



## **TURKMEN WEEKLY ENERGY REVIEW (TWER)**

Issue : 8 (28) Date : 08.03.2010

TWER by [turkmenlawyer@hotmail.com](mailto:turkmenlawyer@hotmail.com)

### *Happy International Women's Day*

#### **Contents :**

- Meeting of the Cabinet of Ministers of Turkmenistan
- President of Turkmenistan receives Co-Chairman of the Turkmen-Japanese Committee for economic cooperation
- Telephone conversation between leaders of Turkmenistan and the Russian Federation
- President of Turkmenistan receives Special Envoy for Eurasian Energy of U.S. Department of State
- President of Turkmenistan receives EU Special Representative for Central Asia and Georgia
- President of Turkmenistan receives Deputy Leader of the House of Lords, UK Minister of State
- Turkmenistan and United Kingdom enhance energy cooperation
- OSCE delegation visits Turkmenistan
- Concerting efforts for the benefit of Central Asia region
- U.S. delegation visits Ashgabat
- Turkmen-Georgina inter-MFA consultations
- High prestige of Turkmen polypropylene
- Telecommunication technologies serve petrochemical workers
- Regular issue of Democracy and Right Journal appears in print
- Picture of the Week

## Meeting of the Cabinet of Ministers of Turkmenistan

President of Turkmenistan Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov chaired a meeting of the Cabinet of Ministers to review the programme of the visit of the Turkmen government delegation led by the President to the Republic of Tajikistan and the important issues of the national policy.

Opening the meeting the Turkmen leader addressed the heartfelt congratulations to women of the country on the coming spring holiday - the International Women's Day traditionally celebrated on March 8 and wished good health, family wellbeing and great happiness to 'the beautiful half' of mankind.

The President signed the Decree "On Conferring the Honorary Title Ene Myakhri" and demanded that the high level of organisation of festive ceremonies and celebrations be ensured.

Then the floor was then given Chief of the Department of State Protocol and International Relations of the President's Office B. Myatiev, who reported on the preparations for the coming visit of the government delegation to the Republic of Tajikistan and the progress in drafting the official bilateral documents to be signed during the visit. Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov said that the ceremony of putting two children's health-improving centres into operation would take place on June 1 in Geokdere and two recreation and entertainment centres in Avaza. The first guests to these centres would be children from the Republic of Haiti, who had suffered from the recent devastating earthquake. Instructing Vice Premiers H. Saparlyev and R. Meredov to undertake all necessary measures the Turkmen leader emphasized that this act of goodwill towards the people of Haiti would be a new vivid illustration of Turkmenistan's adherence to the principles of mutual aid and humanism.

Vice Premier T. Japarov reported on Turkmenistan's social and economic progress in January-February. It was noted that through the progressive reforms implemented under the leadership of President Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov the macroeconomic indicators had increased considerably in the country. Thus, in January the GDP growth was observed in all sectors. In the reporting period the total volume of investments from all sources of financing had risen 2.2 times as compared to the same period of 2009. In January-February the retail turnover had increased to 113.5 percent as compared to the same period of 2009. Reporting on the implementation of the State budget, the Vice Premier noted that a major amount of the budgetary funds had been assigned to the social sphere. The expenditures for these purposes made up 72 percent.

[http://www.turkmenistan.gov.tm/\\_en/?idr=1&id=100307b](http://www.turkmenistan.gov.tm/_en/?idr=1&id=100307b)

## President of Turkmenistan receives Co-Chairman of the Turkmen-Japanese Committee for economic cooperation

President of Turkmenistan Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov received Co-Chairman of the Turkmen-Japanese Committee for economic cooperation, Senior Corporate Advisor for ITOCHU Corporation Mr. Sumitaka Fujita and CEO of Komatsu CIS Mr. Masao Fujita.

