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## Turkmenistan to Start Building East-West Gas Pipeline in June 2010

Turkmenistan will start building a multi-billion-dollar gas pipeline in June 2010. The East-West pipe would connect all the major gas fields of Turkmenistan to a single network.

Two state corporations - Turkmengaz and Turkmennebitgazgurlushyk (Turkmen Oil and Gas Construction) - have been tasked to undertake the project.

The announcement was made Friday by President Berdimuhamedov during a meeting of the cabinet of ministers.

According to the presidential decree issued the same day, the work will start in June 2010 and the project should be completed by June 2015.

The pipeline capacity would be 30 billion cubic meters and it would run from Shatlyk in Mary province to Belek in Balkan province. Depending on the exact route of the pipeline, its length could be 750-900 kilometers.

The pipeline will connect with Daulatabat-Deryalyk compressor station at one end and the Belek-1 compressor station at the other.

The tenders for the pipeline were floated in March 2009 and interested parties were asked to submit their bids by 27 June 2009

<http://www.newscentralasia.net/moreNews.php?nID=603>

## President of Turkmenistan receives Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

President of Turkmenistan Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov received newly appointed Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to Turkmenistan Turki bin Khaled bin Faisal Al Hashr who presented the credential letters to the leader of the Turkmen state.

Thanking for the opportunity of a personal meeting the diplomat conveyed the heartfelt greetings to the Turkmen leader on behalf of King of Saudi Arabia King Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz

Al Saud and Crown Prince Emir Sultan bin Abdel Aziz Al Saud who had expressed the best wishes of good health and every success on the path of fundamental reforms that had promoted Turkmenistan to dynamically developing countries of the world.

Thanking for the heartfelt words and expressing the best wishes to the King of Saudi Arabia and the members of the royal family, Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov congratulated Turki bin Khaled bin Faisal Al Hashr on the appointment to the high diplomatic post and wished every success in performing the important mission to strengthen further the ties of traditional friendship and brotherhood that had laid the firm foundation for intergovernmental contacts.

The Turkmen leader emphasized that cooperation with Saudi Arabia that Turkmenistan was bound with the age-old relations of mutual confidence and understanding was a strategic vector of Turkmenistan's foreign policy. This was vividly evidenced by the fact that Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov had paid the first foreign visit in his capacity as President of Turkmenistan to Saudi Arabia that was one of the Muslim major countries. The Turkmen leader said that he had the warm recollections of this visit and thanked the Arab brothers for the heartfelt welcome and hospitality extended in the sacred land for all Muslims.

[http://www.turkmenistan.gov.tm/\\_en/?idr=1&id=100520b](http://www.turkmenistan.gov.tm/_en/?idr=1&id=100520b)

## Telephone conversation between President of Turkmenistan and RF Prime Minister

President of Turkmenistan Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov and Prime Minister of the Russian Federation Vladimir Putin had a telephone conversation.

Exchanging heartfelt greetings, the sides focused with satisfaction on dynamic development of intergovernmental cooperation based on equality and mutual benefit and the age-old traditions of friendship and mutual confidence between the peoples of Turkmenistan and Russia.

During the conversation the President of Turkmenistan and the RF Prime Minister exchanged views on the priority aspects of intergovernmental relations of mutual interest. In particular, the sides discussed the current issues of bilateral trade and economic relations. Emphasis was put on collaboration in the fuel and energy sector where concerting efforts was deemed to be most effective.

In conclusion Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov and Vladimir Putin expressed belief that Turkmenistan and Russia would maintain the constructive dialogue in the spirit of mutual confidence and understanding and openness and wished good health and every success to each other and peace and wellbeing to the two peoples.

The telephone conversation took place on the initiative of the Russian partners.

[http://www.turkmenistan.gov.tm/\\_en/?idr=1&id=100520a](http://www.turkmenistan.gov.tm/_en/?idr=1&id=100520a)

## President of Turkmenistan accepts congratulations on national holiday

President of Turkmenistan Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov accepted the congratulations of the high-ranking officials of the country on the national holiday - the Day of Revival, Unity and Magtymguly's Poetry widely and solemnly celebrated throughout the country.

Congratulating heartily the national leader on this remarkable date that symbolized the triumph of the ideas of freedom, equality, brotherhood and unity of the Turkmen people glorified by great Magtymguly, the cabinet ministers, the high-ranking officials of the Mejlis, the military and law enforcement agencies expressed President Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov the best wishes of good health, long life and new impressive accomplishments on the path of fundamental reforms and changes initiated by the Turkmen leader for the benefit of the native land and happiness of the people.

