

CO-OPERATION PROGRAMME FOR THE YEARS 2009-2011

BETWEEN

THE GOVERNMENT OF FLANDERS

AND

THE GOVERNMENT OF POLAND

Warsaw 13 June 2008

The President of the Flemish delegation thanks for the warm welcome and presents the members of his delegation.

Flemish delegation:

Foreign Affairs Department:

- Freddy Evens Division Head, Co- chairman of the Polish Flemish Joint Commission
- Koen Haverbeke Representative of the Government of Flanders
- Etienne Schollaert Policy advisor, secretary

Mobility and Public Works Department:

- Pieter Lenaers Head of the ports team
- Etienne Dewinne Inspector General

Environment Department:

- Bart Van Impe Expert

Culture, Youth, Sport and Media Department:

- Anne Marie Croes Policy advisor

Administrative Affaires Department:

- Jan De Mulder Policy advisor

Department of Education and Training:

- Dirk Lapeirre Policy advisor

The President of the Polish delegation welcomes the Flemish delegation and presents the members of his delegation:

Polish delegation:

Ministry of Interior and Administration

- Piotr Stachańczyk Undersecretary of State in MIA, Co- Chairman of the Polish- Flemish Joint Commission
- Joanna Kapuścińska Deputy Director, EU and International Cooperation Department in the MIA

- Sławomir Czarlewski Ambassador of the Republic of Poland in Brussels
- Mariusz Kasprzyk Deputy Director of the Implementing Authority for European Programmes in MIA
- Magdalena Szumielewicz Expert, EU and International Cooperation Department, MIA
- Jacek Charon Chief Expert, Transport Policy and International Affairs Department, Ministry of Infrastructure
- Piotr Turzański Chief Expert, International Cooperation Department, Ministry of Education
- Anna Michalska Chief Expert, Ministry of Science and Higher Education
- Maria Drabczyk Expert, Ministry of Culture and National Heritage
- Prof. Stanisław Winiarczyk Vice-Dean of Faculty of Veterinary Medicine University of Live Science in Lublin
- Edyta Gruszka Chief Expert, International Cooperation Division Marshal's Office of Mazowieckie Voivodship
- Ireneusz Ciepela Head of the City Hall in Staszów
- Edyta Gruszka Marshal's Office of Mazowieckie Voivodship
- Kinga Cyrkowicz Inspector, Marshal's Office of Świętokrzyskie Voivodship
- Małgorzata Dąbrowa-Kostka Inspector, Marshal's Office of Małopolskie Voivodship
- Zuzanna Raszewska Junior Inspector, EU division, Marshal's Office of Wielkopolskie Voivodship
- Krzysztof Rusin Junior Inspector in Końskie Powiat
- Ewa Jerzykowska Junior Inspector in Marshal's Office of Łódzkie Voivodship
- Sylwia Lenart Translator

To implement the dispositions of the Cooperation Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Poland and the Government of Flanders that was signed in Warsaw on 6 June 1994, the Government of the Republic of Poland and the Government of Flanders, hereafter called the Parties,

have agreed as follows, for the years 2009 – 2011:

Long-term tradition of partnership – a factor for further cooperation strengthening

Both parties shall intensify the cooperation initiated in 1994 through comprehensive actions in the field of economy, education, culture, healthcare, infrastructure, agriculture, environment, tourism, employment, etc.

The aforementioned actions shall include, inter alia, the transfer of specialised knowledge, exchange of information and experience, joint participation in projects, coordination of common actions and cooperation with local authorities, promotion of bilateral relations, scholarship programmes.

Both Parties declare their support for the Polish and Flemish partners involved in the implementation of the European programmes and funds.

Bilateral cooperation in each sector shall be performed considering strategic goals and European Union programmes (ERDF, Interreg IV, Lisbon Agenda, Bologna Declaration).

Upcoming EU presidencies

Both Parties are willing to exchange information and experience on the preparation of their EU presidencies. This may include the transfer of training materials, exchanging experts and information on the development of the presidency programme and specific activities and events organised during the period of the Belgian presidency in 2010 and the Polish presidency in 2011.

Multilateral international cooperation, especially within UNESCO

Both Parties wish to further strengthen the multilateral cooperation within the main programmes and actions taken by UNESCO, especially in the following fields: education, exact science, natural science, social and human science, culture, communication and information, as well as in actions regarding the main general issues. Both Parties shall pay special attention to this cooperation by involving their national UNESCO committees.

1. ECONOMY

1.1. General framework for cooperation.

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

Both Parties also underline the importance of increasing the awareness of SME's in respect to acceding to and utilizing EU funding possibilities.

1.2 Specific actions

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.

Apart from this, 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.

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);
- cluster's support.

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

Both Parties welcomed the organisation of the conference "The Future of the Regions in the perspective of Global Change" that was organised in Warsaw on 9-10 June 2008 by the Polish Ministry of Regional Development, with participation from Flanders. Both Parties would welcome further cooperation and contacts among the Parties involved.

Attention will be paid to the system of Flemish regional and spatial economic policy.

Particular attention will also be given to the role of national (ex. given Objective 2) and European Territorial Cooperation Programmes (Interreg IV) in the framework of the European Fund for Regional Development (ERDF). Both the management and the impact of ERDF programmes on regional development policies and projects in Flanders will be looked at.

Particular attention will be paid to innovative project results and/or examples in view of the Lisbon Agenda/objectives and the mutual experience with SME participation in ERDF programmes and projects.

The functioning of the system shall be explained through administrative practice aiming at presenting the experience of the Flemish regional government and implementation of "good practice" in the field of regional policy development, especially in the following matters: monitoring and evaluation of social and economic development of the region, identifying areas of the region which need particular assistance and methods of giving such assistance, monitoring and evaluation of regional and local programmes and strategies carried out in the region, scope and methods of cooperation between local authorities at different levels in the region, scope and method of cooperation with economic organisations and institutions supporting regional development.

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.

1.2.5. Innovativeness development

Both Parties shall support cooperation between regions and enterprises for the development of innovative economic solutions including those in the field of environmental technologies (eco-innovations).

The Parties shall also support cooperation between the design sector and enterprises in order to enhance their competitiveness and innovativeness.

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.

