

June 28, 2007

Ukraine



VRU adopted all laws needed to meet WTO requirements

Ukraine's Parliament passed all the laws needed to meet the World Trade Organization's admission requirements. 2005-2006 the VRU adopted 38 legislative acts necessary for WTO accedence. On May 31, 2007 the VRU adopted last 11 laws.

President Victor Yushchenko is concerned that Ukraine will join the World Trade Organization by November 2007. Ukraine has been trying to join the WTO since 1993.

Yushchenko said Ukraine and the European Union were in talks to sign an enhanced cooperation agreement, aimed at establishing Free Trade Zones. He said experts claimed this would result in 2-4% GDP growth and described these negotiations as successful.

According to the U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine, William Taylor USA supports Ukraine's joining the WTO. He notes that the USA is glad the Ukrainian parliament has adopted the necessary laws on the WTO joining, in spite of the political crisis.

- Source: ForUM Agency

Ukraine imposed a ban on import of animal and meat products from Kyrgyzstan and Georgia

Ukraine imposed a ban on import of animal and meat products from Kyrgyzstan in connection with foot-and-mouth disease discovered on the territory of this Asian country.

Moreover, a ban was imposed on meat imports and transits via Georgia in connection with "African swine fever" that has been discovered

among pigs in Eastern regions of Georgia. 21 thousand pigs died during last month as a result of this disease. - Source: Official website of Ministry of Agriculture of Kazakhstan; Translated and edited by: usapec.kz

Meat imports increased - export decreased

Meat import in April increased by 36% and constituted \$14.2 million, whereas meat exports decreased by 11% to \$8.5 million. - Source: *AgroPerspectiva*; Translated by: usapec.kz

7-8% annual GDP growth for 2007-2010

President Viktor Yuschenko forecasts that an annual growth of GDP will be at the level of 7-8% during the 2007-2010 period. Industrial output will grow 8-10% annually in the next three or four years.

Yuschenko was upbeat about inflation rates, government debt and the NBU's gold and currency reserves.

Ukraine's GDP rose by 7.9% from January to May, 2007. The Ministry of Economy forecasts a 6.5% GDP growth for 2007 (this rate was set in the 2007 national budget). - Source: *Ukrainian News*

Moldova



In April, 2007, inflation rate in Moldova was one of the highest among CIS countries, having made 11.7%

According to CIS Statistical committee, the lowest growth of inflation was registered in Kyrgyzstan - 4.5 %. Growth of inflation in Tajikistan made 18.3 %, in Azerbaijan - 16.5 %, in Ukraine - 10.3 %, in Georgia - 9.8 %, in

Kazakhstan – 8 %, Russia – 7.7 %, Belarus – 7.5 % and Armenia – 4.7 %, respectively. There are no data on Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. Since April 2006 to April 2007, average growth of inflation rate in CIS made 9 %. - *Source: InfoMarket*

Moldova`s GDP increases

According to the Minister of Economy and Trade Igor Dodon, Moldova`s gross domestic product increased in the first quarter of 2007 by 7.3%. He remarked that services in construction, industry and trade took the major place in the GDP structure.

The structure of direct foreign investments changed, the growth of the reinvested profits of foreign investors is observed, portfolio

investments and investments into the authorized capital of enterprises increased, as well. The inflation level in May constituted 0.9%, the cumulative inflation level increased by 3.9% for five months.

The Moldovan Leu increased by 3.8% against U.S. Dollar in January-May 2007 and against Euro - by 1.7%.

During the last five months the industrial output decreased by 5.4% and it is caused by losses in the winemaking industry.

However, the industrial tempo slippage was lower than in 2006 (about 17%) and it testifies to the fact that a number of companies were re-oriented for other markets and the situation is improving.

- *Source: Moldova.org*