

**CO-OPERATION PROGRAMME**

**FOR THE YEARS 2006 - 2007**

**BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF FLANDERS  
AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA**

**IN IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CO-OPERATION TREATY  
BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF FLANDERS  
AND THE GOVERNMENT OF SLOVENIA**

The chairman of the Flemish delegation welcomes the Slovenian delegation and presents the members of the Flemish delegation:

**Co-ordination Department**

**Administration of Foreign Affairs of Flanders**

- Diane Verstraeten head of administration
- Freddy Evens head of division Europe
- Gaston Pulinckx deskofficer Slovenia, secretary of the Mixed Commission

**Department of Welfare, Public Health and Culture**

**Administration of Culture**

- An Knaeps assistant to the director
- Gudrun Heymans assistant to the director
- Machteld Wauters assistant to the director

**Administration of Welfare**

- Gheysen Julie assistant to the director

**Department of Environment, Nature, Land and Water Management**

**Europe and Environment Division**

- Bart Van Impe Expert

**Administration of Waterways and Marine Affairs, Flemish Nautical Authority**

- Ir. Pim Bonne Civil Engineer

**Administration of Roads and Traffic**

- Ir. Etienne De Winne inspector-general
- Robert Peeters assistant to the director

**Department of Economics, Employment, Home Affairs and Agriculture Department**

**Administration for Economy, Division Europe Economy**

- David Grzegorzewski assistant to the director
- Gert De Mecheleer assistant to the director

**Department of Education**

- Dirk Lapeirre

**Flanders Investment and Trade**

- Marnix Bierlin



**Ministry of the Economy:**

- Irena Milinković Senior Adviser, Directorate for Tourism
- Petra Grile Adviser, Bilateral Economic Relations Department

**Ministry of Transport:**

- Stanislav Meglič Counsellor, Directorate of Transport Policy

**Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning:**

- Tatjana Orhini Valjavec Counsellor, International Relations Department

**Both delegations, hereafter called the Parties, agreed upon the following :**

**1. ECONOMY**

**1.1 In general**

- 1.1.1 Both Parties agree upon the importance of long-term economic relations, based on the co-operation in different fields.

The co-operation shall be concretised by the exchange of knowledge and experience on the economic and regional development policy and on the use of modern management techniques.

Both Parties shall send documentation and information concerning the subjects mentioned above.

Both Parties shall also look into the possibilities to encourage co-operation in the fields of electronic communication and energy.

- 1.1.2 Both Parties shall investigate the possibility of exchanging experts in the economic fields to be determined by both Parties.

**1.2 Specific actions**

**1.2.1 Economic, industrial and regional policies**

- 1.2.1.1 At the request of the other Party, both Parties shall transfer and exchange information and experiences on economic, industrial, regional and regional development policies. Particular attention shall be paid to co-operation between the regions and also together with third regions in the corresponding EU programmes (Structural Funds, Interreg).

1.2.1.2 Both Parties shall exchange a delegation of officials of the administrations concerned (Economy, Regional Policy) in the field of economy and regional policy with the aim of transferring and exchanging information, experience and knowledge concerning the following subjects :

- economic and industrial policies (especially orientated towards SME's);
- regional economic policies and related regional economic planning issues;
- support to companies;
- entrepreneurship (parenthood projects);
- structural funds;
- contacts with the European Commission and the development of European cooperation programmes.
- logistics (supply chain management)

### 1.2.2 Regional Development policy

Both Parties shall transfer and exchange experience, knowledge, documentation, work models and information on their activities in the field of regional development. The Flemish Party shall put its experience in the field of Flemish sub-regional economic policy and the Strategic Urban Economy Plan at the disposal of the Slovenian Party. Notably, the Flemish Party shall present the ideas regarding regionalisation to the Slovenian partners, especially the practical evolution in :

- Flemish legislation on regional policy and its compatibility with European legislation;
- financing sources for regional support.

Both Parties shall pay particular attention to the issue "sustainable business sites"

### 1.2.3 Small and Medium-sized Enterprises

1.2.3.1 Both Parties shall stress the importance of developing their co-operation concerning SMEs.

1.2.3.2 Both Parties shall encourage the development of direct contacts between Slovenian and Flemish SMEs.

### 1.2.4 Enterprise coaching programme: parenthood projects (PLATO).

Both Parties shall exchange experience and knowledge in the field of parenthood projects (f.ex. PLATO projects).

Parenthood 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, who meet on a monthly basis during one or two years, with one or two counsellors to exchange experiences. 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

## **2. FOREIGN TRADE**

Both Parties shall commit themselves to promoting trade relations between Flanders and Slovenia.

