

**CO-OPERATION PROGRAMME  
FOR THE YEARS 2004 - 2005  
BETWEEN  
THE GOVERNMENT OF FLANDERS  
AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC**

In implementation of the Co-operation Agreement between the Government of Flanders and the Government of the Czech Republic signed in Prague on 12th February 2002 both Parties have agreed upon the following Co-operation Programme for the period 2004-2005 elaborated during the first meeting of the Joint Commission Flanders - Czech Republic held in Brussels from 22nd to 24th October 2003.

**PART 1.**

**ECONOMY**

**ARTICLE 1.1.**

1. Both Parties shall send each other documentation and information concerning the subjects with regard to the economic and regional development policy and the use of modern management techniques.
2. Both Parties shall study the possibility of exchanging experts in the economic fields to be determined by them.

**Article 1.2.**

**Economic, industrial and regional policies**

1. At the request of the other Party, both Parties shall exchange information and experiences regarding economic, industrial, and regional policies and the regional development policy.

Particular attention shall be paid to co-operation between the regions as well as co-operation with third regions in the corresponding EU programmes (Structural Funds, Interreg). Both Parties shall alternately organize seminars on the above mentioned economic subjects.

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 exchanging information, experience and knowledge concerning the following subjects:
  - sustainable industrial development;
  - structural Funds.

### **Article 1.3.**

#### **Regional development policy**

1. Both Parties shall 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 Spatial Economy Strategic Plan at the disposal of the Czech Party. The Flemish Party shall present the ideas regarding regionalization to the Czech partners, especially the practical evolution in:
  - Flemish legislation on regional policy and its compatibility with European legislation;
  - financing sources for regional support.
2. Both Parties shall include the issue of special economic areas (among other things industrial zones) in their co-operation and exchange their experience regarding this issue.

#### **Article 1.4.**

##### **Small and medium-sized enterprises**

1. Both Parties shall stress the importance of developing their co-operation concerning small and medium size enterprises (SMEs).
2. Both Parties shall encourage the development of direct contacts between Czech and Flemish SMEs.

#### **Article 1.5.**

##### **Enterprise coaching programmes: mentorship projects**

Both Parties shall exchange experience and knowledge in the field of mentorship projects. Mentorship projects aim at professionalizing small enterprises and enhancing networking between enterprises. The strategy consists in fixed groups of small enterprise managers meeting with one or two mentors to exchange experiences. The mentors are executives from large companies or experienced self-employed persons who are gladly willing to put their experience at the disposal of other entrepreneurs.

### **PART 2.**

#### **FOREIGN TRADE**

##### **Article 2.1.**

1. The Czech Party will evolve maximum effort to organize a multi-sectoral business trip to Flanders in 2004.
2. Both Parties shall organize economic seminars and economic missions, as the occasion arises.

### **Article 2.2.**

1. Both Parties shall exchange ad hoc and at the request of the other Party information regarding their respective markets and sectors and their experiences and knowledge regarding the promotion of international enterprise, business opportunities and investments. The new institution dealing with these subjects in Flanders shall be Flanders Investment and Trade.
2. The Czech Party shall put a list of fairs and international exhibitions in the Czech Republic which are due to take place in 2004-2005 at the disposal of the Flemish Party. The Flemish Party shall disseminate this information among the Flemish enterprises.
3. The Flemish Party is prepared to train (exchange of know-how) three (3) Czech experts during one (1) or two (2) days in the methods and instruments for export promotion at the Flemish agency for export promotion. The Czech Party shall pay the travel and accommodation expenses.

## **PART 3.**

### **AGRICULTURE**

#### **Article 3.1.**

1. The Flemish Party shall provide Flemish expertise in implementing a rural development programme and operational programme (Guidance section of the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund - EAGGF) within the framework of Council Regulation (EC) No 1257/1999 on support for rural development which will enter into effect after the Czech Party's accession to the EU.
2. The Flemish Party shall also examine the possibility to assist the Czech Party through targeted projects or exchange in the further development and realization of its rural and

agricultural programmes within the framework of the Council Regulation (EC) No 1257/1999.

**Article 3.2.**

The Flemish Party shall, within its budgetary possibilities, put its knowledge and experience in the field of the production, processing and marketing of fruit, vegetables and fish in accordance with the European regulations at the disposal of the Czech Party. The Flemish Party shall also provide the opportunity to exchange its knowledge and experience concerning the establishment and operation of producer organizations.

**Article 3.3.**

The Flemish Party shall, among other things, in co-operation with the practical training centres, provide the opportunity to train or further train local practical work teachers in giving after-school training and refresher training with main focus on sustainable agriculture.

