

Negotiation process to the EU

experiences of the SR

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Structure of presentation

- Basic framework for accession of the SR to EU
- Institutional framework of the negotiation process
- Regional policy and agriculture
- Recommendation

Criteria of fulfilment

- **Political criteria**

Harmonisation of Slovak Constitution with recommendations of OSCE, Council of Europe and European Commission, discussion of Joint Parliamentary Committee EU – SE, legislative changes concerning judiciary and passing the law on the use of national minorities languages in official life.

- **Economic criteria**

Measures to keep macroeconomic stability, creation of sustainable economic growth, banking restructuring and privatisation, adjustment to the EU internal market requirements, passing the State Aid law.

- **Acquis** – Elaboration of the National programme of the Acquis fulfilment in compliance with Accession Partnership's aims

- **Administrative capacities** – Creation of necessary structures for the management of the pre-accession process, training and increase of the employees' number.

Economic criteria

- Be careful – key element of the economy has to be faced on the competition from the EU countries
- Good macroeconomic performance has to be key, but it is only first precondition for sustainable development
- 4 freedoms – free movement of goods, persons, services, capital
- Consolidation of the public finance and restructuring of the financial and entrepreneurial sector

Bodies involved into the Harmonisation Process

- National Council of the SR (Parliament)
- Government of the SR (vice-prime minister for European integration)
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the SR (Chief negotiator)
- Central State Administration bodies and other bodies

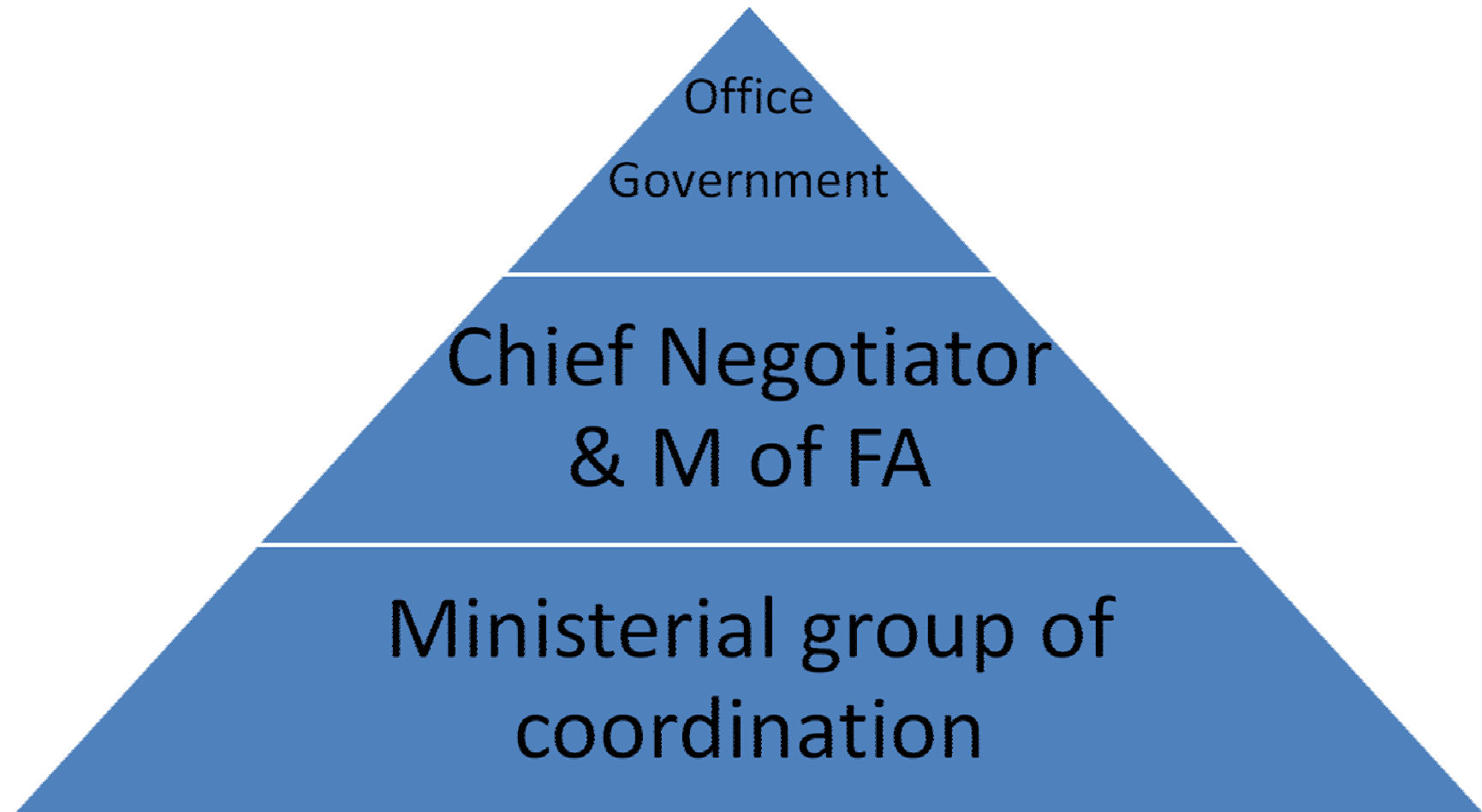
Bodies involved into Harmonisation Process - NRSR

