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SUMMIT OF THE HEADS OF CENTRAL ASIAN STATES HELD IN TASHKENT.



On 29 November 2019, the second Consultative meeting of the heads of Central Asian States was held in Tashkent. The summit was attended by: President Shavkat Mirziyoyev of Uzbekistan, First President of Kazakhstan Nursultan Nazarbayev, President Sooronbay Jeenbekov of Kyrgyzstan, President Emomali Rahmonof of Tajikistan, President Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov of Turkmenistan. Uzbek President Shavkat Mirziyoyev noted the necessity of the strengthening partnership based on mutual trust and coordination".

The next important direction is strengthening transport between the region. The necessity of accelerating the creation of a regional Council for Transport Communications, the harmonization of the Program and Agreement on the joint development of the Central Asian transport system.

Third, expanding cooperation in the energy sector, Consider the possibility of implementing joint projects to create a modern energy infrastructure in the region, paying particular attention to increasing the share of renewable energy sources.

Mirziyoyev noted the need to create a single, recognizable tourism brand in Central Asia with attractive regional tourism

products. To this end, Mirziyoyev proposed holding the International Travel Conference "Traveling in Central Asia". Kyrgyz President Sooronbay Jeenbekov said that "Climatic changes in the world are manifesting themselves more and more every year,"

"Forty-five percent of the region's water resources are formed in our mountains. Accordingly, in the near future we will face the real problem of lowering the water level in rivers. "As a result, it will inevitably affect the ecology of Central Asia, significantly reduce the potential of large hydropower plants," the president of Kyrgyzstan warned.

In this regard, he proposed to introduce in Central Asia mutual compensation mechanisms for the accumulation of water resources. "We expect that the costs of storage, management and delivery of water will be reimbursed accordingly.

We urge the resumption of cooperation under the 1998 Agreement on the Use of Water and Energy Resources of the Naryn-Syr Darya River between Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan, which provides for a compensation mechanism.

"I am convinced that this will allow us to move forward in

resolving water and energy issues in the region for the sustainable development of our countries," he said.

Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev noted the need to pay special attention to cooperation in the cultural and humanitarian field. So, in this area, Nazarbayev offers to allocate 10 grants for students from each country in the region, providing the right to study in the best universities in Kazakhstan.

During his remarks, Nazarbayev proposed to conclude a five-sided Treaty on good neighborliness and cooperation for the development of Central Asia in the 21st century.

"It is necessary to achieve the barrier-free Central Asia by removing obstacles to the movement of goods, services and capital," he said.

Turkmen President Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov invited the heads of Central Asian countries to think about creating

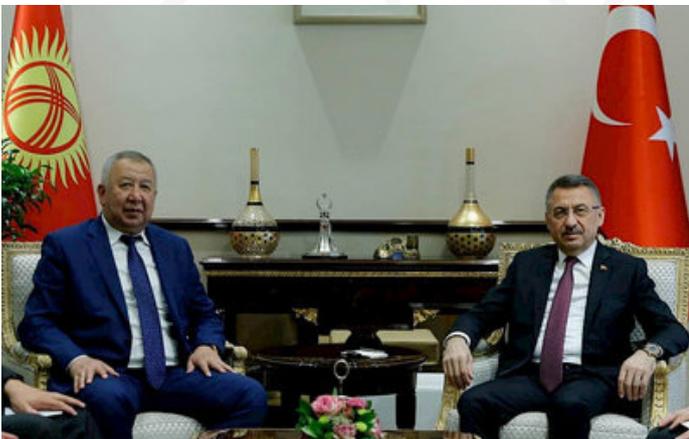
a five-sided Business Council, "The business council can make appropriate recommendations to governments, develop specific proposals on the investment agenda for cooperation with foreign business circles," the President of Turkmenistan added.

Tajik President Emomali Rahmon expressed the idea of creating an Investment Fund of Central Asia to fund the most promising regional projects.

The relevant multilateral agreement on developing a regional mechanism for transport and transit cooperation could be concluding, said Tajik leader. The sharing of water resources was one of topics touched upon by the president of Tajikistan.

Following the meeting, a joint statement was signed by the heads of state of Central Asia and a work plan for organizing a consultative meeting was adopted.

9TH MEETING OF KYRGYZ-TURKISH INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMISSION WAS HELD IN ANKARA



The 9th meeting of the Intergovernmental Kyrgyz-Turkish Commission on Trade and Economic Cooperation, was held in the city of Ankara (Turkish Republic).

Co-Chairmen of the Intergovernmental Kyrgyz-Turkish Commission on Trade and Economic Cooperation were First Vice Prime Minister of the Kyrgyz Republic Kubatbek Boronov and Vice President of the Republic of Turkey Fuat Oktay.

Following the meeting, the final Protocol of the meeting of the Commission and the Action Plan for Economic Cooperation, consisting of 76 points, aimed at solving specific problems in the field of trade, healthcare, education and veterinary medicine were signed.

During additional negotiations with the Turkish side,

important points were included on the modernization of customs checkpoints, the creation of laboratories in the Kyrgyz Republic for complete genomic DNA analysis, as well as on the tissue compatibility of HLA, Cross Match and PRA, necessary for transplantology.

