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GOVERNMENT-PARTY DECREE ORDERS REFORMS,  
OUTLINES GOALS FOR BULGARIAN AGRICULTURE

The best system of improving and raising the standards of Bulgarian agriculture has been found to be cooperative organization. By 1 January 1950, 1,605 farm worker's cooperatives, with a membership of 161,000, were established on 5,600,000 decares of land. The cooperatives include 1,362 livestock farms and 1,100 related enterprises. Due to training in new agricultural techniques, the cooperatives have exceeded the production of private farms by 20 percent. Progress in mechanization has also been very substantial: the government established 86 machine tractor stations, equipped with 3,350 tractors, 3,750 threshing machines, and 1,600 tractor plows, comprising 80 percent of all machine tractor equipment in the country.

During 1949, machine tractor stations performed shallow plowing on 9 million decares. The efficiency of tractors has also been further improved: whereas one 15-horsepower tractor previously plowed 903 decares, it can now be used for 1,552 decares. During the 1949 drought season machine tractor work was especially helpful and valuable for deep plowing operations and was an important factor in overcoming the ill effects of the drought.

State farms have also increased in number and improved in work methods. At present, there are 91 state farms with a total area of 900,000 decares. Most of them are raising thoroughbred livestock and planting their land with high-grade seed. The farms will gradually be converted into supply centers of graded seeds and breeding centers of pure-bred cattle, and will operate as model farms equipped with every modern instrument.

The government and the Party are also helping indigent farmers; as an outcome of the agricultural reform, 128,000 landless farmers have received 1,400,000 decares of land. Furthermore, poor farmers have obtained seed, fodder, and food at ceiling prices; they have been helped in cultivating their plots by tractors and have been assisted at harvest time, as well as in many other ways.

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All the above measures had the effect of increasing the country's grain-cultivating area by about 2 million decares and the sunflower area by 800,000 decares. They also doubled the cotton, flax, and hemp areas, and quintupled the fodder land. The problem of an adequate vegetable supply for the cities is about to be solved, as is the sugar problem; tobacco production will be substantially increased. Livestock breeding has already reached the prewar level, and cattle, pig, and goat breeding have even exceeded the 1939 level. The government is establishing experimental stations which supply the need of cooperative and private farmers, agricultural schools, and machine tractor stations, and has founded the G. Dimitrov Agricultural Academy.

However, it is felt that the Ministry of Agriculture is still acting as an advisory agency, rather than assuming leadership, responsibility, and organizational initiative. Following the establishment of farm workers' cooperatives, machine tractor stations, and state farms, it has failed to reorganize its work methods according to new conditions in agriculture. It is not sufficient to issue instructions or plans and to extend assistance, if these measures are not supplemented by daily inspection and practical supervision. The consistent development and increase of the cooperatives, machine tractor stations, and state farms implies an ever-increasing responsibility of the ministry for the success of these enterprises and makes the thorough reorganization of this body a matter of growing necessity.

The Ministry of Agriculture has failed to organize and to supervise the work of cooperatives, state farms, and machine tractor stations. In the latter, tractors have frequently been left idle or unrepaired, fuel and lubricants have been misappropriated, and work standards were generally low. The three-field crop-rotation system has not yet been introduced on many state and cooperative farms, and in private enterprises farmers are still sowing by hand and plowing with old-fashioned wooden plows, while the Zemsrab (Agricultural Supply Organization) warehouses are crowded with idle, unsold agricultural machinery. The obsolete methods used by most farmers result in a low grain production and inadequate bread supply; the insufficient production of oleaginous and industrial plants fails to supply industry with raw materials. The cotton industry is compelled to use material imported from the USSR. Unsatisfactory conditions are also prevalent in the wool industry due to the small supply, especially noticeable in wool of fine and semifine quality used for the production of lighter cloth and worsted fabrics.

Experimental stations have failed to keep in close contact with farmers and to introduce rational work systems.

The new problems facing the agriculture of the modern Bulgarian Republic lay great responsibilities upon the Ministry of Agriculture; it must become an up-to-date organization, with ample vision and authority to take the leadership in every branch of agriculture.

To fulfill this objective, the Council of Ministers and the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party have passed the following resolutions:

A. Increase in Grain Production

The foremost goal of the Ministry of Agriculture and of all agricultural and Party organizations must be to increase grain production to 2.4 to 2.6 billion kilograms in 1953. Therefore, the ministry is requested to introduce the following measures:

1. Machine tractor stations must be concentrated in the grain-producing areas of the Dobrudzha, and in the Stalin, Ruse, Kolarovgrad, Plevan, Yambol, Vratsa, Vidin, Burgas, Stara Zagora, and Gorna Oryakhovitsa districts. Machine tractor services will be paid for in kind. Cooperatives and private farmers supplying compensations in kind for machine tractor work will have to deduct only a minimum share of their crops for the state.

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2. Farm workers' cooperatives will be established primarily in grain- and cotton-growing areas. The cultivated area must be extended by enrolling new members, especially in the Dobrudzha and Khaskovo districts.