Thanking for the opportunity to meet personally and visit Turkmenistan again the guests emphasized that they considered it great honour to be received by the leader of the Turkmen state. Mr. Sumitaka Fujita said that the Japanese business community showed keen interest in enhancing and intensifying cooperation with Turkmenistan that was particularly conditioned

by the Turkmen leader's policy of progressive reforms. Through this policy the favorable investment climate and the conditions conducive to mutually advantageous cooperation had been created in the country which had the profound economic potential, the Japanese businessman noted.

The guests specifically emphasized the new incentives to intensify Turkmen-Japanese collaboration given by the Turkmen leader's first official visit to Japan last December, which had become a historic event for both countries. The Japanese businessman said that they were still under a great impression of this visit, which had drawn worldwide response.

[http://www.turkmenistan.gov.tm/\\_en/?idr=1&id=100307a](http://www.turkmenistan.gov.tm/_en/?idr=1&id=100307a)

## Telephone conversation between leaders of Turkmenistan and the Russian Federation

President of Turkmenistan Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov and RF President Dmitriy Medvedev had a telephone conversation.

Heartily greeting each other the sides exchanged views on the priority aspects of intergovernmental relations and cooperation on international issues and discussed the ways to foster bilateral contacts in the near future.

During the conversation the leaders of the friendly states expressed satisfaction with the dynamics of the Turkmen-Russia dialogue now being brought up to a qualitatively new level.

The RF President invited the Turkmen leader to attend the CIS informal summit, which would take place on the eve of the celebrations of the 65th anniversary of the Victory in the Great Patriotic War and the festivities in honour of this remarkable date in Moscow.

[http://www.turkmenistan.gov.tm/\\_en/?idr=1&id=100305a](http://www.turkmenistan.gov.tm/_en/?idr=1&id=100305a)

## President of Turkmenistan receives Special Envoy for Eurasian Energy of U.S. Department of State

President of Turkmenistan Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov received Richard Morningstar, Special Envoy for Eurasian Energy of the U.S. Department of State.

Thanking for the opportunity of a personal meeting the guest said that he was glad to visit again the Turkmen capital, which rapidly changed its look and beautified with very passing day. Mr. Richard Morningstar emphasized that the United States took the particular efforts to intensify the constructive dialogue with Turkmenistan as a dependable and responsible partner.

Greeting the guest the Turkmen leader said that Turkmenistan intended to develop traditionally friendly relations with the United States. Today, these relations were brought up to a qualitatively new level through the mutual willingness to expand effective cooperation with the profound experience and broad prospects for successful collaboration.

The President of Turkmenistan and the Special Envoy for Eurasian Energy discussed the possibilities of partnership in such a priority field as the fuel and energy sector. Evaluating highly

Turkmenistan's energy policy aimed at effective implementation of its profound resource potential and attraction of foreign investment, Mr. Richard Morningstar focused on the growing interest of the leading companies of the United States and the world in intensifying business contacts with Turkmen partners in the oil and gas sector.

Showing satisfaction at this information the Turkmen leader emphasized that pursuing the policy in compliance with the national economic interests and the principles of equal mutually advantageous cooperation in the epoch of new Revival as one of the world's energy producers Turkmenistan stood ready for effective collaboration with all partners concerned. That was Turkmenistan's strategy for technology modernization of the fuel and energy sector prioritizing diversification of energy transit to world markets aimed at.

[http://www.turkmenistan.gov.tm/\\_en/?idr=1&id=100304a](http://www.turkmenistan.gov.tm/_en/?idr=1&id=100304a)

## President of Turkmenistan receives EU Special Representative for Central Asia and Georgia

President of Turkmenistan Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov received EU Special Representative for Central Asia and Georgia Ambassador Pierre Morel and Norbert Jousten, the Head of the European Commission Delegation (with the headquarter in Kazakhstan).

Thanking for the opportunity of a personal meeting the guests noted that they considered it great honor to be received by the Turkmen leader. Ambassador Pierre Morel said that the European community welcomed Turkmenistan's political reform strategy initiated and consistently implemented by the President to ensure the progress of the country and intensify the constructive international dialogue to achieve global, prosperity and sustainable development.

