exchange information and know-how on the ESF management and monitoring.

The Flemish Employment Administration wishes to support the employment and vocational training projects that have been approved within the framework of the co-operation programme for Central and Eastern Europe in several ways.

The Flemish Employment Administration shall act as facilitator for possible co-operation with any actor or network active in the field of vocational training, the labour market and the employment policy.

## **8. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY**

8.1 Co-operation in the field of science, research and technology can be regulated by a special agreement, should the Parties agree to do so.

8.2 To this end the Parties shall encourage and facilitate, on the basis of mutual benefit, exchanges and co-operation in the fields of theoretical and applied sciences and encourage contacts between scientific institutions and organisations, research institutes, companies, universities as well as other institutions of higher education, scholars, researchers and experts. They shall also encourage joint activities in specialised areas and topics of common interest.

In order to develop and expand the scientific and technological co-operation, the Parties can facilitate, inter alia

- Visits, study trips and consultations of researchers, scientists and other experts
- Joint elaboration and implementation of research programmes and projects and exchange of results thereof
- Organisation of joint courses, conferences and symposia
- Exchange of audio-visual material of scientific nature
- Organisation of scientific exhibitions and displays
- Exchange of scientific literature, documentation and information.

8.3 With regard to multilateral co-operation, both Parties shall aim at the joint participation of Flemish and Slovene researchers in the European Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development.

8.4 Both Parties will study the possibility of setting up a training and best practise exchange programme in the field of Research and Technological Innovation policy, with a view to establish structural co-operation within the framework of the planned European Research Area (ERA).

## **9. CULTURE**

### **9.1 In General**

Both Parties shall, at the request of the other Party, exchange information and publications with regard to plastic arts, design, architecture, museums, heritage, folk culture, literature, translations, performing arts, music, artists' accommodations, amateur arts, socio-cultural work, libraries, cultural centres, local cultural policy, international festivals and competitions with an international dimension, including information and documentation on cultural co-operation in general.

During the validity of the present Programme, Both Parties shall encourage to provide a quota of forty (40) days at most for the exchange of experts in the disciplines laid down in the previous paragraph.

Both Parties shall foster direct contacts between cultural institutions and associations.

## 9.2 Plastic Arts and Heritage

The Flemish Party is prepared to exchange one (1) expert in plastic arts, applied arts, architecture, design or cultural heritage for a period of fifteen (15) days.

During the validity of the present Programme the Flemish Party wishes to invite one (1) graphic designer for a work visit of fourteen (14) days at the Frans Masereel Centre in Kasterlee.

Free accommodation will be provided as well as a per diem of EUR 50.

Both Parties shall foster the exchange of information and experiences in the field of museums, and the conservation and management of cultural heritage.

During the validity of the present Programme, the Flemish Party is prepared to send a number of art publications to the Slovenian Party.

The Flemish Party wishes to receive information and documentation about artists' accommodations in Slovenia.

The Slovene Party is developing a project: research and presentation of the archaeological remains and sacral monument in the frame of the project »Tonovcov grad« near Kobarid and would appreciate to benefit from the experience of the Flemish partner with the project Ename.

## 9.3 Literature

During the validity of the present Programme, the Flemish Party is prepared to receive one (1) translator from Slovenia at the Vertalershuis in Leuven for a period of one (1) month. Contrary to the usual financial arrangements when receiving individuals, this translator shall be given free accommodation and an endowment of EUR 1.250.

Both Parties shall mutually promote the literature and culture of the other Party. They shall promote translations and participation in international book fairs.

During the validity of the present Programme, the Flemish Party is prepared to receive one (1) expert in the field of book trade for a period of five (5) to seven (7) days.

The Flemish Party is prepared to make a contribution towards the translation costs of major works from Flemish literature into Slovenian.

During the validity of the present Programme, the Slovene Party – in co-operation with Slovene Writers' Association - invites the Flemish Party - Flemish literature review »Kreatiff« - to participate in the International Meeting of Poets and intellectuals in Vilenica.