Both Parties shall support cooperation of the following:

- broadband Internet, IT infrastructure extension, complementary projects;
- implementing solutions pertaining to e-administration, e-skills, e-health, e-tourism;
- offering multi-channel access to public services (with the use, among others, of mobile phones, digital TV, mobile devices);
- creating conditions for the development of technology parks and IT clusters;
- supporting cooperation with universities in the ICI sector;
- appropriate use of EU funds allocated to the development of information society.

Units involved in cooperation from the Polish side:

Ministry of Economy; Marshal's Office of Mazowieckie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Dolnośląskie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Świętokrzyskie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Malopolskie Voivodship; Regional Development Agency of Malopolskie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Wielkopolskie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Pomorskie Voivodship.

Units involved in cooperation from the Flemish side:

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2. EDUCATION

2.1. Exchange of information and documentation

The Flemish Party takes note of the intention of the Polish authorities to promote the teaching of the Polish language in Flanders.

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.

Regarding higher education particular attention is fixed on advanced academic programmes for foreign students, the implementation of the Bologna Declaration and the challenge to the Bologna process " beyond 2010 ".

Both Parties look forward to the cooperation project between the General Maczek Polish Complex Schools and the schools and centres of psychological and pedagogical assistance in Antwerp.

2.2. Exchange of professors / teachers / experts / policymakers

Both Parties shall exchange each year three (3) experts / professors from a higher education institution / government for a stay of seven (7) days (3 x 7 days) at most in order to participate in seminars, symposiums, colloquia, regarding accreditation systems, doctoral programs and to discuss the educational reforms following the implementation of the Bologna Declaration.

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

2.3. Scholarships granted by the Flemish Party

2.3.1. Specialisation scholarships

The Flemish Party offers the Polish Party for each of the academic years 2009–2010, 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 six (6) scholarships for recognized postgraduate programs at higher education institutions.

The scholarships offered by the Flemish Party are valid for one academic year only. For a specialisation 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 on <http://www.studyinlanders.be/>

The maximum amount of enrolment fees payable to a Flemish Community institution or an institution subsidised by the Flemish Community shall be determined annually. In the academic year 2008-2009 the maximum amount

is EUR 533,10). If an applicant applies for a more expensive programme she/he has to cover the difference by herself/himself.

2.3.2. Research Scholarships

The Flemish Party offers the Polish Party for each of the academic years 2009-2010, 2010 – 2011 and 2011-2012 thirty (30) months annually for research. On request of the sending Party, these months can be divided in periods of three (3) months at least.

2.3.3. Summer scholarships: “Dutch Language and Culture”

In order to promote the study of the Dutch language and culture in the Polish Republic, the Flemish Party shall annually offer the Polish 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 Polish public higher education institutions. 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 Warsaw. 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/

2.4. Scholarships granted by the Polish Party

2.4.1. Specialisation scholarships

The Polish Party shall grant the Flemish Party in academic years 2009-2010, 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 90 months of scholarship per year for studies or trainings in Polish universities.

Persons of Flemish origin who do not participate in scholarship exchange within the framework of this cooperation programme may receive information about terms of recruitment and participation to Polish language and culture courses directly from universities organising those courses. Addresses and telephone numbers of Polish universities are available on the official website: www.mnisw.gov.pl; www.mkidn.gov.pl (art schools); and www.mz.gov.pl (medical schools).

2.4.2. Summer scholarships „Polish language and culture”

The Polish Party shall annually offer the Flemish Party at least six (6) scholarships for Polish language and culture courses, organized by the Jagiellonian University in Kraków, Warsaw University, University of Wrocław,

University of Silesia in Katowice, Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin and John Paul II Catholic University in Lublin.

Persons of Flemish origin who do not participate in scholarship exchange within the framework of this cooperation programme may receive information about terms of recruitment and participation to Polish language and culture courses directly from universities organizing those courses. Addresses and telephone numbers of Polish universities are available on the official website: www.mnisw.gov.pl.

2.5. Language Lecturers

Both Parties express their satisfaction with the lectureship Polish language and literature at the Faculty of Eastern European languages and cultures at the Ghent University. The university appreciates the fact that the lecturer continues to be involved in the teaching of the Polish language and culture.

The Polish Party is ready to assign, according the needs of the Flemish Party, a Polish language lecturer to the University of Louvain, to teach Polish language and culture at the Slavic and Eastern Europe Studies Faculty, who will be employed in conformity with legislation in force in the state of the receiving Party.

The Polish Party shall support Polish language lectures in Flemish universities, especially by giving lecturers appropriate benefits, recruiting the best students from faculties of Polish Studies to summer classes of Polish and providing, if possible, universities that employ lecturers from Poland with methodic and educational materials for teaching Polish.

2.6. Partnership between schools

The Parties shall support partnerships between schools of different levels and support students' exchanges between these schools.

2.7. Vocational education and training

Both Parties express their interest in exchanging experience in the field of vocational education and training.

2.8. Teacher training

The Parties support all kinds of initiatives aiming at the increase of vocational qualifications/ skills of teachers. In this respect the Parties support the cooperation between teacher training centres.

Units involved in cooperation from the Polish side:

Ministry of National Education, Ministry of Science and Higher Education; Bureau for Academic Recognition and International Exchange; universities and other schools of higher education, especially the Engineering College of Gdańsk; University of Gdańsk, University of Life Sciences in Lublin (Faculty of

Veterinary Medicine); Jagiellonian University; Marshal's Office of Warmińsko – Mazurskie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Świętokrzyskie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Malopolskie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Wielkopolskie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Pomorskie Voivodship;

Units involved in cooperation from the Flemish side:

A list of all the institutes may be found on www.studyinlanders.be

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3. CULTURE (Cooperation in the fields of Arts, Heritage and Youth)

3.1. Culture policy

- 3.1.1. 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.
- 3.1.2. 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.
- 3.1.3. 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.
- 3.1.4. Both Parties would like to express their interest in working together on the celebrations of the Chopin 2010 Year.

3.2. Youth policy

- 3.2.1. During the validity of the present Programme, both Parties shall consider sending four (4) experts (senior civil servants and experts) for a study visit of seven (7) days, to elaborate a youth strategy at all levels (local, regional and national) and to establish better co-operation between these levels.
- 3.2.2. During the validity of this action Programme, both Parties shall consider exchanging delegations of up to four (4) members (responsible civil servants and youth workers) for a period of seven (7) days at most with the aim of elaborating the ideas of the White Paper of the European Commission "A New Impetus for European Youth" by exchanging good practices regarding the themes discussed in the White Paper and the European Youth Pact.
- 3.2.3. Both Parties agree to examine sending or receiving youth workers for participation in selected international (youth) events.