The EU Special Representative said that the European Union showed intense interest in expanding cooperation with the Turkmen state that was conditioned by its profound economic potential and strategic geopolitical location. In this regard emphasis was put on the key role of neutral Turkmenistan in maintaining the climate of stability and positive partnership in the region.

Greeting the guests President Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov focused on the importance that Turkmenistan attached to cooperation with the EU and the European countries as one of its foreign policy priorities. Emphasizing with satisfaction the dynamics of this cooperation, the Turkmen leader informed of Turkmenistan's willingness to intensify fruitful contacts in all fields.

The sides exchanged views on the prospects of trade and economic partnership through using the existing experience and vast opportunities opened up today for concerting efforts in mutual interests. A focus of the conversation was the issues relating to fuel and energy cooperation which was fostered under Turkmenistan's strategy for developing the fuel and energy sector through technology modernization and diversification of transit of Turkmen energy to world markets.

In this context the sides underscored the significance of the Memorandum of Understanding on Energy Cooperation signed between Turkmenistan and the European Union in May 2008, which had initiated fruitful partnership in this important field. Mr. Pierre Morel emphasized that the leading European companies expressed intense interest in collaborating in the ongoing promising projects in Turkmenistan and intensifying business contacts in other industries.

[http://www.turkmenistan.gov.tm/\\_en/?idr=1&id=100303b](http://www.turkmenistan.gov.tm/_en/?idr=1&id=100303b)

## President of Turkmenistan receives Deputy Leader of the House of Lords, UK Minister of State

President of Turkmenistan Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov received Lord Philip Hunt, Deputy Leader of the House of Lords, Minister of State for the Department of Energy and Climate Change who was on a visit to Turkmenistan leading a delegation.

Expressing gratitude for the heartfelt welcome and the opportunity of a personal meeting Lord Philip Hunt said that this was his first visit to Turkmenistan and he was glad of an opportunity to know more about the ongoing fundamental reforms aimed at guaranteeing a happy life to citizens of Turkmenistan and diversifying the national economy. The high-ranking guest stated that the British Government attached great importance to cooperation with Turkmenistan as a dependable and quite promising partner who acted as the bulwark of peace and security in the Central Asian region.

Thanking for high evaluation of modern Turkmenistan President Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov emphasized that the country stood ready for constructive collaboration and saw the vast opportunities for effective cooperation with British partners in various fields including the fuel and energy sector with the profound experience of joint work. In this regard the Turkmen leader said that standing steadfast to the strategy for diversifying energy transit to world markets Turkmenistan was always open to wide mutually advantageous cooperation, which was promoted by the new Law of Turkmenistan "On Hydrocarbon Resources".

The sides expressed satisfaction with the dynamics of the intergovernmental dialogue built on equality and mutual respect. Exchanging views on a wide range of the issues relating to further cooperation between Turkmenistan and the United Kingdom emphasis was put on the fuel and energy sector, where Turkmen-British partnership met the interests of global energy security, and the positive role of the joint Turkmen-British Energy Business Forum being conducting for the second time in the Turkmen capital on that day.

<http://www.turkmenistan.gov.tm/en/?idr=1&id=100303a>

## Turkmenistan and United Kingdom enhance energy cooperation

The participants of the Second Turkmen-British Energy Business Forum discussed the priority aspects of mutually advantageous partnership in the fuel and energy sector. The forum was organized by the Ministry of Oil and Gas Industry and Mineral Resources of Turkmenistan and the British Embassy in Turkmenistan with the assistance of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The participants represented the Department of Energy and Climate Change of the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office, the leading British oil and gas and service companies and educational institutions. Turkmenistan was represented by the leaders and experts of the oil and gas departments and enterprises.

This was the second meeting conducted by the Turkish and British businessmen for the past two years that illustrated the British companies' growing willingness to expand cooperation with Turkmenistan, which had won the reputation worldwide as a very promising and dependable partner. The British businessmen noted that the key conditions fostering an interest of the European and British business communities in Turkmenistan included the energy policy initiated by President Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov and known well in the world community as aimed at ensuring reliable and stable transit of energy to world markets and the abundant hydrocarbon reserves.

