PRESIDENTS OF TURKEY AND AZERBAIJAN HELD A MEETING

On February 25, within the framework of the official visit of President of Turkey Recep Tayyip Erdogan to Azerbaijan, he held talks with President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev in the capital of Azerbaijan, Baku.

Moreover, the 8th session of the Azerbaijan-Turkey High-Level Strategic Cooperation Council took place in Baku. Heads of both states attended the meeting.

During the meeting, the parties discussed issues of strengthening bilateral cooperation.

9 documents were signed following the meeting of the council, among them are:

- Protocol of the 8th meeting of the High-Level Strategic Cooperation Council between the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Republic of Turkey;
- Action Plan for Cooperation between the Export and Investment Promotion Fund in Azerbaijan (AZPROMO) and the Turkish Foreign Economic Relations Structure (DEİK) for 2020-2021;

The agreements reached were an important step in the development of cooperation between the two fraternal Turkic countries.
On February 25, the Prime Minister of Kazakhstan Askar Mamin met with the President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev in the capital of Uzbekistan, Tashkent.

During the negotiations, a wide range of issues was discussed for further development of cooperation in the trade, economic, investment, water and energy, transit and transport, construction, agricultural, textile, automotive, cultural and humanitarian, tourism, environmental and other fields.

The parties have emphasized that the strong desire of Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan to expand and strengthen strategic partnership is demonstrated by the practice of holding Inter-regional Forums on Cooperation of two countries.

Note that according to the results of 2019, the volume of bilateral trade reached 4.1 billion USD. By the end of 2020, it is planned to increase trade to 5 billion USD. Today, more than 3 thousand joint ventures operate in Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan.
CONTROL PROCEDURE AT THE BORDER OF KAZAKHSTAN AND KYRGYZSTAN IS SIMPLIFIED

On February 27, the Majilis of the Kazakh parliament ratified the Protocol on the Procedure for the Stay of Kyrgyz People in the Republic of Kazakhstan and People of Kazakhstan in the Kyrgyz Republic.

“The Protocol provides for the exclusion from the list of documents for crossing the state border of the parties of a birth certificate for children under the age of 16 with a certificate-insert (with photo), indicating the citizenship of the parties,” the report states.

Before this order takes effect, the Protocol must go through the appropriate procedures.

“The Heads of State, within the framework of the meeting of the Supreme Eurasian Economic Council, signed a Protocol amending “24 months” to “48 months”, that is until August 12, 2019. Meanwhile, the Kyrgyz side did not meet the deadlines either”, said the First Deputy Prime Minister of Kazakhstan Alikhan Smailov at a meeting of the Majilis.

It should be noted that on May 29, 2019, within the meeting of the Supreme Eurasian Economic Council in Nur-Sultan, the heads of state signed a Protocol on amending the “48 months” to “72 months”, that is until August 12, 2021.
In January 2020, funds in the amount of 1.18 billion tenge were invested in professional, scientific and technical activities in Kazakhstan.

Among regions, the leaders in capital investments were Atyrau region, Kyzylorda region and the city of republican significance Almaty.

86.8% of capital investments in professional, scientific and technical activities are provided with own funds; the local budget - 2.8%, other borrowed funds accounted for 10.4%.

Note that following the results of January-December 2019, 71.38 billion tenge was immediately invested in this sector (0.6% of the total volume of capital investments in the Republic of Kazakhstan), against 43.24 billion tenge in the same period in 2018.
CONFERECE ON “DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION”
TOOK PLACE IN TURKMENISTAN

On February 25, the conference on “Digital Transformation”, organized by Turkmen-Tranzit, was held in the city of Dashoguz (Turkmenistan).

This event was held as part of the project “Digital Turkmenistan”, aimed at promoting digital technologies, searching for partners and talents in the field of IT solutions, increasing the contribution of private sector to the implementation of strategic development programs of modern Turkmenistan.

Video clips, slide shows and reports presented at the conference were devoted to various aspects of activities of the Turkmen-Tranzit Holding since its establishment in 2010.

Participants were also familairized with own developments of the Turkmen-Tranzit Holding Company, such as TT Gate, modern websites, applications, and other diverse IT services. Currently, Turkmen-Tranzit is present in the IT services market in all regions of the country and is the first and so far the only company in Turkmenistan that received the Certificate of an international standardization organization - ISO 9001: 2015 in 2015.

The opening ceremony of the Turkmen-Tranzit branch in Dashoguz was timed to coincide with the conference. The work of the new unit is designed to accelerate the introduction of the company's products and, in general, to promote digitalization of northern region of Turkmenistan.
TURKEY IS AMONG TOP 10 COUNTRIES FOR USING SOCIAL NETWORKS

According to a survey conducted by the We Are Social international agency, specializing in research in the field of social media, Turkey entered the top 10 countries that use Facebook, Instagram and Twitter most often.

The number of Instagram users in Turkey in 2020 increased by 2.8%, reaching a total of 38 million people. Turkey ranks sixth in the world for using Instagram, the Duvar reports.

Meanwhile, Turkish citizens used Facebook more often among all residents of European countries, so the country was in first place among all European countries with 37 million users.

However, Facebook remains the most popular social network with 2.5 billion users around the world; Turkey is among the Top 10 countries of the world in the frequency of use of this service.

Twitter has about 11.8 million users in Turkey, making the country the sixth in the world and second in Europe in terms of the number of users.

About 100 thousand users from Turkey joined the LinkedIn professional network site in 2020, making the country the 16th in the world in terms of popularity of the service.