3.3. Tangible and Intangible cultural heritage

- 3.3.1. Both Parties are willing to encourage exchanging 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 Poland and Flanders. During the first

phase, the responsible units of the Flemish and Polish Ministry of Culture can exchange experience and know-how.

3.3.2. The Flemish Party (Town Planning Policy and Non-movable Heritage Policy) is prepared to present the Flemish policy on non-movable heritage. Conditional on possibilities with budget and staff further follow-up and extension of this proposal can be examined on the occasion of meetings of the competent intergovernmental organisations (Council of Europe, UNESCO, e.a.).

3.3.3. As for urban and spatial planning the Flemish Party is willing to receive a delegation and to give a brief explanation on planning of land use in Flanders.

3.4. Artistic activity

3.4.1. Both Parties express their satisfaction on the realisation of the exhibition of Luc Tuymans at the National Gallery Zachęta and the exhibition "From Constructivism to Figuration" at the ICC Kraków, both in May 2008.

3.4.2. The Parties shall encourage the following:

- exchange between artists in different art fields;
- artistic performances by artistic groups in both countries;
- exchange and cooperation between art schools and universities;
- promotion of contemporary art;
- promotion of young art and design artists.

3.4.3. Graphic Arts

3.4.3.1. Both Parties would like to express their enthusiasm about the realisation of the exhibition of Ingrid Ledent in September 2009 in Kraków at the ICC. Ingrid Ledent was named a laureate grand prix of the International Print Triennial 2006 in Kraków.

3.4.3.2. 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.

3.4.4. Literature and Public Libraries

3.4.4.1. Both Parties are willing to encourage cooperation between public libraries in the scope of:

- exchange of information concerning implementation of new systems and IT networks;
- updating and improvement of librarian services.

3.4.4.2. Both Parties are willing to encourage promotion and translation of Flemish and Polish literature.

3.4.4.3. The Flemish Party shall receive one (1) Polish translator at the Vertalershuis in Louvain for a period of 1 (one) month during the validity of the present Programme. Contrary to the usual financial arrangements when receiving

individuals, this translator shall be given free accommodation and an allowance of € 1000.00.

Polish 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 Flemish Ministry of Culture.

3.4.5. Film

Both Parties will encourage the participation of their artists in Flemish, Polish and other film festivals, according to rules and regulations of these events.

Units involved in cooperation from the Polish side:

Ministry of Culture and National Heritage (except point 3.3.3.); Marshal's Office of Mazowieckie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Malopolskie Voivodship; Centre for the Documentation of Art of Tadeusz Kantor CRICOTEKA; Malopolska Museum for Contemporary Art; Marshal's Office of Wielkopolskie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Pomorskie Voivodship

Units involved in cooperation from the Flemish side:

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4. MOBILITY AND INFRASTRUCTURE WORKS

4.1. Roads and Traffic

The Flemish Party (Road and Traffic Agency, Division Mobility and Road Safety) and Polish Party (Ministry of Infrastructure) are interested in cooperating and in exchanging experience with regard to:

- Road Works Coordination Point: the coordination of all road works within a certain region in order to limit conflicts in time and space and the ensuing nuisance for neighbours and road users.
- Black spots – manual for traffic safety – safety audits.
- PPP (Public Private Partnership) – eliminate missing links in the road network – working with performance commitments – risk management.
- General Database AWV: all geographically related data collected and recorded by the highway department, can be opened and completed through one application.
- Control methods and equipment for measuring the condition of the roads.
- Road inspection: supervision of the overloaded trucks on motorways.
- Development and management of the telematic network, continuing the internet site for the road works and regulations;
- Red light cameras and speed cameras.
- Pavement and road technology: the cleaning and maintenance of roads, methods and materials for the control of the road condition.
- Incident management: the role of ensuring the first aid services aiming at the removal of the emergency cases results, as well as the principles referring to their organization and function.

The specific form and the terms of this exchange need to be agreed on at a later stage.

4.2. Mobility and Traffic Safety

The Flemish Party (Division Mobility and Road Safety) and the Polish Party (Ministry of Infrastructure) are interested in cooperating and in exchanging experience with regard to:

4.2.1. Education and sensitising regarding a better car use

- Promotion of alternatives for road traffic to curb the redundant use of the car.
- Increasing the revaluation of pedestrian and cycling traffic and making (small) travels undependable on combustion engines.

4.2.2. Evaluating, improving existing infrastructure

- Permanent adjustment of the rational use of means to transport goods.
- Rational use of modes of transport (balance between public and private transport, carpooling, car sharing, etc. as well as mobility planning at different levels (by government and industry) and similar initiatives).

- Qualitative organisation of public space and improvement of traffic viability and the balance between all the road users.

4.2.3. Increasing the accident rates/promoting desired behaviour

- Promoting the desired (traffic) behaviour and choices, such as adjusted speed, avoiding driving alone in a car, curbing/advising against drinking driving, etc.
- Specific policy regarding road safety, e.g. road traffic safety and contacts with other entities, research, courses and campaigns for road safety.
- Introducing safety measures outside schools;
- A policy related to road traffic and pedestrians, its implementation and examples of best practices at executive level;
- Cooperation and information exchange in the field of road traffic safety, exchange of experiences and knowledge as well as future research in this area, promotion of proper traffic behaviour among children and youngsters.

4.2.4. Policy toward legislation/management

- The organisation of dynamic traffic policy.
- The drafting and implementation at operational level of business models with regard to the provision of services regarding the acquisition and dissemination of traffic information.
- Permanent improvement / management of access to airports, ports and economic poles.
- Freight transport measures (improvement of general safety and comfort).
- Passenger transport measures (adjustments to infrastructure or traffic rules).
- Implementation of relevant EU policy and EU regulation with regard to transport and mobility.
- Integrated approach to public transport, e.g. inter-modal transfer points between public and private transport, projects on the improvement of public transport flow.