Representatives of both sides noted the importance of holding the Commission on an annual basis, within which strategically important decisions are made to strengthen and strengthen relations between the two states.

Issues such as science and education, healthcare, industry and subsoil use, labor and social protection, finance and banking, culture and tourism, transport and communications, were discussed.

First Deputy Prime Minister Kubatbek Boronov noted the need to take measures to implement agreements on the achievement of trade between both countries up to \$ 1 billion.

According to him, the holding of the Kyrgyz-Turkish business forum on November 1 this year will certainly give an additional momentum to the development of cooperation in the field of trade and investment.

The sides outlined a plan to organize a large Kyrgyz-Turkish business forum on the shore of Lake Issyk Kul in the summer of 2020.

At the end of the event, in order to effectively implement the decisions taken, an agreement was reached on the exchange of information on the progress in the implementation of the signed Action Plan on a quarterly basis.

14 TON GOLD PRODUCTION IN KUMTOR MINE



Kyrgyzstan's Kumtor gold mine produced 14 tons of 48.8 kilograms (451 thousand 679 ounces) of gold in the first nine months of 2019. Canada-based Kumtor Gold Company, which holds the operating rights of the mine, in the first nine months of 2019, it was announced to the public that the tax and compulsory payments of 10.79 billion Kyrgyz

som were transferred to the Kyrgyz state treasury. According to information received from the 24.kg news site, total gold production volume in the third quarter of 2019 was 4 tons 675.01 kilograms, while this rate was 3 tons 808.47 kilograms in the same period of 2018. In the same period of 2019, 4 tons of 979.3 kilograms of gold were exported, generating 234.4 million dollars in revenue. It is reported that gold production increased in this period due to the excavations in the 18th and 19th regions with high reserves. In the same period of this year, 67 wells were drilled with a total depth of 18 thousand 215 meters and activities are continuing to extend the life of the mine. From 1997 to 30 September 2019, when production began at the Kumtor mine, the largest gold mine in Central Asia, approximately 12.5 million ounces of gold was produced. Canada-based Kumtor Gold Company, has held the operating rights of Kumtor mine since 1997 when production started.

100 MILLION DOLLAR BUDGET FROM ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK FOR UCH-KURGANSK HYDROELECTRIC POWER PLANT

Asian Development Bank will allocate \$ 100 million budget for the renovation of the Uch-Kurgansk Hydroelectric Power Plant in Kyrgyzstan's Jalal-Abad region. To this end, the Kyrgyz Government and the Asian Development Bank signed a loan and grant agreement on 02.11.19 for the renovation project of the Uch-Kurgansk HPP.

Kyrgyzstan Ministry of Finance press service reported that the total cost of the project will be around \$ 160 million, according to the agreement. The Asian Development Bank allocated \$ 100 million for the project. It is reported that 60 million dollars of this budget will be a loan and 40 million dollars will be a grant. The loan, the first 8 years grace period will be given for 32 years.

The Government of Kyrgyzstan also plans to borrow another \$ 45 million from the Eurasian Development Bank. Kyrgyzstan is planning to contribute \$ 15 million to the project.

The budget will be used to replace the electromechanical



equipment and hydraulic units in the plant, reconstruction of the hydraulic structures, cleaning the plant base from siltation and strengthening the plant.

PRIME MINISTERS OF KYRGYZSTAN AND UZBEKISTAN MET IN TASHKENT



Prime Minister of Kyrgyzstan Muhammedkaliy Abilgazyev met with Prime Minister Abdulla Aripov in Uzbekistan on his official visit.

According to the Government Press Service of Kyrgyzstan, the meeting held in Tashkent, the capital of Uzbekistan, focused on the development and consolidation of bilateral cooperation in many areas.

The Prime Minister of Uzbekistan Abdulla Aripov expressed his happiness for the meeting, which allowed the two

countries to discuss issues of the same importance and said, "The dynamism of our meetings started to give the results. The relations between our heads of state based on mutual trust and friendship relations opened a new page of mutual efforts between the two neighboring countries. These steps will strengthen the friendship among our brotherly peoples."

Prime Minister of Kyrgyzstan Abilgazyev stated that Kyrgyzstan attaches importance to establishing relations and cooperation with Uzbekistan in many areas and said, "In 2016, the foreign trade volume between our countries was 50 million dollars. When we look at the statistics of the first half of 2019, the foreign trade volume has reached 446 million dollars in accordance with the statistics of Uzbekistan. These statistics show that in the last 2.5 years, the trade volume has improved by 3 times in some cases and by 10 times based on other data. The political initiative of the presidents of the two countries will strengthen the economic and cultural relations of our countries and develop intensive relations between the business people of the two countries." All aspects of Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan relations, current issues of bilateral cooperation, cooperation in the solution of border issues, development of trade and economic relations were discussed.

TURKEY AND KAZAKHSTAN SIGNED 3 AGREEMENT

Agreements were signed in the fields of economy, freight transport and halal accreditation between Turkey and Kazakhstan.