Important components of training may be:

- management training depending on the crops and the region;
- sustainable farming techniques, organic farming;
- training in practical techniques: masonry, welding, maintenance of farm machinery and small repairs, claw nursing, milk hygiene, etc.;
- technical training: tillage, ploughing, manuring, sowing techniques, animal feed, etc.;
- other areas of mutual interest and know-how.

## **PART 4.**

### **ENVIRONMENT**

#### **Article 4.1.**

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

- a) The Flemish Party shall assist the Czech Republic in the preparation of projects to be financed by the Cohesion Funds.
- b) The Flemish Land Agency (VLM), Support Centre Geographic Information System, GIS-Flanders and the Flemish Ministry of Environment are willing to establish contacts with scientific institutes and administrations in the Czech Republic in order to co-operate in one or more of the application areas of GIS and Remote Sensing:
  - the development of a system to assess environmental impacts of land cover change;
  - the development of a digital Land Cover Map or parcel inventory;
  - the construction of a Database for a Forest Inventory;
  - the development of a Change Detection System for the Monitoring of Deforestation;
  - the inventory of cultural heritage;
  - flooding risk assessment.
- c) The Flemish Party shall invite during the validity of this Co-operation Programme a team of five (5) Czech experts (fluent English required) in the fields of waste management and soil decontamination (OVAM), water sanitation and purification, nature and environmental education, forestry and strategic environmental assessment (SEA) for five (5) days in order to exchange knowledge and establish contacts with the Flemish partners.
- d) Both Parties shall investigate the possibility to create new co-operation in the field of project development within the EECCA's (Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia),

regarding the existing frames such as Environmental Action Programme Task Force (OECD), REC (Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe), etc.

## **PART 5.**

### **INFRASTRUCTURE**

#### **Article 5.1.**

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

1. The Flemish Party shall receive two (2) delegations of five (5) to seven (7) experts for a period of five (5) days in order to give, depending on the items of interest, information, training and documentation (including in situ inspections on different locations) regarding:
  - traffic plans with loops, one way traffic;
  - mobility plans and mobility covenants;
  - the establishment and functioning of a Flemish Traffic Centre; traffic management by the federal police (for example blockdriving and a road side emergency telephone network);
  - the layout and interpretation of multimodal traffic models;
  - variable message signage 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);
  - the development of an Internet site on road construction works and traffic regulations;
  - the development of an Intranet site and CD-ROM about road markings at road works areas and related to road signs;
  - reduction of traffic jams and safety measures because of road works on motorways;

- information about GIS (Geographic Information Systems) applications, the organization of traffic census inquiries and traffic measurements, the application of digital image processing (video cameras) for traffic management; RDS-TMC systems (Radio Data System- Traffic Message Coding);
- information about projects on controlled access, the introduction of an alternative merging system to join the traffic on traffic lanes, the construction of roundabouts and speed reducing designs, measures on carpooling, the construction of cycle tracks and footpaths, the construction of car parks;
- cycle tracks management;
- pedestrian track management;
- facilities for disabled people;
- road safety facilities in school areas;
- information about road safety in general: traffic safety and communication with road users, road safety education in schools, road users awareness rising and main research methods;
- public private partnership (PPP);
- the cleaning and maintenance of roads; control methods and equipment for measuring the condition of the roads;
- surface friction testing on road markings by the methods SRT and Grip Tester;
- the role of emergency repair services in eliminating the effects of emergencies as well as the principles in the organization of their work;
- a temporary (on peak hours) overtaking prohibition for trucks on certain motorways;
- noise reduction barriers on motorways;
- road tunnel safety;
- service areas on motorways.



2. At the request of the Czech Party, the Flemish Party shall assist them in providing expertise within the following fields - the conditions will be agreed upon case by case basis between the appropriate authorities:

- safety audits of existing roads, projects audits, collection of data about road accidents and registration of these data in a (roads) data base including the required activities for analyzing the causes of road accidents;
- introduction of technical safety measures on urban and non-urban roads;
- organization of a technical specialized visit (training) for three (3) experts in the field of implementation of the latest technologies in traffic management in Flanders (ITS - intelligent transportation systems - in road management, multimodal information centre and video processing techniques) for employees of the Ministry of Transport of the Czech Republic – Directorate for Roads and Motorways;
- provision of expertise in the various domains to civil servants of the Ministry of Transport, among other things to prepare the law on road safety and the road safety programme for the year 2005 and the drawing up of the Czech laws concerning the regulation of the public road transport, related to the E.U. requirements;
- co-operation in the area of road safety communication and exchange of information methodology, expertise and knowledge about road safety education and research planning;
- in connection with the utilization of the public urban and interurban transport, the following expertise can be made available:
  - data communication between vehicles and the fixed installation as a combination between radio, GPS (Global Positioning System) and devaluation systems;
  - the integrated exploitation and information systems with, in the near future, travel information derived from those systems will be available on the Internet;

- the construction of intermodal transfer points for the multimodal usage of bus and railway stations and for P/R (park and ride).