4.2.5 .ITS/ computer/ High Tech/data flow

- Consultation with regard to cross border communication networks and exchanging interesting sources through the growing number of media channels and technical innovations.
- Application of the Geographic Information System, e.g. traffic related management, spatial planning, road telematics.
- Variable signalization (static and mobile), 'on trip' information as means for redirecting traffic and direct information provision.
- Variable signalisation for road information and traffic directing, mobile message signs, static vertical message signs and other ITS applications, e.g. variable traffic signs to facilitate public transport.
- The development and use of traffic models and mobility indicators for the policy-based and strategic research of passenger and freight transport on main roads and in metropolitan areas.
- The organisation of dynamic traffic management in general.
- Exchanging information on the management of available 'in house' data and expertise.

- Consolidating and extending information between traffic centres and their applications.
- The state of the art of internet sites for public use, e.g. about road works and regulations, travel planners and other 'pre trip' information.

4.2.6. New approach based management

- Improvement / management of the balance between the space that is still available and car traffic (especially in urban areas which have a valuable heritage).

4. 3. Waterways and Maritime Affairs

4.3.1. Exchange of information and experience

Both Parties are willing to develop cooperation to exchange information and experiences regarding one or more of the following topics:

Policy:

- general policy on ports and waterways;
- integrated water policy and the implementation of Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC on navigable waterways;
- implementation of relevant EU policy and EU regulation;
- implementation of RIS Directive 2005/44/EC;
- policy in terms of regulation, operation, commercialisation and promotion of inland waterways;
- modal shift promotion;
- maritime transport regulation (government control in ports, shipping safety, etc...);
- both Parties agree to further elaborate on the results of the seminar on logistics that will be organized in November 2008

Port infrastructure and management:

- design and construction of port infrastructure;
- maintenance dredging works in coastal areas and estuaries.

4.3.2. Cooperation on port-related matters and Short Sea Shipping

Both Parties are prepared to strengthen the cooperation to:

- foster contacts between Polish and Flemish ports;
- establish favourable conditions for the generation of traffic flows between Poland and Flanders through Short Sea Shipping;
- exchange information about Short Sea Shipping;
- exchange information and experiences on Motorways of the Sea.

4.3.3. Scientific collaboration:

The Flemish Party (Hydraulic Research Laboratory Division of the Flemish government) is prepared to establish new contacts with administrations and

scientific institutions in Poland in order to set up cooperation programmes in one or more of the following areas of study:

- flood protection and hydro meteorological activities;
- hydraulic and hydrological studies through physical and mathematical models;
- port engineering and planning, dredging works;
- environmental studies in terms of environmentally friendly engineering structures along waterways.
- training by means of shipping simulator and towing tank.

The Agency for Maritime Services and Coast (Coastal Division) is prepared to participate in the proposals for scientific cooperation on hydrometeorology which were formulated by the Hydraulic Research Laboratory Division of the Flemish government. This implies among other things that the Polish Party is invited to pay a work visit to the Oceanographic Meteorological Station in Zeebrugge.

4.4. Work visits

Both Parties shall cooperate for the participation of a specialist in workshop courses, masteries in the field of road transports.

Both Parties are prepared to consider receiving two delegations of maximum five (5) Polish/Flemish experts for a period of five (5) days at the most in Flanders/Poland 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. The first visit will be organised in Flanders in 2009.

The Flemish Party (Department of Mobility and Public Works) will aim to cooperate with the vzw FITA (Flanders International Technical Agency npo) for the work visits in which the transfer of knowledge takes a central position. The vzw FITA will try to involve the private sector in the programme as much as possible.

FIT (Flanders Investment and Trade) will provide assistance wherever possible to improve the contacts with private entrepreneurs.

Units involved in cooperation from the Polish side:

Ministry of Infrastructure, Ministry of Environment, Marshal's Office of Mazowieckie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Warmińsko – Mazurskie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Dolnośląskie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Świętokrzyskie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Łódzkie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Wielkopolskie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Pomorskie Voivodship; Engineering college of Gdańsk; schools of higher education and maritime universities of Gdynia and Szczecin.

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5. YOUTH WELFARE

Both Parties will cooperate and exchange information, documentation and expertise in the fields of:

- special youth care, i.e. ambulant, semi-residential and residential youth care;
- integrated youth care, i.e. youth care and general prevention regarding youth welfare.

Units involved in cooperation from the Polish side:

Ministry of Health; Marshal's Office of Mazowieckie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Dolnośląskie Voivodship; Social Policy Centre of Dolnośląskie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Świętokrzyskie Voivodship.

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6. HEALTH CARE AND PUBLIC HEALTH

Both Parties shall cooperate and exchange information, documentation and expertise in the fields of:

- general health policy, scientific research in the field of health, quality management, inspection and supervision, cooperation of public and private organisations at regional and local levels.

6.1. Public health

- preventive health care policy (i.a. cancer prevention and screening programmes; suicide and depression prevention; prevention of problematic use of alcohol and drugs);
- co-ordination and monitoring of vaccination programmes and prophylactic of infectious diseases (i.a. fighting sexually transmittable diseases such as HIV);
- inspection, counselling and treatment of complaints about environmental licences.

6.2. Health care

- programming, recognition and subsidising of welfare and health facilities;
- support to services and facilities;
- improving quality (Integral Quality Control);
- primary health care and home health care;
- elderly care, particularly in rest homes, nursing homes, and apartments for the elderly;
- mental health care (e.g. integrated mental health care, psychiatric home health care, ambulant psychiatry);

- health and social care insurance and management of the care insurance fund providing for those people who suffer from a long-lasting seriously diminished capacity;
- child care in case of respiratory, urinary, rheumatic and neurological diseases;
- meningococcal infections prevention;
- child care after hospitalisation, in cases of chronic treatment;
- monitoring and hospital infections prevention – modern cleaning technologies;
- modern hospital management, including specialised clinics and basic healthcare;
- children's rights in hospitals.

Units involved in cooperation from the Polish side:

Ministry of Health; Marshal's Office of Mazowieckie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Dolnośląskie Voivodship; Social Policy Centre of Dolnośląskie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Świętokrzyskie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Małopolskie Voivodship (Saint Louis Memorial Children Hospital in Cracow); Marshal's Office of Łódzkie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Pomorskie Voivodship

Units involved in cooperation from the Flemish side:

Flemish Agency for Care & Health
 Machteld Wauters, policy advisor
machteld.wauters@wvg.vlaanderen.be + 32 2 553 35 34

7. AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES

The Flemish Party proposes possibilities for scientific cooperation between Flanders and Poland in the scope of agriculture and fisheries.