#### 9.4 Performing Arts

During the validity of the present Programme, the Flemish Party is prepared to send a small dance company of six (6) people at most to Slovenia for a period of five (5) days at most.

During the validity of the present Programme both Parties shall encourage the exchange of one (1) dance or theatre expert for a period of five (5) to seven (7) days at most.

During the validity of the present Programme, the Slovene Party proposes further co-operation between Bunker (Ljubljana) and Monty (Antwerpen) within the Junge Hunde international network.

The Slovene Party wishes to encourage the contacts between Bunker (Ljubljana) and Vlaams Theater Instituut.

#### 9.5 Music

Both Parties shall encourage to exchange a small music ensemble (trio or quartet) for a concert trip of five (5) days at most during the validity of the present Programme.

During the validity of the present Programme both Parties shall encourage to exchange two (2) music experts for one (1) week at most.

Both Parties shall examine the possibility of exchanging observers during large festivals or music competitions.

#### 9.6 Non-formal Adult Education

During the validity of the present Programme, the Flemish Party shall invite a Slovenian delegation of three (3) to five (5) people for a study visit of seven (7) days in order to get acquainted with non-formal adult education, local cultural policy and cultural centres. The delegation shall preferably be composed of civil servants as well as people working in the field. Good French or English skills are required.

#### 9.7 Ethnology

Both Parties shall encourage to exchange for four (4) days two (2) people who are experts in the research of ethnology so as to get to know the structure, specialist domains and functioning of the ethnological research institutions and examine the possibilities of joint projects and co-operation with regard to the development of web pointers on European ethnology.

#### 9.8 Libraries

The Flemish Party proposes to develop, in mutual consultation, a training programme for professionals in the public library sector with an eye to supporting expertise development in Slovenia. The Flemish Party shall receive three (3) professionals during seven (7) days for a practical training in Flanders. Good French or English skills are required.

## 9.9 Amateur Arts

The Flemish Party proposes to develop, in mutual consultation, projects in the field of amateur arts, such as for instance mentorship projects, knowledge and experience exchange, (practical) training programmes, the exchange of groups, and the exchange of publications, documentation and information. In order to prepare for these projects the Flemish Party proposes that both Parties exchange for four (4) days three (3) people who are experts in amateur arts so as to examine the possibility of establishing joint projects.

## 9.10 Media and Film

Both Parties shall encourage the realisation of audio-visual co-productions and shall stimulate the mutual exchange of audio-visual productions.

Both Parties shall support the exchange between Slovene and Flemish media and film academies in the form of exchange of articles, a series of lectures, media-installations.

The Slovene Party – in co-operation with the Slovene Cinematheque – proposes the following projects:

- In Autumn 2003 the presentation of the work of the Animation Dept. of the Royal Academy of fine Arts of Gent within the framework of the monthly ANIMATEKA series.
- In the beginning of 2004 the presentation of a programme of Flemish experimental film, curated by the Brussels-based distribution house for art-related film and video ARGOS.
- within the framework of the monthly documentary series D-DAY: (DAN ZA DOKUMENTAREC) presentations with a focus on Young Flemish documentary work.

The Flemish party will examine these projects and inform the parties concerned.

## 10 **HEALTH**

Both Parties shall work together and exchange information and expert knowledge in the field of public health care. Special attention shall be paid to the organisation of medical care provision, public health care and preventive health care.

Concrete co-operation projects can be developed after mutual consultation between both Parties.

## 11 **SPORT**

During the validity of this Programme, both Parties will encourage exchange of exchange trainers, athletes, policymakers or scientists in order to participate in apprenticeships, symposia, study visits, scientific congresses and seminars in the field of sport.

## 12 WELFARE

Both Parties shall work together and exchange information and expert knowledge in the field of welfare, more specifically with regard to:

- general welfare policy
- community development work
- social work
- home help and domiciliary care
- elderly care
- child and youth care
- family mediation
- restorative justice.

Upon request or after mutual consultation customised welfare programmes can be offered.

