

SECTION B

I. PRIORITIES AND OBJECTIVES OF POLICY IN THE AGRARIAN SECTOR AND ACTIVITIES FOR THEIR ACHIEVEMENT IN 2006.

Taking into account the results achieved in the development of agrarian sector, its place in the economy of the country, as well as commitments undertook in relation to the signed Accession Agreement of Bulgaria to the EU, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry sets out following long-term priorities and objectives of its policy and activities for their achievement in 2006:

PRIORITY 1

DEVELOPMENT OF EFFICIENT AND COMPETITIVE AGRARIAN SECTOR

OBJECTIVE

CREATION OF CONDITIONS FOR EXTENSION OF INVESTMENTS IN THE AGRICULTURE AND CREATION OF COMPETITIVE STRUCTURES, PRODUCING HIGH QUALITY AGRICULTURAL AND PROCESSED PRODUCTS THROUGH USE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS OF SF "AGRICULTURE" AND SAPARD PROGRAM

Activities:

1. Implementation of national programs for support of Bulgarian agriculture till the country's accession to the EU:
 - Reinforcing of investment crediting and capital subsidizing.
 - Reinforcing of direct gratuitous financial support (subsidizing).
 - Creation of conditions for boost of young agricultural producers' activities
 - Implementation of regional programs
2. Implementation of SAPARD Program according to the rules and principles, set out in the National agricultural and rural development plan (2000 - 2006), Multiannual financial agreement (21.11.2000) EU Regulations and national legislation.
3. Intervention at grain market according to Ordinance No. 28 from 8.07.2003 on the conditions and order for intervention of agricultural products' markets at the rate of 150 000 t.

OBJECTIVE

STABILIZATION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF PLANT GROWING, PRODUCTION OF PLANT PRODUCE, IN LINE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF EU QUALITY STANDARDS:

Activities:

1. Support to the protection of plant gene pool;
2. Organizing of agricultural producers groups with the purpose of increase of labor efficiency, improvement of produce quality and more effective protection of right and interest of Bulgarian producers.

3. Creation of modern nursery base;
4. Increase of production of certified planting and sowing material and boost of its utilization;
5. Increase of fields;
6. Encouragement and support under programs for creation of new plantations and efficient development of sub sector;

OBJECTIVE

CREATION OF MODERN NURSERY BASE FOR DEVELOPMENT OF FRUIT-GROWING AND VINE-GROWING FOR PRODUCTION OF HEALTHY AND AUTHENTIC PROPAGATION MATERIAL AND IMPROVEMENT OF VARIETAL STRUCTURE OF PRODUCTION PLANTATIONS

Activities:

1. Establishment of National system for production of certified planting material in fruit growing and wine growing with the assistance of FAMAD Project;
2. Completion of nursery base creation in the fruit growing;
3. Creation of nursery base in the vine growing. Creation of certified vine nursery plantations and 50 dka of nursery vineyards through use of pre-based and based propagation material.

OBJECTIVE

INCREASE OF COMPETITIVENESS OF BULGARIAN TOBACCOES IN THE INTERNATIONAL MARKETS AND CREATION OF CONDITIONS FOR EXPORT CAPACITY INCREASE

Activities:

1. Improvement of production structure of crude tobacco and creation of conditions for outstripped development of tobacco variety groups intended for export:
 - improvement of variety structure;
 - modernization of material and technical base and building of new facilities for desiccation of large-leaved tobacco;
2. State regulation and support in the price formation and production of crude tobacco:
 - fixing of quotas for production of crude tobacco;
 - fixing of levels for minimum buying up prices per types, origin and grades;
 - providing of funds under the Tobacco Fund budget for awarding of premiums to the tobacco producers and granting of specific pecuniary aid within the minimum buying up prices.

OBJECTIVE

CREATION, DEVELOPMENT AND EFFICIENT FUNCTIONING OF A SYSTEM FOR CONTROL OF FRESH FRUITS AND VEGETABLES QUALITY IN LINE WITH THE EU REQUIREMENTS

Activities:

1. Implementation of EU asquis in the field of marketing standards and control of fresh fruits and vegetables quality and harmonization of Bulgarian legislation with the current changes in the EU legislation;
2. Strengthening of administrative capacity in the field of quality control of fresh fruits and vegetables /development of programs for training of inspectors, organizing and conducting of

- training courses, participation in international training courses, supply of technical and measuring equipment, elaboration of manual on standards, methods and procedures of control activity/;
3. Establishment of system for risk analysis;
 4. Checks for compliance with the requirements for fresh fruits and vegetables quality at the imports, exports and in the domestic market.

OBJECTIVE

ORGANISING OF MODERN, COMPETITIVE, EFFICIENT AND QUALITY PRODUCTION OF ANIMAL PRODUCTS IN LINE WITH THE EU STANDARDS

Activities:

1. Adapting of normative base to the requirements of the EU regulations;
2. Monitoring and control on the work of breeding associations /acting by virtue of Art.29 of the Animal breeding Act / with respect to the selection and reproduction in 2005;
3. Updating of National gene pool structure consisting of valuable breeds of farm animals and fowls /on the basis of Art. 18 of Animal breeding Act/; elaboration of proposal for its subsidizing in 2006 and control of fund uptake process.

OBJECTIVE

INTEGRATION IN THE EUROPEAN AND WORLD MARKET IN CONSISTENT WITH NATIONAL CHARACTERISTICS AND OPORTUNITIES TO INCREASE THE COMPETITIVENESS AND EXPORT POTENTIAL

Activities:

1. Participation in the negotiations on agriculture in the framework of the World Trade Organization

OBJECTIVE

PROVISION OF SPECIALIZED ADVICES, CONSULTATIONS AND EXPERT ASSISTANCE FROM NAAS IN ORDER TO INFORM THE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCERS ABOUT NEW TECHNOLOGIES AND INOVATIONS AND ADAPTING OF PRODUCTION TO THE EUROPEAN STANDARDS

Activities:

1. Encouragement of agricultural producers' registration under Ordinance No. 3/ 1990.
2. Clarification of the requirements on quality and control of fresh fruits and vegetables under ordinance No. 9/26.03.2002.
3. The requirements for quality & control of milk for adapting of towards requirements.
4. Clarification of the role and significance of the National milk board and the mechanisms for distribution of milk quotas.
5. Support to the spread of innovations of scientific activity and their application in practice amongst the agricultural producers, according to agro-climatic characteristics of relevant region.
6. Organizing of demonstration fields and sites for ocular presentation of good agricultural practices in the field of plant growing and animal breeding.