Noting that the major priorities for the EU countries included energy security and search for new energy corridors to Europe Lord Philip Hunt, Minister of State for the Department of Energy and Climate Change evaluated highly Turkmenistan's efforts to build consistently and successfully diversified system for hydrocarbon exports. "I believe that today's meeting with His Excellency President of Turkmenistan Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov and the well-organized business forum will give new impetus to further cooperation in such a priority for both countries field as the fuel and energy sector," Lord Philip Hunt said.

The high-ranking officials of the Turkmen fuel and energy departments of Turkmenistan briefed the foreign guests on the legal aspects of cooperation with the huge resource potential and the priority trends in development of the oil and gas sector. It was noted that implementing the energy policy initiated by the national leader Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov Turkmenistan resolutely extended the geography of export routes for natural gas. Along with traditional 'blue fuel' exports to Russia Turkmenistan started to supply natural gas to China last December and had significantly increased gas exports to Iran via the second southern pipeline Dovletabad-Saraks-Hangeran.

The Turkmen enterprises take measures to develop further transport infrastructure that allow expanding Turkmenistan's export potential and accelerating the activities to put proven deposits in production. The relevant illustrations include the largest Southern Yoloten-Osman deposit, the huge reserves of which were confirmed by the British Gaffney, Cline & Associates firm. The leading companies from the PRC, UAE and the Republic of Korea are Turkmengaz's partners on the implementation of the first stage of commercial development of this field. To date, total of over 1,000 oil and gas pools have been discovered and over 150 deposits have been explored in the country, one third of them are under development.

The programme of further development of Turkmenistan's oil and gas industry opens up the ample opportunities for international cooperation on oil and gas exploration and production in the Turkmen sector of the Caspian Sea, modernization of existing processing facilities and construction of new ones, development of pipeline infrastructure, application of advanced technologies and state-of-the-art equipment in industry.

The important aspects of cooperation discussed at the Business Forum included expansion of partnership for training highly qualified fuel and energy specialists. The large-scale programmes of modernization and development of Turkmenistan's oil and gas industry require the new approaches to managing vocational training of local specialists in advanced foreign technologies and operation of state-of-the-art equipment.

The forum participants representing the British companies expressed the readiness to implement joint projects, offer their profound expertise and advanced technologies and made investments in these projects. It should be noted that along with the long-time partners of the Turkmen fuel and energy sector including British Petroleum, Shell, Burren Energy, Gaffney, Cline & Associates, a number of the other companies including Denton Wilde Sapte, Skybridge, KBR, Hermes, which sought to operate on the very promising Turkmen market, presented their potential at the Business Forum.

The specific proposals and priority fields of further cooperation were set forth in the protocol of intent, which was signed by the Ministry of Oil and Gas Industry and Mineral Resources of Turkmenistan and the UK Department of Energy and Climate Change upon concluding the Business Forum. The participants expressed belief that the exchange of views aimed at identifying the ways to foster effective cooperation in compliance with the priorities of the policy of the Turkmen state would be a new step to promote energy partnership.

[http://www.turkmenistan.gov.tm/\\_en/?idr=5&id=100304a](http://www.turkmenistan.gov.tm/_en/?idr=5&id=100304a)

## OSCE delegation visits Turkmenistan

The representatives of the OSCE Delegations to Central Asia are on a working visit to Turkmenistan. The delegation was received at the Mejlis of Turkmenistan.

The guests were briefed on the structure and trends in the law making activity of the national Parliament and reviewed the current condition and prospects for cooperation in the important sectors.

In particular, the talks focused on the activities of the Mejlis of Turkmenistan in the field of human rights, development of international and inter-parliamentary relations as well as the activities of the Interagency Commission for the implementation of international human rights commitments of Turkmenistan. As is known the Commission was established as a permanent advisory body in accordance with the Resolution of President Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov two years ago.