Both Parties shall organize economic seminars and economic missions, as opportunity requires.

Actions planned (with reservation) by the Flemish Party in the period 2006-2008 are:

In 2006:

- June 12<sup>th</sup> till 16<sup>th</sup>, a multisectoral mission to Slovenia, Croatia, Serbia-Montenegro (Ljubljana, Zagreb, Belgrade) with Brussels Export
- From August 26<sup>th</sup> till 1<sup>st</sup> September an information and catalogue stand on AgroFood, Gornja-Radgona

In 2007:

- A sectoral mission "building materials" to Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina (Ljubljana, Zagreb, Sarajevo)
- An information and catalogue stand on furniture fairs in Zagreb and Ljubljana.

In the course of 2005 Flanders Export Promotion Agency and Flanders Foreign Investment Office merged in a new institution called "FIT – Flanders Investment and Trade", which deals with various aspects of international enterprise:

- export;
- attracting foreign investors to Flanders;
- promoting Flemish investments abroad, technological exchange, joint ventures, several forms of co-operation.

Both Parties will exchange information with regard to business opportunities and investments. Ad hoc, and at the request of the other Party, both Parties shall exchange information regarding their respective markets and sectors and their experiences and knowledge concerning the promotion of international enterprise.

The Government of the Republic of Slovenia adopted a "Program for Internationalisation of Slovenian Economy for the period 2005 – 2009" in August 2005. This Program consists of two documents, namely "Program on Attracting Foreign Direct Investments for the period 2005 – 2009" and "Program of Slovenian Economic Representatives abroad".

The Slovenian Party transformed the Trade and Investment Promotion Office of the Republic of Slovenia into a public agency. Both Parties shall encourage co-operation between Public Agency of the Republic of Slovenia for Entrepreneurship and Foreign Investments and Flanders Export Promotion Agency.

Both Parties shall exchange information on investments conditions for FDI.

Both Parties shall exchange information on possibilities for investments in logistic distribution centers in the Republic of Slovenia and Flemish region for the purpose of exporting products to the Southeastern part of Europe

Both Parties shall exchange information on incentives for foreign investors.

The Slovenian Party adopted a Program of Slovenian Economic Representatives abroad in August 2005 and attends to open an economic representative office in Brussels. Slovenian Party is interested in exchange of experiences regarding economic representative offices.

Representatives of the Public Agency of the Republic of Slovenia for Entrepreneurship and Foreign Investments and representatives of Flanders Investment and Trade would exchange experiences in the field of internationalization and functioning of the information system on foreign trade for companies in the form of a possible study visit.

### **3. AGRICULTURE**

Both Parties wish to cooperate in the field of agriculture:

- in the field of oil-bearing, albuminous crops.
- Modern management (with multilevel cooperation of research institutes and other interested Parties) techniques in farming.

Both Parties wish to cooperate in the field of horticulture:

- in the field of irrigation systems in glasshouses; special attention will be given to the cooperation in the field of orchards.

Both Parties will examine the possibilities to cooperate in the field of rural development. This cooperation should be elaborated in close cooperation with Flemish and Slovenian research institutes, socio-economic organisations and Flemish and Slovenian business community.

Both Parties are prepared to, within their financial possibilities, share knowledge and experience within the field of production, processing and the sale of fruit, vegetables and fish. Both Parties are prepared to do the same for the protection and production of plants.

Both Parties shall create the opportunity to share knowledge and experience in the field of the foundation and functioning of producers co-operations.

### **4. ENVIRONMENT**

Both Parties are, depending on possibilities of financing, prepared to collaborate on the following items in the field of environment:

- 4.1 The 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 Slovenia.

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, agri-environmental agreements with farmers, participation of local population and integrated approach to projects,... The FLA wants to exchange its technology, as it is used in different projects and wants to broaden its knowledge and

experiences by participating in international co-operation projects in Europe, and more specific in the new member states of the EU.

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

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

4.2 The Flemish Environment Agency (FEA) proposes to provide expertise through training of official experts with a maximum of 15 man-days a year (1/2 month per year) on one or more of the following issues:

- monitoring network on air quality (set up, sampling and analyses);
- monitoring network on chemical and biological water quality (set-up, sampling and analyses) and surveillance of inland surface water quality;
- emission inventories of air and water;
- environmental reporting, including environmental impact analysis and strategic environmental analysis;
- price-fixing and levies on waste water;
- collecting and reporting of water and air monitoring data;
- integrated water policy;
- pollutant release transfer registers (PRTR).