OBJECTIVE

ESTABLISHMENT OF FOR CHECK SYSTEM CONTROLLING THE OBSERVANCE THE LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS WITH RESPECT TO WINES AND THE PRODUCTS FROM GRAPE AND WINE AND ESTABLISHMENT OF SYSTEM FOR EFFICIENT CONTROL OF WINES INTENDED FOR EXPORT IN THE EU COUNTRIES

Activities:

1. Planned checks concerning the compliance of data in declarations, control of non authorized oenological practices, accuracy at designation of market presentation of wines and products from grape and wine, movement of wines and products from grape and wine;
2. Control and control coordination with other control bodies as it concerns non authorized oenological practices;
3. Introduction of system of CPH number in the production of qualitative wines;
4. Certification of VI-1 document, accompanying wines in their exports to the EU countries;
5. Making of physic, chemical and micro-biologic analysis of wines and products from grape and wine.

OBJECTIVE

PRESERVATION OF COUNTRY'S TERRITORY AGAINST TRANSBORDER TRANSMISSION AND SPREADING OF QUARANTINE PESTS ON PLANTS AND PLANT PRODUCTS EFFICIENT CONTROL ON THE PRODUCTION AND EXPORTS OF PLANTS AND PLANT PRODUCTS.

Activities:

1. Introduction and implementation of requirements set out in the International convention on plant protection, entering in force for Bulgaria on 02.10.2005;
2. Amendment and complement of Ordinance & No. 1 on phytosanitary control in relation with the introduction of IPPS Standard 15 for thermal and chemical treatment of wood wrapping material intended for export;
3. Designing and building of facilities for border phytosanitary control of long-term border control points of Bulgaria and future Community border control points according to the EU requirements:
 - Building of new premises and loading platforms in Border Control Points (BCP) of Gueshevo and Kalotina;
 - Designing and building of new premises and loading platform in BCP of Bregovo;
 - Providing of area for designing and building of premises needed for the border phytosanitary control in the Port of Burgas;
 - Building of loading platforms for thorough phytosanitary control in BCPs of Cap. Andreevo and Zlatarevo.
4. Putting in operation of information system on quarantine of plants;
5. Continuation of monitoring for quarantine pests on potatoes, vineyards, fruits, strawberries, cotton, beans, maize and forest species, as well as for pests for which Bulgaria apply to be recognized as protected areas at its EU membership;
6. Strengthening of long-term border points with personal and appointment of new officers for the new BCP of Lesovo and Ilinden.

OBJECTIVE

PROTECTION OF AGRICULTURAL CROPS AGAINST PESTS HAVING ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE, SAVING OF BIODIVERSITY AND SOIL FERTILITY, PRODUCTION OF SAFE PLANT PRODUCTS, PROTECTION OF HUMAN HEALTH AND LIFE AND PROTECTION OF ENVIRONMENT FROM PESTICIDE POLLUTION

Activities:

1. Organizing of monitoring, forecast and notification system for control of pests on agricultural crops and plant products;
2. Introduction of methods for integrated control of pests on agricultural crops;
3. Survey on bodies controlling organic production of plants, plant products and foods from plant origin;
4. Issue of licenses to persons who import or sale plant protection products;
5. Control of fertilizers for compliance with the indicators announced by the producer at the imports, production or in the market network;
6. Control of marketed plant protection products and their storage;
7. Control of plant protection product application;
8. Monitoring of unsold, unfit and prohibited for use pesticides: gathering and disposal;
9. Monitoring of remains from pesticides in raw materials and products from plant origin;
10. Preservation of waters from pollution by nitrates originating from agricultural sources;
11. Control of use of sediments from purification of waste waters through their use in the agriculture.

OBJECTIVE

USE OF SAFE AND ENVIRONMENTAL FRIENDLY AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTRY EQUIPMENT FOR WORK AND FOR TRANSPORTATION

Activities:

1. Introduction and implementation of the system for type approval of wheel and chain tractors, tractor trailers, tractor-driven equipment, systems and components for them, introduced on the basis of Framework Directive 2003/37/EC;
2. Efficient precautionary and subsequent control at the marketing of new agricultural and forestry equipment;
3. Control of market of chain tractors, tractor trailers and tractor-driven equipment, intended for use in the agriculture and forestry ;
4. Use of safe and environmental friendly agricultural and forestry equipment for work and for transportation

OBJECTIVE

EFFICIENT MANAGEMENT OF WATER CONSERVATION IN THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA
DEVELOPMENT OF WATER CONSERVATION WITH A VIEW TO PURPOSEFUL WATER USE FOR IRRIGATION OF AGRICULTURAL LANDS. PROTECTION AGAINST NEGATIVE IMPACT OF WATERS ON THE NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE, ARABLE LAND AND SETTLEMENTS

Activities:

1. Funding of activities related to the feasibility of systems protecting against negative water impact;
2. Protection of arable lands, infrastructure and settlements against negative water impact;
3. Restructuring of services responsible for water conservation in the country;
4. Support to the establishment of associations for irrigation and provision of their funding;
5. Completing of agrieconomic evaluations of HMD.

OBJECTIVE

ESTABLISHMENT OF FAVORABLE ENVIRONMENT OF SCIENTIFIC STUDIES IN THE AGRARIAN SECTOR WITH A VIEW TO MODERNIZING AND INCREASING THEIR ROLE FOR ACHIEVING OF COMPETITIVE AND ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION

Activities:

1. Implementation of programs for scientific-research projects for 2004-2006 approved by the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry;
2. Drafting of program for maintaining and development of research infrastructure in the field of agrarian sciences;
3. Drafting of plan for support to the development of communication networks, access to scientific data bases, internationally recognized scientific periodicals in the field of agrarian sciences;
4. Participation of researchers in the working groups within the EC Council and committees.