3. Drought must be overcome by the following measures:

a. The ministry will launch an intensive educational campaign to promote fall deep-plowing campaigns. The 1950 deep-plowing operations must be extended over an area of at least 11,500,000 decares, and must reach at least 17 million decares in 1953. Wasteland must be reclaimed.

b. Stubble fields must be plowed over. Shallow plowing will be used for wheat, rye, barley, and oats in early spring and under good moisture conditions; deeper plowing will be performed in late spring, before sowing time, and must reach a depth of 16 to 18 centimeters. These operations will include an area of 12 million decares in 1950 and will reach 15 million in 1953. The Ministry of Agriculture will start the production of surface plows in 1950.

c. Spring harrowing will be done whenever conditions prove favorable.

d. Seed-drill sowing will be general. During the final period of the Five-Year Plan this sowing system must be used 100 percent. About 12 million decares must be sown with seed drills in 1950, and at least 18 million in 1953.

e. Snow preservation must be introduced in the Dobrudzha and other grain areas, to accumulate moisture and to protect the seedlings from freezing.

f. The Ministries of Agriculture and Forestry will prepare a 15-Year Plan to establish protective belts, select locations, and determine tree categories to be planted according to the Lysenko system (in groves); all necessary materials must be in readiness. The over-all plan for the entire country must be presented to the Council of Ministers within one year, and for the eastern part of the country within 6 months.

g. The Ministry of Electrification and Improvements will see to it that the dam and pump systems on the Danube are completed in the shortest possible time; the Ministry of Agriculture will promote the construction of small dams and issue the appropriate instructions.

h. The Council of Ministers and the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party are transferring the responsibility for draining, irrigation, river control, and the construction of small dams, and pump stations, to the Ministry of Agriculture. The transfer will comprise cash funds, machinery, equipment, transportation facilities, etc., and any material provided for the Five-Year Plan. The law on water regulation will be amended in connection with the above instructions.

The Ministry of Agriculture will commission the Ministry of Electrification and Improvements to study, prepare, and construct some of its larger improvement projects. Small irrigation projects (small dams, etc.) will be completed by the Ministry of Agriculture, assisted by people's soviets, before the end of 1950.

The Ministry of Industry will start production of at least 250 gas engines of 6 to 15 horsepower for irrigation pumps in 1950. During the same period, the Ministry of Electrification will complete the production of at least 80 power engines of 30 to 35 horsepower, also destined for irrigation.

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4. The construction of a fertilizer plant must be completed ahead of schedule, to provide agriculture with 50,000 tons of fertilizer in 1953. Until that time, the import of fertilizer must be increased, and 30 percent must be distributed in grain areas.

The Ministry of Agriculture will provide the necessary cement for the repair of manure pits.

Wood ashes will be collected throughout the country. The production of bone meal and lime will be substantially increased. Carbonate of lime from sugar factories will also be used for fertilizer, especially in black-soil regions. Manure must be used extensively for composting. Green manure will be applied in mountain, submountain, and river areas. Corn fields will be fertilized with a potent nitrogen fertilizer.

5. The Ministry of Agriculture will start mass production of graded seed in farm workers' cooperatives and state farms. Before the end of 1954, all wheat seed must be graded. The Ministry of Trade or the Grain Supply Administration will exchange the graded seed delivered by Zemsrab to farm workers' cooperatives and private farms for ungraded seed and will make compensation for the price difference.

The Ministry of Agriculture will see to it that Zemsrab strictly fulfills the seed-production plan for 1950, provides expert personnel, and controls export-seed production.

6. The Ministry of Agriculture will commission the agricultural institutes in Sofia, Chirpan, and Tolbukhin and the experimental centers in Obrastsov Chiflik, Knezha, and Sadovo to create new, high-yielding species of wheat, rye, barley, and corn, which must be drought and cold resistant. Supplementary hoeing will be used for rye and corn. Spring wheat and millet must be cultivated more intensively.

7. The Ministry of Agriculture is requested to introduce the three-field crop-rotation system in areas where there are the greatest numbers of farm workers' cooperatives and state farms. The four-field crop-rotation system will be applied in all remaining areas. The Ministry of Agriculture will inform the Council of Ministers of the crops provided by each area, and of the practical measures introduced to assure their successful production.

8. Special branch services in control of horse-drawn and hand-driven agricultural equipment will be established in every cooperative and will rent the equipment to poor farmers for a minimum compensation. The Investment Bank will issue 5-year, low-interest credits for the purchase of such equipment.

9. To combat pests and plant diseases, the okoliya and local people's soviets are pledged to clean and disinfect all their seed. Mass weeding campaigns will be carried out with the help of Septemvriyche and Dimitrov Youth Brigades.

10. The ministry will delegate expert agriculturists and other agricultural personnel to grain-producing areas throughout the country.

11. The Ministry of Industry and the Ministry of Public Works will produce the following parts and small equipment in 1950: hoes, 275 tons; axes, 200 tons; adzes, 50 tons; spades, 370,000 each; plowshares, 300 tons; vine saws, 40,000 each; pruning shears, 26,000 each; winnowing screens, 60,000 square meters; and other equipment of general use. The Ministry of Industry and the Ministry of Public Works will present to the Council of Ministers, within 2 months, a plan for the production of scythes, sickles, and pitchforks. The Central Cooperative Union will study requirements for this type of equipment throughout the country and conclude adequate contracts with the two ministries.