## 13 EDUCATION (Academic years 2003 -2004 and 2004 – 2005)

### 13.1 Exchange of information and documentation

During the validity of the present programme both Parties shall, at the request of the other Party, exchange any desired and useful information regarding all educational forms and levels.

### 13.2 Secondary education

The Flemish Party shall invite participants from Slovenia to each contact seminar that takes place within the framework of the Socrates programme. The Flemish Party shall bear the accommodation and organisation costs for two (2) participants from Slovenia per year for the proposed seminars. The Slovenian Party shall bear the international travel expenses of these participants.

### 13.3 Higher education

#### Preliminary remarks:

- As Slovenia is to become one of the future EU partners, we urgently need to exchange information with regard to each other's educational provision, structure, organisation, admission requirements, diploma accreditation, etc.
- The implementation of the Bologna Declaration and the development of an accreditation system are high on the agenda of the education ministries. It is extremely interesting to learn how small countries / regions such as the Baltic States, Flanders, Denmark, Slovenia, etc. will have their education systems (organisation, structure, ...) comply with the new requirements. In a first stage it may be important for policymakers to meet one another and exchange experiences.
- The Flemish Higher Education Administration is obliged to take into account the latest legal provisions regarding the status of foreigners in Belgium. This means that, as was the case in the past, the Higher Education Administration can no longer accept postdoctoral students and that the scholarships are only open to: *"Applicants who do not have a doctorate yet and who wish to take a third-cycle (master's) course within the framework of the bilateral agreement or who wish to*

*do research for a longer period (up to 10 months) with a scholarship within the framework of the bilateral agreement in preparation of a doctorate which they must obtain at their home university".*

- The scholarships provided by the Flemish Community shall be valid for the duration of one academic year. For a master programme lasting two academic years a new application is to be submitted after the first year.
- A brochure outlining the Flemish higher education provision (Higher Education in Flanders) and a brochure containing an overview of the changes in higher education following the Bologna process are available from the Higher Education and Scientific Research Administration or can be consulted at the following web site [www.ond.vlaanderen.be/hoger\\_onderwijs](http://www.ond.vlaanderen.be/hoger_onderwijs).
- The provision of English-speaking "postgraduate studies" can be found in the brochure: "Higher Education in Flanders", published by the Higher Education Administration in co-operation with the Flemish Interuniversity Council and the Flemish Council for Higher Non-University Education.

#### 13.3.1 Exchange of professors / teachers / experts / policymakers

Both Parties will encourage exchange of experts, attached to a university, an institution of higher education or educational administration to attend congresses and conferences or to get better acquainted with each other's educational system on the basis of direct exchanges between related institutions.

#### 13.3.2 Specialisation scholarships

The Flemish Party shall provide each year two (2) specialisation scholarships of ten (10) months each (twenty (20) months in total) for the academic years 2003 – 2004 and 2004 – 2005.

The Slovenian party will inform the Flemish partner on the availability of scholarships through diplomatic channels.

#### 13.3.3 Summer scholarships: "Dutch Language and Culture" summer course

The Flemish Party shall provide to the Slovenian Party each year two (2) summer scholarships for the "Dutch Language and Culture" summer course which shall be organised either at the *Limburgs Universitair Centrum* in Hasselt Diepenbeek or at the *Talencentrum* of Ghent University. These summer courses shall be organised on an annual basis. The three-week courses shall be above all intended for Dutch language and literature students at the Slovenian institutes of higher education. The applicants are expected to have a reasonable command of Dutch at the Elementary Knowledge Level of the Certificate of Dutch as a Foreign Language.

Since 2000 the scholarships for the Dutch Language and Culture summer course have been allocated by the Dutch Language Union in co-operation with the Flemish organisers. The applicants shall be divided over the two centres by the Dutch Language Union, which means that the division no longer takes place according to the country of origin. The Flemish Party draws attention to the new registration procedure for the summer courses: the applicants for the summer course are to send their application / registration form, initialled by their Dutch language teacher, directly to the Higher Education Administration. The Dutch Language Union will select the most suitable applicants among the submitted applications. The shortlist of selected applicants will be sent for information to the body responsible for the allocation of the scholarships in Slovenia.