OBJECTIVE

CREATION AND IMPROVEMENT OF CONDITIONS FOR ACQUISITION AND EXTENSION OF PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION OF PEOPLE WORKING IN THE AGRARIAN SECTOR, FORESTRY AND FOOD INDUSTRY, ESTABLISHMENT OF SYSTEM FOR SCIENTIFIC PROVISION AND INCREASING OF INVESTMENTS IN THE PROLONGED PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

Activities:

1. Development of program for study and laying down of professional education needs and training in the field of agriculture, forestry and food industry;
2. Analysis of structure of professional qualification and specification of future needs for acquisition of professional qualification according to the needs of agricultural sector, forestry and food industry;
3. Implementation of measure 09 (3.1. of NPARD) „Improvement of vocational training” under SAPARD program.

OBJECTIVE

EFFICIENT MANAGEMENT OF SOIL RESOURCES THROUGH USE OF MULTIFUNCTIONAL UTILIZATION OF INFORMATION AVAILABLE FOR SOIL COVER AND LAND-USE BY THE OWNERS AND LAND USERS

Activities:

1. Establishment, maintenance, updating and expanding of GIS as open dynamic module tabular, graphical and text information on production, environmental and technical characteristics of farmland. Compliance of information with those of EU;
2. The elaboration of soil and climatic characteristics for planting of perennial crops, as well as characteristics for creation of vine-massifs for production of qualitative wines.

PRIORITY 2

IMPLEMENTATION OF COMMITMENTS RESULTING FROM THE ACCESSION AGREEMENT TO THE EU AND UPTAKE OF FUNDING GRANTED UNDER EUROPEAN FUNDS ON CAP IMPLEMENTATION

OBJECTIVE

PREPARATION OF COUNTRY FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY IN THE INDIVIDUAL SECTORS

Activities:

1. Adoption of Framework law on support to the agriculture and development of rural areas;
2. Accreditation of Paying agency;
3. Introduction of scheme for unified payment per area and additional national payments for individual sectors.

Grain Sector

4. Introduction of legislation on control of intervention centers;
5. Building of administrative capacity for the implementation of control on the grain stored in the public warehouses and granaries.

Milk and dairy products sector

6. Establishment of registers of cow milk producers and purchasers;
7. Establishment of information system on monitoring of movement of milk quantities and quality;
8. Testing of milk quota system.

Meat Sector

9. Adoption of Ordinance on labeling of beef meat and beef products
10. Updating of ordinances on poultry meat production and marketing and eggs for direct consumption ;
11. Adoption of ordinance on training of experts classifying carcasses of cattle, pigs and sheep;
12. Building of administrative capacity responsible for the introduction of system for slaughterhouse carcasses classification in Bulgaria;
13. Participation in the meetings of steering committees within the European Commission on milk, meat /beef, pork, goat, sheep, poultry/ and eggs, and active observers.

Sugar Sector

14. Adoption of Act on amendments of the Act on support to the agricultural producers;
15. Adoption of Ordinance on fixing of quota for sugar and isoglucose production;
16. Adoption of ordinance on the conditions and order for contracting, buying out and qualification of sugarbeet and for fixing and paying of subsidy for buying out of sugarbeet.

Tobacco Sector

17. Transition of Tobacco Fund to the Paying agency for the implementation of Common organization of market in the sector.

Fruits and vegetables Sector

18. Adoption of ordinance on the conditions and order for recognition of interbranch organisations and associations of producers organisations for fruits and vegetables.

OBJECTIVE

ESTABLISHMENT OF PAYING AGENCY

Activities:

1. Development of national regulative and normative base, ensuring the functioning of Integrated Administration and Control System (IACS) as per regulations of the European Union and commitments taken under chapter "Agriculture";
2. Establishment of IACS structures:
 - Creation of data bases (DB) of the system for identification of agricultural plots (SIAP) including:

Initial completion of SIAP data base:

- Snap shooting of agricultural areas, making of digital orthophotomap, coordinated in the National coordination system, complying with the map of restituted ownership (agricultural cadastre)
- Outlining and numbering of physical blocks (PB) to be maximum closer to the cadastral number of massifs;
- Outlining of farmer blocks, according to data from existing agricultural producers register (Agr. prod). Automatic numbering, consisting of PB numbers and added number of block of the relevant farmer. The farmer plots are reference plots of applicants;
- Additional outlining of farmer blocks after inspection of terrain for actual use during 2005/2006;

Registration of farmers and producers (potential applicants for support)

- Keeping of agricultural producers register generating information on data about farmers and their property forming the farming blocks. This registration will lead to preferential tax and trade regime at the marketing of agricultural production as well as special insurance order - scope – number of registered agr. producers with fields in use;
- Complement to the farmer register envisaging to include the other applicants for support that were not registered as agricultural producers in 2005.
- Identification of scope of potential applicants for support: sending of application forms and maps to the potential applicants for support on the basis of outlined physical blocks and farmer plots and farmer registers,

OBJECTIVE

ORGANIZING OF SELECTION AND BREEDING ACTIVITY, ALLOWING FREE MOVING OF BREEDING ANIMALS AND BIOLOGICAL PRODUCTS FROM THEM.

Activities:

1. Organizational support of transfer of selection and breeding activities to the breeding associations and support to the process of private and State property conceding to these associations for their needs;

OBJECTIVE

ESTABLISHMENT OF STRUCTURED AND FUNCTIONAL MARKET ORGANIZATION IN THE MILK SECTOR, INTRODUCTION OF (S) EUROP SYSTEM FOR QUALIFICATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF CARCASSES

Activities:

1. Conducting of monitoring year on the allocation and fulfilling of milk quotas;
2. Reinforcing capacity of the National milk board and support to the structuralization of Regional milk boards;
3. Training of classifiers on the Ordinance concerning the acquisition of capacity for qualification and classification under (S) EUROP system.