Parties are interested in developing the cross-regional market wholesale trade of fruit, vegetables and flowers, as well as in exchanging experience in the sale of these products.

The Parties shall exchange experience in production and processing of fruit and vegetables.

The Parties shall support the exchange of experience and opinions between agricultural organisations about the functioning of agriculture and the development of rural areas in the context of Common Agricultural Policy evolution.

The Parties shall support, in cooperation with universities and professional training centres, the exchange of trainees in order to ensure their professional enhancement in the following fields:

- farm management;
- training in matters related to sustainable agriculture;
- supporting the development of entrepreneurship among members of rural population with a view to diversifying activity in agricultural areas;
- agricultural practical training.

Parties will cooperate in the scope of fisheries. This cooperation can be conducted through:

- exchange of information about species of fish in rivers in regions concerned, including environmental impact, hydrotechnical facilities, angling and restocking policy;
- exchange of experience about methods of registering amateur angling;
- exchange of information about fish protection – protected and endangered species – legal provisions;
- exchange of experience and information about protected areas (spawning areas, winter holding areas, etc.) – percentage of protected areas, criteria of establishing them – legal provisions and practical solutions;
- exchange of experience and information about methods of clearing rivers for anadromic fish (living in both saltwater and freshwater habitat).

7.1. The Flemish Party (research domain “cultivation and environment” of ILVO) proposes the following themes for cooperation between Flanders and Poland:

- organic farming;
- good agricultural and environmental conditions;
- regulation and implementation of co-existence rules of classic, organic and GMO farming;
- improvement of yield and quality of leguminous crops for animal husbandry;
- influence of climate changes on the agricultural production;
- development of rural areas;
- promotion of regional agricultural products.

7.2. Staffing problems in fisheries

The Flemish Party being faced with dramatically undermanned Marine Institutes they are looking for a cooperation agreement with Poland to employ Polish fishermen. The Polish Party could be helpful in tracing and encouraging qualified labour force to seek employment in Flanders where they would receive the same pay as the Flemish fishermen (best paid in Europe).

- 7.3.** The Flemish Party will consider the possibility to assist the Polish Party in specific projects (in collaboration with socio-economic umbrella organisations and research institutes in Flanders and with the Flemish economical field) to elaborate and realise their Rural Development Programme (in the framework of the European Union - SAPARD programme).
- 7.4.** The Flemish Party is willing to put at the disposal of the Polish Party, within the budgetary limits, its knowledge and experience in the field of production, transformation and marketing of fruits, vegetables and fish, in compliance with European legislation. Within this framework the Flemish Party is also willing to exchange its expertise in the foundation and functioning of producers groups.

Units involved in cooperation from the Polish side:

Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Ministry of Employment and Social Policy; Marshal's Office of Mazowieckie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Malopolskie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Dolnośląskie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Wielkopolskie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Pomorskie Voivodship.

Units involved in cooperation from the Flemish side:

Department Agriculture and Fisheries
Agency for Agriculture and Fisheries;
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Agriculture and Fisheries Policy Division Brussels and Oostende;
ILVO: Institute for Research in Agriculture and Fisheries;
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8. ENVIRONMENT

8.1. Land development

The Flemish Party (Flemish Land Agency - FLA) would like to exchange its scientific and technological knowledge of the sustainable development of the open space with partner organisations in Poland.

The FLA uses different techniques for reallocation, topography and ground works (roads, water retention basins, erosion measures, ...), land bank, manure bank, geographical information systems (GIS), aerial photogrammetry, nature development, rural development, agro-environmental agreements with farmers, participative and integrated approach of projects, ... The FLA wants to exchange its technology, as it is used in different projects and wants to broaden the knowledge and experiences, by participating in international cooperation projects in Europe, and more specifically in the new member states of the EU.

The exchange of sustainable land development methods between FLA and the Polish partners can be organised by:

- study visits by the Polish partners to land development projects in Flanders;
- study visits by the FLA to land development projects in Poland;
- exchange of information about the methods and technology used for the inventarisation and study of different aspects: agro-economy, landscape, ecology, water- and soil management, manure management, GIS and aerial photogrammetry, e-government, reallocation and land bank, environmental impact assessment (EIA), rural development, village renewal;
- export of knowledge about the management information systems being used, like for instance the management of land ownership rights, land use practice, hunting rights etc.

8.2. Nature and Environment Education

The Flemish Party (Nature and Environment Education Unit - EE) is prepared to invite a Polish delegation to introduce them in the (N) EE-working and -structure on the Flemish level in an active and interactive way. Taking into account the wishes and needs, the (N) EE-unit can organise one or more days with the following interests:

- introduction of and making acquaintance with the working of the (N)EE-unit service within the Flemish policy and with the networking on (N)EE (diverse target groups) and Education for Sustainable Development;
- introduction of and making acquaintance with the MOS-project (Environmental Care at School), an educational and Environmental care project from kindergarten to higher education and, if preferred, linked with a school visit; getting acquainted with the educational means;
- introduction of the procedure in Flanders on the phasing and implementation of the Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development;
- site visits to one or more (N) EE-centres, getting acquainted with the common educational means."

8.3. Co-operation in the implementation of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and its Kyoto Protocol.

Poland and Flanders are willing to cooperate within the objective of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and its Kyoto Protocol, in particular to facilitate cooperation in the field of Joint Implementation under Article 6 and in the field of Emissions Trading under Article 17 of the Kyoto Protocol. For this purpose a Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of Poland and the Government of the Flemish Region can be drawn up which will detail procedures described in the Kyoto Protocol in relation to Polish – Flemish cooperation regarding Articles 6 and 17 of the Kyoto Protocol.

8.4. The Flemish Party is prepared to invite, during the validity of the present Programme, a team of experts (fluent English required) for a period of five (5) days within the frame of environment, nature and energy in order to exchange knowledge and establish contacts with the Flemish actors.

8.5. The Flemish Party (Nature and Forest Agency - NFA) would like to further develop cooperation with the Biebrzański National Park. NFA would like to cooperate within four themes:

- Polish pony as a tool for the protection of open ecosystems in Biebrzański National Park – extension of the already existing project (construction of a training centre and stables, pasturing management);
- logistics and technology for active protection of large surface non-forest swampy ecosystems in Biebrzański National Park together with eliminated biomass processing – including for purposes of obtaining "green" energy;
- extension of the training and natural science information centre in Biebrzański National Park – European Swamp Protection Centre in Goniądz;
- analysis of natural processes in transformed forest ecosystems under strict protection together with the extension of scientific and educational premises and equipment and integrated management systems, natural environment protection in the Northern basin of the Biebrzański National Park.