- **2 Committees with special mission**
 - European Integration Committee
 - Joint Parliamentary Committee EU - SR
- Discussion on new legislation– Monitoring the compliance with Acquis
- Government Activities Monitoring in the field of harmonisation of the legislation
- Discussion on the progress in integration, compliance questions as well as on political issues in JPC EU –SR

Bodies involved into the Harmonisation Process – Executive Power

- Coordination at the level of ministries
- Coordination at the level of discussion on legal acts and measures as well as at the level of the Governmental Legislative Council
- Coordination at the level of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the SR and of the Office of Government of the SR
- Preparation of documents for the Regular Report of the EC on readiness of the SR for the membership in EU

Basic official structure



Basic level

- Creation of sectoral / ministerial coordination groups
- Aim:
 - a) harmonisation of Slovak legislation with Acquis
 - b) discussion on the Commission's Regular Report comments
 - c) preparation of documents for the European Integration Governmental Council as well as for the Working Group of the Chief Negotiator
- Composition: chairman – relevant state secretary or director general + representatives of responsible ministry as well as of other relevant ministries

2-nd level Chief Negotiator & M of FA

- Chief Negotiator – State Secretary responsible for EU integration(communication with Commission in the field of tasks relevant to the pre-accession/negotiation process, management and monitoring of the fulfilment of the tasks given to the individual ministries through the membership in the Working Group of the Chief Negotiator)
- Working Group of the Chief Negotiator (preparation of documents for the discussion in European Integration Governmental Council, monitoring of activities of 29 negotiation working groups and sectoral coordination groups, including fulfilment of tasks and recommendations based on changes in frame of the negotiation process)
- European Integration Section (Permanent Mission of the SR to the EC in Brussels) and Chief Negotiator's Department

3-d level – Governmental level 1

- Vice – prime minister for legislation
 - **Law Approximation Institute** (basic elements in frame of Acquis, monitoring of changes and acquis screening in frame of SR legislation, recommendations on ministerial responsibility for individual legal acts from the aspect of Acquis)
 - **Governmental Legislative Council**
(discussion on proposed legislative changes and monitoring of the compliance with EU legislation)

3-d level – Governmental level 2

- **Vice – prime minister for EU integration: horizontal and political coordination**
- **Ministerial Council for EU integration**
(coordinative and advisory body of the Slovak government , chairman – vice-prime minister for EU integration, members: Chief Negotiator and relevant ministers; discussion on implementation of the tasks related to the Accession Partnership as well as priority tasks of the government in the field of EU integration or tasks derived from Regular Reports)
- **Advisory Group** (composition: trade unions, employers associations, scientific institutions, NGO's; aim: discussion with partners on government priority tasks in the field of EU integration, including their impact on SR)
- **EU integration department** (evaluation reports and coordination of government's priority tasks implementation and monitoring of the priority tasks fulfilment)

Preliminary recommendations 1

- Creation of an institutional framework: political – coordinative at the level of executive power
- To think about the future division of tasks in frame of Council's different formations (CORREPER I and CORREPER II)
- To create „4 eyes mechanism“ - legislation versus Acquis in the process of tasks distribution and their inclusion into legal acts, checking the content and coordination of individual processes at the level of ministry and at the level of chief negotiator – checking at the level of government and parliament

Preliminary recommendations 2

- During the process of promoting legislative and regulatory approximation towards the standards of EU try to evaluate impact on the real economy (entrepreneurial, social subjects...)
- Build the open partnership between players (macro vs. micro, state vs. selfgovernment and NGO)
- To build – up a communication strategy for public and professional society

Regional policy and agriculture 1

1. Key aspect during the agriculture chapter
 - Approximation of legislation and capacity building
 - IACS – Information system and its using for direct payments
 - Veterinary and Fytosanitary requirements and Animal welfare
 - Building and developing customs laboratory as a part of Veterinary and Fytosanitary requirements
 - Building of the registers according of the EU directives (animals, vineyards, etc)
 - Fishery legislation and codex of fishery foods

Regional policy and agriculture 2

- Coordination mechanismus on the governmental level – ministerial coordination, coordination of the politics)
- Partnership principle (build and cooperation with the Local authorities, Regional authorities, SME, Chambers of comerce, NGO,s)
- Administrative capacity
- Regional statistical data
- Legislative acts (Regional Development Act, Teritorial division Act , Act about HTLU, National Agency for regional development)

Preliminary recommendation 2

- Regional policy is not policy covered by one ministry – take into consideration “ co-ordination role of this policy”
- Agriculture is not only productive branch - it has to cover rural development, local employment and sustainable environment
- Regional and rural development has to be supported by the financial resources on the regional level
- Build the capacity and stabilize the key persons in the ministerial and regional levels

Recomendation

- Use of foreign aid for strengthening of administrative capacities, institutions and support of sustainable economic growth.
- Consensus approach of the whole political spectrum is necessary because the pre-accession period is longer than national election period.
- Not a campaign, but systematic work is needed
- Create a public info panel, communication strategy and system of partnerships on the state and regional levels

Thank you for your attention

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