OBJECTIVE

ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMON MARKET ORGANIZATION OF FISHERY PRODUCTS AND RECOGNITION OF PRODUCERS' ORGANISATIONS MEETING THE EU CRITERIA

Activities:

1. Establishment of market infrastructure
2. Establishing of producers organisations the in fishery sector;
3. Drafting of Ordinance on the establishment and recognition of fish producers organisations;
4. Establishment of National statistics system for fishery sector.

OBJECTIVE

FULL HARMONIZATION OF METHODOLOGIES, CHARACTERISTICS AND PERIODICITY WITH THOSE OF THE EUROPEAN UNION AT CONDUCTING OF STATISTICAL SURVEYS IN THE FIELD OF AGRICULTURE

SUB-OBJECTIVE 1

HARMONIZATION OF THEMATIC SURVEYS ON THE AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS: PLANT GROWING, ANIMAL BREEDING, VINEYARDS, FRUIT PLANTATIONS AND STRUCTURE OF FARMS – FULFILMENT OF COMMITMENTS UNDER CHAPTER 12 "STATISTICS"

Activities:

1. Conducting of additional surveys for prediction of meat production.

SUB-OBJECTIVE 2

IMPROVEMENT OF THE QUALITY OF INFORMATION, GATHERED BY THE SYSTEM FOR AGRICULTURAL ACCOUNTANCY INFORMATION (SAAI), ORGANIZING OF ITS SUSTAINABLE FUNCTIONING AND REPRESENTATIVE INFORMATION OF NATIONAL AND REGIONAL LEVEL.

Activities:

1. Finalization of SAAI establishment;
2. Promotion of SAAI to the farmers and potential users of accountancy information in the field of agriculture (conducting of clarification campaign for farmers and potential users of accountancy information, distribution of results from individual farms, participating in the system, clarification leaflets and seminars);
3. Strengthening of administrative capacity and training of experts working on SAAI.

OBJECTIVE

CLARIFICATION OF EU CAP AND BULGARIA'S AGREEMENTS WITH THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND THE POLICY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF RURAL AREAS
TRAINING OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCERS AND THEIR PREPARATION FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF CAP MAIN PRINCIPLES
ADAPTING OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCERS TO THE IACS (INTEGRATED ADMINISTRATION AND CONTROL SYSTEM)
CLARIFICATION OF MAF POLICY ON THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF RURAL AREAS

Activities:

1. Clarification of EU Common agricultural policy impact on the Bulgarian agriculture;
2. Provision of specialized advices and consultations for:
 - Development of grain production through encouraging of wheat durum in the approved regions;
 - Restoration of existing and creation of new plantations of perennial crops and vineyards;
 - Balanced fertilization and conservation of soil fertility;
 - Quality improvement of animal produce;
 - Assistance in the crediting and subsidizing of agricultural production;
 - Development of organic farming;
3. Clarification of IACS, related to the rules and requirements as it concern the application for support;
4. Gathering of primary agricultural accountancy information.

OBJECTIVE

ESTABLISHMENT OF VINEYARD REGISTER AND EFFICIENT MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL OF VINE POTENTIAL

Activities:

1. Registration of vine holdings according to the approved plan;

2. Joint project of the Executive Agency on Vine and Wine and MAF "Structural policy" General Directorate concerning the registration of vine holdings, in which to be involved the employees from Municipal services on agriculture and forestry;
3. PHARE Project for technical assistance needed for the completion of registration.

OBJECTIVE

FULFILMENT OF COMMITMENTS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF EUROPEAN LEGISLATION UNDER CHAPTER 7 "AGRICULTURE", "CRUDE TOBACCO" SECTOR

Activities:

1. Development and adoption of new Act on tobacco and tobacco products;
2. Support and encouragement of establishment of tobacco producers organizations as important element of market organization for crude tobacco;
3. Development in cooperation with the relevant institutions in line with the European legislative status of particular schemes for direct support of Bulgarian tobacco producers.

OBJECTIVE

ORGANISING OF VETERINARY ACTIVITY, ALLOWING OPTIMUM RESTRUCTURING OF PROCESSING ENTERPRISES (INTRODUCTION OF HACCP SYSTEM AND GOOD MANUFACTURING PRACTICES) FREE MOVING OF RAW MATERIALS AND PRODUCTS FROM ANIMAL ORIGIN, ADDITIVES, FODDERS AND FODDER SUPPLEMENTS, LIVE ANIMALS AND ORGANIC PRODUCTS FROM THEM

Activities:

1. Organizing the work on the rendering harmless of animal wastes:
 - ending of feasibility study: the term depends on the conclusion of contract for the feasibility study: at latest 6 months after its conclusion;
2. Introduction of absolute prohibition on use of processed animal proteins in the feeding of farm animals;
3. Implementation of EU legislation on the control of transmissible spongiform encephalopathies (diagnostics, gathering and transportation of animal byproducts and destroying of processed animal proteins;
4. Building of 7 long-term veterinary control border points that will be the external border of Bulgaria after the EU accession:
 - there were concluded contracts for building, equipment and construction supervision of Border Veterinary Control Point of Kalotina, Varna and Burgas'
 - approval by the EC Delegation of tendering documentation for Border Veterinary Control Points of Bregovo, Gueshevo and Zlatarevo;
 - approval by the EC Delegation of construction plan for Sofia Airport.
5. Stop of vaccination against hog cholera:
 - application of adjusting inoculation with live lymph;
 - application of marker lymph;
 - stop of vaccination.
6. Restructuring of enterprises dealing with production, processing and storage of raw materials and foods from animal origin:
 - interim check of progress in the enterprise restructuring;
 - training of audit commissions on checklist for enterprise checking;

- enterprise checks by the audit commissions;
 - checking of all enterprises with industrial capacity by a national commission;.
 - checking of all enterprises with small capacity by a national commission.
7. Animal identification:
 - supply of servers and communication equipment;
 - expanding of system for the animal identification and registration of animal farms and control on the movement of animals;
 - purchasing of hardware needed (Palm PCs): after the approval of funds for their purchasing;
 - processing of standard reports.
 8. Implementation of the requirements on the animal welfare. Conducting of tendering procedure on construction and overhaul of 3 sites (Russe, Varna and Burgas) intended for rest of animals during transportation.