Thanking for the heartfelt wishes, the Turkmen leader cordially congratulated his associates and the people of Turkmenistan on the bright spring holiday that had perpetuated the historic date - the date of adoption of the Constitution of Turkmenistan standing nowadays as the highest symbol of statehood and national revival. Underscoring the particular significance of the new Constitution, Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov emphasized that the amendments and additions introduced to the Basic Law at numerous suggestions of Turkmen citizens, had strengthened democratic achievements serving as a reliable guarantor of the rights and freedoms of every citizen, the foundation and bulwark of large-scale changes taking place in the country.

Uniting closer around the ideas and lofty goals of the epoch of new Revival, we remained the faithful custodians of the lofty spiritual traditions of our people who deeply revered the outstanding classical Turkmen poet Magtymguly Fraghi, whose poetical genius was paid tribute to in these days not only in his historical homeland but also many other countries across the world, Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov said.

<http://www.turkmenistan.gov.tm/en/?idr=1&id=100519b>

## Enhancing potential of domestic processing industry

### *President of Turkmenistan attends ceremony of putting Ahal oil mill into operation*

President of Turkmenistan Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov attended the ceremony of putting the Ahal oil mill into operation. The ceremony of opening the industrial facility built in Ovadandep settlement in Ruhabat Etrap, Ahal Velayat continued the parade of building premieres to mark the national holiday - the Day of Revival, Unity and Magtymguly's Poetry

The enterprise of domestic food industry had expanded the network of the facilities built in the large industrial centre developed rapidly to the north of the Turkmen capital. It was

constructed in accordance with the Resolution of the President of Turkmenistan aimed at broadening the range of food products manufactured in the country and developing the agro-industry sector.

The fundamental reforms were initiated by the Turkmen leader in nearly all branches of the agro-industry sector - from cultivation of agricultural crops to processing and manufacture of high-quality products meeting international standards. Thus, putting the new enterprise into operation in Ovadandepe will contribute to developing agro-industrial infrastructure in Turkmenistan and guaranteeing food security in the country. This project was implemented by the foreign company in active collaboration with Turkmen specialists.

The President's car stopped at the entrance to the newly constructed facility. The cabinet ministers, the heads of the Mejlis, the ministries and departments, the local high-ranking officials, journalists, the workers and specialists of the oil mill had gathered there. The ceremony participants heartily greeted the leader of the Turkmen state.

The girls dressed in bright national costumes presented the bouquets of wonderful flowers to the President. The elders offered bread and salt to the Turkmen leader and the mullahs offered up the prayers for the prosperity of independent neutral Turkmenistan and the success of the epoch-making reforms initiated by the national leader for the benefit and happiness of the Turkmen people and the wellbeing of the Fatherland.

The local art groups presented a bright performance on occasion of the opening the new facility. Greeting those present the President of Turkmenistan congratulated them on the coming national holiday - the Day of Revival, Unity and Magtymguly's Poetry and the opening of the new enterprise producing high-quality cottonseed oil.

The Turkmen leader said that the ceremonies of opening industrial and social facilities, comfortable apartment houses and many other facilities were arranged throughout the country in those days. Putting the new enterprise amounted to US\$ 68 million and supplied with state-of-the-art equipment manufactured by the leading European and Japanese producers into operation would be a worthy contribution to providing the population with ecologically pure food products. The oil mill would process 300 tons of cotton seeds a day and 96,000 tons a year and produce 50 tons of high-quality ecologically pure cottonseed oil, 10 tons of margarine, over 140 tons of cotton cake that was a valuable product for the cattle farming sector, 70 tons of cotton husk and other agricultural products every day.

The Turkmen leader said that the opening of the Ahal oil mill would create new jobs in the region - 360 workers would work in three shifts there. All conditions conducive to producing high-quality products would be created at the oil mill.

[http://www.turkmenistan.gov.tm/\\_en/?idr=1&id=100518b](http://www.turkmenistan.gov.tm/_en/?idr=1&id=100518b)

## President Degree

With the view of ensuring the high and stable levels of economic growth of Turkmenistan, strictly and consistently implement the decisions aimed at enhancing the economic potential of the country and its regions as well as improving the social and living conditions of the population the President of Turkmenistan issued the Resolution approving the 2011-2030 National

Social and Economic Development Programme of Turkmenistan. The document authorizes the ministries, sectoral departments and khyakimliks to ensure the implementation of this Programme. The Ministry of Finance and Development of Turkmenistan and the Institute of Strategic Planning and Economic Development of Turkmenistan in collaboration with the ministries, sectoral departments and khyakimliks are to draft and submit the 2011-2015 Investment Programme of Turkmenistan to the Cabinet of Minister of Turkmenistan for consideration until October 1, 2010

[http://www.turkmenistan.gov.tm/\\_en/?idr=1&id=100515c](http://www.turkmenistan.gov.tm/_en/?idr=1&id=100515c)

## Harvest campaign started in Turkmenistan

Tenants in Lebap Velayat were the first to start the harvest campaign in Turkmenistan. In the near future grain growers in Ahal and Mary Velayats will join Lebap agricultural workers. Farmers in other regions of Turkmenistan will join the campaign in a few days.

