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COMMODITIES EXCHANGE NEWS

OFFICIAL NEWS**The President of Turkmenistan held an online working session**

On February 1, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov held an online working session with the participation of the Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers responsible for the agri-industrial complex and khyakims of velayats of the country.

The agenda of session implied the issues of socioeconomic development of velayats, preparation rates to the upcoming sowing campaign, and implementation progress of the ongoing seasonal agricultural works. The chief heads of regional administrations have also reported on the work accomplished over the past week.

Reporting on the state of affairs in velayats, the khyakims have fixated on preparation to the vegetable- and cotton-seeding campaigns, on putting in order the agri-machinery and equipment, providing the producers with necessary seed material, treating and attending the fields planted to wheat.

The reports have also covered the measures undertaken to ensure timely and qualitative implementation of the works included in the running year's plans in the frames of the Program of social and economic development of the country in 2019-2025 and in the National Rural Development Program.

All measures are also to be taken to ensure optimum sowing of spring potato, onion, and other agricultural crops.

Necessitating wide spread adoption of modern science achievements in combination with rich national land-farming experience, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has highlighted the importance of interaction in this direction with scientists of the Turkmen Agricultural Institute.

It is also required that specialists of the Institute would make a substantial contribution to the solution of current ecological tasks in the Central Asian region. One such is saving of the Aral Sea, the head of state noted, having addressed the relevant assignments to the officials concerned.

The leader of nation Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has also exhorted to ensure completion to the appropriate time of the construction objects, which are planned to be opened on the 30th anniversary of the Motherland's independence.

The khyakims of velayats were strongly advised to be constantly in control over trouble-free functioning of the heat- and energy supply to the residential zones, schools and kindergartens of velayats.

Further, Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers E. Orazgeldiev (in charge of the AIC) has informed about fulfillment of the earlier presidential instructions on the upward development of agriculture and on the state of affairs at the constructions sites.

In the comments on the report, the President of the country has exhorted to ensure perfect maintenance of all farmstead machinery, equipment and implements (which are at present at the maintenance service enterprises) and set them in full motion during the seasonal agri-campaigns.

Having focused on such important subject as preparation to the coming cotton-sowing campaign, the leader of nation Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov pointed to the necessity to set in full motion the agricultural equipment and machinery for implementing of the land ploughing, grading and leveling works.

The head of state has also focused attention on ensuring high-quality processing of raw cotton at the ginneries, as well as to prepare the seeds for the sowing season.

Not the least important is to exercise strict control over observance of the requirements of safekeeping the food wheat at the enterprises, as well as over production of high-quality flour, bread and bakery foods.

Necessary work is to be accomplished in association with khyakimlik to provide the population of the country with sufficient volumes of home-produced potato and vegetable and cucurbitaceous crops. In this regard, the agricultural producers are to be supplied with high-quality seeding material.

The President of Turkmenistan got acquainted with modernization of the security structures' logistics base

On February 1, President of Turkmenistan, Supreme Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Turkmenistan General of the Army Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov got acquainted with the progress of work on further strengthening and modernizing of the material-technical base of the military and law enforcement agencies.

President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has examined the samples of outfit intended for the servicemen and made a number of remarks on the point.

According to the President of Turkmenistan, modern military uniform should be made of high-quality materials and fully meet the relevant requirements, including climate conditions. This applies to both the functionality and conveniences of the uniform, taking into account its purpose and design.

The President of Turkmenistan has emphasized that the state would always pay attention to the consistent modernization of the material and technical base of the military and law enforcement agencies, create all conditions for the service and life of the military personnel.

Development of the oil/gas industry – on the agenda of the working session

Development of the country's fuel and energy complex was in the focus of the February-2 online

working session with the participation of some Deputy Chairmen of the Cabinet of Ministers as well as chief heads of the FEC structures, which President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov.

The Minister of State, Chairman of the State Concern “Türkmengaz” B. Amanov has reported to President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov on the activity of the structure (he is in charge of), which is carried out with adoption of the opportunities available for production, processing of the natural gas and increase of its export.

The report covered also the current joint activity with foreign partners, as well as the measures realized for the “Galkynyş” gas field further advancement.

Chairman of the “Türkmennebit” State Concern G. Baygeldiev has reported on the oil production-favored program activity, as well as on fulfillment of the presidential assignments on the oil industry’s integrated development and introduction of the innovative methods into production.