OBJECTIVE

HARMONIZATION OF BULGARIAN LEGISLATION IN THE FIELD OF FOOD SAFETY

Activities:

1. Drafting of amendments to the Act on Foods in accordance with EC Regulation 178/2002 specifying the general principles and requirements to the legislation in the field of foods, establishment of European body on food safety and procedures in the field of food safety; Regulation EC 852/2004 specifying hygiene requirements at the production of food products; Regulation EC № 882/2004 on the formal checks to be carried out with the purpose of verification for the requirements of Foods and fodders Act, animal health for animal welfare requirements;
2. Drafting of ordinance on specific requirements for food hygiene in line with Regulation (EU) 853/2004 of the European Parliament and Council, specifying particular requirements for hygiene of foods;
3. Drafting of ordinance on the organization of veterinary control on raw materials and products from animal origin, designed for human consumption in accordance with Regulation (EC) 854/2004 of the European Parliament and Council, setting out specific rules for organizing of official control on the products from animal origin, intended for human consumption;
4. Drafting of ordinance on micro-biologic for criteria for foods;
5. Development of national requirements for:
 - direct supply of small quantities of main products to the end consumer or to local retail sale points supplying directly the end consumers;
 - direct supply by the producer of small quantities of fowl and hare meat (in-farm slaughtered animals) to the end consumer, or to the local retail sale points supplying the end consumers with fresh meat;
 - hunters supplying small quantities of game meat to the end consumer or to the local retail sale points supplying the end consumer

OBJECTIVE

PRESERVING OF CONSUMERS AGAINST ANY DELETERIOUS EFFECT AND POTENTIAL RISK OF FODDERS AND FOOD QUICK NOTIFICATION OF CONTROL BODIES AND RAPID INFORMATION EXCHANGE BETWEEN MEMBER STATES ABOUT PRESENCE OF FOOD AND FODDERS CONSIDERED AS DANGEROUS FOR HUMAN HEALTH WITH A VIEW TO TAKING OF ADEQUATE MEASURES FOR PREVENTION OF THEIR SALE AND CONSUMPTION.

Activities:

1. Development of Manual on the implementation of checks by the control bodies under the Act on foods, Act on veterinary activity, Act on plant protection with a view of unification of control activities at the checks, inspection, survey, verification, monitoring and audit of introduced Good manufacturing practices, Good hygienic practices and HACCP procedures;
2. Implementation of PHARE Project BG2003/IB/IF/04 on training about the observance of requirements provided for in the Act on foods;
 - of control bodies within the system of NVS, NSPP and NSGF;
 - of producers and traders of foods and fodders with a view to their preparation for production and trade according to the EU requirements;
3. Organizing and equipment of national contact point of RASFF system located in the MAF;
4. Organizing and equipment of efficient infrastructure in 28 MAF district units.

OBJECTIVE

REGISTRATION OF DESIGNATIONS OF BULGARIAN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS AND FOODS IN THE EUROPEAN REGISTERS FOR DESIGNATIONS

Activities:

1. Adoption of amendments in the Act on foods: legislative reason for adoption of ordinance on the control of food compliance with traditional specific character;
2. Adoption of Working rules of the Permanent commission on geographical denominations of agricultural and food products and Commission on assessment of files for foods with traditional specific character;
3. Establishment of registers for files and producers groups applying for registration in the European registers for designations.

OBJECTIVE

FULFILMENT OF COMMITMENTS FOR DRAFTING OF SECONDARY LEGISLATION IN THE FIELD OF GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS & (GMO) FOR PROTECTION OF CONSUMER HEALTH THROUGH IMPLEMENTATION OF EUROPEAN REQUIREMENTS AND POLICY

Activities:

1. Development of statute-books and manuals on the implementation of legislation in the field of GMO;
2. Establishment and keeping of public register on permits for GMO marketing and sales;
3. Public awareness concerning GMO.

OBJECTIVE

LIMITING OF USE OF PLANT PROTECTION PRODUCTS (PPP) THAT COULD ENDANGER HUMAN AND/OR ANIMAL HEALTH, MARKETING AND USE OF ORIGINAL PRODUCTS, CONTAINING ACTIVE SUBSTANCES COVERED BY THE EU LIST OF APPROVED PRODUCTS.

Activities:

1. Creation of biological testing stations of PPP in the village of Grivitza, Kostinbrod and maintenance in 6 RPPS;

2. Development of quality manual on the Good experimental practice for biological testing of plant protection products;
3. Complete introduction of principles of Good experimental practice in the official experimental stations: RPPS;
4. Development of quality manual on approved plant protection products;
5. Start of re-registration of plant protection products, according to the EU requirements.

OBJECTIVE

IMPLEMENTATION OF EFFICIENT CONTROL OF APPROVAL OF AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTRY EQUIPMENT

Activities:

1. Fulfillment of commitments under our accession to the EU on the implementation of EU directives under chapter 1 "Freely movement of goods" and chapter 22 "Environment", providing of safety and competitiveness of equipment used in the agriculture and forestry;
2. Establishment of system for mutual notification between CTI and competent bodies of other member states on certificates issued for approval of each type of tractors authorized or rejected on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria;
3. Development of effective measures about denial of registration for new tractors or prohibition for sale, exploitation or use of specified type technique, that might be considered as a danger for traffic safety or in the places of work despite of legal/regular certificate for compliance.