The training shall be organised in mutual consultation on the basis of a specific request and programme proposal, after having checked the feasibility of the desired result within the training period.

4.3 The Flemish Party is prepared to invite, during the validity of the present Programme, a team of experts (fluent English required) in the fields of waste management and soil decontamination, water, nature and environmental education and forest management for a period of five (5) days in order to exchange knowledge and establish contacts with the Flemish actors.

#### 4.4 **TWINNING Slovenia: implementation of IPPC in Slovenia**

This implies that the Flemish administration co-operates to 'simulate' an environmental permit for a Slovenian foundry (IPPC company) according to the Flemish model. In other words a Slovenian foundry will be permitted according to the Flemish system (Flemish legislation).

Concrete activities of AMV (Division Environmental Licenses):

- Visit the foundry;



- Explain the Flemish legislation and the Flemish application form for environmental permits;
- Training-on-the-job: fill in the application form for the relevant foundry together with the Slovenian officials and the company;
- Explain Flemish IPPC-permitting procedure;
- Training-on-the-job: deliver the permit for the relevant foundry together with the Slovenian officials;
- Evaluation of the project.

#### **4.5 Energy**

Both Parties shall encourage co-operation in the field of energy and exchange information regarding energy.

#### **4.6 Environmental education**

Both Parties will examine the possibility to link together the good examples of government – public co-operation and environmental education.

#### **4.7 Marine Pollution, Strategic Environmental Marine Assessment**

Both Parties will explore the possibilities on co-operation with third countries, especially with the new democracies in the near region in the field of marine pollution and its prevention and management.

### **5. TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE**

Both Parties shall exchange information, documentation and expertise on the topics mentioned below.

Special attention should be paid to following topics in general:

- Calculation of external costs (methodology, contents, data);
- Methodologies for the evaluation of transport policy scenarios;
- Mobility and intermodality of goods and passengers transport (existing state, development and evaluation);

#### **5.1 Road Traffic and Transport in General**

##### **5.1.1 Traffic Policy**

5.1.1.a Traffic and Town planning:

- traffic prognoses
- toll collection
- the drawing up and interpretation of multimodal traffic models
- temporary (during rush hours) overtaking prohibition for lorries on motorways
- cycle and pedestrian track management
- motorway service areas

#### **5.1.1.b Road Traffic Safety**

- policies to reduce the occurrence of traffic congestions and safety measures applied during works on motorways
- information on projects on controlled access and the introduction of an alternative merging system to join the traffic on traffic lanes
- construction of roundabouts and speed reducing devices, policies to encourage carpooling, construction of cycle and pedestrian tracks, construction of car parks
- traffic safety measures in the vicinity of schools
- traffic safety and communication with road users, road safety education in schools, road users awareness rising and main research methods.
- road tunnel safety
- black spot management
- safety audits of existing roads, as well as project audits, the collection of data about road accidents and the setting up of a data base, including the required activities for analysis of the causes of road accidents

#### **5.1.1.c Road Traffic Management**

- road cleaning and maintenance, control methods and technologies for measuring the condition of roads
- testing the surface friction of road markings using SRT and GRIP TESTER methods
- the role of emergency repair services in dealing with the consequences of emergencies and the principles of organization of their work
- control of overloaded lorries on motorways

#### **5.1.1.d Legislation procedures for building of infrastructures**

- comparison of tendering procedures
- implementation of relevant European directives and standards

### **5.1.2 Public Transport**

- models of integrated transport systems and urban planning for passengers transport (experiences and plans), e.g. mobility agreements and management.
- facilities for the disabled people
- the construction of intermodal transfer points for the multimodal use of bus and railway stations and Park & Ride

### **5.1.3 Public Private Partnership (PPP)**

### **5.1.4 Mitigating the environmental impact of traffic**

- noise reduction barriers on motorways
- noise reduction measures, including "silent" road surfaces and tyres

### **5.1.5 Development of Telematics**

- variable message signing and traffic monitoring, moveable road information devices, the co-ordination of traffic lights control, priority measures for public transport in road traffic (traffic lights influencing)
- creation of a website on ongoing road construction works and traffic regulations
- creation of an intranet database and a CD-ROM on traffic signalization during works on roads and on traffic signs

- possible uses of the Geographic Information Systems (GIS), organization of works on roads and traffic signs , traffic control, RDS-TMC (Radio Data System – Traffic Message Coding), in-car telematics and navigation systems
- the functioning of a Flemish Traffic Centre: traffic management f.e. blockdriving, a road side emergency telephone network
- as regards the utilisation of the public urban and interurban transport:
- data communication between vehicles and the fixed installation as a combination between radion, GPS and devaluations systems
- the integrated exploitation and information systems with travel information derived from those systems available on the Internet in the near future
- sharing the Flemish experience in performing international non accompanied combined transportation, as well as in the construction of freight settlements in the framework of the development of combined transport

5.1.6 The Flemish Party is willing to receive two (2) delegations of five (5) experts for a period of five (5) days in order to give, in function of the interesting points, information, formation and documentation in the form of expert meetings and seminars (including on-the-spot inspections on different locations).

