



MONTENEGRO



**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND
WATER MANAGEMENT**

MEETING OF THE MINISTERS OF AGRICULTURE FROM SEE

within the AGRICULTURAL POLICY FORUM 2008

**held in Kolashin, Montenegro
October 3rd, 2008**

CONCLUSIONS

- Regional cooperation in agriculture and rural development in South-Eastern Europe is strengthening and the Standing Working Group for Regional Rural Development model, as a platform for regional cooperation, starts showing results.
- The SWG delegates and institutions – members of the SWG are encouraged to maintain the existing partnerships with other organizations, institutions and donors and to strengthen their connections and contacts with the EU institutions in the future.
- On behalf of the institutions – members of the SWG and the Governments that we represent, we express our gratefulness to the Governments of the EU member countries for their support and cooperation.
- Additionally, we would like to thank the German Technical Cooperation (GTZ), InWent and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO), as well as other organizations and institutions with which we cooperate.

- At the same time, we would like to stress our intentions and wish to deepen the cooperation with the EU institutions – the European Commission, especially the Directorate General for Agriculture, the Directorate General for Enlargement, therefore, we express our need and interest for utilizing all of the available EU instruments intended for the potential candidate countries and candidate countries for membership into the EU.
- In order to complete the membership of the Standing Working Group for Regional Rural Development of the SEE countries, we appeal to the Ministries of Agriculture of the Republic of Turkey and the Republic of Greece to become members within the Standing Working Group for Regional Rural Development.
- Based on the Ministers' Declaration from 2007 and the proposed statutory changes, SWG's new Statute has been accepted. We ask the SWG Secretariat to register the SWG as a legal entity as soon as possible (Agreement on the Status until the end of the year 2008).
- The SWG members, i.e. represented institutions overtake the responsibility for financing the SWG and its executive bodies and the activities connected with the realization of plans. Therefore, we authorize the Standing Working Group to determine an amount for annual membership fee, whose realizations starts in the year of 2009. We also authorize the SWG to prepare a Rule book for functioning of the SWG and its executive bodies.
- The proposal that Montenegro overtakes the role of Presidency for the year of 2009 is accepted. The handover of duties from the current Presidency – the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Protection of Albania to the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of Montenegro will be realized latest until December 1st, 2008.
- Upon the proposal of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the next Agricultural Policy Forum and the Ministers' Meeting will be organized in Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- The proposal that the manifestation „The Tree Day“ becomes of a regional character is accepted. The institutions – members of the SWG will provide full support to the civil society in the afforestation action of the Balkans.

MEETING PARTICIPANTS:

1. Milutin Simovic, Minister, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of Montenegro;
2. Leopold Maurer, Head of European Commission Delegation in Montenegro;
3. Boban Ilik, General Secretary, Regional Rural Development Standing Working Group (SWG);
4. Aco Spasenovski, Minister, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management, Macedonia;
5. Jemin Gjani, Minister, Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Protection, Albania;
6. Mladen Zirojevic, Minister, Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations, Bosnia and Herzegovina;
7. Zoran Kovacevic, Assistant Minister, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of Republic of Srpska, Bosnia and Herzegovina;
8. Josip Kraljickovic, State Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Rural Development, Croatia;
9. Zeljko Radosevic, State Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of Serbia;
10. Grigor Gjoci, Director for Rural Development Policies Directorate, Rotating President of the SWG for 2007/2008, Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Protection, Albania;
11. Branimir Vujacic, State Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of Montenegro;
12. Branko Bulatovic, Assistant Minister, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of Montenegro;
13. Danijela Stolica, Advisor, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of Montenegro;
14. Gabriela Micevska, State Advisor for EU Integration and International Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management, Macedonia;
15. Slobodan Teofanov, Assistant Minister, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of Serbia;
16. Aleksandar Bogunovic, Head of Department for rural development, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of Serbia;
17. Dusan Neskovic, Assistant Minister, Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations, Bosnia and Herzegovina;
18. Lidija Mrkoci, Head of International Cooperation Department, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Rural Development, Croatia;
19. Kay Mortensen, Head of Unit, EC General Directorate for Agriculture and Rural Development;
20. Matthias Langemeyer, Administrator, EC General Directorate for Agriculture and Rural Development;

21. Tomas Waldrapp, Regional Director for South-Eastern Europe, German Technical Cooperation (GTZ);
22. Detlev Boettcher, Head of Section, Division Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, GTZ;
23. Richard Eberlin, Land Tenure and Rural Development Officer, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO);
24. Irena Dzimrevska, Assistant to the General Secretary, Secretariat of the SWG