3. Both Parties shall exchange information in the following fields:

- external costs (methodology, projection contents, data);
- transport policy (implementation and projections);
- review of policy instruments for the evaluation of possible transport policy strategies;
- public passenger transport and urban planning (experiences and plans for the future);
- intermodal transport (existing state, projections, evaluation methodology);
- electronic fee collection.

## **Article 5.2.**

### **Waterways and Maritime Affairs**

Both Parties shall exchange information and experiences in one or more of the themes listed below:

a) Inland port infrastructure, management and policy

- design and construction of inland port infrastructure;
- renovation of port infrastructure (design and execution);
- dredging works;
- regulations for the handling of hazardous goods in port areas;
- regulations for inland navigation.

b) Waterways

- design and execution of hydraulic-engineering works;
- water control and fight against flooding;
- re-use of building materials for hydraulic-engineering works;

- maintenance of waterways.
- c) New techniques
  - development of environmental engineering banks;
  - development of a Hydro-Meteo System;
  - dredging, processing and storing of polluted dredged materials;
  - development of a River Information System (RIS).
- d) Scientific co-operation

The Division of the Hydraulic Engineering Laboratory and Hydrological Research of the Ministry of the Flemish Community shall establish new contacts with administrations and scientific institutions of the Czech Republic to set up co-operation programmes in one or more of the following areas of study:

- hydraulic and hydrological studies by means of physical and mathematical modelling;
- port engineering and planning and dredging works;
- environmental studies with regard to environmentally friendly engineering structures along waterways;
- training by means of navigation simulator and tow tank.

## **PART 6.**

### **HEALTH CARE AND SOCIAL WELFARE**

Both Parties shall exchange information, documentation and expertise (by means of expert meetings, seminars, exchange of legislation, websites, etc.) in the field of welfare and welfare work, in particular with regard to one or more items mentioned below:

- a) Social Welfare

- general welfare policy, in particular scientific research, quality management, inspection and supervision, involvement and welfare services, co-operation between public and private welfare organizations at the regional and local levels;
- social cohesion, in particular social community work, prevention work, migrant integration work, combating poverty and social exclusion and children's rights;
- general welfare services, especially primary care, crisis care, care for the homeless, women's refuge, forensic welfare services, victim support and telephone counselling;
- family care and home care;
- care for the elderly, particularly rest homes, nursing homes, and service flats;
- special child care, particularly ambulatory, semi-residential, and residential child care, co-operation with the justice department and mediation;
- integration of child care, especially child and youth care and general prevention regarding child welfare;
- volunteer work.

#### b) Health Care

The primary objective is to improve the health of the public by:

- protecting and promoting public health (epidemiology, HIV/AIDS prevention, and monitoring of the public's health in relation to the environment);
- improving key health indicators and reducing the occurrence of the most common diseases and the risk factors contributing to their occurrence (prevention of cardiovascular disease, prevention of cervical cancer, prevention of colorectal cancer, obesity and accidents).

## **PART 7.**

### **COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

At the request of the Czech Party the Flemish Party shall assist in the implementation of the following objectives:

- to contribute to the implementation of the provisions in the e-Europe action plan;
- to develop a knowledge-based economy;
- to contribute to the establishment of an information society in the Czech Republic;
- to support the reorganization of the public administration;
- to define new business opportunities;
- to stimulate the development of e-commerce projects by service providers in public institutions;
- to promote the electronic signature and the concept of the smart cards.

## **PART 8.**

### **EMPLOYMENT AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING**

#### **Article 8.1.**

Both Parties shall continue to co-operate in the field of labour market and employment policy and promote contacts in this field between the competent bodies and the social partners.

#### **Article 8.2.**

1. The Flemish Party (Employment Administration) shall invite a delegation of three (3) experts to exchange information and experience regarding employment policy, vocational training and social dialogue in 2004.

2. The Flemish Party shall act as a mediator for possible co-operation with all partners and networks active in the fields of vocational training, the labour market and employment policy.
3. The Flemish Party shall put its expertise at the disposal of the Czech Party for setting up structures to support and work with the European Social Fund (ESF).
4. Both Parties shall, at the request of the other Party, exchange information about their labour market policies and vocational training.

#### **Article 8.3.**

Both Parties shall examine the modalities of a joint action with third countries within the framework of international organizations.

### **PART 9.**

#### **CO-OPERATION WITH REGARD TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS**

##### **Article 9.1.**

Both Parties shall promote co-operation in the policy field of home affairs referring to local governments, the administration of cities and municipalities and intermunicipal co-operation. They shall foster mutual contacts between these local governments.