This year the Turkmen grain growers are planning to harvest 1.6 million tons on the 860,000-hectare area including 450,000 tons in Ahal Velayat, 380,000 tons in Mary, 350,000 tons in Lebap Velayat, 300,000 tons in Dashoguz Velayat and 120,000 tons in Balkan Velayat. As is known, a majority of this area was sown with such wheat varieties as Yoloten-1, Sahrai, Batko, Juvan and Yubileynaya-100.

Grain growers of Halach Etrap were the first to start the harvest campaign in Lebap Velayat. By tradition, upon concluding the seminar in Halach, the elders blessed the start of the campaign by mowing down the first reaped ears and presenting the sheaves to combine operators. On the first day of the campaign Lebap grain growers harvested 300 tons.

According to the Turkmenobahyzmat Association over 1,830 Case and John Deer grain combines will be engaged in the 2010 harvest campaign. All necessary conditions including maintenance service were created to ensure effective use of equipment and machines. Hot meals will be provided to all workers engaged in the campaign.

According to the Turkmengallaonumlery Association, wheat will be delivered to 149 receiving points that have the laboratories where the representatives of the Turkmenstandartlary State Service will test the quality of grain. 6,600 trucks including transport vehicles of the Ministry of Motor Transport, the Turkmenobahyzmat Association and other ministries and departments as well as private vehicles will deliver wheat to the receiving points, granaries and grain elevators. The Turkmengallaonumlery Association will settle accounts with grain producers at the local branches of the Dayhanbank.

[http://www.turkmenistan.gov.tm/\\_en/?idr=6&id=100521a](http://www.turkmenistan.gov.tm/_en/?idr=6&id=100521a)

## EXCHANGE NEWS

27 transactions were concluded at the State Commodity and Raw Materials Exchange of Turkmenistan last week.

The transactions concluded in the foreign currency totaled over US\$ 66.729 million. The buyers from Afghanistan bought A-80 and A-92 gasoline and TC-1 aviation kerosene produced at the Turkmenbashi refineries. The businessmen from the United Arab Emirates, Russia, Ukraine, Kyrgyzstan and Gibraltar bought technical iodine of grade A, carbon black and table salt (Turkmenhmiya State Concern). The transactions in the foreign currency were concluded for cattle skin, ginned cotton, cotton lint, cotton yarn, cotton waste and jeans articles. The buyer-countries: Turkey, Lichtenstein, Singapore, Switzerland, Great Britain, China, Russia, Iran, the UAE, Seychelles,

The buyers from the UAE, Turkey, the USA and Kyrgyzstan concluded the transactions in deposit manats for cattle skin, gray cloth, raw silk, jeans articles. He transactions concluded in deposit manats totalled over 3.531 million.

[http://www.turkmenistan.gov.tm/\\_en/?idr=6&id=100517a](http://www.turkmenistan.gov.tm/_en/?idr=6&id=100517a)

## Exhibition White City Ashgabat presents prospects for future

IX International Universal Exhibition "White City Ashgabat" opened at the Exhibition Centre in Ashgabat. The cabinet ministers, the heads of Mejlis, the ministries and departments, the representatives of the diplomatic missions accredited in Turkmenistan, the public organisations of the Galkynysh National Movement, journalists and numerous guests who had arrived to Ashgabat from different countries worldwide to take part in the exhibition participated in the official opening ceremony.

President Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov addressed the welcoming statement to participants of the international universal exhibition "White City Ashgabat". In his address the Turkmen leader noted that the tasks of accelerating the pace of social, economic and cultural development of the capital and improving substantially the living conditions of people were of key priority. The development of the urban planning policy and the approaches to building up the capital as the unique example of the art of building of the epoch of new Revival and fundamental reforms in particular enabled to create a new architectural image of Ashgabat," the President of Turkmenistan stated.

The versatile exposition organized by the Ashgabat Khyakimlik and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Turkmenistan includes numerous pavilions of the ministries and departments of Turkmenistan that considerably contribute to developing the Turkmen capital, ensuring the effective operation of urban infrastructure and improving the living conditions of people. The Ministry of Construction, the Ministry of Construction Materials Industry, Ministry of Motor Transport, Ministry of Railway Transport, Ministry of Communications, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health and Medical Industry participate in the exposition.

Over 130 companies from Russia, Turkey, Denmark, Italy, Iran, Serbia, Korea, France, Hong Kong and other countries of the world participating in the exposition present their proposals and potential to establish close mutually beneficial relations. During the years of independence our country has created the national model of government

control of market economy that facilitates maintaining the pace of development of all leading sectors, the accomplishments of which are mirrored in the image of the dynamically developing capital.