According to information received from Anadolu Agency, within the scope of Turkey-Kazakhstan intergovernmental Joint Economic Commission (JEC) 11th Term Meeting held in Istanbul On November 11, 2019 in co-presidency of Vice President Fuat Oktay and the Prime Minister of Kazakhstan Askar Mamin, it is announced that agreements were signed in three field between Turkey and Kazakhstan. During the signing ceremony held at the Presidential Complex, Vice President Oktay and Prime Minister of Kazakhstan Mamin signed the International Combined Freight Transportation agreement.

Memorandum of Understanding on Halal Accreditation and New Synergy Joint Economy Program 2019-2020 Action Plan were signed by Minister of Commerce Ruhsar Pekcan and Minister of National Economy of Kazakhstan Ruslan Dalenov.

The trade volume between Turkey and Kazakhstan, and the agreements aimed at improving existing relationships,



is expected to play a role in the realization of the trade volume target of 10 billion dollars.

In the business forum held within the scope of the JEC meeting, 13 agreements were signed with a total of 19 agreements, of which 6 were commercial and 6 were based on corporate cooperation.

69% INCREASE IN CONTAINER TRANSPORT BETWEEN TURKEY AND KAZAKHSTAN

In the January-September period of 2019, container transportation between Kazakhstan and Turkey, compared to the same period of 2018 (2.2 thousand TEU) increased by 69%, was 5.4 thousand TEU.

According to information from Haberler.com, in the statement made by Kazakhstan State Railways (KTJ), it was emphasized that the transportation and freight transportation sector between the two countries is developing and it was stated that container transportation in the first nine months of this year was 5.4 thousand TEU and increased by 69 percent compared to the same period of the previous year.

In the statement indicated that the studies related to the implementation of new logistics services have been made stated that alternative container transportation service was started on the Shian-Istanbul-Prague route jointly with the railway institutions of Kazakhstan, China, Azerbaijan, Georgia and Turkey in October 2019.



EU ALLOCATES 28 MILLION EUROS FOR THREE PROGRAMS IN CENTRAL ASIA



The European Union is to allocate 28 million euros for programs to support trade, the rule of law, investment and economic growth in Central Asia, EU Ambassador to Kazakhstan Sven-Olov Carlsson said Thursday.

The official ceremony for the signing of three agreements was held during the international conference "Enhanced Integration for Prosperity in Central Asia" held in the Kazakh capital.

EU Ambassador to Kazakhstan Sven-Olov Karlsson, responsible for coordinating these three programs,

answering journalists' questions on the sidelines of the conference, explained that the allocated 28 million euros will be allocated as follows: five million euros will be allocated for the implementation of the Central Asia - Invest program, 15 million euros for a program to promote international trade in Central Asia, eight million euros for the development of the rule of law in Central Asia.

Carrison said that these three programs will start early next year and will be implemented in the framework of the new EU Strategy for Central Asia, which was approved in June this year.

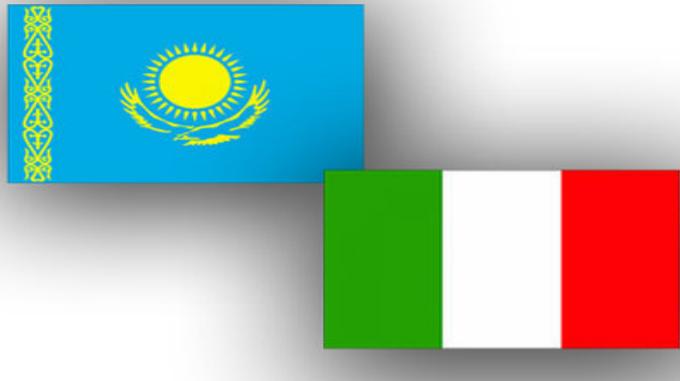
"Today, the EU intends to enter a new level of interaction. We intend to further promote the development of regional cooperation, which will allow Central Asian countries to better manage the advantages of existing mutual ties, as well as eliminate weaknesses and solve common problems, unleash their economic potential and strengthen their positions in the international arena, while at the same time maintaining their independence and identity," summarized Mr. Carlsson. Recall, on June 17, 2019, the EU approved a new strategy for Central Asia that provides for greater interaction, support for regional stability and development, and strengthening relations between countries in the region, including through strengthening regional cohesion, ensuring the rule of law, attracting investment and developing the private sector.

6.6 BILLION DOLLARS INVESTMENT FROM ITALY TO KAZAKHSTAN

Since 2005, the total volume of investments from Italy to Kazakhstan has reached \$ 6.6 billion. At the Kazakhstan-Italy Business Forum held in Nur Sultan, the capital of Kazakhstan, Yerlan Hairov, Special Affairs Ambassador of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan, made a statement to the Kazpravda.kz news agency.