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12. The Ministry of Agriculture will present, within 2 months, a plan for the expansion of rice production, especially in the Danube area.

13. The Ministry of Agriculture, Zems nab, and the experimental fields in Samokov, Koprivshatina, and Kotel are requested to find a solution to the potato problem before 1953. New and sturdy varieties of potatoes must be developed, good potato seed must be obtained through summer planting according to the Lysenko method, potato farms must be established in high-mountain areas, and potatoes must be planted twice a year.

14. The Ministry of Agriculture will introduce the following measures to assure an adequate fodder supply:

a. The grass-fodder cultivation area will be expanded to a maximum, especially for alfalfa production, which must reach at least 2 million decares at the end of the Five-Year Plan. Fodder-pea production in the Dobrudzha must be expanded.

b. The fodder-beet area must reach at least 300,000 decares in 1953.

c. Bean-seed cleaning must be enforced.

d. The Ministry of Trade will temporarily provide farmers with concentrated fodder in exchange for seed.

e. The three-field system must provide a basis for increased fodder production. New grass-fodder varieties must be introduced by sowing imported clover, sainfoin, French oat grass, bur reed, timothy, earless wild oats, etc.

15. The Ministry of Agriculture will establish operational accounts and submit accurate data on the size of sown areas, the variety of crops, and the average yield per decare.

B. Increase of Oleaginous Plant Production

The Council of Ministers and the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party request the Ministry of Agriculture, people's soviets, and Party organizations to increase oleaginous plant production to the maximum; the amount of sunflower seed alone must reach at least 250 million kilograms in 1950.

To attain this objective, the following measures will be introduced:

1. The Ministry of Agriculture will assure the production of 28 tons of the new No 71 and 75 sunflower seeds, produced by the Tolbukhin Agricultural Institute, which are immune to blue fungus. Through 1950, the entire quantity of seed produced from the "Zhdanovski 6432" sunflower must be used, in order to reduce the blue fungus disease in sunflower-growing areas. The ministry will commission the agricultural experimental institutes in Sofia, Chirpan, and Tolbukhin, and the experimental base in Pavlikeni, to speed their research for the development of a low-stemmed species with a high oil content which is immune to blue fungus.

Every measure of agricultural technique must be applied to increase sunflower production, including the use of nitrogen and phosphorous fertilizer. Artificial pollination will be widely introduced also.

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2. The Ministry of Agriculture is requested to order the Tolbukhin Institute and the Pavlikeni experimental base to speed research work to develop an oil-bearing variety of rape, suitable for Bulgarian climatic conditions (winter and spring plants). Rape culture will be introduced on a much wider scale, and pests and diseases will be systematically eliminated.

3. Soybeans will be planted in every suitable area. Radiksoya vaccine will be manufactured in sufficient quantity to inoculate the soil with nitrogen-fixing bacteria. The ministry will introduce the fine-grained variety of soybean, suitable for local conditions, to regenerate the soil. The experimental center in Pavlikeni will be commissioned to develop a new, improved, and highly productive variety of soybean.

4. The Ministry of Agriculture will expand peanut production in the irrigated Danubian tablelands, suitable for this type of culture.

5. The Ministry of Agriculture will centralize poppy and opium production in suitable areas, such as Gorna Dzhumaya, Plovdiv, and Sofia. The Main Administration of Grain Supply will conduct training courses for the proper gathering of opium poppies. Furthermore, the ministry will commission the experimental center in Sadovo to speed and expand research work on poppy culture to produce intermediate grades of opium-poppy seed.

6. The Ministry of Agriculture will introduce all necessary measures for the improvement and expansion of rose culture. A systematic fight must be conducted against pests and diseases. The experimental center in Kazanlek will be requested to speed rose-selection research to create a variety bearing more flowers and oil. The ministry will also expand mint and lavender production; moist areas will be selected for lavender plantations, as the plant has an excellent staying quality. The oil yield of lavender will be increased, and the plant will also be cultivated in areas 500 meters above sea level.

#### C. Increase of Fibrillous Plant Production

The requirements of the Bulgarian textile industry must be satisfied entirely by the domestic market. The Ministry of Agriculture will therefore concentrate cotton production mainly in the following districts: Plovdiv, Stara Zagora, Khaskovo, Gorna Dzhumaya, Yambol, and Burgas. The largest cotton fields must be established on farm workers' cooperatives, and other crops which are being grown in areas suitable for cotton will be moved to different locations.

The Ministry of Agriculture is requested to increase fibrillous plant production by introducing the following measures:

1. Cotton plantations must be gradually moved to irrigated areas, especially after the completion of the Vasil Kolarov, Topolnitsa, G. Dimitrov, and other dam projects. During 1950, 50,000 decares of irrigated land must be allotted to cotton culture.

The following methods must be applied in cotton, flax, and hemp growing areas: deep plowing, digging, three-field sowing rotation, regular and dense sowing, the Lysenke cotton-pruning system, etc.

