On December 10, a parade dedicated to the Victory in the Patriotic War, which ended in the liberation of Azerbaijani lands from occupation, was held on Azadlig Square in the capital of Azerbaijan, Baku.

The parade was attended by the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev, First Lady Mehriban Aliyeva, President of the Republic of Turkey Recep Tayyip Erdogan and his wife Emine Erdogan.

The commander of the Victory Parade dedicated to the great Victory of Azerbaijan in the Patriotic War – The Iron Fist operation, was Deputy Minister of Defense, Chevalier of the Order of Zafar, Lieutenant General Kerim Veliyev.

More than 3,000 soldiers took part in the parade, up to 150 pieces of military equipment were demonstrated, including newly adopted modern military equipment, missile and artillery installations, air defense systems, as well as warships and boats. The parade also showed part of the spoils of war captured from the opponent.

The presidents of Azerbaijan and Turkey made official statements in which the indestructible age-old friendship and brotherhood of Azerbaijan and Turkey, the importance of Azerbaijan’s victory in the Patriotic War for the entire Turkic world, the need to build a new, peaceful life and cooperation of all countries of the region, including Armenia, were emphasized. The leaders of the two fraternal countries honored the memory of the heroes-martyrs who died for their Motherland, for the liberation of the Azerbaijani lands from occupation.

President of Azerbaijan I. Aliyev stressed that the Azerbaijani people felt the full support of fraternal Turkey from the first days and even hours of the war.

President R.T. Erdogan stressed the personal role of the head of the Azerbaijani state and the commander-in-chief of the armed forces of Azerbaijan I. Aliyev in the victory of Azerbaijani people and army.

This historic event will remain in the memory of generations. It opens up broad new prospects for the development of the Turkic world, for strengthening peace and prosperity for all countries of the South Caucasus and neighboring regions.
On December 11, President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev held a telephone conversation with President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev.

Sh. Mirziyoyev sincerely congratulated I. Aliyev on the end of hostilities in Nagorno-Karabakh, wishing peace and prosperity to people of the fraternal country. The sides expressed their hope for ensuring security and stability in the entire region of the South Caucasus.

During the conversation, the current state and prospects for the further development of the Uzbek-Azerbaijani relations were discussed.

The mutual support provided in the difficult period of the pandemic was highly appreciated, it once again demonstrated the centuries-old friendship and strategic nature of cooperation between the two Turkic states.

The leaders of Uzbekistan and Azerbaijan separately focused on the importance of actively promoting joint programs and projects aimed at increasing the volume of mutual trade, expanding cooperation between leading enterprises in industry and agriculture, energy, transport and logistics, tourism and other sectors. The readiness to continue intensive interregional cultural and humanitarian exchanges was confirmed.

At the end of the conversation, the Presidents of Uzbekistan and Azerbaijan agreed to maintain a close dialogue within the framework of global and regional structures, and also considered the schedule of upcoming bilateral and multilateral events at the highest level.
The Turkish government approved the decisions of the fifth meeting of the Turkey-Uzbekistan Intergovernmental Commission, held on February 19, 2020 in Ankara.

The text of the Memorandum of Understanding on the Action Plan of the Turkey-Uzbekistan Intergovernmental Commission was published by Resmi Gazete, the official bulletin of the Turkish government on December 10.

The adopted action plan is aimed at further deepening economic and trade ties between the two fraternal countries. It involves steps to develop cooperation in trade and investment, customs, banking, industrial, technological, scientific, transport, energy, health care, and defense spheres.
On December 9, a bilateral meeting of the Acting Prime Minister, First Vice Prime Minister of the Kyrgyz Republic Artyom Novikov with the Deputy Prime Minister of Investments and Foreign Trade of the Republic of Uzbekistan Sardor Umurzakov took place in the Uzbek city of Fergana.

During the talks, the parties discussed the entire spectrum of trade and economic cooperation between the two countries.

In particular, it was decided to consider a set of issues on the implementation of joint investment projects and industrial cooperation projects until December 25 of this year, with the definition of specific measures, directions and conditions for joint interaction.

The issues of the development of the transport industry, including international transport, were considered to expand the geography of exports of both countries and their entry into new markets.

In addition, within the framework of the previously signed Agreement on financial cooperation, it was decided to create a Kyrgyz-Uzbek investment fund with an authorized capital of $ 50 million, as well as to create a working group for interaction in the customs sphere.

At the end, an agreement on signing a Roadmap to expand and deepen bilateral cooperation was reached.
Within the framework of the Entrepreneurship Support Map program, it is planned to implement 2 projects for deep oil refining in the Ordabasy district of Turkistan region, which have no analogues in Kazakhstan, Kazinform MIA reports with reference to the regional press service.

One of them is Standart Petroleum & Co LLP with an investment value of 95 billion tenge. With the launch of this partnership, more than 800 new jobs will be created. Along with gasoline of AI-92, AI-95 grades, the heads of the enterprises plan to produce benzene, toluene, acid, low-pressure polyethylene, naphthalene, through deep oil refining. In addition, the plant will produce 35 MW of electricity per hour.

Standard Resource LLP is engaged in the production of phenol, naphthalene, anthracene oil, fuel oil. The plant is capable of processing up to 30 thousand tons of coal per year. 60 citizens will be provided with permanent jobs here. Investments in the amount of 1.5 billion tenge were attracted to the project. It should be noted that the main contractor for these projects is ETN Cyclone Company.
TURKMENISTAN AND UNDP START A NEW PROGRAM CYCLE OF COOPERATION

On December 11, on the sidelines of the International Exhibition in honor of the 25th anniversary of the permanent neutrality of Turkmenistan, acting UNDP Resident Representative Natia Natsvlishvili and Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan Rashid Meredov signed a framework agreement on cooperation between UNDP and the Government of Turkmenistan on the implementation and co-financing of the new Country Program for 2021-2025.

A new country policy document for 2021-2025, which serves as the basis for a new cycle of cooperation, was approved by the UNDP Executive Board on September 3, 2020. The new cooperation agreement includes the following priorities:

- implementing practical Governance reforms for more effective and transparent public administration based on international standards and Turkmenistan’s commitment to the rule of law, human rights and gender equality;
- design and implementing policy and regulatory reforms to promote economic development and increased income for the population in non-carbon sectors of the economy, increase the competitiveness of the private sector and trade, innovative and efficient banking operations, and job creation, including in the field of social services;
- providing support to the Government and other partners in implementing effective measures to adapt to climate change, mitigate and manage natural resources, and reduce disaster risks;
- improving the effectiveness of the health and social protection system, with a priority focus on combating tuberculosis and other infectious diseases, increasing the capacity to prevent and respond to pandemics, improving the treatment of non-infectious diseases and expanding social protection coverage for vulnerable groups.