Chairman of the State Corporation “Türkmengeologiýa” M. Rozyev has reported on the measures taken for countrywide conducting of geophysical studies and prospect drilling works, which are aimed at revealing new deposits of oil and gas, minerals, potable water, and other natural resources.

The head of Turkmenbashi Refinery Complex D. Chishiyev has reported on keeping work going aimed at efficient processing of hydrocarbon raw materials and increasing production volumes and assortment of the petroleum products highly-acclaimed at the world markets.

The TRC chief head has buttressed his report with the following indicators achieved in the period under review: the production plan was performed by 101.7 percent; production of various gasoline brands – 104.5 percent; diesel fuel – 104.4 percent; and polypropylene – 102.2 percent; the production growth rate of the liquefied gas – 117.3 percent.

Chancellor of the International Oil and Gas University (IOGU) Sh. Abdrahmanov reported on the integrated training-staff works to prepare high-qualified proficient specialists for the national FEC.

Commenting on the report, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has also focused on the importance of analyzing requirements of the oil/gas complex in various specialists and developing the program of training the demand-driving qualified specialists. It would be reasonable to open the Training-Staff Center at the University for training of teachers, scientific personnel, and candidates of sciences for the oil/gas branch.

The head of state has also necessitated attraction of international education facilities including training centers of such reputable companies, as CNPC, Dragon Oil, Hyundai, LG, Lukoil, ARETI, and many other companies, which are the reliable partners of our country.

During the session, Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers M. Meredov has reported on facilitating the oil/gas complex advancement, wide spread adoption of the latest scientific achievements, advanced technologies and international practice, attraction of foreign investments, increase of production volumes of oil and gas and petrochemical industry’s production capacities.

Summing up the session, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has specified major directions of future work for expansion of the FEC’s production potential, multi-vector development and enhancement of its export capabilities, having ordered to take measures for fulfillment of the within-named tasks.

Making regular analysis of the financial-economic condition, production and business activity of the oil/gas complex, it is necessary to provide uninterrupted operation of all production facilities. At the same time, much attention is to be paid to introduction of new management methods and training of professional specialists, the leader of nation Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has highlighted.

Not the least important is to control and systematically decrease the cost of production through analysis of the budget of expenditures of the oil/gas complex facilities and establishments and through elimination of overspending.

Taking into account that the government has directed significant investments to the industry, it is necessary to improve production efficiency and incomes of its enterprises, the President of the country continued.

It is also advisable to achieve an increase in prices on the exportable petroleum products, which are sold on competitive basis through the State Commodities and Raw Materials Exchange, to enhance the scope of activity of the National Petroleum Company “NAPECO” through attracting the company to the development of new fields.

At the same time, it is necessary to bring to full projected capacity the production facilities, in particular the Akhal plant for production of gasoline from the natural gas and the Polymer Plant in Kiyanly. To ensure steadiness of production processes, it is necessary to timely provide the above-mentioned plants with the auxiliary chemicals and spare parts, introduce new management methods.

The head of state has focused on the importance of increasing the receipt of funds at the expense of increasing sales volumes of final products, including the sales in the foreign currency.

In this regard, the President of Turkmenistan has ordered to analyze in detail the imported goods and raw materials prices, which are not to be higher than the prices applied in other countries of the region, as well as to establish direct cooperation with producers of the commodities high-acclaimed in the national oil/gas complex.

The head of Turkmen state has requested to promptly analyze the reasons of decreasing the volumes of the natural gas produced by foreign partners – the PSA-based companies and take efficient measures for resumption of stable rates of production.

The leader of nation Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has given specific instructions on increasing the volumes of crude oil production by using modern advanced technologies and methods, as well as on ensuring uninterrupted supply of crude oil to the Turkmenbashy Refinery Complex.

Speaking of improvement of the industry's resource base, the President of the country has placed accent on increasing of the efficiency of geological surveys, seismic and drilling works, works for evaluation of reserves of gas, oil and gas condensate using modern technologies including the 3D measuring methods.

The head of state Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has exhorted to pay primary attention to training of the demand-driven professional specialists for the industry, as well as to efficiently use the advices of leading scientists and teachers of the scientific-research institutions in the activity of State Concerns and corporations.

Addressing the Vice-Premier G. Mushshikov, the President of Turkmenistan has entrusted him with a task to regularly analyze the financial and economic condition and items of expenses of the oil/gas complex, to improve funding of the complex, make the audit of debts (in the foreign currency inclusive).