According to information from the Kazpravda.kz news site, Ambassador Yerlan Kairov said that more than 400 registered Italian capital companies are registered in Kazakhstan and 275 of them are active. Yerlan Kairov noted, "Italian companies operate in various sectors such as trade, service delivery and oil. Generally speaking, we have received great interest from Italian companies. When we look at the statistics, we see that Italy has invested a total of USD 6.6 billion in the economy of Kazakhstan since 2005. We believe that the Kazakhstan-Italy Business Forum, organized for the first time this year, will have a positive impact on the arrival of Italian investors to Kazakhstan."

According to Ambassador Yerlan Kairov's statement, more than \$ 24 billion was invested in Kazakhstan in 2018, and



Kazakhstan's economy grew by 15% in 2018.

According to the information provided by the press service of Kazakh Invest Corporation, the national export and investment agency of Kazakhstan, in the first 8 months of 2019, it was stated that Kazakhstan's foreign trade volume with Italy was 6.7 billion dollars.

KAZAKHSTAN AND UZBEKISTAN SIGNED THE ROADMAP FOR ENHANCING COOPERATION IN AGRICULTURE



The ministers of agriculture of Kazakhstan Saparkhan Omarov and his colleague from Uzbekistan Zhamshid Khojaev signed a roadmap for enhancing cooperation between the two countries in the field of agriculture. The roadmap was signed following the results of the

negotiations, in the presence of the head of the Kazakh government.

The document provides measures for the development of cooperation in 2019-2024 in the fields of agricultural science, production, certification, trade, digitalization, veterinary medicine and animal husbandry, plant quarantine.

Prime Minister of Kazakhstan Askar Mamin received a delegation led by the Minister of Agriculture (MOA) of Uzbekistan Zhamshid Khojaev.

The Prime Minister Askar Mamin noted the existence of significant potential for increasing mutual deliveries of agricultural products, joint implementation of investment projects and access to the markets of third countries. Commodity circulation of agricultural products and processed agricultural products between Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan totalled about \$770 million in January-September 2019.

The main exports of Kazakhstan to Uzbekistan are wheat and meslin, wheat or wheat-rye flour, sunflower seeds, sugar, cattle, and wheat waste. Uzbekistan mainly exports to Kazakhstan cherries and cherries, fresh grapes, apricots, tomatoes, peaches, persimmons, vegetables.

OVER 3 TRILLION TENGE INVESTED IN HOUSING CONSTRUCTION IN KAZAKHSTAN

Kazakhstan invested over 3.3 trillion tenge for housing construction.

This announcement is made by the Minister of Industry and Infrastructure Development of the Republic of Kazakhstan Beibut Atamkulov during a Government meeting, Kazpravda.kz correspondents reports.

“Within the framework of the Nurdy Zher program, 33.5 million square meters of new housing have been built since 2017. About 300 thousand families have improved their living conditions. On 1 tenge invested by government attracted 6 tenge of private investments. In total, more than 3 trillion tenge have been invested in housing construction, “Atamkulov accounted.

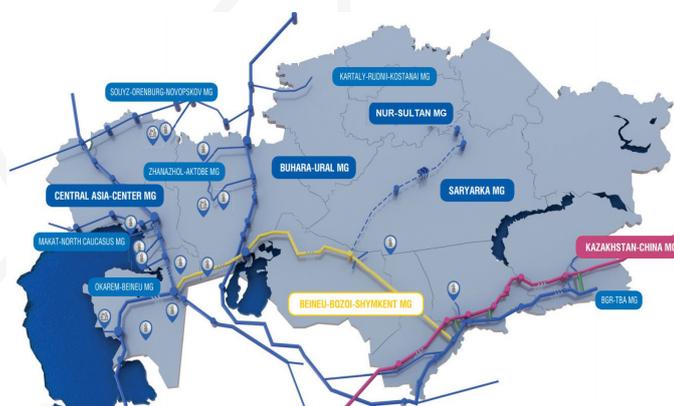
According to him, the positive dynamics of growth in housing commissioning volumes remains on average by 9-10%. Investments increased annually by an average of 18%.

“In 2018, 12.5 million square meters of housing, or 0.68 square meters per inhabitant of the republic were



commissioned. This is the highest figure among the CIS countries. The provision with housing per person has reached 21.9 square meters. Our goal is to bring to 30 square meters by 2030, “the minister added.

THE EXACT LAUNCH DATE OF THE SARYARKA GAS PIPELINE WAS ANNOUNCED



At the press conference in the Government, Vice Minister of Energy of Kazakhstan Murat Zhurebekov said that construction of the Saryarka gas pipeline to Nur-Sultan is being completed, Kazpravda.kz correspondents reports. “Work is underway on the construction of branch pipelines

and five automated gas distribution stations, a gas metering station and a control point. In general, work is proceeding on schedule and in December this year all facilities will be completed. Acceptance of the pipeline is scheduled for December 31, 2019,” Zhurebekov said.

According to him, The project works with 1,700 experts and 1,000 units of special technological equipment. Construction work of 1061.3 km or 100% of the linear part of the gas pipeline were finished and, 963 km or 91% of the gas pipeline were tested.

He also noted that “In general, the construction of a gas pipeline to Nur-Sultan will allow for the phased supply of 171 settlements along the gas pipeline’s route, as well as improve the environmental condition of the capital and other resolutions.”

