



*Draft*

**LIETUVOS RESPUBLIKOS ŽEMĖS ŪKIO MINISTERIJA  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA**

**MINUTES OF THE MONITORING COMMITTEE OF THE NATIONAL  
AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME FOR 2000 – 2006**

2005-07-29

7

No. \_\_\_\_\_

Vilnius

**Chairman** – the chairman of the monitoring committee, the Minister of Agriculture Kazimira Danutė Prunskienė;

**Secretary** – the chief specialist of the Unit for Rural Development and Structural support co-ordination Miglė Vaitkutė;

**Attendants of the meeting:**

**MC members and members-alternates:** Kazimira Danutė Prunskienė, Dalia Miniataitė, Arvydas Basiulis, Ernestas Petraitis, Audronė Žvirblienė, Remigijus Urbonas, Audrius Rudys, Genutė Staliūnienė, Jonas Sviderskis.

**Representatives from the European Commission:**

J. Loughheed – head of the Unit for Rural Development Programmes for Denmark, Lithuania and Poland.

Z. Peppiette – co-ordinator for Lithuania within the Unit for Rural Development Programmes for Denmark, Lithuania and Poland.

K. Kamsiukaitė – national expert-desk officer for Lithuania within the Unit for Rural Development Programmes for Denmark, Lithuania and Poland.

**Others:**

S. Rybokienė, Ž. Pluskus, T. Jackūnas – representatives from the National Paying Agency under the Ministry of Agriculture (NPA);

A. Grumadas, G. Česaris – representatives from the Ministry of Interior;

R. Sirusienė – representative from Lithuanian Rural Tourism association;

F. Latėnas – the vice – minister of the Ministry of Culture;

V. Rupšys – representative from the Ministry of Social Security and Labour;

T. Tukačiauskas – representative from the Lithuanian Fund of Nature.

**Representatives from the Ministry of Agriculture:**

E. Počobut, B. Šatkovskis, J. Palionytė, J. Kundrotas.

Virginija Žoštautienė, Rasa Martinavičienė, Algima Gurina – Secretariat of the monitoring committee of the National agriculture and rural development programme 2000 – 2006.

**AGENDA:**

1. Welcome and introductory remarks. Approval of the agenda. Approval of the minutes of the sixth SAPARD Monitoring Committee meeting.
2. Review of the programme implementation (information on the collection of applications and current state of play).
3. Annual report on SAPARD implementation 2004 (results of written procedure).
4. Assessment of the needs and closing of the MC.

**1. Welcome and introductory remarks. Approval of the agenda. Approval of the minutes of the sixth SAPARD Monitoring Committee meeting.**

DECISIONS TAKEN:

1. To approve the agenda of the 7<sup>th</sup> MC meeting.
2. To approve the Minutes of the Monitoring Committee of the National Agriculture and Rural Development Programme for 2000 – 2006.

**2. Review of the Programme implementation (information on the collection of applications and current state of play).**

Opinions expressed by: Ž. Pliuskus, A. Rudys, K. Prunskienė, D. Miniataitė.

Ž. Pliuskus has stressed that the actual support demand does not match the approved allocations and the activeness of the beneficiaries under the measures “Investments in agriculture holdings” and “Improving processing and marketing of agricultural and fishery products” exceeds the funds available. However, in the measure “Aforestation of agricultural land and improvement of Forest Infrastructure” does not get its speed and causes concerns of the full and successful implementation of this measure. Reallocation of the funds would be purposive.

D. Miniataitė has noted that it is already obvious that some targets identified in SAPARD will not be achieved and wondered what the reasons were. In reply Ž. Pliuskus has pointed out

the legal aspects allowing to implement large projects by giving them the maximum support and in this way reducing the number of implemented projects.

The chairman has wondered what the experience of SAPARD implementation in other countries is. Moreover, she raised the question whether reducing the support for agricultural processing enterprises from 5 millions euro as it was foreseen in SAPARD to 1 million euro for the same kind of projects within Single Programming Document is justified. D. Miniataitė replied that the intensity of support has been reduced after the analysis of the concrete projects, actual resources and required EU standards for enterprises presented on the B and C lists.

### **3. Annual report on SAPARD implementation 2004 (results of written procedure).**

Opinions expressed by: R. Martinavičienė, G. Staliūnienė, K. Prunskienė, D. Miniataitė.

G. Staliūnienė and K. Prunskienė stressed that investments made from SAPARD were necessary and used for farms' modernization targetedly. D. Miniataitė has noted the following problems related to the SAPARD implementation: imperfect programme management, incorrectly formulated objectives and targets and has suggested to reduce the support for big enterprises, to reject the support for the same beneficiary, which has already received the support, to confer more weight to the priority indicators and to promote competition among the applicants. She drew the attention that it is impossible to solve all the problems of economic development in rural areas by the means of rural development funds.

A. Rudys agreed with the expressed ideas and added that the capacities of the slaughter houses and meat processing enterprises, which were created by the support of SAPARD are not used on full capacity in Lithuania. The problems arising are not only of the financial nature but concern also the tax policy of the country, redering problems, as well as the decreased export subsidies.

### **4. Assessment of the needs and closing of the MC.**

K. Prunskienė thanked the participants for the active participation. This concluded the meeting of the Monitoring Committee of the National agriculture and rural development programme for 2000 – 2006.

Chairman

Kazimira Danutė Prunskienė

Secretary of the MC

Miglė Vaitkutė