##### **Article 9.2.**

1. The Czech Party shall facilitate contacts through the Ministry for Regional Development.
2. The Flemish Party shall foster contacts through the Administration of Home Affairs of Flanders which, when necessary, will call on the participation of the Association of Flemish Cities and Municipalities.

## **PART 10.**

### **SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION**

#### **Article 10.1.**

Both Parties shall organize every two (2) years a joint call to submit project proposals on scientific and technological co-operation within the framework of the bilateral scientific co-operation between the Czech Republic and Flanders. The exact implementation rules shall be detailed in a separate "Protocol on Bilateral Scientific and Technological Co-operation" to be concluded between appropriate authorities.

#### **Article 10.2.**

Both Parties shall intensify their co-operation with a view to the challenges of the European Research Area, both at the level of research groups and at policy level.

## **PART 11.**

### **YOUTH**

#### **Article 11.1.**

During the validity of this Co-operation Programme both Parties shall exchange delegations of up to four (4) people (senior civil servants and youth workers) for seven (7) days in order to develop youth policy at all levels - local, regional and national - and create a complementary relationship among these levels.

#### **Article 11.2.**

During the validity of the present programme both Parties shall exchange delegations of up to four (4) people (senior civil servants and youth workers) for seven (7) days with the aim of studying thoroughly the White Paper of the European Commission 'A New Impetus for

European Youth' by exchanging good practices regarding on the one hand horizontal youth themes such as non-formal learning, employment, social integration, combating racism, autonomy, etc., and on the other hand more youth-specific themes such as volunteer work and a better knowledge about young people, information, participation with a special focus on setting up a youth council at local and regional levels and the participation process at a local level.

## **PART 12.**

### **SPORT**

#### **Article 12.1.**

1. Both Parties shall support mutual contacts in the field of sports as well as the exchange of trainers, athletes and policy-makers in the field of physical education and sport.
2. The thematic orientation of these exchanges and the concrete conditions shall always be agreed upon directly between the responsible bodies.

#### **Article 12.2.**

Both Parties shall support the direct contacts between the responsible bodies.

#### **Article 12.3.**

Annually, both Parties shall make a quota of fifteen (15) days available to provide athletes, trainers and policy-makers with the possibility of taking part in apprenticeships, clinics, study trips and congresses and seminars in the field of sport in the other country.



## **PART 13.**

### **EDUCATION**

#### **Article 13.1.**

1. 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.
2. Both Parties shall exchange information on the structure and organization of education, professional recognition on the basis of the Community Directives and the implementation of the Bologna Declaration, the development of an accreditation system, and other topical education-related issues.

#### **Article 13.2.**

1. The Flemish Party (the administration of secondary education) shall invite participants from the Czech Republic to every contact seminar that is organized within the framework of the Socrates Programme.
2. Each year, the Flemish Party shall pay the accommodation and organization costs for two (2) Czech participants in the seminars mentioned in paragraph 1 above.
3. The Czech Party shall cover the expenses for international transport of two (2) Czech participants mentioned in paragraph 2 above.

#### **Article 13.3.**

1. The Parties shall encourage the development of direct co-operation of universities and other institutions of higher education in the countries of the two Parties.

2. The Parties shall encourage the development of direct co-operation of institutions of secondary education in the countries of the two Parties.

**Article 13.4.**

The Parties may annually exchange two (2) experts/professors, affiliated with an institution of higher education or government body, for a period of up to seven (7) days to discuss educational reforms resulting from the implementation of the Bologna Declaration or to participate in short-term seminars, conferences, congresses or symposia.

**Article 13.5.**

1. The Czech Party shall offer annually to the Flemish Party two (2) scholarships for Flemish students who have finished the second cycle of higher education programmes to cover study stays in the length of ten (10) months each at public institutions of higher education in the Czech Republic.
2. The Flemish Party shall offer annually to the Czech Party two (2) scholarships for students who have finished accredited master study programmes at the Czech public institutions of higher education to cover study stays in the length of ten (10) months each at institutions of higher education in Flanders.

**Article 13.6.**

1. The Czech Party shall offer annually to the Flemish Party one (1) scholarship for students of Flemish institutions of higher education to cover a study stay in the length of six (6) months at a public institution of higher education in the Czech Republic. The aforementioned scholarship can be divided to cover two (2) study stays, each in the minimum length of three (3) months. Nominees for the award of these scholarships must have finished a two-cycle programme at a recognized 'hogeschool' or hold a final university degree.

2. The Flemish Party shall offer annually to the Czech Party one (1) scholarship for students enrolled in the accredited master study programmes of Czech public institutions of higher education to cover a study stay in the length of six (6) months at an institution of higher education in Flanders. The aforementioned scholarship can be divided to cover two (2) study stays, each in the minimum length of three (3) months. Nominees for the award of these scholarships must hold a Bachelor's degree or an equivalent qualification.