This cooperation can be expressed in a financial and logistical support, the development of financing mechanisms and subsidy dossiers and the exchange of knowledge and expertise (incl. possible study visits in Flanders and Poland).

8.6. Cooperation in the field of waste management

The Flemish Party (the Public Waste Agency of Flanders – OVAM) is willing to cooperate with the Polish Party within the following areas:

- exchange of experience on organising and financing of waste management systems;
- exchange of experience on organising of the Waste Management Facilities, methods of recycling and neutralizing wastes, facilities location and financing as well as directions of its development;
- exchange of experience on industrial wastes, ways of management and cooperation with entities responsible for its manufacture;
- exchange of information on dangerous wastes, especially on its management policy and public opinion;

- exchange of experience in the field of existing and innovative technologies of soil treatment and the legal and administrative measures in force in this matter.

Units involved in cooperation from the Polish side:

Ministry of Environment, Biebrzański National Park; Marshal's Office of Mazowieckie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Dolnośląskie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Świętokrzyskie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Łódzkie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Wielkopolskie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Malopolskie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Pomorskie Voivodship.

Units involved in cooperation from the Flemish side:

Flemish Land Agency – FLA; Nature and Forest Agency – NFA; Public Waste Agency of Flanders – OVAM

Department Environment, Nature and Energy
Bart Van Impe, policy advisor, bart.vanimpe@lne.vlaanderen.be
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9. FOREIGN TRADE

Flanders Investment & Trade is committed to enhancing and promoting the trade relations between Flanders and Poland. For that purpose it organizes seminars, visits to trade fairs and economic missions.

Both Parties exchange information on an ad hoc basis and at the request of the other Party, on their respective markets and sectors, as well as experience and knowledge regarding support for international business activities, business opportunities and investments.

FIT determines its action program by means of a regional strategy. This strategy is the result of the consultations between FIT's domestic and foreign network and the main Flemish economic players. The regional strategy focuses on the most promising sectors in a foreign market. Poland is part of the regional strategy for Central and Eastern Europe. Target sectors for Poland are the building sector, environment and transport.

In the years 2009-2011 FIT plans (under reserves) the following actions:

2009

- Market survey "Logistics Centers"
- Update market survey "Environment"
- Stand and seminar at Budma
- Stand at Autostrada Fair in Kielce

2010

- Logistics Congress
- Update market survey "Building & Building Materials"
- Stand and seminar at Poleko

Units involved in cooperation from the Polish side:

Ministry of Economy; Marshal's Office of Mazowieckie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Dolnośląskie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Świętokrzyskie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Łódzkie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Wielkopolskie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Pomorskie Voivodship, special economic zones of Pomorze and Słupsk; Investor's Service Centre in Pomorskie Voivodship

Units involved in cooperation from the Flemish side:

Flanders Investment & Trade (FIT)
Evelien Staelens, policy advisor, evelien.staelens@fitagency.be
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10. TOURISM

- 10.1.** Both Parties promote the exchange of information on legislation and regulations concerning tourism, statistical data, documentation and studies on the development of tourism.
- 10.2.** Both Parties encourage the exchange of tourism promotion material and they promote the participation of tourism organisations in tourism events in Poland and in Flanders.
- 10.3.** Both Parties encourage the organisation of study visits for journalists, radio and television reporters, researchers and specialists in the field of tourism.
- 10.4.** Both Parties encourage the organisation of seminars, colloquiums and workshop on tourism themes that are proposed by one of the Parties, to exchange experience and ideas.

Units involved in cooperation from the Polish side:

Ministry of Sport and Tourism; Marshal's Office of Warmińsko – Mazurskie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Malopolskie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Świętokrzyskie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Pomorskie Voivodship, Regional Tourism Organisation of Pomorskie Voivodship.

Units involved in cooperation from the Flemish side:

Tourism Flanders

Jan Van Praet, policy advisor, jan.vanpraet@toerismevlaanderen.be
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11. EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL ECONOMY

- 11.1.** Both Parties shall continue the cooperation in the field of employment policy and vocational training, and encourage the contacts between the competent bodies and the social partners in this field.
- 11.2.** Both Parties shall, at the request of the other Party, exchange information about the labour market, the legislation, the statistical data and any other information concerning employment policy and vocational training.
- 11.3.** At the request of the Polish Party the Flemish Party (Flemish Policy Area Work and Social Economy) will accept a Polish delegation (three to five experts) to Flanders during 2008-2010. The Flemish Party expects a request of the Polish Party concerning their fields of interest in order to organise and prepare the visit.
- 11.4.** Both Parties encourage the cooperation in the field of the European Social Fund and they shall exchange information and know-how concerning the management and the monitoring of the ESF.
- 11.5.** The Flemish Party (Flemish Policy Area Work and Social Economy) shall examine the possibilities to play a stimulating role in the realisation of new projects in the field of employment and vocational training within the framework of the 'Flemish Co-operation Programme Central and Eastern Europe'.
- 11.6.** The Flemish Party (Flemish Policy Area Work and Social Economy) shall act as mediator for possible cooperation with any actor or network active in the field of vocational training, labour market and employment policy.

Units involved in cooperation from the Polish side:

Ministry of Employment and Social Policy; Marshal's Office of Dolnośląskie Voivodship; Social Policy Centre of Dolnośląskie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Świętokrzyskie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Malopolskie Voivodship (Regional Centre for Social Policy); Marshal's Office of Łódzkie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Pomorskie Voivodship.

Units involved in cooperation from the Flemish side:

Vlaamse beleidsdomein Werk en Sociale Economie;
Flemish Policy Area Work and Social Economy
Louis Vervloet, director, louis.vervloet@wse.vlaanderen.be
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12. CAPACITY BUILDING

12.1. Port management

The Flemish Party (Department of Foreign Affairs) offers to the Polish Party the possibility to send experts to the port training and port management seminars that are organised by APEC (Antwerpen/Flanders Port Training Center) for the years 2009 and 2010.

The Polish Party will present its candidates for those seminars. Participants are selected by APEC. The Flemish Party covers the expenses for participation in the seminars. The international travel expenses are covered by the participant or by the organisation on which he/she depends.

