

**Protocol of the Meeting of  
The Vice-president of the Flemish Government and Flemish  
Minister of Education and Civil Service  
and  
The Minister of General and Professional Education of  
the Russian Federation**

1) The Vice-president of the Flemish Government and Flemish Minister of Education and Civil Service and the Minister of General and Professional Education of the Russian Federation had a meeting in Ghent on the 11 of June 1997 to discuss the guidelines for the further development of bilateral cooperation in education.

2) The Russian Minister identified the following top priorities for further cooperation in 1997 and 1998 :-

1. special education;
2. vocational training;
3. training of the trainers;
4. higher education;
5. regional educational legislation.

3) A joint steering committee to determine guidelines for collaborative programmes and to monitor their implementation will be established by the end of June 1997.

4) Regions in Russia where pilot projects in priority areas will be implemented, will be determined in June - July 1997 by the steering committee.

5) The Russian Minister will introduce a list of priority domains for bilateral research and interuniversity cooperation. He accepted to be consulted in the final selection of the Flemish/Russian cooperative programmes.

6) The Ministers agreed to co-organize a seminar in spring 1998 in Moscow on the occasion of the lustrum of the bilateral agreement. This seminar will be opened vis à vis representatives of international and multilateral organisations and focussed on concrete results of common projects.

7) Both Ministers agreed to seek support from multilateral and international organizations (as UNESCO, the European Union, the Council of Europe and the OECD) for cooperative programmes in Flemish/Russian collaboration programmes in top priority areas.

8) The two Ministers admitted that a strong positive response on the part of the Flemish academic community exists towards establishing working relationships with and contributing to the programmes activities of the newly established UNESCO Institute for Information Technologies in Education in Moscow.

Specific programmes with regard to this collaborative programme will be developed at a later stage.

9) The Ministers will promote the administration of programmes aimed at developing innovative activities in the field of science, technology, and science servicing, in

particular through the creation of small companies, technocentres and other production and research structures.

10) Attention will be paid to arts and culture within the different levels of education in order to ensure that the people of Flanders and Russia shall be made aware of the proximity of their history, tradition and historical experiences..

11) Both Ministers will strive to promote the Russian interests in international and multilateral programmes and organizations.

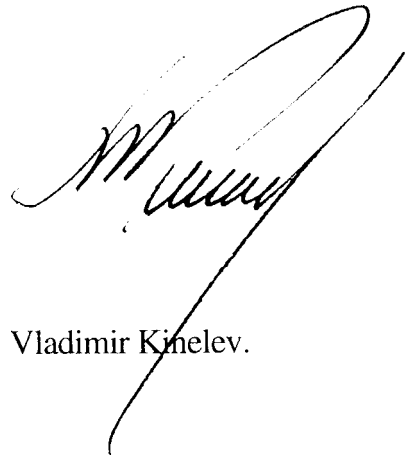
Signed in Ghent, on the 11 of Juin 1997

The Vice-President of the  
Flemish Government and  
Flemish Minister of Education  
and Civil Service,



Luc Van den Bossche,

The Minister of  
General and Professional  
Education of the Russian  
Federation.



Vladimir Kinelev.