**Article 13.7.**

1. In order to promote the study of the Czech language and culture in Flanders, the Czech Party shall offer annually to the Flemish Party two (2) scholarships for language courses at the Summer School of Slavonic Studies organized by public institutions of higher education in the Czech Republic.
2. In order to promote the study of the Dutch language and culture in the Czech Republic, the Flemish Party shall offer annually to the Czech Party at least two (2) scholarships for the "Dutch Language and Culture" summer course organized either at the Limburgs Universitair Centrum in Hasselt Diepenbeek or at the Talencentrum of Ghent University. These three-week courses are intended particularly for students of Dutch language and literature enrolled in Czech public institutions of higher education. The applicants are expected to have a reasonable command of Dutch at the Elementary Knowledge Level of the Certificate of Dutch as a Foreign Language.

Since 2000, the scholarships for the Dutch Language and Culture summer course have been allocated by the Dutch Language Union in co-operation with the Flemish organizers. The applicants shall be divided over the two centres by the Dutch Language Union, which means that the division no longer takes place according to the country of origin. The Flemish Party draws attention to the new registration procedure for the summer courses: the applicants for the

summer course are to send their application / registration form, initialled by their Dutch language teacher, directly to the Higher Education Administration. The Dutch Language Union will select the most suitable applicants among the submitted applications. The shortlist of selected applicants will be sent for information to the body responsible for the allocation of the scholarships in the Czech Republic.

The Dutch Language Union will send the "Dutch Language and Culture" brochure to all institutions where the Dutch language is instructed. The brochure (including the English version) can also be found at the web site of the Dutch Language Union.

#### **Article 13.8.**

The Czech Party shall continue to support the lectureship of the Czech language and literature established at the Ghent University in 1990.

### **PART 14.**

#### **CULTURE**

#### **Article 14.1.**

1. Both Parties shall exchange, if requested, information and publications regarding literature, museums, translations, performing arts, visual arts, artists' accommodations, architecture, design, audiovisual and cinematographic creation, festivals and competitions with an international dimension and with regard to cultural co-operation in general.
2. Both Parties shall examine the possibility to exchange experts and experience in the field of the cultural administration.

3. The Flemish Party will consider the Czech Republic as a priority partner for the allocation of subventions in the cultural field, and will therefore encourage Flemish ensembles and artists to perform in the country.

#### **Article 14.2.**

##### **Literature**

1. At the request of the Czech Party the Flemish Party shall receive one (1) translator from the Czech Republic at the Vertalershuis in Leuven for a period of one (1) month during the validity of the present programme. Contrary to the usual financial arrangement when receiving individuals, this translator shall be offered free accommodation as well as a subsidy amounting to EUR 1,250.00.
2. Both Parties shall promote translation of pieces of national literature, emphasizing the contemporary literature, on the Czech side through the programme of the Ministry of Culture for the promotion of translation of Czech literature into foreign languages and on the Flemish side through the 'Vlaams Fonds voor de Letteren', which offers to Czech publishers translation subsidies and in some cases production subsidies.

#### **Article 14.3.**

##### **Performing arts**

1. During the validity of the present programme, the Flemish Party shall send a small dance group of maximum six (6) persons to the Czech Republic for a period of five (5) days at most.
2. During the validity of the present programme both Parties shall exchange one (1) expert from the theatre and dance sectors for a period of three (3) days at most.

The Czech Party shall be represented by the Theatre Institute in realization of the aforementioned co-operation and exchange. Apart from the stated areas of co-operation, the Theatre Institute can deal with overall production of exhibitions, which may be accompanied by special lectures, and provide a curator.

3. The Flemish Party shall give special attention to the Flemish presence in the programming of the Archa theatre in Prague, following to the financial support to the technical reconstruction of the theatre after the flood of 2002.

#### **14.4.**

##### **Music**

1. Both Parties shall send a small music ensemble (trio or quartet) during the validity of the present programme, for a concert tour of maximum five (5) days.
2. Both Parties shall send two (2) experts in the field of music for a maximum of three (3) weeks during the validity of the present programme.
3. The Flemish Party shall give special attention to:
  - the touring of Flemish folk, rock and pop groups in the Czech Republic;
  - the preparation and realization of a special focus on Flemish polyphony in the Festival Concentus Moraviae in 2005.

#### **Article 14.5.**

##### **Visual Arts**

1. Both Parties shall exchange an expert in visual arts for a period of eight (8) days.

2. At the request of the Czech Party 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.
3. Both Parties shall exchange a series of art publications.
4. The Flemish Party wishes to organize a contemporary art exhibition in Prague or Brno. In order to select an artist the Flemish Party shall invite a Czech curator for a stay of eight (8) days.