PRIORITY 3

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF RURAL AREAS: INCREASE OF INCOME AND IMPROVEMENT OF LIVING AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR PEOPLE EMPLOYED IN THE AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY AND PEOPLE LIVING IN THE RURAL AREAS

OBJECTIVE

DEVELOPMENT OF COMPETITIVE AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY AND FOOD PROCESSING SECTOR BASED ON INNOVATIONS PROTECTION OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT IN THE RURAL AREAS. IMPROVEMENT OF THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN THE RURAL AREAS

Activities:

1. Elaboration of policies for development of rural areas, including:
 - Elaboration of National strategic plan for the period of 2007-2013;
 - Elaboration of Rural Areas Development Program for the period 2007-2013;
 - Start of Measure 1.3 "Development of agricultural activities aimed at the protection of environment" (SAPARD Program);
 - Approval of the National agri-environmental program;
 - Approval of Program for limiting and elimination of pollution from agricultural sources in the vulnerable areas;
 - Approval of National plan for development of organic farming 2006-2013;

- Assessment of implementation of “Pilot scheme for support to agricultural producers in the less favored areas (LFA)”, elaboration and approval of Ordinance on LFAs in Bulgaria;
- Publicity of policy for development of rural areas with participation of social and economic partners and regional structures.

PRIORITY 4

EFFICIENT MANAGEMENT OF WATER RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT OF LAND USE RELATIONSHIPS

OBJECTIVE

EFFICIENT USE OF LAND RESOURCES AND ADAPTING OF LAND RELATIONSHIPS TO THE REQUIREMENTS FOR COMPETITIVE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

Activities:

1. Development of concept and normative base for consolidation of farmland with the purpose of creation of conditions for:
 - optimal organization of agricultural territories;
 - implementation of water conservation measures;
 - development of agrienvironmental and organic farming.
2. Development of concept for consolidation of farmlands through regulating land use for agricultural production and resulting legal relationships;
3. Development of concept for new legislative status, including the management of agricultural territories in accordance with already approved types of property and land tenure relationships, including also methodology for updating of Nomenclature according to the manner of permanent use of farmland;
4. The development of strategy, including approval of national body, directly participating in the market of agricultural property with the purpose of overcoming the fragmentation of farmland, creation of conditions for optimum agricultural production and implementation of governmental policy in the agricultural sector;
5. Assistance and information supply about the market of agricultural property, including expansion of the scope and access to the market information system;
6. Strengthening of administrative capacity for regulating of land relationships;
7. Keeping of map of restituted ownership at the conditions of established national cadastral map and annexed registers;
8. Development of regulation and procedure for data exchange between MAF and the Agency on cadastre under the Act on cadastre and Property register;
9. Improvement of regulation and procedures for data exchange with the Agency and Registration services concerning the changes in property on farmland and forests from forest fund (by judicial regions up to the entering in the regime provided for in the law);
10. Creation and keeping of other specialized maps and registers on farmland, including abandoned agricultural lands;
11. Completion of land settlement and compensation of rightful claimants;
12. Management of lands of State land fund.

PRIORITY 5

ENVIRONMENTAL FRIENDLY AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF FOREST RESOURCES, HUNTING FAUNAS AND PROTECTED NATURAL TERRITORIES

OBJECTIVE

RENEWAL OF FORESTS, ANTI-EROSION MEASURES

SUB-OBJECTIVE 1

MAINTENANCE AND INCREASE OF FOREST IN THE COUNTRY

Activities:

1. Carrying out of afforestations planned in the forest management projects;
2. Production of sufficient in quantity and quality forest reproduction materials;
3. Timely afforestation of forests damaged by fires and natural calamities;
4. Training and qualification of specialists and workers;
5. Carrying out of measures for afforestation of abandoned and not suitable agricultural lands;
6. State support provided to the forest owners during the afforestation;
7. Control of forest gulches and water levels of river beds in the country.

SUBOBJECTIVE 2

IMPROVEMENT OF CONDITION OF FOREST SEED PRODUCTION BASE. COMPLETE INTRODUCTION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF EU REQUIREMENTS IN THE FIELD OF PRODUCTION AND TRADE WITH FOREST REPRODUCTIVE MATERIALS. ELABORATION OF NATIONAL REGISTER FOR FOREST SEED PRODUCTION BASE AND MAPS OF THE REGIONS. DECREASE OF BURNT OUT AREA AND WOOD-CUTTING AREA. SUPPORT TO THE PRIVATE FOREST OWNERS AT THE MAINTENANCE OF ANTI-EROSION CROPS IN THEIR LANDS. RESOLVING OF PROBLEM ON THE LAND PROPERTY IN THE STATE FOREST NURSERY-GARDENS. INCREASE OF SPECIALISTS' QUALIFICATION.

Activities:

1. Production of 60 million of saplings for afforestation;
2. Afforestation of 6 000 ha of new crops incl. 2 000 ha of anti-erosion crops and 1 500 ha of forest crops;
3. Printing and attachment of all documents at the production and trade with forest reproduction materials;
4. Transferring of lands in forest nursery-gardens from the State Land Fund to the State Forest Fund.
5. Building of 2 barrages in the regions that are most affected by the erosion ;
6. Adoption of Ordinance on the conditions and order for production of saplings for afforestation in the State owned nursery-gardens.

OBJECTIVE

FOREST MANAGEMENT AND PROTECTION

SUBOBJECTIVE 1

IMPROVEMENT OF THE CONDITION OF FORESTS AND WOOD RESOURCES AND ACHIEVING OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE STANDARD CRITERIA AND INDICATORS FOR SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT

Activities:

1. Marking of renewable, clear-cutting and sanitary cuttings in the State forests, in compliance with the condition of forests at the rate of 5 million cubic meters;
2. Increase of clear cuttings in the young plantations and crops against 2005 and achieving of 70 % fulfilment of forest management projects: 48 000 ha;
3. Re-creation of forest ecosystems through natural renovation in order to be used at maximum extent the natural renewable potential of plantations and achieving of full natural seed and vegetative renewal in short terms and saving of autochthonous vegetation;
4. Non-admission of sharp change of ecological environment in the protected and recreational plantations through implementation of measures forming complex mix plantations, sustainable on negative natural impacts;
5. Elaboration of educational programs in order to take attention of the large audience to the biodiversity problems and its conservation.

SUBOBJECTIVE 2

CREATION OF ECONOMICALLY VIABLE, WELL ORGANIZED AND MANAGED NON-STATE FOREST SECTOR, PROVIDING LONG TERM PROTECTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF FOREST RESOURCES AND ECOSYSTEMS IN THE INTERESTS OF OWNERS AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES.