The Dutch Language Union will send the "Dutch Language and Culture" brochure to all institutions where the Dutch language is instructed. The brochure (including the English version) can also be found at the web site of the Dutch Language Union: [www.taalunie.org](http://www.taalunie.org).

## **14 TOURISM**

- 14.1 Both Parties shall promote the mutual exchange of information concerning legislation and regulations with regard to tourism, statistics, documentation and studies in the field of tourism development.
- 14.2 Both Parties shall encourage the organisation of study visits for journalists, radio and television reporters in the field of tourism.
- 14.3 Both Parties shall promote the exchange of researchers and specialists in the field of tourism.
- 14.4 Both Parties shall promote the organisation of seminars, symposia and workshops on tourism that shall be presented by the interested Party in order to exchange experiences and ideas.
- 14.5 Both parties shall encourage bilateral co-operation in the field of Human Resources Development in tourism, preparation of professional training programmes in the field of tourism, workshops, symposia and seminars on which the participants from both countries are able to exchange expert knowledge, experiences and ideas.
- 14.6 Both Parties shall promote participation at tourist fairs and workshops taking place in other contracting Party and encourage stronger co-operation between tourism industry from both countries.
- 14.7 Both Parties shall exchange experiences and legislation about Flemish Tourist Board Organisation (Toerisme Vlaanderen) and about the Slovenian Tourist Board (Slovenska turistična organizacija) and propose the methods to stimulate co-operation in the field of tourism.

## **15 CAPACITY BUILDING**

### **15.1 College of Europe in Natolin**

The Flemish Party shall offer a contribution of € 10.000 to a postgraduate scholarship for one (1) Slovenian student to study at the College of Europe in Natolin (Warsaw) during the academic years 2003-2004, 2004-2005.

The selection of the student will be done by the College of Europe in Natolin in concertation with the competent Slovenian authorities.

### **15.2 Port Training**

The Flemish Party offers to the Slovene Party the possibility to send experts to seminars, in the field of Port training, organised by APEC (Antwerp/Flanders Port Training Center vzw) in the course of 2003 and 2004.

The Slovenian Party will present its candidates for these seminars. The participants will be selected by APEC. The Flemish Party covers the costs of the participation. Travel expenses are to the account of the participant.

### 15.3 Regional and local authorities co-operation

The Flemish Party will provide, by sending experts, assistance to the Slovenian Party to transfer expertise in the field of developing projects for regional, interregional, inter-municipal and cross-border co-operation.

## 16. YOUTH

During the validity of the present Programme both Parties shall exchange delegations of four (4) people (leading officials and civil servants) for seven (7) days at most with the aim of deepening the European Commission White Paper "A new impetus for European Youth" by exchanging good practices with regard to specific youth themes: participation, information, volunteer work, and a better knowledge of young people (= youth research).

Both Parties propose to exchange four (4) experts (officials/youth work representatives) during the validity of this Programme for a study visit of seven (7) days each in order to gain an insight into the general youth (work) policy.

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

Both Parties agree on extending their co-operation by means of mutually supported projects.

The Flemish Party proposes to put at the disposal of the Slovenian Party the expertise and experience present in Flanders in the following priority fields : SME-development, employment, structural funds, regional co-operation, agriculture, environment, ports and capacity building, administrative competence, management,...

The Slovenian Party wishes to collaborate preferably in the fields of infrastructure, environment and public health, agriculture, employment and economic and industrial policy, SMEs) in order to assist the country in meeting the requirements demanded of the country to make its entry in the EU.

In accordance with the Flemish policy towards Central and Eastern Europe, central contact points have been designated in Flanders and in Slovenia in order to collect and select project proposals and to transmit them to the respective contact point.