In conclusion, he noted that the scheme and terms of financing were approved by the state commission for the modernization of the economy in August last year. “The total construction cost of the project is 267.3 billion tenge.”

TURKMENISTAN'S COOPERATION WITH SCO COUNTRIES IN THE FIELD OF ENERGY

Turkmenista's Foreign Minister Rashid Meredov said that at the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Summit held in Tashkent, the capital of Uzbekistan on 01.11.19, Turkmenistan is ready for multilateral cooperation in sustainable energy with SCO member states.

According to information from the Gundogar.org website, Foreign Minister Meredov said in his speech, "Today, we have the task of ensuring the sustainability, diversification, safety and reliability of the energy supply system. Turkmenistan is ready for strategic, systematic and multilateral cooperation with SCO member countries in the field of energy."

The Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) was founded in 2001 by leaders of China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan. In 2017, India and Pakistan were accepted to SCO. Afghanistan, Belarus, Iran and Mongolia have observer status in SCO and countries in



cooperation with the organization are Azerbaijan, Armenia, Cambodia, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Turkey. Turkmenistan does not yet have an official status in SCO.

FLIGHTS BETWEEN JEDDAH AND KUALA LUMPUR FROM TURKMENISTAN



As of February 2020, Turkmenistan Airlines will start regular flights between the cities of Jeddah, Saudi Arabia and Kuala Lumpur, the capital of Malaysia.

According to information from the Centralasia.news news site, Boeing 777-200LR model aircraft between the two cities will perform these flights.

It is stated that the development of air transport in Turkmenistan has gained a strong momentum recently. For this, in Turkmenistan, modern airports built in accordance with international standards. The aircraft fleet of Turkmenistan Airlines has been renewed with aircraft purchased from the world's most advanced aircraft manufacturers, and the aircrafts are being modernized with new technologies.

Today, Turkmenistan Airlines carries approximately 2 million passengers annually. With the expansion of the company's fleet and route network, the number of passengers increased by 15-20% annually. The company has a fleet of 20 Boeing aircraft. Three Boeing 737-800s were purchased in 2013, two Boeing 777-200LRs in 2014 and three Boeing 737-800s in 2015. Between 2016 and 2018, several Boeing aircraft were added to the fleet.

According to Turkmenistan State Statistics Committee, Turkmenistan Airlines increased its cargo transportation rate by 34.6% and passenger transportation by 2.3% in the January-August period of 2019 compared to the same period of 2018.

MINERAL FERTILIZER EXPORT FROM TURKMENISTAN TO EUROPE



Turkmenistan started exporting mineral fertilizers to Europe. It has been reported that most of the fertilizer (261 tons) produced since the beginning of 2019 in the Garabogazkarbamid mineral fertilizer factory of the

Turkmenhimiya state institution in Turkmenistan has been exported abroad.

According to the information provided by the Turkmenistan Altyn Asyr News Agency, it is announced that the carbamide mineral fertilizer produced in Turkmenistan is valuable in the world fertilizer market and reported that carbamide mineral fertilizer produced in Turkmenistan is used in agriculture sector in many countries particularly Bulgaria, Turkey, Romania, including Spain.

In September 2018, it was stated that Turkmenistan's production infrastructure in the chemical industry was strengthened with the commissioning of the Garabogazkarbamid mineral fertilizer production facility in the Balkan city. Equipped with technologies from Denmark, Italy, the Netherlands and the USA, the factory is the only fully automated fertilizer production facility in its region.

The factory is located at the seaside for fast shipment of produced fertilizer. This also reduces shipment costs. The factory has an annual production capacity of 1 million 155 thousand tons of mineral carbamide fertilizer.

OSCE ORGANIZED WATER MANAGEMENT SEMINAR IN ASHGABAT

The OSCE Centre in Ashgabat provided a platform for regional dialogue on the best practices and standards in use of innovative water management technologies.

Representatives of the State Committee of Water Economy, the Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection, the Executive Committee of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea (IFAS) and other Turkmenistan agencies were joined by their counterparts from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.

International experts focused on Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM), presenting innovative solutions ensuring sustainable water supply for irrigation, sustainable urban water management, innovative renewable energy and the use of Information and Communication Technologies within the field of sustainable water management.

Representatives of the Central Asian countries shared their experience in developing relevant national strategies, adapting regional programs and implementing projects on innovative water management technologies.

"It is impossible to ignore the reality of the 21st Century, the age of 'high technology', in which innovative decisions and technological know-how, digital and robo-technology are an essential prerequisite for technological progress in any field", said Natalya Drozd, Head of the OSCE Centre in Ashgabat.

Drozd mentioned a number of OSCE's successful



initiatives in the environmental sphere, including supporting Turkmenistan within the framework of its IFAS chairmanship.

"We consider this seminar a timely initiative that enabled regional governmental authorities to engage in the discussion and exchange the practices of Central Asian countries in the development and adaptation of innovative technologies in water management as well as getting acquainted with international experiences in IWRM," she said. Experts facilitated discussions and the exchange of information on national experiences in the area of water management and practical applications of technological solutions in the Central Asia region.