Activities:

1. Improvement of legislative and secondary legislative base on the management of non-state forests.

SUBOBJECTIVE 3

IMPROVEMENT OF SUSTAINABILITY AND HEALTH SITUATION OF FORESTS, INCLUDING THEIR ADAPTATION ABILITY TO THE CLIMATIC CHANGES

Activities:

1. Control of gipsy moth and others insect pests in the forests for limitation of their populations.

OBJECTIVE

INCREASE OF INCOMES IN THE FOREST SECTOR RESULTING FROM UTILIZATION OF WOOD AND FOREST PRODUCTS

SUBOBJECTIVE 1

IMPROVEMENT OF PLANNING, ORGANIZATION AND CONDUCTING OF PROCEDURES FOR WOOD SALES AND ASSIGNMENT OF WOOD PRODUCTION; ACHIEVING OF MAXIMAL FORECASTING AND TRANSPARENCY OF THE PROCESS IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE MARKET PRINCIPLES.

Activities:

1. Optimizing of activities on the assignment of wood production.

2. Increase of share of wood sold from the timber-yard;
3. Completion of Internet based information system of NFB, providing detailed, updated and analytical information concerning wood use and marketing;
4. Analysis of production, demand and use of wood.

OBJECTIVE

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND PROTECTED AREAS

SUBOBJECTIVE 1

HARMONIZATION OF NATIONAL POLICY ON THE FORESTS WITH THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS AND ARRANGEMENTS AND EUROPEAN INTEGRATION IN THE FIELD OF FORESTRY

Activities:

1. Conversion of actual Forest fund database in GIS format;
2. Elaboration of maps in digital form for the national spread of each single type of habitat;
3. Analysis of MOEW proposals on protected areas, preserving habitats of some economically important habitats under Annex 1 of Act on biodiversity and species under Annex 2 of the same Act.

SUBOBJECTIVE 2

ADEQUATE PREPARATION FOR NFB PARTICIPATION IN THE DISCUSSION PROCESS ON BOUNDARIES AND REGIMES OF FUTURE PROTECTED AREAS OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL NETWORK

Activities:

1. Establishment of National environmental network NATURA 2000

OBJECTIVE

ESTABLISHMENT OF SYSTEM FOR MANAGEMENT OF FORESTS IN THE PROTECTED AREAS TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THEIR CONSERVATION VALUE

Activities:

1. Analysis of forest fund in the protected territories on the basis of criteria provided for in the guidelines on identification of high conservation value forests;
2. Identification of high conservation value forests in the protected areas;
3. Development of set of particular forest activities and approaches on management of each group consisted of high conservation value forests.

SUBOBJECTIVE 1

FULFILMENT OF NFB RESPONSIBILITIES ARISING UNDER THE ACT ON THE PROTECTED TERRITORIES AS IT CONCERNS THE PROVISION OF MANAGEMENT PLANS FOR PROTECTED AREAS

Activities:

1. Organizing of procedures under the Public procurement act for assignment of management plan development for the natural parks of Vrachanski Balkan, Shumen plateau, Bulgarka and Zlatni Piasatzi

SUB-OBJECTIVE 2

EFFICIENT MANAGEMENT OF PROTECTED AREAS AND INCREASE OF INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY OF DIRECTORATES DEALING WITH THE NATURAL PARKS AND REGIONAL FORESTRY BOARDS IN THE FIELD OF BIOLOGIC DIVERSITY CONSERVATION

Activities:

1. Adoption of statute-books on the structure, functions and activity of Natural parks directorates;
2. Establishment and maintenance of information system for protected areas (indicative for terrain and GIS).

OBJECTIVE

OPTIMIZATION OF GAME RESERVES IN THE COUNTRY AND CREATION OF CONDITIONS FOR THEIR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. IMPROVEMENT OF THE WORK IN THE STATE GAME BREEDING STATIONS AND HUNTING ASSOCIATIONS CONCERNING THE FULFILMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES ON GAME MANAGEMENT. LIMITATION OF POACHING.

Activities:

1. Development and adoption of National strategy for the development of game management in the Republic of Bulgaria 2005-2015.

Objective

PREVENTION AND EFFECTIVE CONSERVANCY OF ALL FORESTS AND LANDS FROM THE FOREST FUND, GAME AND FISH STOCKS AND CONTROL ON USE, PROCESSING AND TRADE WITH FOREST, GAME AND FISH RESOURCES, AS WELL AS THE WHOLE ACTIVITY OF PERSONS WORKING IN THIS FIELD

Activities:

1. Drafting of proposals for improvement of existing legislative status on forest conservancy, game and fish reserves;
2. Optimization of interactions with other State and local bodies, NGO, forest owners, mass media etc. at the forest conservancy;
3. Updating of existing and development of new departmental and inter-departmental programs and measures for prevention and limitation of breaches;
4. Improvement of information system for the processing of data about administrative infringements occurred in the forests.

OBJECTIVE

EFFICIENT PREVENTION AND PUTTING OUT OF FOREST FIRES

Activities:

1. Reinforcing of control on the implementation of regimes, norms and responsibilities resulting from normative regulations and provisions of all management projects by the part of all entities as it concerns the fire prevention of forests;
2. Development of yearly national and regional plans on fire prevention of forests;
3. Supply of all protection and technical tools to the persons participating in putting out of forest fires;
4. Strengthening of inter-departmental relationships as it concerns the fire prevention of forests;
5. Development and implementation of systems for assessment of current fire hazard and risk.

II. FINANCIAL PROVISION OF AGRICULTURAL AND FOREST POLICY IN 2006

The financing of costs for actions planned on the implementation of priorities set out in the governmental policy for the agrarian sector in 2006, will be performed by the funds in the framework of MAF budget, State investment credits, other sources, set out in the implementation of forthcoming joint

projects as municipalities, international institutions and own incomes of beneficiaries under the programs and by the SF "Agriculture" budget.

It is planned that the budget funds for MAF in 2006 shall be provided by:

- own receipts of MAF under 2006 budget - 372 454 684 BGN.
- transfers from the central budget - 277 973 867 BGN.
- internal funding – 8 765 441 BGN.