The Parties agree that members of the Flemish and Slovenian contact points have regular meetings, alternately in Flanders and in Slovenia, aiming to review the procedure of the handling of project proposals and to examine the execution of the projects already approved, in co-operation with the representatives of the competent Flemish administrations and Slovenian ministries.

All the proposals have been evaluated by both Parties on the basis of their own criteria and procedures.

Both Parties have established a ranking list on either side.



For the year 2003, the following projects have been registered :

Projectnumber	Amount (€)	Projectname
SLO/001/03	114.865,00	Assistance at Creation of Industrial Estates in Slovenia
SLO/002/03	122.051,18	Development and implementation of a National Oil and Chemical Spill Contingency Plan for Slovenia
SLO/003/03	91.449,00	Design and Analysis by Numerical Computation for Electromechanical Systems
SLO/004/03	340.982,00	Population-based research into the role of candidate genes in the pathogenesis of hypertension in Slovenia
SLO/005/03	85.613,50	Tourism Marketing, Management and Training for the Slovenian Tourist Board and Local tourist Boards
SLO/006/03	236.378,10	Plato Slovenia II for North-east Slovenia
SLO/007/03	302.458,95	Establishing a strategy to reduce health inequalities through health promotion.
SLO/008/03	199.341,80	Strengthening the capacity of the South Primorska region by a Spatial Planning process in which the regional development programme is implemented
SLO/009/03	143.000,00	Detection, identification and typing of foodborne pathogens by molecular methodology

The Flemish side evaluated these projects and ranked them as follows:

Projectnumber	Amount (€)	Projectname
SLO/007/03	302.458,95	Establishing a strategy to reduce health inequalities through health promotion.
SLO/002/03	122.051,18	Development and implementation of a National Oil and Chemical Spill Contingency Plan for Slovenia
SLO/008/03	199.341,80	Strengthening the capacity of the South Primorska region by a Spatial Planning process in which the regional development programme is implemented
SLO/005/03	85.613,50	Tourism Marketing, Management and Training for the Slovenian Tourist Board and Local tourist Boards
SLO/001/03	114.865,00	Assistance at Creation of Industrial Estates in Slovenia

The other projects were excluded.

The Slovenian Party selected the projects in the following order:

1. SLO/002/03 Development and implementation of a National Oil and Chemical Spill Contingency Plan for Slovenia
2. SLO/005/03 Tourism Marketing, Management and Training for the Slovenian Tourist Board and Local tourist Boards
3. SLO/007/03 Establishing a strategy to reduce health inequalities through health promotion
4. SLO/008/03 Strengthening the capacity of the South Primorska region by a Spatial Planning process in which the regional development programme is implemented
5. SLO/001/03 Assistance at Creation of Industrial Estates in Slovenia

After comparing the results of the evaluation from both sides, both parties agreed to propose the following projects to the Flemish government for funding:

SLO/007/03 with a budget reduced to 135.000 EUR

SLO/002/03 with a budget reduced to 105.000 EUR

SLO/005/03 with a budget reduced to 55.000 EUR.

## **18. GENERAL AND FINANCIAL PROVISIONS**

### **18.1 General**

Both Parties will send their proposals for the new working-programme at the latest six (6) weeks before the date foreseen for the meeting of the joint committee.

The following general provisions and regulations were endorsed :

- all activities and exchanges mentioned in this programme shall be carried out within the limits of the financial resources at the disposal of the two Parties;
- the activities and exchanges envisaged in this programme will not exclude other initiatives or visits which might be proposed and agreed in advance by both Parties through diplomatic channels;
- the organisation of music, dance and theatre performances and exhibitions, other than those mentioned in this programme, should a priori be based on a direct agreement covering financial and other terms between the organisations and artists involved in such events;
- both governments can subsidise projects as well.

Other conditions are to be agreed upon by the partners on a case by case basis.

### **18.2 Scholarships**

#### **18.2.1 Specialisation scholarships**

Candidates must be under 35 years of age.

They must hold a university or long type higher education (university level) graduation degree or a certificate of equivalent studies and they must have excelled during their studies.

