MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE TURKIC COUNCIL HAVE MET

On February 6, an extraordinary meeting of ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Turkic Council member states was held in Baku.

The meeting was attended by Foreign Ministers of Turkey, Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, and Uzbekistan, Mr. Mevlut Cavusoglu, Elmar Mammadyarov, Chingiz Aidarbekov, Mukhtar Tleuberdi, Abdulaziz Kamilov, respectively, as well as Secretary General of the Turkic Council Bagdad Amreev.

Issues of expanding cooperation between member countries of the Turkic Council with international organizations, as well as expanding activities of the Council office in Budapest were discussed.

In addition, during an extraordinary meeting of foreign ministers of the Turkic Council member countries, it was decided to approve the Provision on the Honorary Chairman of the Turkic Council. The status of lifelong Honorary Chairman of the Turkic Council was assigned to the First President of Kazakhstan – Leader of the Nation Nursultan Nazarbayev at the VII Summit of the Turkic Council in October 2019.

Within the framework of the visit to Baku, the Turkish Minister of Foreign Affairs M. Cavusoglu held bilateral meetings with his Azerbaijani counterpart E. Mammadyarov, Kyrgyz Foreign Minister Ch. Aidarbekov and the Secretary General of the Turkic Council B. Amreev.
On February 3, at the initiative of the Kyrgyz side, a telephone conversation between President of the Kyrgyz Republic Sooronbay Jeenbekov and President of the Republic of Kazakhstan Kassym-Jomart Tokayev took place.

The heads of two neighboring Turkic states discussed the current state and prospects for further strengthening the Kazakh-Kyrgyz strategic partnership and allied relations.

The interlocutors noted the need for a high-quality implementation of the agreements reached following the state visit of the President of Kazakhstan to Kyrgyzstan in November 2019.

During the conversation, issues of interaction in the field of digital technologies were also discussed in order to simplify procedures for the carriage of goods at customs borders.

Taking the opportunity, Sooronbay Jeenbekov expressed gratitude to Kassym-Jomart Tokayev for the assistance provided by Kazakhstan in the evacuation of Kyrgyz citizens from Chinese city of Wuhan.

Recall that Kazakhstan helped to transfer 18 Kyrgyz students from China; they were taken by special flight to the capital of Kazakhstan, Nur-Sultan, along with citizens of Kazakhstan and Belarus.
UZBEK-BRITISH OIL AGREEMENT IS PREPARED

On January 5, Minister of Energy of the Republic of Uzbekistan Alisher Sultanov held a meeting with British Ambassador to Uzbekistan Timothy Torlot, at which the implementation of investment projects with the participation of British Petroleum and SOCAR companies was discussed.

The Department of Energy of Uzbekistan, British Petroleum and SOCAR are currently preparing a production sharing agreement for field development in the Aral Sea. In February 2020, the arrival of SOCAR and British Petroleum specialists to discuss main conditions for the Agreement is planned.

At the same time, the Uzbek side expects from the UK to accelerate the technical evaluation of the project.

Earlier, in May 2019, Uzbekneftegaz, SOCAR and BP Exploration (Caspian Sea) signed a joint research agreement to evaluate the exploration potential in the Aral Sea, Samsko-Кosbulaksky and Baiterek investment blocks of Ustyurt region in northwestern Uzbekistan.
TURKMENISTAN PRESENTS TAPI PROJECT IN DUBAI

The presentation of the Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) gas pipeline project has been announced: it will take place as part of the “Oil and gas of Turkmenistan” road show scheduled for February 24-25 in Dubai (UAE). Organizers of the road show are state concerns Turkmengaz, Turkmenneft and the Turkmengeologiya state corporation with the assistance of the Turkmen Forum and Gaffney, Cline & Associates.

During the forum, it is planned to consider the possibility of partnership in the implementation of the next stage of development of the giant Galkynysh field to provide the TAPI transnational gas pipeline with natural gas.

In addition, the forum will discuss prospects of business partnership in a number of areas. Among them are development of deposits on licensed shelf blocks in the Turkmen sector of the Caspian Sea; attracting investment in the introduction of new technologies that contribute to the optimization of production in mature fields; attracting investment in hard-to-develop fields, gas chemical projects.

200 delegates representing 80 companies and departments from more than 20 countries of the world confirmed their participation in the event. On the sidelines, business negotiations with interested parties are envisaged.
KAZAKHSTAN ENTERED TOP-20 COUNTRIES WITH GOLD RESERVES

The National Bank of Kazakhstan reported on the Telegram that, according to the results of 2019, the gold portfolio in the country's foreign exchange reserves amounted to about 387 tons, that is about 19 billion US dollars.

“At the end of 2019, the gold portfolio in the gold and foreign exchange reserves amounted to about 387 tons or about 19 billion US dollars. According to preliminary data from the World Gold Council, Kazakhstan is among the Top 20 countries in the world on this indicator. Further implementation of the priority right to purchase gold will stimulate development of the gold mining industry, and will also improve Kazakhstan's position in the world ranking,” was announced in the message.

This success of Kazakhstan can be considered an important step in the development of the entire Turkic world.
The head of the Central Union of Beekeepers of Turkey Zia Sahin said that Turkey not only satisfies 92% of the global need for pine honey, but also produces the highest quality honey in the world.

According to Z. Sahin, last year in Turkey 104 thousand tons of pine and flower honey were produced. This year will be no less fruitful. “About 40 thousand tons of pine honeys are produced annually in our country. Turkey supplies 92% of the global need for pine honey,” said Z. Sahin.

Turkish beekeepers intend to produce honey for sale in pharmacies in the future. According to the Central Union of Beekeepers of Turkey, around 65 thousand families are engaged in beekeeping throughout the country.