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Nitrogen and phosphorous fertilizer must be used increasingly. The culture of the following cotton varieties, maturing at different periods, must be intensified: Chirpan-38, Chirpan-78 and the Sadovo Malkov variety. Graded seed sowing in 1950 must be increased by 120 percent over 1948.

Soviet methods of drying unripe cotton must be studied and applied.

The ministry must avail itself of the necessary space and equipment for the adequate treatment of cotton seed with sulfuric acid for disinfection and higher productivity.

Cotton, flax, and hemp growers must be subsidized with grain, fats, concentrated fodder products, cotton yarns and fabrics, sacks, and artificial fertilizer, to facilitate the delivery of their entire production.

2. The Ministry of Agriculture will organize flax- and hemp-seed production in farm workers' cooperatives and state farms, providing these enterprises with seed and equipment, in order to end the importation of these commodities before the end of 1950.

Hemp production must be increased substantially and concentrated in the Danubian tablelands. Hemp harvesters and flax-picking equipment must be manufactured on the domestic market or, when necessary, imported.

The Ministry of Foreign Trade will import 150 tons of fibrillous flaxseed from the USSR, to establish flaxseed production in areas suitable for fibrillous flax culture.

#### D. Increase of Tobacco Production

The Council of Ministers and the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party request the Ministry of Agriculture to produce enough tobacco to supply domestic requirements and export orders.

The following measures must be taken:

1. The present subsidies for tobacco growers must be maintained.
2. The ministry must continue to plan the proper zoning of tobacco areas and to study and improve physical and economic conditions in the following regions: Dzhebel, Plovdiv, Khaskovo, and Gorna Dzhumaya.
3. The ministry will give careful attention to the cleaning of blended, high-grade tobaccos, and to creation of new varieties in demand on the market and suitable for the technical conditions of farm workers' cooperatives. The practical value of the new types, No 541 and No 240, created by the experimental tobacco institute in Kozar-Ustina, and No 134 and No 113, created in the experimental fields of Rila-Endzhe, must be examined.

During 1950 tobacco sowing with graded seed must be increased 128 percent over 1948. Seed production must be intensified in tobacco-growing areas, free seed distribution continued, and further efforts made to establish tobacco zones and to standardize grades, in close collaboration with the State Tobacco Monopoly.

4. The collective production of tobacco seedlings must be continued and promoted. The production of early seedlings especially must be increased and expanded.

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Correct soil preparation and the widest possible mechanization of tobacco culture must be introduced in farm workers' cooperatives. Artificial fertilization must be intensified and the fertilizer delivered on time. Tobacco blooming must be prevented, and a well-organized campaign begun to fight parasites and diseases, especially thrips and blue fungus. The construction of private and communal dryers must be encouraged.

The Ministry of Foreign Trade will import ten tobacco planters and five tobacco stringers.

To fulfill the tobacco plan, the Ministry of Agriculture will direct all tobacco specialists to the areas growing this commodity, and will train additional personnel, including agriculturists and technicians, in the tobacco industry to be assigned to assist district and okoliya people's soviets.

5. The Ministry of Agriculture will establish a budget to create in 1950 a Technological Tobacco Institute, an experimental center in Kharmanli, and an experimental field in Melnishko, and to convert the experimental field in Dzhebel into an experimental tobacco center. All tobacco research centers must be activated and directed toward practical production problems.

#### E. Improvement and Increase of Plum Production

The Council of Ministers and the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party request the Ministry of Agriculture to increase plum production to 300,000 tons before the end of the Five-Year Plan and to satisfy all domestic and export requirements.

The following measures must be introduced:

1. Plum culture must become the object of careful studies; plum-growing areas must be expanded substantially and extended to new locations. Ten main fruit-growing areas must be established before the end of 1950, and must include the shores of the Lom, Ogosta, Iskur, Vit, and Rositsa rivers. Local plum varieties must be multiplied and special care given to varieties resistant to the red spot disease.

2. The experimental fruit centers in Kyustendil, Dryanovo, and Plovdiv are commissioned to create new types of plums, immune to red spots and pox, and to introduce them in the Kyustendil area.

3. The Ministry of Agriculture will establish three model plum orchards in state farms and ten in farm workers' cooperatives in spring 1950, to demonstrate the latest achievements of fruit-growing technique.

Existing plantations must be reconditioned and improved, and red spots and other diseases completely eliminated. The new methods of plum culture recommended by Prof Mikhail Simeonovich Dunin and contained in Decree No 4 of the Council of Ministers, issued 28 December 1949, must be applied.

The ministry will establish in Troyan a state fruit nursery, combined with an experimental fruit field, to introduce up-to-date plum cultivation.

#### F. Plant Protection

The Council of Ministers and the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party request the Ministry of Agriculture to introduce the following measures for the protection of plants from parasites and diseases:

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1. To establish an interior quarantine service, supplementing the border services.

The district and okoliya people's soviets must be supplemented by the following: five chief district inspectors, 30 okoliya specialists, and 50 technicians with intermediate training. The chief inspectors will also be in charge of the interior quarantine stations.

2. During 1950, the ministry will organize several plant-protection stations: one in Troyan, to act as an independent organization, and 15 more located on state farms throughout the country and equipped with all the necessary machines and implements.