12.2. College of Europe Natolin

The Flemish Party (Department of Foreign Affairs) continues to support the College of Europe in Natolin by providing scholarships for students from its non-EU partner countries in South-eastern Europe.

Units involved in cooperation from the Polish side:

Ministry of Infrastructure, Marshal's Office of Mazowieckie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Warmińsko – Mazurskie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Dolnośląskie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Świętokrzyskie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Łódzkie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Wielkopolskie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Pomorskie Voivodship.

Units involved in cooperation from the Flemish side:

Flemish Department of Foreign Affairs
Freddy Evens, division head, freddy.evans@iv.vlaanderen.be
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13. SCIENCE AND INNOVATION

Both Parties shall examine the ways in which they can optimize further cooperation within the framework of the European Research Area, both in the field research groups and science and innovation policies.

Cooperation in the field of science, research and experimental development can be agreed upon through a special agreement if both Parties decide to sign one.

As far as bilateral cooperation is concerned both Parties shall stimulate to their mutual benefit exchanges and cooperation in the fields of science and technological innovation. They will provide possibilities for contacts among scientific institutions, research centres, companies, universities and administrations that are responsible for policies concerning science and technological innovation.

As for multilateral cooperation both Parties shall encourage joint participation of Flemish and Polish researchers in the Seventh European Framework Programme for Research and Development.

Units involved in cooperation from the Polish side:

Ministry of Science and Higher Education; Marshal's Office of Małopolskie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Mazowieckie Voivodship; Centre for Technology Transfer, Engineering College Krakow, Marshal's Office of Pomorskie Voivodship.

Units involved in cooperation from the Flemish side:

Department Science and Innovation
Bart Laethem, researcher, bart.laethem@ewi.vlaanderen.be
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14. SPORTS

Both Parties shall support cooperation in the field of sports education and sports between the organisations interested from both countries, especially in terms of initiating exchange of experts, coaches and athletes of different sports disciplines, exchange information on the development of sports education and sports and training systems for athletes; organisation of meetings, conferences and seminars and cooperation in the field of research and sports education and sports development

During the validity of the present programme, both Parties shall consider providing each year a quota of fifteen (15) days so as to enable coaches, athletes and decision makers to participate in work placements, clinics, study tours or congresses and seminars in the field of sport in the other country.

During the validity of the present programme, both Parties shall encourage local sport activities.

Units involved in cooperation from the Polish side:

Ministry of Sport and Tourism; Marshal's Office of Dolnośląskie Voivodship;
Marshal's Office of Pomorskie Voivodship

Units involved in cooperation from the Flemish side:

BLOSO

Roger Debognies, expert, roger.debognies@bloso.be

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15. PUBLIC GOVERNANCE

Both Parties will cooperate by exchanging information, experience, know-how and best practices.

In particular contacts will be established among specialists in the fields of human resources management, recruitment policy, integrity and corruption prevention policy, ICT and E-government, integration policy regarding immigrants, urban policy and relationships with local authorities, regulatory management and policy evaluation, as well as research activities.

More specific and detailed topics will be outlined and agreed upon by the institutions, administrations and units at central and local levels.

Upon request from the Polish Party the Flemish Public Governance department will provide the relevant information (including partners competent in the projects area) in order to elaborate specific cooperation projects.

The National School of Public Administration in Warsaw (KSAP) and the Flemish Department of Public Governance have argued to establish cooperation through partnership focused on the exchange of training curricula, didactic materials, exchange of experts, officers and students, organisation of seminars, conferences and study visits in the administration of both Parties.

Units involved in cooperation from the Polish side:

Marshal's Office of Wielkopolskie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Mazowieckie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Małopolskie Voivodship; Marshal's Office of Świętokrzyskie Voivodship, Marshal's Office of Łódzkie Voivodship

Units involved in cooperation from the Flemish side:

The Policy Unit of the Public Governance Department and the Agency for the Interior

Jan De Mulder, jan.demulder@bz.vlaanderen.be

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16. PROJECT COOPERATION IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE FLEMISH CO-OPERATION PROGRAMME WITH CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

Both Parties confirm their willingness to continue their cooperation by means of projects in 2009 - 2011.

Both Parties will try to build on previously built-up contacts and networks and concentrate on those sectors where cooperation provides a mutual advantage and may lead towards a win-win situation.

The Polish Party will create 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 (that would include representatives of the Ministry of the Interior and Administration Implementing Authority for European Programmes and the members of the Commission's secretariat) would be concentrated on contact coordination between all interested Polish entities (ministries, self-government authorities, project beneficiaries) as well as on giving support and assistance in case of project application.

Both Parties will monitor the implementation (project proposals, information on procedures, ...) on a regular basis (at least twice a year).

The Flemish Party annually launches a call for proposals. For 2009 a call will be launched and project proposals can be filed until 31 March 2009.

The Flemish Party is willing to fund 50% of the budget within its budgetary limits. The other 50% must be borne by a partnership of the Flemish promoter, the Polish partner(s) and/or the Polish authorities.

All project proposals shall be evaluated by both Parties on the basis of their own criteria and procedures. During a bilateral meeting the projects proposed for funding shall be ranked and selected.

Units involved in cooperation from the Polish side:

Ministry of the Interior and Administration (Secretariat of the Polish-Flemish Joint Commission) wwt@mswia.gov.pl,

Implementing Authority for European Programmes, wwpe@wwpe.gov.pl

Units involved in cooperation from the Flemish side:

Flemish Department of Foreign Affairs

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17. GENERAL AND FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

17.1. Scholarships

The exchange of scholarships under Articles 2.3.1 and 2.3.2 as well as 2.4 shall be governed by the following general provisions:

- a) The applicants should be under 35 years of age and they must have a master's degree or equivalent and an excellent academic record.
- b) The candidates shall be selected by the sending Party.
- c) By 1 April of each calendar year, the sending Party shall present 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, French or German in the case of Polish applicants, and in Polish or in English, French or German in the case of Flemish applicants:
 - a detailed curriculum vitae mentioning the knowledge of languages;
 - a detailed study or work programme which one wants to take at a recognized institution in the guest country;
 - letters of recommendation and eventual admission to the institution;
 - transcript of records.
- d) 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.
- e) 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.