The head of state said that in association with the oil/gas complex, it is necessary to prepare concrete proposals on improvement of the material-technical provision of the complex facilities and geological survey expeditions, on funding the works for overhaul and reconstruction of the production facilities, as well as on attraction of foreign investments to new projects.

The President of Turkmenistan held an online working session fixated on the issues of the agri-industrial sector development

On February 3, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov held an online working session to discuss the issues of the agri-industrial sector further development.

The measures undertaken for the AIC further development and strengthening of its material-technical base were in the center of the online report delivered by the Minister of Agriculture and Environment Protection M. Bairamdurdyev.

In the reporting period, the production plan of the Ministry has been executed by 113.7 percent, including: cotton fiber production – 103.2 percent; vegetable oil, sugar and flour – 100 percent; bread and bakery – 151.4 percent; meat products – 102.2 percent, milk and dairy produce – 102.1 percent.

The integrated efforts of khyakimliks of velayats, private producers, and specialists of the sectoral research-scientific institutions enabled to keep work going aimed at efficient use of pasture lands, increase of the pedigree cattle population and enhancement of its productivity.

Chairman of the State Water Resources Management Committee G. Bayjanov has reported on the implementation progress of the program work on the sector's further development, strengthening of its material-technical base, and improvement of the water supply management policy.

It was mentioned that in 2020, the production plan of the State Water Resource Management Committee was executed by 104.5 percent, the plan of subcontracting works – 114.7 percent; works for construction of new and enhancement of the existing water reserves capacities are ongoing in the country.

General Director of the State Association “Türkmen atlary” A. Berdiyev reported on keeping work going on further popularization and increase of the Akhalteke pedigree horses' population, training of qualified specialists.

During the online session, khyakims of velayats reported on the state of affairs in velayats, on the implementation progress of seasonal field works, including comprehensive preparation to the spring sowing of cotton, potato, onion, and other crops.

Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers E. Orazgeldiyev has reported to President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov on the last year's outcomes of work of the branches answerable to him, as well as on the implementation progress of the reforms in the AIC.

In general, the plan of production, works and services in the system of the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment Protection has been executed by 113.7 percent; the State Water Resources Management Committee – 104.5 percent; State Association “Türkmen atlary” – 106.1 percent. The works are kept going for instituting of Agricultural Land Funds, from which the land plots are devolved to private producers.

Summing up the online session, the President of Turkmenistan has highlighted that it is necessary to practice wide spread adoption of digital systems, latest scientific achievements and advanced technologies, to increase the efficiency of labor organization in the AIC enterprises and activate attraction of foreign investments for efficient unleashing of the sector's untapped potential.

The head of state Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has exhorted the Vice-Premier E. Orazgeldiyev to regularly analyze the financial-economic condition of the AIC enterprises and organizations, production and agricultural works. At the same time, of great importance is to ensure uninterrupted at-full-capacity functioning of the agri-food and processing enterprises.

It is also necessary to ensure the pasture lands stable management according to the Law of Turkmenistan “On Pastures”, to take measures for their rational use and protection, improvement of their ecological, economic and resource capabilities.

Having exhorted to increase production of wheat, potato and other agricultural crops in the country at the expense of purchasing of selected seeds from foreign countries, the leader of nation Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has noted that in the future, import of the within-named seed material is to be reduced.

It is necessary to exercise strict control over the rational and efficient use of the agricultural equipment purchased by the government in foreign currency on easy terms.

The President of Turkmenistan has ordered to provide procurement of imported goods, raw materials, chemicals and consumables, spare parts used in the food and agricultural production in the optimum prices, which cannot exceed the prices for the same production in the neighboring countries, and to establish direct cooperation with the producers of commodities, which are required for the national AIC.

The relevant assignments the leader of nation Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov gave on increasing cattle population in the country, creating of the reliable forage base, and construction of new sheepfolds.

A number of assignments the head of state has addressed to Chairman of the State Water Resources Management Committee G. Bayjanov. In the light of international practice, it is necessary to introduce to production the latest technologies of using large water arteries, water reserves and lakes, to practice wide spread adoption of water-saving methods of irrigation (drop, rain etc.).

To use water resources rationally, it is necessary to improve water supply to the settlements and agriculture, the head of state highlighted.