3. The Ministry of Industry is requested to plan the domestic production of the following spraying and sprinkling equipment in 1951: 6,400 portable vine sprayers, 500 horse-drawn automatic sprayers, 500 horse-drawn fruit sprayers, 1,000 horse-drawn blowers, 50 sorters, 30 seed-cleaning machines, 100 dusters, and spare parts for vine and fruit sprayers.

The Ministry of Public Works is requested to produce 300 horse-drawn fruit sprayers and 150 motor sprayers.

The ministry is requested to produce the following chemicals: 30 tons of Paris green, 30 tons of calcium arsenate, 12 tons of zinc phosphide, 1,000 tons of Carbolineum, 1,000 tons of DDF, and 150 tons of hexachlorine.

4. The district and okoliya people's soviets are advised to cooperate at all times with agricultural experts in the fight against pests and diseases and to launch an intensive collective plant-protection campaign throughout the country.

G. Increase of Animal Husbandry

1. The main objectives must be to increase the number of all types of animals, to improve livestock breeding, to expand fodder bases, and to increase livestock productivity.

2. District and okoliya people's soviets and the district committees of the Bulgarian Communist Party are requested to increase livestock on state farms, farm workers' cooperatives, and private farms to reach the following proportions in 1953 in comparison with 1940: horses, 15 percent more; cattle and buffaloes, 20 percent; sheep and goats, 20 percent; pigs, 50 percent; and fowl, 200 percent.

3. In 3 months, the Ministry of Agriculture will present for the approval of the Council of Ministers and of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party a plan containing the following provisions:

a. The establishment of permanent, well-stocked food centers throughout the country.

b. The production of pressed fodder, such as oil cake, bran, bone meal, fish meal, etc.

c. A substantial increase of livestock in farm workers' cooperatives and state farms.

d. Correct zone distribution, to assure the following objectives: in horse breeding, to increase the number of larger animals and improve the breed of the heavier types suitable for agricultural work and transportation; in cattle husbandry, to increase the milch yield and the fat content of milk, to

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improve standards of meat in grades purchased by the state; in sheep husbandry, to improve the quality of wool, to increase the number of high- and medium-grade animals, to improve milk and meat grades; in hog raising, to improve the meat and lard quality; in poultry culture, to increase laying and improve meat standards.

4. In view of the scarcity of high- and medium-grade fleece for the wool industry, and the low production of merino wool, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Industry are requested to prepare within 2 months, a plan to accomplish the following objectives:

- a. To establish areas raising high- and medium-grade wool sheep.
- b. To restrict sheep raising in farm workers' cooperatives and state farms to high- and medium-grade wool animals.
- c. To increase the number of merino rams for breeding, to expand artificial insemination, and to cross-breed at least 2 million local sheep with the high- or medium-grade wool variety before the end of 1953.
- d. To prohibit the slaughter of high- or medium-grade wool lambs for a period of 2 to 3 years.
- e. To increase the number of artificial-insemination centers.
- f. To dedicate two or three state farms exclusively to the raising of high-bred animals, in order to provide farm workers' cooperatives, private farms, and artificial-insemination centers with valuable female and male specimens for reproduction purposes.
- g. To furnish farm workers' cooperatives, state farms, and private farmers with subsidies to encourage breeding of high- and medium-grade wool sheep.
- h. To establish suitable areas for goat raising, the Ministries of Agriculture and Forestry will take appropriate measures for the supply of fodder and pasture land, and the Ministry of Agriculture will promote the breeding and cross-breeding of healthy animals.

5. To establish permanent, well-stocked fodder centers, the Ministry of Agriculture and other departments are requested to introduce the following measures:

- a. To assure sufficient quantities of coarse and succulent fodder, including silage, for every head of livestock provided by the plan.
- b. To improve meadows and pastures and to increase the quantity of hay and aftermath.
- c. To convert decayed forests into pastures; to set apart some forest areas for fodder culture; to clear high mountain pastures of trees and improve their grass surface.
- d. Pasture grounds will be distributed by the local people's soviets and cleared by temporary labor-service brigades.

6. During 1950 and 1951, the Ministry of Agriculture will establish 60 okoliya livestock centers designed to provide the following services:

- a. To give assistance to livestock husbandry in farm workers' cooperatives and private farms.

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b. To promote cross-breeding of low-grade local types, to obtain highly productive animals, and to report the results of breeding experiments.

c. To check the fulfillment of the livestock plan.

7. The Ministry of Agriculture will expand scientific research work in livestock husbandry and determine research subjects for the next 2 to 3 years. The essential purpose of research work will be to solve the following problems:

a. Instituting correct feeding methods and a breeding method based on scientific standards.

b. Obtaining new high-bred varieties and improving local breeds by the Michurin method.

c. Introducing scientific improvements in farm workers' cooperatives, state farms, and private farms.

8. The Council of Ministers and the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party authorize the Ministry of Agriculture to undertake the following assignments:

a. To establish a Main Scientific Research Center at the farm located near the Kostinbrod railroad station, which will also take over the Sofia poultry-research center.

b. To reorganize the livestock-research institute in Stara Zagora into a regional research institute for southern Bulgaria.

c. To transform the V. Kolarov Institute in Kolarovgrad into a livestock institute for southeastern Bulgaria.

d. To organize an institute for northern Bulgaria at the Georgi Dimitrov Farm at Pleven.