TURKMEN PRIVATE TEXTILE COMPANY EXPANDS PRODUCTION

FE “Batly Gadam” is the largest manufacturer of highest quality sock products in the country, which has demand not only in domestic but also in international markets.

A young enterprise in the domestic textile industry of Turkmenistan, a member of the Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs Batly Gadam FE, is making successful steps towards the global market, competing with other similar enterprises. It is reported by the online radio “Voice of the CIS.”

The design capacity of the new factory located in the city of Balkanabat of the Balkan province is 6 thousand tons of yarn and 18 million pairs of socks per year. About 90% of the yarn (5400 tons) is exported, and the remaining 10% is used in the manufacture of socks. The “geography” of export is systematically expanding. Today, yarn is supplied to Russia, Belarus, Turkey, Iran. Hosiery from environmental friendly 100% cotton is very demanding in Russia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan and Iran.

For Turkmenistan, in solving the state task of accelerating the status from the raw material supplier to the position of



a major global producer and exporter of finished products, for that, a special place is given to the development of the textile industry. This industry is one of the youngest and most promising, including in terms of export opportunities. Representatives of private business make their significant contribution to this work.

EXPORT OF 9.8 MILLION DOLLAR NATURAL GAS FROM UZBEKISTAN TO TAJIKISTAN



In January-September 2019, Tajikistan imported 77.1 million cubic meters of natural gas from Uzbekistan. In a statement made by the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of Tajikistan, in the first 9 months of this year, it was reported that 77.1 million cubic meters of natural gas was imported from Uzbekistan for 9.8 million dollars.

During this period, Uzbekistan’s natural gas, which is mostly used by heavy industry enterprises, will be presented to the consumption of citizens after the modernization of the natural gas distribution network in Tajikistan.

Uzbekistan exported 54 million cubic meters last year to Tajikistan, where it started to supply natural gas again in April 2018. The government of Tajikistan is planning to purchase about 200 million cubic meters of natural gas from Uzbekistan this year. Tajikistan authorities pay 120 US dollars per thousand cubic meters of natural gas to Uzbekistan.

After 9 years of stagnation in relations between the two countries, with the return to normal relations, Tajikistan started exporting electricity to Uzbekistan last year and Uzbekistan began to import natural gas to Tajikistan.

In Uzbekistan, an average of 60 billion cubic meters of natural gas is produced annually, a significant portion of it is consumed within the country, and 10-12 billion cubic meters of natural gas is exported to China, Russia and other countries.

CROSSOVER ROADS WILL BE BUILT IN TAJIKISTAN'S LARGE CITIES

In order to ease vehicle traffic in the major cities of Tajikistan, three-stage crossover roads are planned to be built.

According to the Tajikistan Avesta News Agency, crossover roads are located only in Dushanbe. A second interchange is expected to be commissioned before the end of this year. In addition, seven more such interchanges are planned to be built over the next 10 years. Negotiations were held with investors represented by international financial institutions on the construction of three-stage crossover roads in major cities and state budget will be allocated for the construction of these structures.

According to experts, three-stage crossover roads need to be built to reduce vehicle traffic in cities.



TAJIKISTAN INCREASES ITS ELECTRICITY EXPORTS TO THE NEIGHBOUR COUNTRIES.



According to the Tajikistan Electricity Authority, In January-October 2019, Tajikistan exported a total of \$ 89 million to Uzbekistan, Afghanistan and Kyrgyzstan.

The amount of electricity exported to its neighbouring countries in the first ten months of this year increased by 21% compared to the corresponding period of last year. Between January and October, Tajikistan generated \$ 89 million in revenue from its 3 billion kilowatt-hour (kwh) electricity exports to neighboring countries. In the given period, electricity production in Tajikistan increased by 5.2% compared to the same period of the previous year to 17 billion kilowatt hours (kwh).

By the end of this year, Tajikistan plans to export a total of 3.5 billion kilowatt hours of electricity to neighboring countries. Afghanistan pays 4.11 cents and Uzbekistan pays 2 cents for 1 kilowatt-hour of electricity sold by Tajikistan.

Last year, Tajikistan generated 19.7 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity, generating \$ 77 million in revenue from its exports of 2.4 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity to Afghanistan, Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan.

ADB ALLOCATED \$ 10 MILLION FOR TOURISM DEVELOPMENT IN TAJIKISTAN



The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a \$10 million grant to help Tajikistan develop tourism in the country.

The project is ADB's first tourism sector operation in Tajikistan.

"Tajikistan has considerable advantages for the development of tourism, given its beautiful mountainous landscape, natural resources, as well as cultural and historical ties with the ancient Silk Road and even earlier eras," said ADB Project Administration unit head in Tajikistan Mr. Raza Farrukh. "But the tourism potential of the country remains untapped. Thanks to this project, we will move the government's efforts on developing tourism sector to a new level."

The project will prepare a comprehensive tourism development plan, including market demand analysis and skill mapping, as well as strengthening institutional capacity in the sector.