They can be accepted only on approval of both Parties and on the basis of an application that contains at least:

- a detailed curriculum vitae;
- an extensive plan of activities;
- possibly a list of publications.

Candidates are selected by the sending Party. Each candidate is subject to the approval of the receiving Party. The sending Party will present its candidates every year before March 1st.

The receiving Party will inform the sending Party two (2) months in advance whether the candidatures and/or study programmes proposed were approved.

At least three (3) weeks in advance, the sending Party will provide precise information concerning the arrival of scholarship holders.

The travel expenses to and from the place of study are to be covered by the students.

To be covered by the Flemish Party :

- a monthly allowance of € 720,00;
- registration fees till max. € 490,00 for a training; the additional costs are for the candidate
- health insurance and third Party insurance in accordance with Belgian legislation.

#### 18.2.2 Allowances for summer courses

Candidates for allowances for summer courses are selected by the Flemish Party.

To be covered by the Flemish Party :

- registration fees;
- accommodation and meals;
- health insurance and third-Party insurance in accordance with Belgian legislation.

#### 18.3 Exchange of persons

The terms and conditions mentioned in this paragraph apply to all exchanges of individual persons mentioned in the work programme, unless otherwise agreed upon.

The short-term exchange of persons (for 15 days at the most) as determined in the present programme will be implemented according to the following criteria:

- The sending Party will provide the receiving Party with the curriculum vitae, plan of activities and the dates of the departure and arrival of the people concerned at least two (2) months in advance.
- The receiving Party will inform the sending Party, at least one (1) month in advance whether the candidates have been accepted.
- The sending Party will provide the receiving Party with the exact dates of departure and arrival at least three (3) weeks in advance.

To be covered by the sending Party: the travel expenses to and from the place of destination.

To be covered by the receiving Party:

In Flanders:

- accommodation and breakfast;
- a fixed allowance of € 50,00 /day;
- health insurance and third-Party insurance within the framework of the Belgian legislation.

In Slovenia :

- accommodation, meals and travel expenditures within the country, in accordance with the work programme and with the approval of the receiving authorities;
- persons are responsible for taking their own insurance before entering the country.

#### 18.4 Film

- To be covered by the sending Party: forwarding expenses.
- To the receiving Party: organisation costs.

## 18.5 Exchange of exhibitions

Arrangements will be discussed and agreed upon on a case by case basis by the Parties concerned. If not, the following rules are applicable:

The sending Party takes care of:

- design, preparation, production and packing of the exhibition;
- international transport to its first location in the receiving country and return transport from its last location to the country of origin or to another country;
- insurance from nail to nail;
- supply of the material for the production of the catalogue (texts, photos, slides, etc.);
- return travel expenses of one (1) expert accompanying the exhibition to supervise the mounting and/or dismantling as well as packing and /or unpacking of the works.

The receiving Party takes care of:

- making available appropriate exhibition halls with the necessary security infrastructure (climatic conditions, guards, etc.);
- providing the necessary staff for loading and unloading, packing and unpacking, mounting and dismantling of the exhibition;
- printing of the catalogue, if agreed by both Parties, and the posters and invitations;
- organising general publicity as well as the opening ceremony for the exhibition;
- accommodation expenses of one (1) expert accompanying the exhibition and supervising the mounting and/or dismantling; the duration of any such visit will be agreed upon in advance;
- providing the sending Party with ten (10) copies of all material published in connection with the exhibition (catalogue, poster, invitation, etc.).

In case of damage, the receiving Party will not proceed with the restoration of the works without the prior approval of the sending Party, but will supply all relevant documentation and assistance to enable the sending Party to pursue any claim for compensation from the relevant insurance company.

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 2005.

This Co-operation Programme shall enter into force on the date of its signature.


Drawn up in Brussels on 22 July 2003 in two original copies, each in Dutch, Slovene and English language, all three being equally authentic. In case of divergence, the English text shall prevail.

For the Government of Flanders



Diane Verstraeten

For the Government of the  
Republic of Slovenia



Marija Adanja