

MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION

BETWEEN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC

AND THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

The Ministry of Finance of the Slovak Republic and the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Moldova (hereinafter referred to as the Parties),

- (1) Being aware of the mutual benefits stemming from the cooperation between the two countries in favour of their economic and social development;
- (2) Desiring to contribute to the mutually advantageous relations between the two countries by strengthening the direct contact between the two Parties, both in institutional and professional terms;
- (3) Desiring to create a reliable framework for cooperation between the Parties aimed at responding to mutual interest in the economic field with special attention to the issues of public finance policies;
- (4) Considering that the technical assistance project(s) to be identified by both Parties constitute an appropriate framework for transfer of know-how and exchange of experience related to economic transition and reform processes, as well as of the implementations of European Union acquis;
- (5) Convinced that this Memorandum shall promote fruitful and friendly relations between the State administrations of both countries;

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1: Basic Principles

- (1) This Memorandum of Cooperation (hereinafter referred to as the Memorandum) serves as a basis for cooperation between the Parties in areas of their competencies.
- (2) The Memorandum neither intends to create any legally binding obligations, nor supersedes any laws or regulatory requirements in force in the Slovak Republic and/or in the Republic of Moldova, nor does it create any rights enforceable by third Parties, nor does it affect any arrangements under other Memorandum of Cooperation.

(3) The implementation of the provisions of the Memorandum shall be consistent with the national laws and regulations of the respective countries of the Parties and shall not be contrary to the public interest of the country of either of the Parties.

Article 2: Scope and Forms of Cooperation

(1) Parties shall expand and facilitate the exchange of knowledge, experience and (technical) expertise between representatives of the Parties and where appropriate between other relevant stakeholders involved in public financial matters. Parties shall exchange information on policy, decision-making processes, legislation, infrastructure and services in the area of responsibility of the Parties.

(2) The cooperation described in paragraph (1) of this Article can take the form of any of the following activities:

- a) Consulting visits of experts of the respective Parties;
- b) Training programmes or study-visits for employees of the Parties or related public bodies;
- c) Participation in seminars, workshops and conferences in the country of either Party;
- d) Exchange of documentation;
- e) Any other form of cooperation that may be mutually decided upon.

(3) Bilateral cooperation can take place in all policy areas which directly or indirectly fall under the responsibility of the respective Parties and/or related public bodies.

(4) Considering the state of bilateral relations and prospects for further development of mutual relations, the Parties have agreed that favourable conditions for a mutual cooperation can be identified on an ad hoc basis, according to their needs and upon their explicit request.

(5) The Parties agree that the programme Public Finance for Development, financed by the Ministry of Finance of the Slovak Republic and implemented jointly with the United Nations Development Programme Bratislava Regional Centre, facilitating the transfer of know-how and exchange of experience in areas of public finance reforms, provides appropriate tools and resources for the implementation of activities to be agreed upon by both Parties. For avoidance of any doubt this paragraph does not stipulate any financial or any other obligation of the Parties.

Article 3: Activities and Financing

(1) Activities under this Memorandum will be described in agreed working plans. At the beginning of each year for which the Memorandum remains in force, the Coordinating Parties (see Article 4.1) will agree on an annual working plan, outlining the activities which are foreseen for that year. The number, size and content of these activities will be jointly agreed by the Parties, based on a joint assessment of the requests from the Moldovan Party and on the availability of resources and expertise from the side of the Slovak Party.

(2) The activities outlined in the annual working plan, as well as activities that are otherwise mutually agreed upon by the Parties, will be jointly financed by the Parties according to the provisions in this Article, unless the Parties mutually agree otherwise.

(3) If not agreed otherwise the contribution of the Moldovan Party relating to these activities will consist of all expenses relating to the activities taking place in Moldova.

(4) If not agreed otherwise the contribution of the Slovak Party relating to these activities will consist of:

- a) International travel expenses, daily subsistence allowances (per diem, accommodation and local travel expenses) for the Slovak Party's representatives travelling to Moldova to carry out the activities;
- b) International travel expenses for Moldovan Party's representatives travelling to the Slovak republic to carry out the activities;
- c) All additional expenses relating to the activities taking place in the Slovak Republic.

Article 4: Miscellaneous

(1) The coordination departments of the Parties responsible for the execution of the Memorandum (the "Coordinating Parties") are:

- a) For the Moldovan Party the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Moldova, the Directorate for European Integration, International Relations and Protocol;
- b) For the Slovak Party the Ministry of Finance of the Slovak Republic, the Department of International Relations.

(2) Any dispute concerning the interpretation and implementation of this Memorandum shall be settled by bilateral negotiations, taking into consideration international law norms. The provisions of this Memorandum shall not affect the rights and obligations of the Parties deriving from other international agreements concluded by either of the states of the Contracting Parties. In case of conflict between the provisions of this Memorandum and any such other international agreement entering into force before or after the entry into force of this Memorandum, the provisions of such other international agreement shall prevail and the terms of this Memorandum shall remain valid and applicable only to the extent that no such conflict shall arise.

(3) This Memorandum can be amended by mutual agreement of Contracting Parties as reflected in separate protocols, which shall represent an integral part of this Memorandum. Such protocols shall enter into force in accordance with the provisions of Article 5 of this Memorandum.

Article 5: Entry into Force

(1) This Memorandum of Cooperation shall enter into force at the date of the last notification, through diplomatic channels, regarding the completion of the internal procedures of the Parties, necessary for its entry into force.

(2) This Memorandum shall remain in force until 31.12.2012.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorized thereto, have signed this Memorandum.

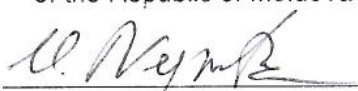
Signed in KISINEV on 29.10.2010 in two identical originals in Slovak, Moldovan and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of divergence of interpretation of this Memorandum, the English text shall prevail.

For the Ministry of Finance
of the Slovak Republic



Minister of Finance
Ivan Miklos

For the Ministry of Finance
of the Republic of Moldova



Minister of Finance
Veaceslav Negruta