108.7 MILLION DOLLAR INVESTMENT AGREEMENTS SIGNED IN INNOWEEK-2019 BUSINESS FORUM

International Innovation and Investment Forum (InnoWeek-2019) was held on 04.11.19 in Tashkent, the capital of Uzbekistan.

According to Uzbekistan News Agency's Uztag.info news site, within the scope of InnoWeek-2019, a memorandum of understanding of \$ 108.7 million and investment agreements were reported.

The forum was attended by representatives of diplomatic missions, local and foreign entrepreneurs, employees of research institutes, media representatives, as well as more than 35 foreign and more than 20 local speakers.

The first day of the forum, a memorandum of understanding of \$ 96.5 million was signed with investors from China, Turkey, Israel, Poland and India to enhance bilateral cooperation.

On the second day, a total of \$ 6.3 million investment agreement was signed with investors from South Korea to



develop bilateral cooperation. On the third day, a total of \$ 5.9 million agreements were signed between investors and entrepreneurs.

UZBEKISTAN CEASES EXPORT OF RAW COTTONSAMARKAND

Since 2020, Uzbekistan plans to export high value-added products such as textiles abroad by processing raw cotton in its domestic market.

According to Fergana.agency news site, Uzbekistan Investment and Foreign Trade Minister Sardor Umurzakov said in an interview that they are planning to export textile products to be produced in Uzbekistan, not only to CIS countries, but also to all countries of the world, including the USA and China. Umurzakov also said that according to estimates of the export volume of textile products to be produced in Uzbekistan this year, 2 billion US dollars, until 2025 to 8 billion dollars.

According to data from the French Institute of International Relations, in 2018, China made 786 investments and Japan only 17 investments. According to statistics, Minister Umurzakov said that Uzbekistan attracts the attention of foreign investors, especially in innovative high-tech sectors. He added that the investments would contribute to the economic development of Uzbekistan among the 20 most developed countries.

In recent years, Uzbekistan has gradually reduced the supply of cotton fibers, which is one of the main export items compared to previous years. It has been reported that since 2017, 1 million 200 thousand tons of fibers



have been produced, which will be processed mainly in Uzbekistan.

According to the State Statistics Committee of Uzbekistan, cotton fiber exports in 2010 was as 1.5 billion USD. In 2015, this figure decreased to 736 million dollars, last year it was only 222 million dollars.

UZBEKISTAN AND CHINA INCREASE MUTUAL FLIGHTS



Uzbekistan and China plan to increase mutual flights to 15 flights per week.

According to information received from the sng.today news

site, a meeting was held in Beijing on 05.11.19 between the representatives of the aviation authorities of the two countries. The parties have agreed to open new flights from Uzbekistan to the cities of Shian, Sanya, Yiwu and Chengdu in China and start work on technical works. The meeting also discussed the flights of Uzbekistan Airways to Beijing Daxing International Airport.

Today, direct flights to Uzbekistan are from Beijing, Urumqi, Shanghai, Guanco and Tianjin. In addition, at the end of September of this year, the Chinese Zhejang Loong Airline launched a direct flight between Tashkent and Shian.

It is known that Uzbekistan Airways has a fleet of Airbus A320, Airbus A320neo, Boeing 757, Boeing 767 and Boeing 787-8.

Minister of Transport of Uzbekistan Ilhom Mahkamov, reported that small aircraft with a capacity of 70-90 people for domestic flights would be taken. It is planned to add 38 more aircraft to Uzbekistan Airways fleet by 2025.

VALDAI DISCUSSION CLUB CONGRESS STARTED IN TASHKENT

The 10th Asian Congress of the Valdai Discussion Club began on 11 November 2019 in Tashkent, the capital of Uzbekistan. The topic of the forum was determined as a “Multilateral Cooperation in Combating Global Disorders in Central Asia and Eurasia”.

According to information from the Uzreport.news news site, more than 60 experts from 11 countries are participating in the 10th Asian Congress organized by Valdai Discussion Forum and the Institute of Strategic and Regional Studies of the Presidency of Uzbekistan. Experts from Russia, Uzbekistan, Germany, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, China, Tajikistan, the Philippines, Sweden, Japan and India are participating in the congress.

At the opening ceremony of the forum, Uzbek Security Council Secretary Viktor Mahmudov read the message of the President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev.

Noting that Central Asia has played an increasingly important role in Eurasia and the world geopolitics, President Mirziyoyev said, in his message, “As a result of our joint efforts, friendship, neighborhood and cooperation relations, Central Asian countries have achieved a new atmosphere in a short time. The political confidence environment has increased significantly, which enables effective regional resolution of vital issues today. Common ideas were found on state borders, the use of water resources, transportation and trade. Uzbekistan has always committed itself to



expanding regional cooperation in many ways. Our main goal as Uzbekistan is to ensure that Central Asia becomes an economically developed, stable and peaceful center of cooperation.”

Congress participants have the opportunity to exchange views on how Central Asia’s integration process should be moved to wider international cooperation.