Having highlighted that it is necessary to pay special attention to the development of horse-breeding in the country and restoration of ancient traditions, the head of state has exhorted General Director of the State Association “Türkmen atlary” A. Berdiyev to make analysis and prepare proposals on increasing cost-efficiency and efficient use of additional untapped reserves of the equestrian complexes.

Specific presidential instructions were given to the heads of velayats on further successful implementation in the AIC of integrated changes.

It is necessary to increase the efficiency of agricultural complex through advancement of poultry farming, increase of meat and dairy production, strengthening of the food and other sectors of the AIC.

The head of state has ordered to prepare the proposals and take all measures for reduction of expenses through introduction to the AIC of the effective management methods and innovative technologies.

Not the least important to finalize preparation of the Land Cadastre and methodological guidelines for production of various agricultural crops.

A number of certain presidential instructions related to purchasing of the agricultural machinery, equipment and spare parts by the private sector and farming associations, to wide spread adoption of the latest water-use technologies in the light of international practice, full accounting of the water reserves available.

Addressing the heads of core high-education intuitions, among the primary tasks of their activity the leader of nation Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has sorted out the science-based provision of major agrarian reforms and training of qualified talented young specialists for provision of food abundance in the country.

The head of state has also exhorted Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers G. Mushshikov to regularly analyze the AIC’s financial-economic condition, prepare the proposals on improvement of its financial provision, exercise control over the inter-sectoral settlements on payment of debts and loans.

In conclusion the leader of nation strongly advised to study in detail the reasons of growth rates decline; to analyze the structure of expenditures and take measures for the payments for use of water, land, pastures were made in full and on timely basis.

The President of Turkmenistan held a session on the construction-and-industrial complex development

On February 4, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov held an online working session on the development of the construction-and-industrial complex (CIC).

The Minister of Construction and Architecture R. Gandymov has fixated his report on the state of affairs in the complex he is in charge of, on the construction paces of various objects and practical measures taken to ensure high quality of construction works and observance of the time-frames for commissioning of the objects.

The Minister of Industry and Construction Production S. Berdymuhamedov was the next to present the progress report on the outcomes of last year’s activity.

In the reporting period, the growth rate of industrial production, construction works accomplished, and services rendered by the Ministry’s enterprises was 107.9 percent.

The cement plants have produced 1,940,626 tons of cement; the claydite production plan was executed by 100.3 percent; roll-formed sheet metal – 100 percent; construction glass – 101.4 percent; reinforced concrete structures – 103.9 percent.

Speaking of the construction pace of the International Association “Türkmen alabaý itleri” Complex, the

Minister has informed that the object would be commissioned by Independence Day holiday.

To speed up the digitization process in the Ministry of Industry and Construction Production and its departmental agencies and enterprises, a “Plan of works for 2020-2021 to promote development of digital economy in Turkmenistan” was worked out.

In addition, electronic document workflow system has been introduced, and the negotiations were held with the relevant organizations. At present, the electronic document workflow system has been established between 27 ministerial organizations and facilities. In addition the website of the Ministry of Industry and Construction Production was developed and posted in the global network.

Minister of Energy Ch. Purchekov reported on the 124-percent implementation of the production plan, works and services by the ministerial structures in the reporting period; the plan of industrial production was fulfilled by 128.3 percent.

The energy production plan was performed by 108.4 percent with the growth rate of 120.2 percent; energy export increased more that twofold in the reporting period.

Construction is in progress of: the Turkmen section of the Turkmenistan – Afghanistan – Pakistan power transmission line; the Akhal – Balkan and Balkan – Dashoguz ring energy system of the country; the 432 MW gas- turbine power plant in Charjew etrap, Lebap welaýat; the Energy Equipment Maintenance and Service Center in Byuzmeyin etrap, Ashgabat City.

Then, Chairman of the State Concern “Türkmenhimiýa” N. Nyiazlyev has reported on the outcomes of work accomplished by the Concern in 2020.

The production plan of the Concern has been executed by 132.2 percent.

The Concern’s mineral fertilizers production plan was fulfilled by 103.4 percent; technical iodine – 123.2 percent; and technical carbon – 113.6 percent.

The khyakim of Ashgabat Administration Ya. Gylyjov reported on the outcomes of the last year’s work on revamping of the country’s main city.

Then, chief heads of the Turkmen State Architectural and Construction Institute B. Atamanov and the State Energy Institute S. Nazarov have reported on the work performed by the educational institutions in the past year.

Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers Sh. Durdyliev has presented a report on the outcomes of work performed in 2020 in the spheres answerable to him.

Thus, the production and work plan in the construction and industrial sector was executed by 118.4 percent (122.5 percent growth rate). The indicators were also avowed, which the sectoral ministries and departments have achieved in the period under review.

Summing up the outcomes of the session, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has highlighted that to

upgrade and streamline the activity of the country’s construction-and-industrial complex, it is necessary to introduce digital systems into production using advanced scientific and technological developments, to use optimum methods of labor organization at the facilities, and to actively attract foreign investments.

Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers Sh. Durdyliev was ordered to make regular analysis of the financial and economic condition, production and management activity of the CIC agencies and enterprises, as well as to provide uninterrupted operation of production facilities.

Not less important is to enhance the gamut and volumes of import substituting industrial and construction produce in the light of the present-day global economic situation, as well as to increase the inflow of foreign currency through searching for new markets and ways of selling of the home-produced goods.

The President of the country has given an assignment to study all issues related to the uncompleted prolonged-construction objects, and take measures for their soonest completion.

Besides, the Prime-Minister was exhorted to control realization of the program of social and economic development of Ashgabat and investment projects; to properly organize the activity of municipality services and administrative structures of the capital; to accelerate wide spread adoption of digital technologies in making payments for utilities, electricity and natural gas.

Having addressed an assignment to the officials concerned to promptly prepare the proposals on the 17th phase of the Ashgabat Redevelopment Investment Project, the prices and sources of its funding, the head of state has exhorted to exercise unremitting control over the quality of construction works, observance of the scheduled time-frames at the facilities, which are planned to be opened by the 30th anniversary of Turkmenistan’s independence.

Addressing the Minister of Construction and Architecture R. Gandymov, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has highlighted that it is necessary to improve pricing policy in the construction sphere and achieve the validity of prices on construction, installation and maintenance works, to take prompt measures for conducting tenders for investment projects, as well as to monitor the construction progress of the facilities.

The officials of the Ministry were ordered to achieve high quality of construction of social and industrial facilities, as well as the edifices in the new center of Akhal welaýat, which are planned to be opened on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of independence.

What is above all needed now is to activate preparation of General Plans for land funds highly-acclaimed in the farming sphere, households, and rural and urban housing construction. It was also ordered to study the uncompleted construction projects and the

reasons of their incompleteness and take measures for their completion.

Minister of Industry and Construction Production S. Berdymuhamedov was exhorted to achieve functioning of the enterprises at their full capacity, improve the provision of import-substituting industrial and construction goods, as well as to promote manufacturing of new electronic products.

The leader of nation Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has also necessitated to intensify realization of the construction projects envisaged in the plans of the Ministry of Industry and Construction Production, as well as to take measures for improvement of local construction materials supplies to the objects enshrined in the Program of social and economic development of the country in 2019-2025 and the National Rural Development Program.

Concrete tasks the head of state has also allotted to the Minister of Energy Ch. Purchekov, who was ordered to achieve projected workability of energy objects through their modernization.

The presidential instructions to the Chairman of the “Turkmenhimiya” State Concern were fixated on the necessity to set in full motion the enterprises of the chemical industry, to timely conduct reconstruction of the enterprises and modernization of the production lines in tune with technological lifespan.

Addressing the head of Ashgabat administration Ya. Gylyjov, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has demanded to provide successful realization of the programs of social and economic development of the capital and investment projects.

It is necessary to continue construction of the enhanced-comfort houses, facilities and parks, the head of state noted. Of great importance is to create every condition for improvement of labor occupancy of the population and improvement of social protection, creation of new workplaces, improvement of business environment, and proper organization of the service sphere.

The chief heads of the Turkmen State Architectural and Construction Institute B. Atamanov and the State Energy Institute S. Nazarov were instructed to activate the work on training of qualified specialists highly-acclaimed in the construction, industrial, and energy industries.

During the session, the head of state has given a number of certain instructions, in particular, for opening in the “Renewable Sources of Energy” scientific-production center (the State Energy Institute) of the post-graduate course on power installations on the basis of renewable sources of energy

Addressing Vice-Premier Sh. Durdulyev and other officials of construction and industrial complex, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has noted that in the past year, only one measure was implemented

out of 24 ones enshrined in the State Program for development of the national estimate-regulatory base and improvement of pricing system in the construction sphere in 2019-2025.