At request of one of both two Parties, they are willing to assist each other in providing expertise, etc... under conditions to be agreed upon later.

## **5.2 Waterinfrastructure and maritime affairs**

### **5.2.1 Policy**

- general policy on maritime affairs;
- implementation of relevant EU policy and EU law;
- regulations on the handling of hazardous cargo in port areas;
- regulations for maritime transport (government control in ports, shipping safety, etc.);
- promotion of modal shift;
- stimulation and support of initiatives on new traffic flows;

### **5.2.2 Port infrastructure and port management**

- design and construction of port infrastructure;
- renovation of port infrastructure (design and execution);
- dredging operations;

### **5.2.3 New technologies and techniques**

- construction of environmentally engineered banks;
- development of a “hydro meteorological system”;
- dredging, processing and storage of polluted dredged materials;
- development of a “global marine distress safety system” (GMDSS);
- development and implementation of innovative transshipment and transport techniques;

#### 5.2.4 Co-operation on Shortsea Shipping

Both Parties are willing to:

- facilitate contacts between Flemish and Slovenian ports;
- exchange information on Shortsea Shipping;
- exchange information and experiences on Motorways of the Sea;

The Flemish Shortsea Promotion Centre is willing to share its experiences in order to facilitate the creation of a Shortsea Promotion Centre in Slovenia.

#### 5.2.5 Scientific co-operation

The Flanders Hydraulics Research Laboratory of the Ministry of Flanders is willing to establish new contacts with administrations and scientific institutes in Slovenia in order to develop co-operation programmes in one or more of the following study areas:

- hydraulic and hydrological studies by means of physical and mathematical models;
- port engineering and planning, maritime access channels and dredging works;
- environmental studies concerning environmentally friendly engineering structures along waterways;
- nautical studies and training by means of a navigation simulator and towing tank.

#### 5.2.6 Integrated Coastal Zone Management

Slovenian side is interested in sharing experience with integrated coastal zone management. This kind of management is crucial to develop and implement in the near future to reduce the impacts of coastal activities on marine environment. An educational component (initiating of good public-government-local communication and co-operation) is one of first phases of the integrated coastal zone management and that is where the two Parties could share valuable experience. The Slovenian Party could play a catalyst role in co-operation with third countries in the near region.

### **6. PRESERVATION OF MONUMENTS**

The Flemish Party is willing to consider all suggestions or proposals concerning the preservation of monuments and sites.

Both Parties cooperate in the field of studying and preservation of monuments and sites.

The responsible body for the Slovenian side is the Ministry of Culture; for the Flemish side it is the administration of Spatial Planning and Monuments and Landscapes.

### **7. EMPLOYMENT**

7.1 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.

7.2 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.

- 7.3 On request of the Slovenian Party the Flemish Party (Vlaamse beleidsdomein Werk en Sociale Economie) will accept a Slovenian delegation (three to five experts) to Flanders during 2006-2007. The Flemish Party expects a request of the Slovenian Party concerning their fields of interest in order to organise and prepare the visit.
- 7.4 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.
- 7.5 The Flemish Party (Vlaamse beleidsdomein Werk en Sociale Economie) 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'.
- 7.6 The Flemish Party (Vlaamse Departement Werk en Sociale Economie) shall act as mediator for possible cooperation with any actor or network active in the field of vocational training, labour market and employment policy.

## **8. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY**

- 8.1 Both Parties agree to stimulate the bilateral cooperation between their universities and research institutes by exchanging information. From a multilateral perspective, joint project applications from Flemish and Slovenian researchers under the EU Framework Programmes will be encouraged.
- 8.2 The Slovenian Party proposed an agreement on co-operation in the field of science, research and technology to be signed between the Government of the Republic of Slovenia and the Government of the Flemish Region in order to enable joint research within scientific and technological projects and other forms of cooperation agreed upon by both Parties and to encourage and facilitate, on the basis of mutual benefit, exchanges and co-operation in the fields of basic and applied sciences, contacts between scientific institutions and organisations, research institutes, companies, universities as well as other institutions of higher education, scholars, researchers and experts as well as joint activities in specialised areas and topics of common interest.
- 8.3 The Slovenian Party provided the Flemish Party with the draft text of the agreement. The Flemish Party will study this and report back to the Slovenian Party.
- 8.4 With regard to multilateral co-operation, both Parties shall aim to increase joint participation of Flemish and Slovenian researchers in the European Framework Programmes for Research and Technological Development as well as in other European Intergovernmental Initiatives like COST and EUREKA.
- 8.5 Both Parties will study the possibility of setting up a training and best practise exchange programme in the field of Research and Technological Innovation policies with a view to establish structural co-operation for the implementation of the Lisbon and Barcelona objectives.