This year the leading construction companies such as Belda, Total, Gap Insaat (Turkey), Rus Kurort, Baunhaus, RBE (Russia), Altkom (Ukraine), Vinchi (France), Shmidt (Germany) and others demonstrate new technologies at the exhibition. The foreign guests present their achievements and learn about the experience of Turkmen specialists. The pavilions of the subdivisions of the Ministry of Construction including the Institute of Seismology Construction, Turkmengosproekt and Turkmenkommunproekt are of keen interest to the visitors.

[http://www.turkmenistan.gov.tm/\\_en/?idr=5&id=100521a](http://www.turkmenistan.gov.tm/_en/?idr=5&id=100521a)

## **Turkmenistan-UN: partnership strategy**

### *Environmental security in the context of Turkmenistan's regional and international cooperation*

The in Turkmenistan the issues related to the environment protection, replenishment and efficient use of its natural wealth, harmonization between the progress of a society and the environment, achievement of the environmental security are the key priorities of the national policy. The national environmental strategy is implemented through wide international cooperation based on the multilateral conventions and agreements, joint programmes and projects implemented in close collaboration with the authoritative organisations such as the United Nations, the Global Environmental Facility, the European Union, the World Wildlife Fund, the World Bank and others. The traditions of efficient use of natural resources along with environmental innovations have laid the reliable foundation for promoting environmental wellbeing. The environmental aspect in each of the ongoing large-scale projects is strong as never before, and particular attention is given to environmental friendliness. During the recent official visit to Turkmenistan and the meeting with President of Turkmenistan Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon emphasized that Turkmenistan carried out the large-scale task-oriented activity to protect the environment and achieve environmental security and urged Turkmen partners to enhance traditional cooperation with the relevant UN agencies.

Focusing on the environmental challenges including the urgent problems related to the Aral Sea, the UN Secretary-General evaluated highly the significance of establishing the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea (IFAS) and in this context the important activities conducted by the UN Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy in Central Asia.

In his turn, the President of Turkmenistan raised the other issues of particular importance for the region such as saving the Aral Sea and addressing water and land problems in Central Asia. The fate of the Aral Sea depends to a particular extent on how much successful and sustainable the concerted efforts of the Central Asian state in collaboration with the world community would be, the Turkmen leader emphasized focusing on the need to establish an ad-hoc expert group that would develop the international legal document for the Aral Sea in cooperation with the United Nations and the specialized international organisations. Spotlighting a considerable progress made in this field, the Turkmen leader said that on March 3, 2010 Turkmenistan and the United Nations Organisation and the Executive Committee of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea signed the Memorandum of Understanding. As

for the water and land problems, Turkmenistan's approach is clear - these problems must be addressed in compliance with universally recognized norms and principles of international law and the national interests of all states in the region and with the involvement of the international organisations.

Turkmenistan has a positive experience in addressing and resolving water problems with the neighbouring countries through meeting mutual interests. Thus, transboundary water resources are managed in compliance with the bilateral agreements regulating the use of water resources on the basis of equality, mutual respect and benefit.

In this context the international organisations, including the United Nations, welcome President Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov's initiative of construction of the Turkmen Lake that plays a considerable role in achieving environmental security and facilitating regional cooperation through taking the science-based approaches and conducting monitoring during the project life cycle.

[http://www.turkmenistan.gov.tm/\\_en/?idr=2&id=100518a](http://www.turkmenistan.gov.tm/_en/?idr=2&id=100518a)

## Twofold victory again!

Young citizens of Turkmenistan conquer new international Olympus of knowledge. Recently, our children have returned with the victories in the international intellectual contests. The envoys of our country won six medals including the gold one of the International Informatics Project Competition INFOMATRIX, which was held in Bucharest, Romania.

More than 300 young programmers from 32 countries had sent 136 projects to the INFOMATRIX organizing committee. The young programmers from Turkmenistan presented 5 joint and individual projects at the intellectual contest. They all reached the final and won the Olympic awards. Yhlas Begkhanov who ranked among the best participants won the gold.

The intellectual competitions among schoolchildren were held in the Azerbaijani capital in this period. Participants of the 44th International Mendeleev Chemistry Olympiad gathered together in Baku.

The young chemists of our country were among 87 participants from 15 countries. Their performance in the international intellectual contest was a success. Rahim Ashirov and Vepa Rozyev won the silver and bronze medals respectively.

The complete set of the Olympic medals including one gold, one silver and six bronze medals substantially increased Turkmenistan's intellectual achievements that contains total of 21 medals gained by Turkmen schoolchildren in the international intellectual contests this year.

[http://www.turkmenistan.gov.tm/\\_en/?idr=9&id=100514a](http://www.turkmenistan.gov.tm/_en/?idr=9&id=100514a)

**Pictures of the Week**