In this regard, the head of the state has ordered to take necessary measures for provision of competitiveness of investment projects, to justify cost-efficiency of the construction, installation and maintenance works, as well as to hold the quality of construction under strict control.

It is necessary to improve provision of the local market with import substituting and construction goods.

Having noted that at present, glass and glass production is imported to the country and paid for in the foreign currency, the head of state Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has strongly advised to envision the measures for increasing production capacity of the “Türkmen aýna önümleri” facility, enhancing assortment and production volumes of the exportable produce of the enterprise.

It is also necessary to fully complete electrification of the country, increase the volumes of energy supplied to the neighboring countries. In this context, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has focused on the importance of timely completion of construction of the Turkmenistan – Afghanistan – Pakistan power transmission line.

Vice-Premier G. Mushshikov was exhorted to regularly make analysis of the financial-economic condition of the construction and industrial complex and prepare the proposals for improvement of its financial provision.

After signing the Resolutions “On the Affairs of the Energy Ministry of Turkmenistan”, “On the Affairs of the Ministry of Construction and Architecture of Turkmenistan”, “On the Affairs of the State Concern “Türkmenhimiýa”, the head of state gave concrete instructions on the appropriate implementation of the documents.

Further, Vice-Premier Sh. Durdulyev has demonstrated to the leader of nation the slides of the 17th phase of the Ashgabat Redevelopment Investment Project – the recreational zone, which would be arranged along the banks of “Altyn Koy” Lake located in the northern part of Ashgabat.

The presented picturesque sketches of the would-be objects have enabled to get visual ideas of the recreation zone’s further development. It includes 10 developed cottage complexes with all amenities and distinctive original design and configuration.

At the same time, it is planned to build an administrative office, medical, trade and service centers, police department, and firefighting station, two 500-car parking lots, parks, place for cultural public events, and other relevant facilities, as well as to build necessary engineering, technical and road infrastructure.

Having approved in general the projects, the head of state Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has necessitated application of modern practice and technologies, know-how during construction, making optimum conditions for living in the cottages.

The leader of nation has thereto highlighted that special attention is to be given to the quality of construction works, thorough selection of the construction materials, and their compliance with such characteristics as ecological and aesthetic aspects.

The President of Turkmenistan held a session on the primary tasks of the trade complex further advancement

On February 5, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov held an online working session to draw together conclusions from the past year's activity of the country's trade complex.

The Minister of Trade and Foreign Economic Affairs O. Gurbannazarov reported on the outcomes of work accomplished in the past year in the frames of the Program of the President of Turkmenistan of the country's socioeconomic development in 2019-2025.

157 facilities are under the Ministry's authority; the growth rate of trade turnover for the period under review was 106.6 percent; the growth rate of production of goods and services – 116.1 percent.

The Consumer Funds have been established, which are formed at the expense of home-made and imported goods.

As of now, 138 facilities of the Ministry of Trade and Foreign Economic Affairs have been step-by-step privatized. In addition, the work is ongoing on transforming the production enterprises into joint-stock ventures and on modernizing them together with representatives of the private sector.

Practical measures are taken for enhancement of the online trade-and-shopping system, adoption of digital system for making payments in shops and trade facilities.

Reporting on the outcomes of the past year's activity, the Minister of Textiles Industry R. Rejepov has informed that 60 facilities are under the Ministry's authority now. The last year's January-December growth rate of production was 107.4 percent.

Chairman of the State Commodities and Raw Materials Exchange of Turkmenistan (SCRMET) B. Charyev has reported on keeping work going aimed at strengthening of the foreign economic relations and domestic wholesale market.

At present, the SCRMET structure includes 6 facilities; 283 exchange trades were held in the period under review; total cost of the contracts registered was 46,363 billion manats (108.4 percent growth rate).

Introduction of digital system is carried out in the frames of the "Strategy of the SCRME activity

improvement in 2020-2025"; adoption of digital system is in progress.

Chairperson of the State Association "Türkmenhaly" O. Ishangulyeva reported that the growth rate of production made at the facilities of the industry in January-December 2020 was 120.2 percent in terms of money.

28,560 square meters of handmade carpets and carpet production have been made at the facilities of the State Association "Türkmenhaly" in the last year; 2,495 square meters of carpets have been exported; the growth rate was 105.1 percent.