## **9. CULTURE**

### **9.1 In General**

Both Parties shall, at the request of the other Party, exchange information and publications with regard to visual arts, design, architecture, museums, cultural heritage, literature, translations, performing arts, music, artists' accommodations, amateur arts, libraries, cultural centres, local cultural policy, festivals and competitions with an international dimension, including information and documentation on cultural co-operation in general.

Both Parties shall foster direct contacts between cultural institutions and associations.

### **9.2 Visual Arts**

Both Parties are willing to support the exchange of experts in the fields of visual arts, applied arts, architecture, design on the basis of direct agreement between partner institutions.

At the request of the Party of the Republic of Slovenia, the Flemish Party shall receive one (1) graphic designer for a period of fourteen (14) days at the Frans Masereel Centre in Kasterlee. He/she shall be offered free accommodation as well as a daily allowance of EUR 50.00.

During the validity of the present Programme, both Parties shall exchange art publications.

The Flemish Party wishes to receive information and documentation about artists' accommodations in the Republic of Slovenia.

### **9.3 Cultural Heritage**

Both Parties are willing to exchange experts on the basis of direct agreement between partner institutions.

Both Parties are willing to exchange 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 (in the field of the digitising of cultural heritage).

In the framework of the UNESCO Convention of October 17<sup>th</sup> 2003, both Parties will examine the possibilities to develop joint projects regarding, amongst other things, the inventarisation and the preservation of the immaterial heritage in Republic of Slovenia and in Flanders. In a first phase experiences and know-how can be exchanged between the Flemish department of Culture and the Slovenian Cultural Heritage General Department.

Both Parties shall foster the exchange of information and experiences in the field of museums, conservation, archives, galleries and management of cultural heritage.

The Slovenian Party proposes that the Slovenian National Museum of Contemporary History presents the exhibition "The Circle of Violence" in Flanders in 2007.

The Slovenian Party proposes that the Slovenian National Museum presents an exhibition about the Francia Media period on the Slovenian territory in 2007 in Flanders, within the project Francia Media.

#### **9.4 Literature**

During the validity of the present Programme, the Flemish Party is prepared to receive one (1) translator from Republic of Slovenia at the Vertalershuis in Leuven for a period of one (1) month. Contrary to the usual financial arrangements when receiving individuals, this translator shall be given free accommodation and an endowment of EUR 1,000.

The Flemish Party wishes to draw the attention of the Slovenian Party to the possibility for foreign writers to apply for a residence in one of the two writers residences in Flanders (Brussels and Vollezele) coordinated by the literature organisation 'Het Beschrijf' ([www.residencesinlanders.be](http://www.residencesinlanders.be)).

Both Parties shall mutually promote translation of literature into the language of the other Party and shall promote participation in international book fairs.

During the validity of the present Programme, the Flemish Party is prepared to receive one (1) expert in the field of book trade for a period of five (5) to seven (7) days.

The Flemish Party is prepared to make a contribution towards the translation costs of major works from Flemish literature into Slovenian.

During the validity of the present Programme, the Slovenian Party in co-operation with Slovenian Writers' Association invites the Flemish Party to participate in the International Meeting of Poets and intellectuals in Vilenica.

The Slovenian Party proposes that during the validity of the programme one of Flemish literature reviews publishes a selection of Slovenian literature, and one of Slovenian literature reviews publishes a selection of Flemish literature on the basis of agreement between interested partners.

#### **9.5 Performing Arts**

During the validity of the present Programme, the Flemish Party is prepared to send a small dance company of six (6) people at most to Republic of Slovenia for a period of five (5) days at most.

During the validity of the present Programme both Parties shall encourage the exchange of one (1) dance or theatre expert on the basis of direct agreement between interested partners.

Both Parties shall support further co-operation between Bunker (Ljubljana) and Monty (Antwerpen) within the Junge Hunde international network and the co-operation between Bunker (Ljubljana) and Royal Flemish Theatre (Koninklijke Vlaamse Schouwburg).