9. The Ministry of Agriculture will perform an essential modernization and reorganization of its sanitary and veterinary services and will carry out the following assignments:

a. A prophylactic veterinary campaign to prevent infectious livestock diseases. During the 1949 - 1950 winter season all centers of hog and fowl cholera must be eliminated.

b. The campaign against cattle brucellosis and tuberculosis must be intensified; yearly tuberculin tests must be performed in all areas where the disease occurs.

c. Veterinary care and treatment must be improved in farm workers' cooperatives and other farm enterprises.

d. A sanitation and veterinary campaign must be launched for the benefit of every farmer.

e. High-quality biochemical preparations must be produced in sufficient quantity to combat cattle infections successfully.

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H. Farm Workers' Cooperatives

The Council of Ministers and the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party consider the grain and bread supply problem one of major importance and see its solution in more intensive land cultivation, which would also increase the volume of export and industry. The expansion of livestock husbandry will serve the same purpose. The best medium for the introduction and expansion of progressive, mechanized agriculture has been found to be farm workers' cooperatives. Therefore, the Council of Ministers and the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party request the Ministry of Agriculture to follow the instructions below, and they request the district and kol'ya committees of the Party and the district and okoliya people's soviets to collaborate in performing the assignments:

1. Continuation and expansion of farm workers' cooperatives, with further, voluntary inclusion of poor and medium farmers to form new cooperatives. Kulaks are not to be admitted.

The principle of voluntary participation must be strictly upheld. In accordance with the theories set forth by Lenin, Stalin, and Dimitrov, persons who attempt the forceful establishment of cooperatives or coercion in enrolling new members will be rigorously prosecuted. The shortcomings noticed before in this respect, and in land distribution among poor and medium farmers, must be overcome.

Cooperatives must be established mainly in grain- and cotton-growing areas and must reach 8 million decares in 1950, and about 30 million in 1953.

2. Cooperatives must be established as independent agricultural production enterprises and not be considered merely as branches of the national organization. They must obtain new, separate charters. The Ministry of Agriculture, the Main Cooperative Union, and other organizations will see to it that farm workers' cooperatives are transformed into independent enterprises before 30 May 1950.

3. The Ministry of Agriculture and district and okoliya people's soviets are advised to correct any errors made in the distribution of land in farm workers' cooperatives and to establish these enterprises on a strictly legal basis.

4. The new proposed statute, approved by the Council of Ministers and the Bulgarian Communist Party, is to be submitted by the Ministry of Agriculture to all farm workers' cooperatives for discussion by the members, people's soviets, and Party and Fatherland Front organizations. A national conference will be called in February 1950 to report work results, establish future programs, and approve the new statute.

5. The Ministry of Agriculture and the district and okoliya people's soviets will assume full control of farm workers' cooperatives. All other ministries and public organizations will assist and cooperate. Accounting instructions and checking operations will be instituted by the Ministry of Agriculture and the agricultural services of the okoliya people's soviets. Accounting specialists heretofore working for the central and regional cooperative unions will be transferred to the Ministry of Agriculture on 1 February 1950. Some accountants from the Bulgarian National Bank and from other cooperatives will also be included to supplement the service.

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6. The Ministry of Agriculture will establish a central school to train qualified chairmen for farm workers' cooperatives. Groups of 100 students will be enrolled in 6-month courses. Every school day will be counted as a working day.

7. About 500 well-qualified Communist Party members will be assigned for 2 years to cooperative farms, to conduct political and organizational training.

8. Land distribution rules must be strictly observed. Any land exchanges must be entered in land registers and checked by the Labor Land Property Commission on the premises.

9. The Ministry of Agriculture will add land-surveying courses to the curriculums of the two existing agricultural schools and will establish one new intermediate school for land surveyors.

10. The discipline of farm workers' cooperatives must be tightened and reorganized along new lines. Controls must become stricter and unproductive occupations must not be counted as man-days; accounting must be more accurate. Work quotas will be introduced in all cooperative farms, and above-quota work will be compensated. Administration expenditures must be reduced. The agronomic and veterinary departments of the district and okoliya people's soviets and related organizations must use their knowledge and experience to introduce new, progressive methods of agriculture and animal husbandry and assist the work of farm workers' cooperatives.

11. The Ministry of Agriculture, people's soviets, and Party and Fatherland Front organizations must be careful to maintain a strictly democratic rule in the internal organization of the cooperatives through collective leadership and opposition to any domineering tendencies or minimizing of the importance of the general assembly and its decisions. The poorer farmers, women, and youthful elements must be included in farm soviets.

General meetings of all cooperative members must be called every 3 months, and the administration and the control committee will report work progress and plan fulfillment.

12. The okoliya and local people's soviets will extend regular assistance to the cooperatives.

The cooperatives will account strictly for their production, introduce an accurate property check, and prevent any waste or misappropriation. Severe penalties will be inflicted for any violations. The control commission will make checks at least four times a year.