Chairman of the Industrialists and Entrepreneurs Union D. Hudayberdiyev has reported about the activity of carpet-handicraft entrepreneurs and types of handmade carpets they made.

The report covered the measures taken for arrangement of carpet handicrafts in Khalach etrap, Lebap velayat, as well as on increasing income sales of carpet production at the local and foreign markets. In particular, Turkmen carpets are sold in the "Berkarar" shop, which was opened in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Turkmenistan (CCIT) D. Rejepov has reported on execution of the plan by 126.3 percent in the accounting period; the growth rate of works and services provided by the CCIT facilities was 102.7 percent; 8 exhibitions, 31 business forums and round table sessions have been held in 2020 in the online format.

Chairman of the Industrialists and Entrepreneurs Union D. Hudayberdiyev has reported on the activity of organization in 2020.

The volumes of industrial production increased by 103.5 percent; agricultural and food production – 134 percent; trade turnover increased by y 103.7 percent; services provided to the population – 110.1 percent.

Integrated works are carried out for increasing production volumes of import-substituting and export produce.

Private companies engaged in the trade and service spheres are expanding the possibilities of the internet online shopping.

In the accounting period, members of the Industrialists and Entrepreneurs Union have accomplished construction of 44 production and social facilities, and arranged a number of other industries.

Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers E. Orazgeldiev (in charge of the AIC) has reported to President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov on the planned allocation to the IEUT members of land plots for long-term use to be used for cultivation of agri-crops, construction of industrial agri-food facilities, hothouse farms, livestock and poultry complexes, and other production entities.

It was highlighted that bread and bakery are supplied to food stores in necessary volumes.

Information was given about measures undertaken for solution of the tasks on provision of textile facilities with cotton.

Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers G. Mushshikov has reported on the fulfillment of the presidential assignments on systematic analyzing of the financial and economic condition of the trade complex to promote maintaining of the complex development sustainable rates.

Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers Ch. Gylyjov has reported on the past year's outcomes of the trade complex activity and on the plan of measures for the running year. It was also reported on the measures taken for provision of food abundance, opening of industrial and processing export-orientated production facilities, etc.

Summing up the outcomes of the session, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has highlighted that in the running year it is necessary to maximum enact the production capacities of the complex, widely adopt digital systems, the latest scientific and technical achievements, efficient methods of labor organization, and more actively attract foreign investments to production.

The leader of nation has exhorted the Minister of Trade and Foreign Economic Relations O. Gurbannazarov to hold under strict control the provision of local market with food products and goods of first priority.

The relevant presidential instructions were also given on intensifying privatization (through the auction trades) of the production and service facilities, which belong to consumer associations.

Addressing the Textiles Minister R. Rejepov, the head of Turkmenistan Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has strongly recommended taking measures in the anniversary year for improvement of quality and volumes of production, enhancement of assortment of produce. It is also necessary to constantly study the requirements of local and foreign markets, increase production volumes of exportable goods sold in the foreign currency.

Addressing the SCRMET Chairman B. Charyev, the President of Turkmenistan has ordered to achieve increase in prices (via the auction trades) for the export -oriented production and to promptly carry out the work for wide spread adoption of digital system and technologies for rendering internet-services and formation of the electronic business market.

In addition, the presidential related to the improvement of the procedure of registering export and import agreements, pricing system, as well as for formation of the accessible electronic pricing database of the Exchange.

Addressing Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers Ch. Gylyjov, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has demanded to analyze the financial-

economic indicators, production and business activity of the facilities and organization of trade complex, to ensure in full-scale and appropriate operation of service and production spheres.

It is advisable to transform unprofitable textile facilities to joint-stock ventures with the participation of private investors, using innovative management methods, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov stressed.

The Vice-Premier was exhorted to provide the coordinated interaction between commodity producers, Exchange, the CCIT, and other government services aimed at promoting of the foreign trade advancement, increase of production volumes of the export-orientated produce, as well as at simplification of export operations. To this end, it is necessary to reanalyze the documents necessary for that procedure, the head of state said.

The head of the state has ordered to activate cooperation with the producers and structures issuing licenses, as well as cooperation for procurement of the auxiliary items, spare parts, chemicals, dyes and consumables.

At the same time, it is necessary to open the facilities in the country for production of the analogues of textile equipment exported from foreign countries, achieve high competitiveness of the prices on the exportable goods sold through the State Commodities and Raw Materials Exchange, as well as to provide selling export goods at the highest exchange prices.