The modalities will be convened upon in due time and according to the financial possibilities of both Parties.

## **9.6 Music**

Both Parties shall support further cooperation between international Festival Brežice and Flemish festival Antwerp.

Both Parties shall encourage to exchange a small music ensemble (trio or quartet) for a concert trip of five (5) days at most during the validity of the present Programme on the basis of direct agreement between interested partners.

Both Parties shall examine the possibility of exchanging observers during large festivals or music competitions.

The modalities will be convened upon in due time and according to the financial possibilities of both Parties.

## **9.7 Libraries**

The Parties support the cooperation of libraries and the exchange of experts on the basis of direct agreements between interested partners.

Both Parties commit themselves to sharing and promoting the “best practices” of both countries.

## **9.8 Amateur Arts**

The Parties are willing to support cooperation in the field of amateur arts, on the basis of agreement between interested partners.

## **9.9 Audiovisual and cinematographic activities**

Both Parties are willing to encourage the realisation of audio-visual co-productions and shall stimulate the mutual exchange of contemporary and archival audio-visual productions.

Both Parties are willing to support thematic presentation of their films.

Both Parties shall support the exchange between Slovenian and Flemish media and film academies in the form of exchange of experts, artists, articles, lectures and media-installations.

The Flemish Party (Media and Film division) proposes the following: exchange of information concerning amongst others (tax shelter, subvention policy, film and audiovisual festivals) at the request of the other party; the Flemish Party informs the Slovenian Party about the existence of the International Press Centre Flanders (a professional meeting platform for the media, the communication sector, the authorities, businessmen and the private sector in Flanders), which is in charge of information and guidance of journalists (Grote Markt 40, 2000 Antwerpen, tel. + 32(0)3-225 15 64, fax + 32 (0)3-232 21 30, e-mail: [ipv@pandora.be](mailto:ipv@pandora.be), [www.ipvlaanderen.be](http://www.ipvlaanderen.be)).



## **10. SPORT**

During the validity of this Programme, both Parties will encourage exchange of trainers, athletes, policymakers or scientists in order to participate in apprenticeships, symposia, study visits, scientific congresses and seminars in the field of sport.

## **11. PUBLIC HEALTH AND HEALTH CARE**

Both Parties shall collaborate and exchange information, documentation, experience and best practices in the following priority fields of public health and health care:

- preventive health care policy, strategy and preventive activities (e.g. cancer prevention and screening programmes; prevention of suicide and depression; prevention of problematic use of alcohol and drugs, etc.);
- health promotion policy, strategy and activities;
- mental health care (e.g. integrated mental health care, community psychiatric care, ambulatory psychiatry, psychotherapy) and public mental health (e.g. statistics, determinants, promotion, etc);
- exchange of information and expertise on public vaccination supply and co-ordination of vaccination programmes; monitoring and prevention of vaccine preventable diseases;
- prevention of infectious diseases, in particular sexually transmitted infections, including HIV;
- the general welfare and health care policy, organisation, financing, the safety and quality system, inspection and monitoring, patient participation, co-operation between the public and the private sector at the international, federal, regional and local levels;
- programming, recognition and subsidising of health care facilities;
- integrated long-term and palliative care;
- integrated care for vulnerable groups;
- improving quality (Integral Quality Control);
- health information systems and data management (e.g. registration of hospital data and health indicators)
- organisation and co-ordination of primary health care and home health care;
- cooperation between Slovenian and Flemish health care and related institutions in the different fields of health;

The cooperation in the above mentioned fields does not exclude other fields which are of mutual interest.

Concrete co-operation activities and projects as well as ways of cooperation shall be developed after mutual consultation between both Parties.

## **12. EDUCATION**

### **12.1 Exchange of information and documentation**

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 the funding of higher education, the implementation of the Bologna Declaration, the development of an accreditation system, quality control ...

### **12.2 Secondary education**

Both Parties shall encourage the direct co-operation of institutions of secondary education in the countries of the two Parties through the EU programmes for cooperation in education (Socrates, Leonardo da Vinci) as well as through other programmes.

To this end, the Flemish Party shall invite participants from Slovenia to each contact seminar that it organizes within the framework of the Socrates programme. Moreover, the Flemish Party shall bear the accommodation and organisation costs (included: accommodation, meals, local transportation and all organisation costs during the full duration of the programme; not included: insurance for health and third Party liability, personal costs) for two (2) participants from Slovenia per year for the proposed seminars. The Slovenian Party shall bear the international travel expenses of these participants.