13. The Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Agriculture are requested by the Council of Ministers to submit, within a month, their projects for the financing of construction work, livestock husbandry, etc., on cooperative farms, and to indicate the rate of interest.

#### I. Machine Tractor Stations

1. The Council of Ministers and the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party feel that it is impossible to establish up-to-date agricultural centers without an efficient technical base; this base is furnished by machine tractor stations.

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2. The Ministry of Agriculture must be aware that agricultural equipment must be used correctly and to its fullest capacity. With this objective in mind, the following measures will be introduced:
- a. Work norms for every type of agricultural work must be established before 5 February 1950.
  - b. Farm workers' cooperatives will remove stones or other obstacles from the field area.
  - c. Machine tractor personnel will be paid in cash and in kind: the guaranteed cash minimum will be supplemented by payments in kind, in accordance with the output of a given crop. Furthermore, all personnel, including supervisors, will receive premiums as a reward for exceeding quotas, for high-standard work performance, for good maintenance of the machine tractor park, and for economizing on fuel, lubricants, oil, and other material. The new pay rates will be established before 28 February 1950.
  - d. Collective, mechanized operations must also be introduced on private farms. Private farmlands will be assembled into suitable blocks before the end of February 1950.
3. The Ministry of Agriculture is requested to introduce and observe all regulations necessary for the flawless operation and maintenance of machine tractor stations. Administrative agencies will perform the regrouping and redistribution of tractors, to provide that tractors of the same make and model are concentrated in the same area before 5 February 1950. Mobile repair brigades will be organized before the end of February. Tractor personnel will be trained for mechanical work, and the pertinent training courses will be organized in every machine tractor station before the end of February.
4. The Ministry of Agriculture is requested to furnish machine tractor stations with all necessary equipment, spare parts, and material. The Ministry of Industry is requested to produce the equipment. Zemsrab and Despred (State Supply Enterprise) will expedite the equipping of the stations. The Petrol State Enterprise will provide the necessary fuel, according to plan provisions. The machine tractor stations will also be provided with 5,000 fuel containers.
5. The Ministry of Agriculture will be responsible for correct accounting operations in all machine tractor work; a detailed accounting system will also be introduced for repair work in tractor repair shops and in the field. Accounting courses will be organized in all machine tractor stations before 5 March 1950. Every station will appoint a responsible accountant, attached to the work brigades.
6. All construction projects must be completed, construction standards and technical documentation carefully checked, and costs reduced whenever possible.
7. In view of the payment-in-kind system, the maintenance of machine tractor stations will be stricken from the 1950 state budget. The Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Finance are therefore requested to set up plans for financing machine tractor stations and compensating for their losses incurred in 1948 and 1949. The deadline is 15 February 1950.
8. The Ministry of Agriculture will establish technical and political training courses for machine tractor personnel. Personnel will be recruited chiefly from farm workers' cooperatives which, for their part, will accept members from machine tractor stations.

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9. District and okoliya people's soviets are requested to cooperate fully with the existing machine tractor stations, and to sponsor the formation of new ones.

10. The Ministry of Agriculture is requested to report the total motive power, both motor and animal.

#### J. State Farms

The Council of Ministers and the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party request state farms, which are the basic factor in the reconstruction of rural economy along socialist lines, to adopt the methods prevailing in Soviet kolkhozes, to acquire full knowledge of modern production methods in crop production and animal husbandry, and to bring the production of high-grade fodder crops to at least 75 million kilograms within the next 3 to 4 years, and the average yield per decare to 180 kilograms.

The number of livestock and cattle must also be increased; the average yearly milk yield of a cow must reach at least 2,200 liters, and of an ewe, 65 liters. Every 100 ewes must bear at least 115 lambs, and every sheep must yield an average of at least 3 kilograms of wool. Every sow must bear yearly at least 17 sucklings, and each hen must lay a yearly average of 155 eggs.

The following measures will be introduced to assure fulfillment of the above requirements:

1. Through 1 September 1950, the Ministry of Agriculture will set up a final land-distribution program, including all state farms throughout the country, and will provide plans and maps for every farm.
2. A scientifically sound three-field rotation plan will be introduced in 40 farms during 1950, and in all remaining farms during 1951. All agricultural work will be based on the theories of Michurin, Vil'yams and Lysenko.
3. To provide a sufficient supply of coarse and succulent fodder, at least 260,000 decares will be sown with bean and grass varieties, and at least 115 decares with succulent fodder crops.
4. Fully outlined programs for progressive livestock husbandry and correct breeding operations, as well as for efficient veterinary services, will be established within 2 months.
5. The Ministry of Agriculture will conduct research to learn the best ways to use river and ground waters for irrigation. The State Planning Commission will assign funds for leveling state-farm land in the Danubian tablelands and for importing the necessary equipment in 1950.
6. Forest land in state-farm areas will be transferred by the Ministry of Forestry to the jurisdiction of the farms, which will cultivate the land under the ministry's supervision. The state farms will also provide for the forestation of their land borders and of some of their plots.
7. State farms will be exempted from all state and local taxes, duties and assessments, except the turnover tax. The expenditures incurred in thoroughbred animal husbandry will be covered by long-term investment credits.
8. The Ministry of Agriculture requests the Ministry of Finance to advance, within one month, a motion for the release of credits to provide operating funds for state farms, and for settling state-farm debts at the Bulgarian National Bank.