#### **Article 14.6.**

##### **Cultural Heritage (museums, architecture and design)**

1. Both Parties shall invite an expert in one of these fields for a period of eight (8) days, specializing in the field of the care of historical monuments, especially conservation and restoration.
2. Both Parties shall exchange information with regard to:
  - existing museum legislation and recognition criteria;
  - educational activities;
  - digitalisation programmes.
3. The Czech Party shall support the Flemish Party's efforts to display the exhibition "100 Years of Design in Flanders" in an important museum in Prague.

- direct co-operation between audiovisual and cinematographic institutions and organizations;
- direct collaboration between production companies in the field of co-production, technical service providing and distribution (theatrical as well as broadcast);
- direct co-operation between national and regional film and audiovisual archives;
- exchange of film and audiovisual programmes;
- participation in international audiovisual festivals (e.g. Europees Jeugdfilmfestival Vlaanderen, Zlin Film Festival for children and young people, Internationaal Filmfestival Vlaanderen-Gent, Festival Karlovy Vary, etc.);
- exchange of information and experience in the field of audiovisual policy, legal/regulatory environment, new technologies, and coordination on the international and European levels.

#### **Article 14.8.**

##### **Socio-cultural work for adults**

During the validity of the present programme the Flemish Party shall receive a Czech delegation of three (3) to five (5) people for a study visit of seven (7) days in order to get acquainted with non-formal adult education, local cultural policy, cultural centres.

The delegation shall preferably be composed of officials and people from the field.

A visit of Flemish experts will be negotiated through the mediation of the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic.



**Article 14.9.**

**Popular culture**

Both Parties shall exchange for four (4) days two (2) people who are experts in the research of popular culture, in order to become acquainted with the structure, specialist fields and operation of the ethnological research institutions and to examine the possibilities of joint projects.

**Article 14.10.**

**Libraries**

1. Both Parties shall examine the possibility to develop a training programme for experts in the public library sector in mutual consultation, in view of supporting the promotion of expertise in the Czech Republic.
2. Both Parties shall exchange three (3) experts for an apprenticeship of seven (7) days.
3. The Czech Party, represented by the National Library of the Czech Republic, and the Flemish Party, shall cooperate in the field of conservation of manuscripts and old prints.

**Article 14.11.**

**Amateur arts**

1. Both Parties shall develop projects in the field of amateur arts in mutual consultation, in particular mentorship projects, the exchange of knowledge and experience, training and apprenticeship programmes, the exchange of groups, and the exchange of publications, documentation and information.
2. Both Parties shall exchange three (3) experts in the field of amateur arts for four (4) days, so as to examine the possibility of these projects.

## **PART 15.**

### **TOURISM**

#### **Article 15.1.**

Both Parties shall promote the mutual exchange of information about legislation and regulations concerning tourism, statistical data, documentation and studies about tourism development.

#### **Article 15.2.**

1. Both Parties shall promote the mutual exchange of tourism promotion material and the participation of different tourism organizations to tourist events both in Flanders and in the Czech Republic.
2. Both Parties shall encourage the organization of study trips for journalists, radio and television reporters, researchers and experts in the field of tourism.
3. Both Parties shall promote the organization of seminars, colloquiums and task forces concerning tourism items proposed by the interested Party with the aim of exchanging experiences and ideas.

## **PART 16.**

### **CAPACITY BUILDING**

#### **Article 16.1.**

##### **Scholarship for the College of Europe in Natolin**

1. The Flemish Party (Administration of Foreign Affairs of Flanders) shall provide a contribution of ten thousand euro (EUR 10,000) for a scholarship for a Czech student to

study at the College of Europe in Natolin (Warsaw) during the academic years 2003-2004, 2004-2005, and 2005 - 2006.

2. The selection of the student will be done by the College of Europe in co-operation with the competent Czech authorities.

#### **Article 16.2.**

##### **Port Management**

The Flemish Party (Administration of Foreign Affairs of Flanders) shall offer the Czech Party the possibility to send experts to seminars in the field of port management training organized by APEC (Antwerp/Flanders Port Training Center vzw) in the course of 2004 and 2005.

The Czech Party shall present its candidates for these seminars. The participants shall be selected by APEC. The Flemish Party shall cover the costs of the participation in these seminars. International travel expenses are to the account of the participant or the organization to which he or she belongs.

#### **PART 17.**

##### **CO-OPERATION THROUGH PROJECTS WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE FLEMISH CO-OPERATION PROGRAMME**

##### **WITH CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE**

#### **Article 17.1.**

1. Both Parties shall continue their co-operation by means of projects in the course of the validity of this Co-operation Programme.
2. The project proposals are mutually evaluated whilst taking into account the following priorities:

- a) The priorities of the Flemish Party are: small and medium size enterprise development, employment, management of European funds for regional development and within the framework of agricultural policy, agriculture, regional development, the environment, ports, capacity building and the management and reform of public services.
- b) The priorities of the Czech Party are: strengthening the administrative and judicial capacity, management of European funds for regional development and within the framework of agricultural policy, combating corruption and economic crime, public finance reform, especially in health and pension system, regional development, the environment, and strengthening structural provisions in relation to the Roma Community and non-discriminative legislation.