The Valdai Discussion Forum was held for the first time in 2004 near Valdai Lake in Veliky Novgorod, Russia. The center of the forum, named after Valdai Lake, where the first one was held, is located in Moscow, the capital of Russia.

UZBEKISTAN REACHED THE TOP 20 MOST ATTRACTIVE COUNTRIES FOR TOURISTS IN 2020



According to a Titan Travel report, Uzbekistan, along with Borneo and Costa Rica, is recognized as one of the most attractive and exotic destinations for travel in 2020.

The top 20 most attractive countries for travel in 2020 included the USA, Canada, Italy, India, South Africa, Austria, Vietnam, Japan, China, Australia, Uzbekistan, Egypt, Spain, Costa Rica, Borneo, Greece, Slovenia, Cuba, Peru and Iceland.

“When compiling the rating, we observed an increase in the tourism potential of individual countries. For example, Uzbekistan was included in the list of top 20, Costa Rica rose to 14 points, Borneo took the first place among the twenty, ”said Andy Squirell, managing director of Titan Travel.

As Andy Squirell emphasized, today the organization offers more than 300 destinations in 70 countries and 7 continents.

UZBEKISTAN'S FOREIGN TRADE VOLUME GROWS

According to the statistics of January-October 2019, the Uzbekistan's foreign trade turnover amounted to \$34.73 billion, thereby increasing by \$8.89 billion (34.4 percent) compared to the same period of 2018.

According to the data of Uzbekistan's State Statistics Committee, Exports account for \$14.81 billion (a 43.3 increase), and imports – for \$19.92 billion (a 28.5 increase) of the overall trade turnover. Foreign trade saw a passive balance in the amount of \$5.12 billion.

Uzbekistan maintains trade relations with more than 189 countries. The largest volume of the country's foreign trade turnover was recorded with China (19.1 percent), Russia (15.1 percent), Kazakhstan (8.4 percent), South Korea (6.5 percent), Turkey (5.9 percent), Germany (2.4 percent) and Kyrgyzstan (2.0 percent).

Uzbekistan's main export includes natural gas, textiles, fruits and berries, gold, non-ferrous metals like copper and iron. The first places in import are occupied by machinery and equipment, chemical products, as well as food products. In 2018, foreign trade grew by 27.3 percent compared



to the previous year, which amounted to 33 billion 815.3 million dollars, of which 14 billion 257.9 million accounted for export, 19 billion 557.4 million - for import.

KAMAZ LAUNCHED A NEW ASSEMBLY LINE IN UZBEKISTAN



Kamaz has officially launched a new chassis assembly line for kamaz vehicles in Samarkand, in cooperation with UzAuto Trailer. The ceremony was held within the

framework of the working visit of the President of Republic of Tatarstan Rustam Minnikhanov to Uzbekistan.

According to the press service of the Russian automobile corporation, the assembly line is organized in a new production building with installation of modern technological and auxiliary equipment, on total area of 7.4 thousand square meters. which will ensure production capacity of over 3000 trucks a year.

In addition, a section for the assembly and installation of gas equipment on the car chassis was created in the building.

The event continued by signing documents on the establishment of joint venture " KAMAZ ASIA LEASING", between KamAZ PJSC and UzAuto Trailer. The authorized capital of the leasing company will be \$5 million , of which \$2.5 million is direct investment by the Russian side.

Recall, that in December 2017 Cooperation between UzAuto Trailer and KamAZ PJSC has been established. Last March, a presentation took place of KamAZ vehicles manufactured by UzAuto in Uzbekistan. To date, the range of trucks manufactured by the plant includes more than 18 types of equipment with a loading capacity of 10 to 36 tons.

KHIVA BECAME THE CULTURAL CAPITAL OF THE TURKIC WORLD FOR 2020

Khiva will become the cultural capital of the Turkic world in 2020. Such a decision was made at the 37th meeting of the TURKSOY Permanent Council in the city of Osh, a Podrobno.uz correspondent reports.

According to the press service of the Ministry of Culture, Information and Tourism of Kyrgyzstan, the Minister of Culture of Kyrgyzstan Azamat Zhamankulov, the Secretary General of TURKSOY Dyusen Kaseinov, the Deputy Minister of Culture of Azerbaijan Rafiq Bayramov, the Deputy Minister of Culture of Kazakhstan Nurkisa Daueshov, the Deputy Minister of Culture and Tourism of Turkey Nadir Alparslan, the Deputy Minister of Culture Minister of Culture of Turkmenistan Gurbanmurad Myradaliev, as well as Minister of Education and Culture of Turkey Nazim Chavushoglu.

Uzbekistan was represented by Deputy Minister of Culture Kamola Akilova, who recalled that Khiva, once the center of the Khorezm Khanate, had almost completely preserved its historical appearance. Now the city is one of the main gems of Uzbekistan.

A proposal in 2020 to make Khiva the cultural capital of the



Turkic world was put forward by Shavkat Mirziyoyev during his speech at the summit of the heads of Turkic-speaking states in 2018.

This year, this status was assigned to the city of Osh (Kyrgyzstan), and Astana in 2012 became the first cultural capital of the Turkic world.

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