The MAF own receipts are collected on the legislative basis, regulating the work of MAF structures, i.e. Act on veterinary activity, Act on protection of new plant varieties and animal breeds, Act on grain trade, Act on fodder, Act on registration and control of agricultural and forestry equipment, Act on protection of agricultural forest, Act on fishery and aquacultures, Act on tobacco and tobacco products. In comparison to 2005, the receipts registered growth by 26 559 919 BGN. The planned increase is due mainly to the expected increase of tax receipts by 27 958 183 BGN, concerning Tobacco fund activities.

As it concerns non-tax receipts, it is expected decrease at the rate of 1 398 264 BGN, due to change of normative acts concerning the Tariff on duties collected by the land property bodies, as well as the trend to decrease of activities, and related to the lands from the State land fund.

As compared to the Act on budget for 2005, the expenditures of institution increased by 200 531 351 BGN.

The main directions of this expenditure in the draft budget of MAF in 2006 are:

- Increase of administrative capacity, as well as expenditures under commitments in the Central Administration (CA) of MAF :
 - Encouragement of partnership and support to the activities of municipalities – 350 000 BGN;
 - UNDP Program – traveling training teams – 315 000 BGN. ;
 - Training of CA employees and municipality service officers in ELPIS use – 980 000 BGN.
 - Building of system for identification of agricultural plots /IACS/ under Regulation 3508/92 and 1782/2003 – 4 257 800 BGN;
 - Expenditures, related to the control on quality compliance of with marketing standards for fresh fruits and vegetables – EU Regulation of 1148/2001 - 354 500 BGN. ;
 - Provision of advices to the agricultural producers - Regulation 3887/92 – 5 000 BGN;
 - For compensation, land settlement, organizing and control on the map for restituted property - 1 500 000 BGN;
 - For management of projects for consolidation of farmland – 250 000 BGN.
 - For the National milk board, Unified national system of animal breeding enterprises for selection and reproduction, establishment of information system on tracking the milk quantity and quality – 1 500 000 BGN;
 - participation in regular EC meetings - 986 988 BGN;
 - Expenditure, related to implementation of contract for cooperation under PHARE program – 391 948 BGN.
- Others :
 - Increase of NCAS budget – 4 426 850 BGN;
 - Purchasing of additional anti-hail missiles– 2 839 000 BGN. ;
 - Maintenance, security and exploitation of facilities with national significance – 12 414 168 BGN. ;
 - Development of forestry sector – 2 738 560 BGN.

- Increase of capital expenditures including expenditures under commitments on the Bulgarian accession to the EU :
 - Costs for purchasing of hardware and software needed for establishment of system for identification of agricultural plots /IACS/ - 22 229 500 BGN.
 - Co-Financing under PHARE project on building of external Bulgarian borders, building of three places for livestock rest and feasibility study for building of incinerator plant in Bulgaria 2 690 455 BGN. ;
 - Building of office, laboratory and loading platform for the border control point in Bregovo - Directive 9822 - 150 000 BGN;
 - Building of system for purification of waste water - Directive 64/494 – 200 000 BGN;
 - Building of Station for biological testing -Directive 91/414 – 70 000 BGN;
 - Supply of 12 meteorological stations - Regulation 852/2004- 220 000 BGN. ;
 - Acquisition of tangible assets in relation to the fulfillment of commitments under EU Regulation 80/2001 and Commission Regulation 2244/2003 - 90 000 BGN.
- National Veterinary Service:
 - Project 01.04 co-financing of border control point in the Sofia Airport together with six border control points – 315 425 BGN;
 - Building and equipment of three places for livestock rest /Vidin, Burgas and Kulata / - 984 575 BGN. ;
 - Project BG 2003/004 – 937.03.01 on improvement of veterinary border control. – 750 000 BGN;
 - Animal identification and registration of animal breeding enterprises, compensation of animals under the implementation of national program for eradication of hog cholera, control of echynococosis, rendering harmless of animal wastes, implementation of monitoring program on control of residual quantities of veterinary products and pollutants – 44 075 720 BGN.
- National Agricultural Advisory Service:
 - Carrying costs for 28 experts under commitment according to the CoM Action plan on the strengthening of administrative capacity – 151 000 BGN;
- National Plant Protection and quarantine Service:
 - Additional funds - Directives 2000/29;98/22 and 94/3 – 400 000 BGN;
 - Establishment of system for purification of waste water - Directives 69/464, 95/44 – 310 000 BGN;
 - Building of facility for organic testing 140 000 BGN;
 - Authorization and re-registration of plant protection products – 200 000 BGN;
 - Control of plant protection products and fertilizers – 200 000 BGN;
 - Validated scientific protection of plants and plant products against economically important pests – Directive 91/414, Regulation 852/2004 and Regulation 2092/1991 – 170 000 BGN.
- Executive Agency on Fishery and Aquacultures:
 - Additional funds for negotiation process on Chapter 8 “Fishery” – 1 275 624 BGN.
 - “Control Administrative punitive activity” program – 682 007 BGN;
 - „Aquacultures and measures of re-creation of fish resources” Program – 355 743 BGN;
 - „International cooperation and integration” Program - 187 871 BGN;
 - „Administration” Program - 50 003 BGN.
- Executive agency on vine and wine
 - technical activities on vineyard cadastre – 720 011 BGN.

- Tobacco Fund
 - There were planned funds at the rate of 170 900 000 BGN, including the payment of specific pecuniary aid for produced and bought out tobacco and for payment of premiums to the tobacco producers per kg of tobacco produced and bought out in 2006.

State Fund "Agriculture"– funds for state support of the agricultural producers in 2006 are within the financial parameters of the Fund, approved by the adoption of the Act on State budget of the Republic of Bulgaria for 2006 and chart of account, approved by the Council of Ministers.

- Transfer from the State budget 2006 – 185 590 BGN.
- Costs for subsidies – 60 000 BGN.
- Costs for investment crediting – 190 000 BGN.
- Costs for capital subsidies – 12 795 BGN.

ANNEXES