

THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, NATURAL RESOURCES  
AND FORESTRY OF THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND,

THE MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT, NATURE CONSERVATION AND RURAL  
PLANNING OF FLANDERS,

AND THE KATOWICE VOIVODE,

hereafter referred to as the Parties,

Recalling the "Memorandum of Understanding" between the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources of the People's Republic of Poland and the Ministry of Environmental Protection for the Flemish Region of the Kingdom of Belgium of November 9, 1989, especially art. 3 concerning the agreement upon periodic programmes of the joint activities ;

Recognizing the considerable efforts on the part of the Government of Flanders to stimulate and strengthen the structural reform process in all its aspects on a regional level in Middle and Eastern Europe ;

Taking into account the experience of the Government of Flanders with regard to the issue of coalmining, and regional reconversion within the scope of E.C.-initiatives and programmes, and with regard to the execution of E.C.-directives in federal states ;

Having in mind the ecological situation in Upper Silesia, the restructuring plan and the environmental protection policy of Katowice, and the option to reach the European standards regarding environment protection in Upper Silesia ;

Noting the priorities for Upper Silesia proposed by the Polish Authorities and approved by the PHARE Committee ;

Taking also into account the National Environmental Policy of Poland, as proposed by the Minister of Environmental Protection, Natural Resources and Forestry and adopted by the Polish Government ;

have agreed on the following :

Article 1. - The Parties' objective is the improvement of the overall ecological situation in Upper Silesia by setting up an integrated approach with regard to the protection of the environment and the related reconversion initiatives, including infrastructure, economic development of technology and development of local self-government. The integrated approach aims at the multiplication effect by developing a comprehensive strategy and by concentration of the various resources.

Article 2. - The Parties express their intention to reach these goals by developing an integrated action programme between the Parties within the scope of the priorities with regard to environment policy and related regional restructuring as it was developed and approved by the Katowice Voivode.

The cooperation will particularly concern the following fields :

- a) Environmental Restructuring;
- b) Economic Development and Industrial Restructuring;
- c) Development, transfer and applications of technology;
- d) Social Guidance;
- e) Labour market policy;
- f) Health care;
- g) Management of Municipalities and decentralised Administrations.

The cooperation can take a form of an exchange of scientific and technical information, transfer of technology and know-how, technical aid, instruction and training, organising joint seminars or symposia, investments and other forms of cooperation which may be deemed productive by the Parties.

Article 3. - The Parties will encourage the development of cooperation and exchange with their respective public services, trade and industry, social organisations and academic environments. For this purpose consulting and coordination mechanisms can be established within the sectors involved in cooperative activities in the frame-work of this cooperation agreement.

The Parties will also encourage the involvement of European institutions and service of European Commission into cooperative activities.

Article 4. - For the funding **Of** the activities resulting from this cooperation **programme**, **inter alia** the Katowice Regional Fund and the National fund **for** the Protection of the Environmental Protection and Mater Management can be called upon, **the Fund for** prevention of Environment and Nature\ **and** other means of the Flemish Community, the Fund for Middle and Eastern Europe of **the Regional Investment Company of Flanders** (joint ventures), E.C. and other Fnternational funds (e.g. PHARE) or Investment and Development Banks.

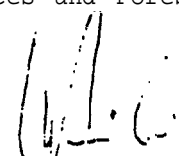
Article 5. - **For the** implementation and the overall evaluation of the cooperation **programme**, the Parties will set up a Permanent Mixed Commission Flanders-Poland-Katowice. This Commission shall be composed **of** representatives of each Party, designated by the Ministry of Environmental Protection, Natural Resources and Forestry, the Ministry of Environment, Nature Conservation and Rural Planning of Flandere and the Katowice Voivode and shall **be convened-once a year**, in **Flanders** and **in** Katowice alternately. The meeting shall be chaired by the representative of the hoer Party.

Article 6. - Each of the Parties will **take** the necessary **measures** to ensure the permanent follow-up and implementation of this cooperation programme.

Article 7. - Hodificatlons **of this** cooperation programme will **be possible subject to the** approval of the Parties.

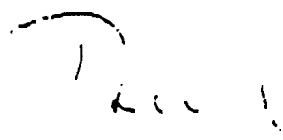
Signed in Warsaw, on September 30, 1991 in three copies in the English language.

The Minister  
**of** Environmental  
Protection, Natural  
Resources and Forestry,



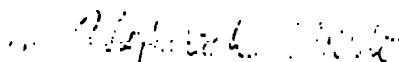
Maciej Nowicki.

The Community Minister  
of the Environment, Nature  
Conservation and Rural ,  
Planning **of** Flanders,



Theo Kelchennane.

For the Katowice Voivode,



Hojciech Czech.