**Article 17.2.**

The Flemish Party will inform the Czech Party about the procedures and conditions for future projects immediately after the ministerial decision regarding the Flemish co-operation programme with Central and Eastern Europe has been taken.

### Article 17.3.

The following projects which were agreed upon in 2003, will be implemented in the course of the validity of this Co-operation Programme:

TSJ/007/0	Kempisch Vormingscentrum voor Land- en Tuinbouw	125.000,00
3	(KVL) Digit-Rostlina	€
TSJ/016/0	Bond Beter Leefmilieu - Vlaanderen v.z.w.	155.000,00
3	Local Sustainability Indicators	€
TSJ/004/0	PASOP v.z.w.	120.000,00
3	Health and education for sex workers	€
TSJ/001/0	Limburgse Economische Raad vzw	95.000,00
3	Elements of regional economic development	€

### PART 18.

#### FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

#### Article 18.1.

##### General Provisions

1. Both Parties shall send each other their proposals for the new co-operation programme at the latest six (6) weeks before the date foreseen for the meeting of the Joint Commission.
2. Both Parties shall provide to groups and people from the other Party the opportunity to get acquainted with the culture and life in their country. They shall exchange people who speak English, French, German or the language of the host country within the framework of the present Co-operation Programme.

## **Article 18.2.**

### **Scholarships**

1. The exchange of scholarships under Articles 13.5. and 13.6. shall be governed by the following general provisions:
  - a) The applicants should be under 35 years of age and they must have an excellent academic record.
  - b) The nominees shall be selected by the sending Party.
  - c) The sending Party shall submit to the receiving Party the nominees' filled out scholarship application forms and other documents required in the scholarship application forms before 1 April of each calendar year. All documents must be submitted in Dutch for Czech applicants and in Czech for Flemish applicants or in the English, French or German languages.
  - d) The receiving Party shall inform the sending Party, before 1 July of each calendar year, whether the nominees have been admitted and shall simultaneously communicate to the sending Party the names of institutions accepting them for the study periods.
  - e) The sending Party shall give precise details concerning each scholarship-holder's arrival at least two (2) weeks prior to the commencement of his/her stay.
  
2. The exchange of scholarships under Article 13.5. shall be governed by the following financial provisions:
  - a) The sending Party shall cover the international return expenses for travel to and from the predetermined destination in the receiving country.
  - b) The receiving Party shall cover:

In Flanders:

- a monthly allowance of EUR 720.00;

- enrolment fees to be paid to a Flemish Community institute or an institute subsidised by the Flemish Community, limited to a maximum amount that will be readjusted annually (academic year 2003-2004: EUR 490.00);
- health insurance and third party insurance in accordance with Belgian legislation;
- domestic travel costs provided that the journeys are part of the adopted programme.

In the Czech Republic:

- scholarship in accordance with the applicable Czech legal regulations, the amount of which shall be communicated through diplomatic channels;
- exemption of tuition fees;
- the necessary and urgent medical care in the case of a sudden illness or injury suffered by accepted individuals during their stay in the Czech Republic, with the exception of treatment of chronic diseases and dental protheses;
- accommodation and meals in university accommodations under the same conditions that are granted to citizens of the Czech Republic;
- expenses for travel within the state territory provided that the journeys are part of the respective study programme.

3. The exchange of scholarships under Article 13.6. shall be governed by the following financial provisions:

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

In Flanders:

- a monthly allowance of EUR 690.00;

- a starting allowance of EUR 124.00 granted at the first arrival in Flanders, on the condition that the stay in Flanders takes at least one month;
- health insurance and third party insurance in accordance with Belgian legislation;
- domestic travel costs provided the journeys are part of the adopted programme.

In the Czech Republic:

- scholarship in accordance with the applicable Czech legal regulations, the amount of which shall be communicated through diplomatic channels;
- exemption of tuition fees;
- the necessary and urgent medical care in the case of a sudden illness or injury suffered by accepted individuals during their stay in the Czech Republic, with the exception of treatment of chronic diseases and dental protheses;
- accommodation and meals in university accommodations under the same conditions that are granted to citizens of the Czech Republic;
- expenses for travel within the state territory provided that the journeys are part of the respective study programme.