17.2. The exchange of scholarships under Article 2.3.1 and 2.4 (specialisation) shall be governed by the following financial provisions:

- a) The sending Party can cover the international return expenses for travel to and from the predetermined destination in the receiving country.
- b) The receiving Party shall cover:

In Flanders:

- a monthly allowance of EUR 770,00;
- 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 EUR 533,10; if an applicant applies for a more expensive programme she/he has to cover the difference by herself/himself;
- health insurance and third party insurance in accordance with Belgian legislation;

In Poland:

- a one month scholarship covering the costs of accommodation and food, the amount of which would be adapted to costs of living and

regulations in force (students – the amount of 850 PLN per month, others a minimum of 1270 PLN – a maximum of 1500 PLN per month, according to applicant's skills and diploma);

- costs of education as specified by the Polish law;
- persons participating in the exchange project within the framework of the Programme shall obtain material benefits based on provisions applicable to insured persons in Poland, in conformity with the Regulation of the Council 1408/71 of 14 June 1971, if they are entitled to use healthcare benefits in Poland in virtue of another country's legal provisions.

17.3. The exchange of scholarships under Article 2.3.2. and 2.4 (scientific research) shall be governed by the following financial provisions:

- a) The sending Party can cover the international return expenses for travel to and from the predetermined destination in the receiving country.
- b) The receiving Party shall cover:

In Flanders:

- a monthly allowance of EUR 740.00;
- a starting allowance of EUR 125.00 granted at the first arrival in Flanders, on the condition that the stay in Flanders takes at least one month;
- health insurance and third party insurance in accordance with Belgian legislation.

In Poland:

- a one month scholarship covering the costs of accommodation and food, the amount of which would be adapted to costs of living and regulations in force (students – the amount of 850 PLN per month, others a minimum of 1270 PLN – a maximum of 1500 PLN per month, according to applicant's skills and diploma);
- costs of education as specified by the Polish law;
- persons participating in the exchange project within the framework of the Programme shall obtain material benefits based on provisions applicable to insured persons in Poland, in conformity with the Regulation of the Council 1408/71 of 14 June 1971, if they are entitled to use healthcare benefits in Poland in virtue of another country's legal provisions.

17.4. The exchange of scholarships under Article 2.3.3. and 2.4.1. (summer courses) shall be governed by the following general and financial provisions:

- a) The Flemish Party informs the Polish candidates for the Dutch language and culture summer course about the selection at that latest on April 1st.
- b) The Polish Party shall inform the Flemish Party, by 1 June of each calendar year, whether the nominees have been admitted and shall

simultaneously communicate to the Flemish Party the names of institutions admitting them.

- c) The organizational arrangements applying to the submission of applications by Polish candidates for participation in summer courses of the Dutch language and culture are specified by the Dutch Language Union (cf. brochure).
- d) The Flemish Party shall cover the enrolment fees, board and lodging, expenses for participation in excursions within the framework of the course programme, and health insurance and third party insurance in accordance with Belgian legislation.
- e) By granting a monthly scholarship the Polish Party shall cover costs of accommodation, education, food and transport, as specified in the course programme.

Persons participating in the exchange project within the framework of the Programme shall obtain material benefits based on provisions applicable to insured persons in Poland, in conformity with the Regulation of the Council 1408/71 of 14 June 1971, if they are entitled to use healthcare benefits in Poland in virtue of another country's legal provisions.

17.5. Language Lecturer

At the request of the receiving Party in Flanders, the sending Party shall present its candidate language lecturers. The sending Party shall submit to the receiving Party an extensive file of each candidate containing detailed curriculum vitae, copies of degrees, certificates of working experience and letters of recommendation.

The candidates must hold a university degree. Candidates having proof of their teaching competence shall be preferred. They must in each case have substantial education skills in teaching their mother tongue and they must have a broad knowledge of their country's culture.

Candidates shall be employed by the receiving Party on the advice of the host university, which may lay down additional conditions on account of the concrete availability within the department.

The receiving Party shall communicate its decisions on the acceptance as well as the precise dates of the reception period at the latest two months after having received the applications.

The sending Party shall communicate the precise dates of arrival through diplomatic channel, at the latest three weeks before the date of departure.

To be covered by the receiving Party:

In Flanders:

- 1,100 € per month as a contribution to the expenses brought about by the lectureship (accommodation, meals, relocation, purchase of instructional materials);

- health insurance and third party insurance in accordance with Belgian legislation.

17.6. Exchange of persons

The short-term exchange of persons (for 30 days max. and at the invitation of sending Party) as determined in the present programme shall be implemented according to the following criteria:

- a) The sending Party shall provide the receiving Party with the curriculum vitae, the invitation, goals and programmes as well as the dates of arrival and departure of the people concerned at least three (3) months in advance.
- b) The receiving Party shall confirm it is prepared to receive the people concerned six (6) weeks before departure. The time of departure shall be confirmed at least two (2) weeks on beforehand.
- c) To be covered by the sending Party:
 - return international travel expenses.
- d) To be covered by the receiving Party:

In Flanders:

- accommodation and breakfast;
- a fixed allowance of EUR 37.00 per day (excluding transport costs) or EUR 50.00 per day (including transport costs) in case no meals or transport are being provided for by the Flemish Party;
- health insurance and third Party insurance in accordance with Belgian legislation.

In Poland:

- the conditions will be determined on a case by case basis by the Parties involved.

17.7. Films

To be covered by the sending Party:

- transport and insurance expenses for the films.

To be covered by the receiving Party:

- presentation expenses (publicity, promotion and reception).

17.8. Exhibitions

The provisions for the organisation of exhibitions and the respective responsibilities of the Parties will be determined in the protocols concerning the organisation of exhibitions, signed by the organisers.

- 17.9.** The provisions of the present Cooperation Programme do not preclude the possibility of implementing other activities, exchanges or projects that will be agreed upon by the Parties through diplomatic channels.

17.10. Both Parties will agree on the provisions for each specific event through diplomatic channels. Any disputes concerning the interpretation or implementation of the present Cooperation Programme shall be solved by negotiation between the Parties through diplomatic channels.

The next meeting of the Joint Commission will be held in Brussels in the first quarter of the year 2011.

Done in Warsaw on 13 June 2008 in two original copies, in Dutch, English and Polish, the three texts being equally valid. Should any differences in the interpretation of the Cooperation Programme occur, the English version shall prevail.

For the Government
of Flanders



Freddy EVENS

For the Government
of the Republic of Poland



Piotr STACHAŃCZYK