

April 30, 2008

Ukraine



Verkhovna Rada ratified protocol on Ukraine's WTO accession

Ukraine's President Viktor Yushchenko had signed the document in Geneva on February 5, 2008, after more than 14 years of negotiations. It was then presented to Verkhovna Rada for ratification.

The Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine has ratified the Protocol on Ukraine's accession to the World Trade Organization on April 10, 2008. 411 lawmakers, registered in the chamber, have voted for Protocol on Ukraine's accession to the World Trade Organization on April 10, 2008. 411 lawmakers, registered in the chamber, have voted for this. The Parliament also commissioned the Cabinet of Ministers to adopt a plan of measures to bring the Ukrainian economics in compliance with the WTO standards.

Membership of the WTO takes effect 30 days after ratification, so Ukraine will officially join the World Trade Organization on May 16, the Geneva-based trade body said on April 17. Ukraine will then become the trade bloc's 152nd member.

After Ukraine has become the WTO member, it will pay an annual member fee. The volume of the annual WTO member fee to the WTO budget is determined on the basis of methodological recommendations of the WTO Committee for Budget and Financing, and depends on the external trade volume of a country. In addition to the annual fee, Ukraine will also have to make a one-time contribution to the WTO working fund. - *Source: Unian, Edited by: usapeec.kz*

Ukraine lifts the ban on poultry import from Poland, Italy & UK

The State Veterinary Medicine Committee of Ukraine has lifted the ban on poultry imports

from Poland, Italy and the territory of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

According to the Ukrainian State Committee for Veterinary Medicine, the import is allowed in line with the official information of the International Epizootic Bureau about the stabilization of the situation with bird flue at the mentioned-above territories. The import is allowed under condition of complying with the veterinary demands of the poultry import in Ukraine. - *Source: Unian; Edited by: usapeec.kz*

Ukrainian meat market overview (Q1 2008)

Import:

Ukrainian Verkhovna Rada deputies S.Terekhin and E.Sigal offered to establish a quota on import of meat and by-products at the amount of 350,000 MT at the rate of the import duty 5%. This bill #2291-1 has been registered in the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine on April, 10th.

14,377 MT of meat were imported to Ukraine during the first two weeks of April. The volumes of import in January and February totalled 16,000 MT, in March 12,000 MT.

Production:

In January-February 2008 production of meat in live weight increased by 6.9% and constituted 490,300 MT. Production of eggs increased by 0.7% to the amount of 1.96 billion pcs.

In March 2008 production of meat in live weight fell by 2.7% (or 5,700 MT) comparing to February 2008 and totaled 206,200MT. Production of meat by private farms during the same period fell by 5.55% (or 5,600 MT) and totaled 95,800 MT. - *Source: meatinfo.ru, Agroperspectiva, Ukrainian News Agency, APK-Inform; Edited & translated by: usapeec.kz*

Ukrainian poultry producer plans London share sale

Mironovskiy Hleboproduct SA, Ukraine's biggest poultry producer, plans to hold an initial public offering in London to fund its expansion.

The company will sell global depository receipts, Kyiv-based Myronivsky said in a statement. Morgan Stanley and UBS AG will be the joint global coordinators and book runners.

Ukraine, a country of 46 million people, has an economy that's expanding for an eighth consecutive year. Retail sales jumped 28% in the first two months of the year as the government increased social spending.

Ukraine "is a market with massive potential," Chief Executive Officer of Myronivsky, Yuriy Kosyuk said in the statement.

The company had 36% of Ukraine's poultry market in 2007. Sales from continuing operations rose 52% to \$478 million. Mironovskiy also reaped 476,000 metric tons of grain in 2007.

The company plans to increase its harvest by 20% annually. Wheat futures on the Chicago Board of Trade have almost doubled in the past year and rose to a record \$13.495 a bushel on Feb. 27. - *Source: Bloomberg*

Bush supports Ukraine to join NATO

President Bush said on April 1, 2008 he will work "as hard as I can" to help Ukraine join NATO and declared that Russia will not be able to veto former Soviet states joining the transatlantic military alliance.

"Your nation has made a bold decision and the United States strongly supports your request," Bush told Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko after talks at the Presidential Secretariat here.

Bush praised Ukraine's democratic and military reforms, and noted that Ukraine "is the only

non-NATO nation supporting every NATO mission." The President's brief visit to Kyiv was meant to be a show of support for the country's NATO ambitions ahead of the alliance's summit later this week in Bucharest, Romania. Ukraine is hoping NATO members will vote to give it a so-called membership action plan, which outlines what a country needs to do to join and is a precursor to a membership invitation. Georgia also wants the same treatment.

Among the biggest obstacle in Ukraine's path to NATO membership is Russia. With nine former Soviet bloc countries already members, NATO countries abut some of Russia's borders and Moscow fiercely opposes further eastward expansion of the alliance that it denounces as a Cold War relic.

As a result, Germany and France have spoken out against putting Ukraine on the list just yet. They fear upsetting already strained ties with Russia, which is a major supplier of energy to Europe. But Bush said Moscow shouldn't - and won't - have the last word. *Source: Unian, Edited by: usapeec.kz*

Moldova



In January-February 2008, deficiency of the trade balance of Moldova amounted to \$419.7 million

According to the National bureau of statistics, during the first two months of 2008 the volume of Moldavian export has amounted to \$212.5 million, having increased in comparison with the same period of the last year by 29.3 %. Thus the volume of export to CIS countries has grown 1.6 times - up to \$82.4 million. Deliveries of Moldavian goods to EU countries have increased by 21.8 % - up to \$112.9 million.

In January-February, 2008, the volume of Moldavian import has totaled \$632.2 million, having exceeded the indicators of the same period of the last year by 34.8 %. Thus the import from CIS has grown by 28.5 % - up to \$236.5 million, from EU- by 31.9 % - up to \$274.2 million. Deficiency of trade balance of

Moldova with EU states increased by 40.1% up to \$161.3 million, and with CIS - by 16.6% up to \$154.1 million.

The largest deficiency of the trade balance was registered with Russia (-\$76.7 million),

Ukraine (-\$71.09 million), Romania (-\$36.4 million), China (-\$36.3 million), Germany (-\$32.8 million), Turkey (-\$25.9 million), Italy (-\$10.5 million) and France (-\$9.4 million)

- *Source: Infomarket*

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