4. The exchange of scholarships under Article 13.7. shall be governed by the following general and financial provisions:

- a) When nominating candidates for participation in courses at Summer Schools of Slavonic Studies, the Flemish Party shall submit to the Czech Party the respective documents containing the data required in the appropriate scholarship application form by 31 March of each calendar year at the latest.
- b) The Czech Party shall inform the Flemish Party, by 1 June of each calendar year, whether the nominees have been admitted and shall simultaneously communicate to the Flemish Party the names of institutions admitting them.



- c) The Flemish Party shall communicate to the Czech Party the exact date of each scholarship-holder's arrival at least two (2) weeks prior to the commencement of his/her stay.
- d) The organizational arrangements applying to the submission of applications by Czech candidates for participation in summer courses of the Dutch language and culture are specified by the Dutch Language Union.
- e) The Czech Party shall cover the admission fees, board and lodging, and expenses for participation in excursions organized within the summer language courses, the necessary and urgent medical care in the case of a sudden illness or injury suffered by accepted individuals during their stay in the Czech Republic, with the exception of treatment of chronic diseases and dental protheses.
- f) The Flemish Party shall cover the enrolment fees, board and lodging, expenses for participation in excursions within the framework of the course programme, and health insurance and third party insurance in accordance with Belgian legislation.

### **Article 18.3.**

#### **Exchange of persons**

The short-term exchange of persons (for 30 days at the most, except exchanges under art. 13.7.), as determined in the present programme shall be implemented according to the following criteria:

- a) The sending Party shall provide the receiving Party with the curriculum vitae, goals and programmes as well as the dates of arrival and departure of the people concerned at least three (3) months in advance.

- b) The receiving Party shall confirm it is prepared to receive the people concerned six (6) weeks before departure. The time of departure shall be confirmed at least two (2) weeks on beforehand.
- c) To be covered by the sending Party:
  - return international travel expenses
- d) To be covered by the receiving Party:

**In Flanders:**

- accommodation and breakfast;
- a fixed allowance of EUR 37.00 per day (excluding transport costs) or EUR 50.00 per day (including transport costs);
- health insurance and third party insurance in accordance with Belgian legislation.

**In the Czech Republic :**

- the precise conditions will be communicated through diplomatic channels.

**Article 18.4.**

**Exchange of groups**

The short-term exchange of groups (to be defined on a case by case basis), shall be implemented according to the following criteria:

- a) To be covered by the sending Party:
  - return international travel expenses
- b) To be covered by the receiving Party:
  - all costs related to the stay, the programme and the organization thereof;
  - domestic journeys that are necessary for the programme;
  - a fixed allowance per person:

In Flanders:

- a fixed allowance of EUR 37.00/day at the most.

In the Czech Republic:

- the same provisions as for the exchange of persons.

#### **Article 18.5.**

##### **Film**

To be covered by the sending Party:

- forwarding expenses and the insurance of the films

To be covered by the receiving Party:

- costs related to the display of the film.

#### **Article 18.6.**

##### **Exhibitions**

To be covered by the sending Party:

- concept, elaboration, packing and centralisation of the exhibition;
- transport of the exhibition to its first location and from the last exhibition location back to the country of origin or another country;
- 'nail-to-nail' insurance;
- delivery of the material destined for the production of the catalogue;
- international return travel expenses of one (1) expert, monitoring the exhibition and supervising the mounting and dismantling, as well as the packing and unpacking of the works.

To be covered by the receiving Party:

- providing suitable exhibition room, in accordance with the security standards;
- providing the necessary support staff for loading and unloading, packing and unpacking, mounting and dismantling the works;
- printing catalogues (if agreed between both Parties), posters and invitations;
- organizing publicity campaigns, as well as the opening ceremony and the good accommodation of the exhibition;
- accommodation expenses of one (1) expert, monitoring the exhibition and supervising the packing and unpacking of the works;
- providing the sending Party with 25 free copies of all materials (such as catalogues, posters, invitations and press releases), published on the occasion of the exhibition;
- in case of damage the receiving Party shall not proceed with the restoration of the works without the prior approval of the sending Party.

## **PART 19.**

### **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

#### **Article 19.1.**

1. 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.
2. Any disputes regarding the interpretation or implementation of the present Programme shall be solved through negotiation between the Parties through diplomatic channels.

**Article 19.2.**

1. The Co-operation Programme is subject to approval in accordance with the internal legislation of each of the Parties of which the Parties shall notify each other.
2. The Co-operation Programme shall enter into effect on the day of the servicing of the last notification to the other Party. It will be valid till 31st December 2005.
3. The next meeting of the Joint Commission will be held in Prague in the fourth quarter of 2005.

Done in Brussels...~~23/7/04~~...in two original copies, each in the Czech, Dutch and English languages, all three texts being equally authentic. In the event of different interpretation of the Co-operation Programme the English text shall prevail.

For the Government of the Flanders



For the Government of Czech Republic