The sides emphasized that the success of the reforms aimed at further democratization of the Turkmen society and the Turkmen leader's foreign policy activity were welcomed by the OSCE Missions, which stood ready to collaborate with Turkmen partners on new joint projects.

[http://www.turkmenistan.gov.tm/\\_en/?idr=1&id=100304b](http://www.turkmenistan.gov.tm/_en/?idr=1&id=100304b)

## Concerting efforts for the benefit of Central Asia region

The ceremony of signing the Memorandum of Understanding between the United Nations and the Executive Committee of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea (IFAS) took place in the Turkmen capital. The representatives of the UN, the Executive Committee of IFAS, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan, the heads of the diplomatic missions of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Republic of Tajikistan accredited in our country, foreign and Turkmen journalist attended the ceremony, which was conducted in the office of the UN Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy in Central Asia.

[http://www.turkmenistan.gov.tm/\\_en/?idr=1&id=100304c](http://www.turkmenistan.gov.tm/_en/?idr=1&id=100304c)

## U.S. delegation visits Ashgabat

Further development of the constructive Turkmen-American dialogue was a focus of the agenda of the meeting, which took place at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan in the framework of the visit of the delegation led by Deputy Assistant Secretary of State John Limbert to Ashgabat.

Expressing satisfaction with the dynamics of intergovernmental relationships based on mutual respect and equality, the participants exchanged views on the ways to intensify effective collaboration in a number of the priority fields. The sides discussed the particular issues of regional and international politics of mutual interest. The commitment of the two countries to

partnership to achieve global peace, security and stability was reaffirmed in this context. The head of the U.S. delegation emphasized that the U.S. Government welcomed Turkmenistan's international initiatives and constructive foreign policy strategy, which had won it the high prestige on the world arena.

[http://www.turkmenistan.gov.tm/\\_en/?idr=5&id=100302b](http://www.turkmenistan.gov.tm/_en/?idr=5&id=100302b)

## Turkmen-Georgia inter-MFA consultations

The bilateral Turkmen-Georgian inter-MFA consultations were held at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan in the framework of the visit of the Georgian delegation led by Deputy Foreign Minister Alexander Nalbandov to Ashgabat.

Thanking for the heartfelt welcome the head of the Georgian delegation said that Georgia was highly interested in enhancing bilateral cooperation with Turkmenistan - the country with the profound economic potential demonstrating an extremely constructive approach to international partnership. In this context Alexander Nalbandov said that the Government of Georgia fully supported President Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov's international initiatives aimed at developing new approaches to cooperation on the world arena.

[http://www.turkmenistan.gov.tm/\\_en/?idr=5&id=100305a](http://www.turkmenistan.gov.tm/_en/?idr=5&id=100305a)

## High prestige of Turkmen polypropylene

Over 20,000 tons of granular polypropylene has been loaded from the terminal of the Turkmenbashi international seaport abroad since the beginning of 2010. This product exported under the trade mark Turkmenplen is on the top list of oil products manufactured at the Turkmenbashi oil refineries. It is in extremely high demand on the world markets that is vividly illustrated by numerous contracts concluded for Turkmen propylene at the State Commodity and Raw Materials Exchange of Turkmenistan.

The geography of consumers of Turkmen polypropylene is quite extended: Japan, Russia, Turkey, Iran, Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan and other neighbouring and remote countries. A major amount of this export product is delivered by sea that required construction of a warehouse for keeping and loading export products which are in great demand on the world markets. The fully automated warehouse with the storage capacity of 90,000 tons of polypropylene a year occupies the total area of 12,000 square metres. Every day Komatsu loaders (Japan) and other equipment produced by the leading manufacturers handle hundreds of tons of environmentally friendly polymer transported there from the storehouses of Turkmenbashi oil refineries.

