



URZĄD STATYSTYCZNY w BIAŁYMSTOKU

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Report on the Visit of the Representatives of the SO in Białystok and the SO in Lublin in the Central Statistical Office of Grodno Oblast, Grodno 27- 28 April 2010

From 27th till 28th April this year the director of the Statistical Office in Białystok, Ewa Kamińska-Gawryluk together with the director of the Statistical Office in Lublin, Krzysztof Markowski (PhD), and managers of divisions from the Statistical Office in Białystok – Anna Szeszko, Wiesława Kamińska, and Krystyna Skardzińska – visited the Central Statistical Office of Grodno Oblast. The aim of the meeting was to summarise the cooperation that had been carried out until then by the offices in Grodno and in Białystok as well as to discuss ways of further cooperation.

During the first day of the visit, there was a meeting which summed up the work on a brochure “Grodno Oblast and Podlaskie Voivodship in 2008”, which was published at the end of February this year. Differences in the methodology of the surveys in Poland and in Belarus and the ways of presenting the data in public statistics, based on experiences from work on the publication of “Grodno Oblast and Podlaskie Voivodship in 2008,” were also discussed.

The other part of the meeting was devoted to ways of developing cooperation in the nearest future. Ewa Kamińska-Gawryluk informed that the Statistical Office in Białystok, in cooperation with the Central Statistical Office of Grodno Oblast, plans to publish a publication entitled “Grodno and Białystok in 2009” in May of next year. The publication will include a short characterisation of the cities, statistical data presented in the form of tables and graphs, and photographs of the most interesting places in the capital cities of both regions. Then Krzysztof Markowski announced that the Statistical Office in Lublin plans to publish “Polish-Belarusian-Ukrainian borderland in 2010” next year. This publication will contain basic social and economical indices within the scope of demography, preservation of nature, economic activity and technical infrastructure of regions located alongside the eastern border of Poland, such voivodships as: Podalaskie, Lubelskie, Podkarpackie and the adjacent oblasts: Grodno and Brest in Belarus, Volyn, Lviv and Zakarpatia in Ukraine.

The first day was also devoted to discussing the issue of transborder areas located alongside the northeastern border of Poland. Special attention was paid to the “Białowieża Forest” Euroregion, which consists of 11 gminas of Podlaskie Voivodship (Poland) and of Svislac District in Grodno Oblast (Belarus) as well Pruzhany District and Kamenets Raion in Brest Oblast. It was decided that as a result of sharing the information on this level of districts, a publication devoted to the “Białowieża Forest” Euroregion will be published in 2012.

The next day representatives of the Statistical Offices of Białystok and in Lublin took part in a meeting with the Consul General of the Republic of Poland in Grodno – Jan Sroka. During the meeting Ewa Kamińska-Gawryluk informed the Consul about cooperation between the statistical offices in Grodno and Białystok, whose first result is a brochure entitled “Grodno Oblast and Podlaskie Voivodship in 2008.” The Consul was also given other publications and statistical works of the Statistical Office in Białystok and the CSO. Not only did the Consul express his gratitude for the gifts, but also voiced his support for this kind of initiative, stressing their importance in popularising statistical knowledge as well as strengthening relations in the neighbouring regions.

During the next part of the visit, the members of the Polish delegation together with Consul Katarzyna Grzechnik met the Managers of the Polish Secondary School in Grodno. Ewa Kamińska-Gawryluk handed out publications of the CSO and the Statistical Office in Białystok as well as some historical books and literature (e.g. by A. Mickiewicz, H. Sienkiewicz, E. Orzeszkowa, P. Jasienica) for the school library. Promotional materials of the Statistical Office in Białystok, such as mugs, lanyards, pens, notebooks were also given out.

During the second day of the visit there was a meeting of the representatives of Polish statisticians with Marija G. Żuk, the Director of Economics College in Grodno, who came to the seat of the Central Statistical Office of Grodno Oblast to personally express her gratitude to Ewa Kamińska-Gawryluk and employees of the Statistical Office in Białystok for the brochure “Grodno Oblast and Podlaskie Voivodship in 2008.” In acknowledgement of the aforementioned brochure, Marija G. Żuk stated that the information included in the publication is very interesting and makes it possible to enrich students’ knowledge in terms of the borderland regions described in the brochure. The data is used by lecturers of the College in their different courses. What is more, she expressed hope that work on this issue would be continued.

At the end of the working meeting of the Belarusian and Polish statisticians, the Directors of the regional statistical offices in Grodno, Białystok and Lublin declared their willingness to continue the cooperation between the offices they manage.