The Flemish Party also refers to its programme "Euroklassen", which allows Flemish secondary schools to apply for a subsidy to organise a short class exchange with a secondary school abroad and to finance its own travel and accommodation costs and the costs to host the partner school. The Slovenian Party is willing, as far as available funding allows, to support these projects and to finance the international travel costs of the Slovenian partner schools.

### **12.3 Higher education**

12.3.1 Both Parties shall encourage and aim at the joint participation of Slovenian and Flemish higher education institutions in the EU programmes for cooperation in education, as well as through other programmes.

12.3.2.1 Both Parties shall encourage the direct contacts and exchanges between experts/professors from higher education institutions most in order to discuss the educational reforms following the implementation of the Bologna Declaration, to participate in seminars, symposiums, to build a network of contacts and exchanges between institutions of higher education.

12.3.2.2 Both Parties will inform each other on the availability of scholarships through diplomatic channels.

12.3.4. Summer scholarships: "Dutch Language and Culture" summer course

In order to promote the study of the Dutch language and culture in the Slovenian Republic, the Flemish Party shall annually offer the Slovenian Party at least two (2) scholarships for participation in the "Dutch Language and Culture" summer course held either at the Universiteit 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 Slovenian 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 Slovenia. 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/](http://www.taalunieversum.org/taalunie/summer_courses_in_dutch/)

### 13. TOURISM

13.1 Both Parties shall promote, and in case of mutual interest exchange, delegations of officials, experts and researchers in the field of tourism, in order to mutually exchange information, experiences and knowledge about following topics:

- legislation and regulation in tourism;
- tourism statistics and tourism satellite accounts;
- studies on tourism development;
- implementation of cultural heritage in tourism.

13.2 Both Parties encourage the organization of study visits for journalists, radio and television reporters in the field of tourism.

13.3 Both Parties encourage the organization of seminars, symposia and workshops in the field of tourism during which the participants from both countries can exchange experiences, expert knowledge and ideas.

13.4 Both Parties shall promote cooperation at tourist fairs and workshops and encourage close cooperation between the tourism industries from both countries, together with best practice visits.

### 14. CAPACITY BUILDING

#### 14.1 Port Training

The Flemish Party offers to the Slovenian Party the possibility to send experts to seminars, in the field of Port training, organised by APEC (Antwerp/Flanders Port Training Center vzw) in the course of 2006 and 2007.

The Slovenian Party will present its candidates for these seminars. The participants will be selected by APEC. The Flemish Party covers the costs of the participation. Travel expenses are to the account of the participant.

#### **14.2 Regional and local authorities co-operation**

The Flemish Party will provide, by sending experts, assistance to the Slovenian Party to transfer expertise in the field of developing projects for regional, interregional, inter-municipal and cross-border co-operation.

#### **15. YOUTH**

During the validity of the present programme both Parties shall, according to the interest of the other Party, exchange information and documentation regarding youth policy and youth work strategy.

During the validity of the present Programme both Parties shall exchange study visit of a delegation of four (4) people at most (leading officials, civil servants and/or experts, youth workers) for seven (7) days at most with the aim of deepening the European Commission White Paper "A new impetus for European Youth" by exchanging good practices with regard to specific youth themes: participation, information, volunteer work, and a better knowledge of young people (= youth research).

Both Parties agreed to send or receive youth representatives in selected international (youth) events and to encourage the participation of youngsters within the framework of the European "Youth" programme.

#### **16. AGREEMENT CONCERNING THE FUTURE COLLABORATION VIA PROJECTS IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE FLEMISH PROGRAMME FOR CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE**

Both Parties confirm their willingness to continue their co-operation by means of projects in 2006 – 2007.

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

The Flemish Party annually launches calls for proposals. Every two years the Republic of Slovenia will be a priority partner. For 2006 a call has been launched and project proposals can be filed until 24<sup>th</sup> March 2006.

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

## **17. GENERAL AND FINANCIAL PROVISIONS**

### **17.1 General**

Both Parties will send their proposals for the new working-programme at the latest six (6) weeks before the date foreseen for the meeting of the Mixed Commission.

The following general provisions and regulations were endorsed:

- all activities and exchanges mentioned in this programme shall be carried out within the limits of the financial resources at the disposal of the two Parties;
- the activities and exchanges envisaged in this programme will not exclude other initiatives or visits which might be proposed and agreed in advance by both Parties through diplomatic channels;
- the organisation of music, dance and theatre performances and exhibitions, other than those mentioned in this programme, should a priori be based on a direct agreement covering financial and other terms between the organisations and artists involved in such events;
- both governments can subsidise projects as well.