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Within 2 months, the Ministry of Agriculture will prepare a report and present a project on the development of state farms.

9. The Central Authority of State Farms must be reorganized under the unification principle, allowing a more streamlined supervision of operations. It must also consistently assist the farms in their activities and check plan fulfillment.

10. To secure the services of adequate personnel, technical and agricultural workers will be authorized to build their own housing on state-farm lands. The Bulgarian National Bank will extend low-interest 10-year credits for this purpose, and the Ministry of Industry will release the necessary building material at ceiling prices.

11. A group of 20 persons, including supervisors, agriculturists, livestock experts, and a few efficient workers, will be sent in 1950 to the USSR to study work methods of the sovkhoses for their subsequent adaptation to Bulgarian state farms.

12. During intensive agriculture campaigns, such as harvesting, the okoliya and local people's soviets and Party and Fatherland Front organizations will assist state farms by supplying additional manpower.

13. The ministry will give very serious attention to the successful development of state farms, which must become model institutions for farm workers' cooperatives and poor or medium farmers.

#### K. Personnel

1. The Council of Ministers and the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party request the Ministry of Agriculture to provide all its departments and related services in district and okoliya people's soviets, machine tractor stations, and state farms with well-qualified and reliable personnel.

2. Within one month, the Ministry of Agriculture will set up a plan for the apportionment of specialized personnel among districts and okoliya.

3. Recently graduated agriculturists will be assigned to their posts by the Ministry of Agriculture. The people's soviets are not authorized to make such appointments without the approval of the ministry.

4. Within one month, the Ministry of Agriculture will submit a project for the transfer to the Ministry of Agriculture of a possibly large number of agriculturists, veterinarians, and other specialists now attached to various departments.

5. The Ministry of Agriculture will introduce all necessary measures to improve the work standards of agricultural workers, revise the programs of agricultural schools, eliminate over expanded curriculums, and establish biological laboratories and other facilities for special studies.

6. The teaching body will be improved by filling vacant positions and dismissing inefficient teachers. Qualified agricultural teachers will be promoted to superintend the schools. The Ministry of Education is being advised to transfer some teachers of general subjects to work in agricultural schools.

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7. Special courses will be held at the beginning of the school year to improve the political training of teachers, and a general political conference will be held during the winter holidays. Agricultural school teachers will also be enrolled in the political training courses for high-school teachers.

8. Student admission will be based on a strict check of the social and political background of the applicant.

9. State farms will turn over a part of their land, draft animals, livestock, etc., to the agricultural schools in Sadovo, Obratzov Chiflik, Tolbukhin, and Silistra, which will establish their individual school farms.

10. The Agricultural Academy will introduce correspondence courses.

11. In 1950, the Ministry of Agriculture will send 150 persons to the USSR to study the methods of sovkhozes, kolkhozes, and any new scientific agricultural work systems.

#### L. Structure of the Ministry of Agriculture

The Council of Ministers and the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party request the Ministry of Agriculture to reorganize its operating staff, improve work methods, and eliminate red tape. Employees must be more aware of their responsibilities and must be ready to solve any problem in their field.

To enable the ministry to handle all its assignments efficiently, the Council of Ministers and the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party have established and ratified the following organization:

1. The highest authority is the administration, comprising all departments.

2. Some offices of the ministry will be established as autonomous organizations, independent of the administration.

3. The following administration units are provided: (a) plant administration, (b) animal husbandry, (c) veterinary administration, (d) farm workers' cooperatives, (e) machine tractor stations, (f) state farms, (g) agricultural supply and graded seed, (h) land administration, and (i) water administration.

4. The following autonomous departments are established: (a) economic planning, (b) land distribution and crop rotation, (c) construction (d) personnel training, (e) scientific research, (f) finance and accounting, and (g) economic (housing and transportation).

5. A general office will be established.

6. District agricultural departments will be established in 1950.

7. A statute for the agricultural departments of okoliya people's soviets will be established, based on the volume of the sown area and the number of livestock and personnel.

8. Veterinary and agricultural sections will be established in every okoliya to assist farm workers' cooperatives and private farmers.

9. During 1950, 45 okoliya laboratories will be opened and assigned to soil analysis, examination of fertilizer requirements, seed analysis, etc.

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10. The ministry will organize project offices in charge of planning new agricultural constructions and preparing appropriate estimates. Each agricultural section of the okoliya people's soviets will have a construction technician to supervise construction work of farm workers' cooperatives and one surveyor, who will also be in charge of drawing up land registers indicating the volume of cultivated and waste land.

11. A scientific and technical advisory committee will be established, consisting of scientists who will be in charge of all scientific and technical problems arising under the ministry's jurisdiction.

12. A group of inspectors will supervise the fulfillment of every assignment.

13. A state commission will be established to approve new grades of seed and new breeds of animals.

14. Before 1 March 1950, the Ministry of Agriculture will submit for the approval of the Council of Ministers a new statute for the ministry and all its okoliya and district departments.

Council of Ministers  
Central Committee, Bulgarian Communist Party  
20 January 1950

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