During these days Turkmen polypropylene is being loaded on the Russian vessel Efe at the Turkmenbashi seaport. The dry cargo ship will deliver 1,000 tons of polypropylene packed in sacks to Astrakhan. This year it is the sixth foreign vessel loaded with Turkmen polypropylene. In spring when the navigation period among the river and sea ports on the Caspian Sea and Volga, the Sea of Azov, the Baltic Sea will be opened, traffic intensity will increase considerably. In this period dozens of thousands of tons of cargo delivered to and outside the country via the Caspian Sea are handled on the berths of the Turkmen seaport are handled every month.

Along with loading sea vessels the terminal serves the long caravans of heavy dumpers, which come for Turkmen polypropylene from Turkey. The terminal loaded 250 trailers and 95 railway cars for the past two months. Quite often the production with the logo of the Turkmenbashi oil refineries are loaded from port trailers to the trucks of foreign carrier agencies, sea vessels and railway cars passing the port warehouses.

As is known, the priorities of the strategy for developing petrochemical industry in the epoch of new Revival includes construction of the facilities producing polypropylene and the enterprises manufacturing various goods from it for the domestic and foreign consumer markets. This large-scale activity was launched after the millisecond catalytic cracking (MSCC) unit producing liquefied gas that is used to manufacture polypropylene had been put into operation at the Turkmenbashi oil refineries. The first polypropylene unit with the capacity of 90,000 tons a year was built there. This project funded by the Eksimbank (Japan) was implemented by the consortium of the Japanese companies - JGC, Itochu, Nissho Iwai, Marubeni. Thus, this event transformed the Turkmenbashi complex of oil refineries from a petroleum refining facility into a petrochemical plant.

[http://www.turkmenistan.gov.tm/\\_en/?idr=6&id=100306a](http://www.turkmenistan.gov.tm/_en/?idr=6&id=100306a)

## Telecommunication technologies serve petrochemical workers

The project on full automation of the product transport and delivery processes is under completion at the Turkmenbashi complex of oil refineries - the leading petrochemical enterprise of the country. It was made possible through installing SCADA - the telecommunication supervisory control and data acquisition system at the Kenar enterprise for storing and loading oil products.

In accordance with the Resolution of the President of Turkmenistan the 33 million euro worth project is implemented jointly with the Oil and Gas Trading LTD Company (the British Virgin Islands) and the Turkish construction company Ekol. The SCADA system installed and being prepared for operation by the foreign partners at the request of the Turkmenbashi complex of oil refineries and the MOTOROLA wireless communication system enable to control all processes at the petroleum storage depot remotely.

The 80-km pipelines that supply diesel and heating oil, gasoline, kerosene and other oil products to the storage facilities and offshore terminal, where they are loaded in tankers, tank farm, distribution and oil loading units of the berths and railway platforms of the enterprise are equipped with precision instruments. The data collected by digital devices installed on the dispatch control units is processed by the computers of the operator and central control stations. Counting units were tested with the help of the FLOW PROVER test device.

[http://www.turkmenistan.gov.tm/\\_en/?idr=6&id=100305b](http://www.turkmenistan.gov.tm/_en/?idr=6&id=100305b)

## Regular issue of Democracy and Right Journal appears in print

A regular issue of the Democracy and Right Journal printed by the Turkmen National Institute for Democracy and Human Rights under the President of Turkmenistan in the Turkmen, Russian and English languages is devoted to the critical aspects of the current nation-building process and the important events in the life of the Turkmen state and society in the epoch of new Revival.

The issue begins with the President's keynote speech on further development of the national science in the priority fields delivered during the meeting of the Cabinet of Ministers of Turkmenistan on June 12, 2009. The issue contains the Turkmen leader's historic speech at the 64th session of the UN General Assembly, which drew a wide response worldwide, and the text of the press conference on the outcomes of his visit to the United States given by the President of Turkmenistan in New York last autumn.  
[http://www.turkmenistan.gov.tm/\\_en/?idr=7&id=100303a](http://www.turkmenistan.gov.tm/_en/?idr=7&id=100303a)

## Picture of the Week