Other conditions are to be agreed upon by the partners on a case-by-case basis.

### **17.2 Scholarships**

#### **17.2.1 Specialisation scholarships**

Candidates must be under 35 years of age.

They must hold a university or long type higher education (university level) graduation degree or a certificate of equivalent studies and they must have excelled during their studies.

They can be accepted only on approval of both Parties and on the basis of an application that contains at least:

- a detailed curriculum vitae;
- an extensive plan of activities;
- possibly a list of publications.

Candidates are selected by the sending Party. Each candidate is subject to the approval of the receiving Party. The sending Party will present its candidates every year before March 1<sup>st</sup>.

The receiving Party will inform the sending Party two (2) months in advance whether the candidatures and/or study programmes proposed were approved.

At least three (3) weeks in advance, the sending Party will provide precise information concerning the arrival of scholarship holders.

Details on financial provisions will be communicated through diplomatic channels.

### 17.2.2 Allowances for summer courses

Candidates for allowances for summer courses are selected by the Flemish Party.

To be covered by the Flemish Party :

- registration fees;
- accommodation and meals;
- health insurance and third-party insurance in accordance with Belgian legislation.

### **17.3 Exchange of persons**

The terms and conditions mentioned in this paragraph apply to all exchanges of individual persons mentioned in the work programme, unless otherwise agreed upon.

The short-term exchange of persons (for 15 days at the most) as determined in the present programme will be implemented according to the following criteria:

- The sending Party will provide the receiving Party with the curriculum vitae, plan of activities and the dates of the departure and arrival of the people concerned at least two (2) months in advance.
- The receiving Party will inform the sending Party, at least one (1) month in advance whether the candidates have been accepted.
- The sending Party will provide the receiving Party with the exact dates of departure and arrival at least three (3) weeks in advance.

To be covered by the sending Party: the travel expenses to and from the place of destination.

To be covered by the receiving Party:

- In Flanders:
- accommodation and breakfast;
- a fixed allowance of € 37,00 per day (excluding transport costs) or € 50,00 per day (including transport costs).
- health insurance and third-Party insurance within the framework of the Belgian legislation.

In Slovenia:

- accommodation, meals and travel expenditures within the country, in accordance with the work programme and with the approval of the receiving authorities;
- persons are responsible for taking their own insurance before entering the country.

### **17.4 Film**

To be covered by the sending Party: forwarding expenses.

To be covered by the receiving Party: organisation costs.

### **17.5 Exchange of exhibitions**

Arrangements will be discussed and agreed upon on a case by case basis by the Parties concerned. If not, the following rules are applicable:

The sending Party takes care of:

- design, preparation, production and packing of the exhibition;
- international transport to its first location in the receiving country and return transport from its last location to the country of origin or to another country;
- insurance from nail to nail;
- supply of the material for the production of the catalogue (texts, photos, slides, etc.);
- return travel expenses of one (1) expert accompanying the exhibition to supervise the mounting and/or dismantling as well as packing and /or unpacking of the works.

The receiving Party takes care of:

- making available appropriate exhibition halls with the necessary security infrastructure (climatic conditions, guards, etc.);
- providing the necessary staff for loading and unloading, packing and unpacking, mounting and dismantling of the exhibition;
- printing of the catalogue, if agreed by both Parties, and the posters and invitations;
- organising general publicity as well as the opening ceremony for the exhibition;
- accommodation expenses of one (1) expert accompanying the exhibition and supervising the mounting and/or dismantling; the duration of any such visit will be agreed upon in advance;
- providing the sending Party with ten (10) copies of all material published in connection with the exhibition (catalogue, poster, invitation, etc.).

In case of damage, the receiving Party will not proceed with the restoration of the works without the prior approval of the sending Party, but will supply all relevant documentation and assistance to enable the sending Party to pursue any claim for compensation from the relevant insurance company.

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

Both Parties will agree on the conditions for each specific event through diplomatic channels. All disputes concerning the interpretation or realisation of this programme of activities will be settled through negotiation between the Signatories.

Both Parties agree to hold the next meeting of the Mixed Commission in Ljubljana in 2008.

Done in Brussels on ...*16<sup>th</sup> of May*..... 2006, in two (2) original copies in the Dutch, Slovenian, and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. In the case of different interpretations, the English text shall prevail.

For the Government of Flanders

For the Government of the Republic of Slovenia



Diane Verstraeten  
Secretary General of the  
Flemish Department of  
Foreign Affairs



Borut Trekman  
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary  
of the Republic of Slovenia  
in the Kingdom of Belgium