In this regard, it was ordered to monthly analyze the volumes of incoming foreign currency earnings.

It is necessary to expand the activity on supporting of small and medium-size businesses, promote advancement of the private sector of the national economy and establishment of the modern entrepreneurship sphere, and render methodological assistance in increasing of volumes of export-orientated produce and in searching for new outlets.

According to the anti-crisis program for 2020-2021, it is necessary to accelerate development of the draft program on increasing export volumes and creating in 2021-2025 of the industries manufacturing import-substituting produce.

The President of Turkmenistan has exhorted the Vice-Premier G. Mushshikov on a permanent basis to conduct the analysis of financial-economic condition of the trade complex and prepare the proposals on bettering provision of the sphere with monetary resources; to make an audit of debts, return of credits and be in constant control of the issue.

The leader of nation has highlighted that it is necessary to conduct thorough analysis of the operational performance level of production capacities, workability level of core facilities and establishments, state of the trade turnover, and the reasons of growth rates decline.

The President of Turkmenistan held a session on the issues of the transport-communication complex further advancement

On February 6, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov held an online working session to discuss the issues of the transport-communication complex further advancement.

Chairman of the «Türkmenmirýollary» Agency A. Atamyradov reported on the outcomes of the Agency's activity in the past year and the plans for the running year.

The report was buttressed by the following indicators: the revenue item of the Agency was fulfilled by 118.5 percent; freight turnover plan – 120.5 per cent. In the accounting period, 245 kilometers of railroads were repaired and 32.7 kilometers of tracks were renovated; the repair works were accomplished of 90 railway passages and 22 bridges; 930 cargo and passenger cars were modernized; 25 locomotives were electrified; the repair was accomplished of the diesel section and traction electrical engines of 25 locomotives.

Chairman of the «Türkmenaragatnaşyk» Agency H. Hudaikulyev reported that in the past year, 192,238 telephone points were mounted; the plan was fulfilled by 112 percent; 685 kilometers of telephone lines have been built and 266,160 users were connected to the Internet.

510 web-sites were created and registered; all types of services in our country are rendered via the digital system and are posted at gov.tm.; the first national e-mail exchange system «tmchat» and the national e-mail «sanly.tm.» were launched.

On the basis of the Telecommunication and Informatics Institute, the Economical Association «Sanly çözügüt – IT meýdança» was established, which accepts orders on introduction of digital systems and launches them into production.

In his progress report, Chairman of «Türkmenawtoulaglary» Agency G. Akmammedov informed that the last year's plan for freight transportation was fulfilled by 104.5 percent; freight turnover – 103.1 percent; passenger handling – 100.1 percent; passenger turnover – 101 percent.

Built along the «Ashgabat-Dashoguz» highway, the Motor Transport Enterprises Complex and the Training Center of the Automobile Schools Association were put into operation.

The past year's outcomes of the «Türkmenhowaýollary» Agency activity were in the focus of the progress report of its Chairman D. Saburov.

In the reporting period, the plan for cargo transportation was fulfilled by 106.1 percent. Since September 1, 2020, the technical takeoffs and landings of foreign aircrafts were conducted at the Turkmenbashi and Turkmenabat airports.

Since January of the running year, regular freight flights (once a week, IL-76 aircraft) are established in the routes Ashgabat-Istanbul-Ashgabat and Ashgabat-Abu Dhabi-Ashgabat. At present, the works are ongoing on implementing freight flights (in the luggage compartment, Boeing B777-200LR) from Asia to Europe and from Europe to Asia.

Chairman of the «Türkmendeňizderýaýollary» Agency A. Haiytmuradov reported on the work aimed at the development of the marine and river transport, on expansion of the gamut of services and digitization of the branch.

The report covered also implementation of the plans on cargo transportation and passenger handling in the accounting period, on increasing the efficiency of employment of the capacities of the International Seaport of Turkmenbashi.

The Chancellors of the Engineering-Technical and Transport Communications Institute A. Ashirov and the Telecommunications and Informatics Institute N. Kuliev reported on the last year's outcomes of the institutions' activity.

Then, the floor was given to Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers B. Ovezov, who reported on the last year's outcomes and future plans of the transport-communications complex. In the accounting period, the plan of the complex was fulfilled by 123 percent.

Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers G. Mushshikov centered his report on the financial-economic state of the transport-communication structures answerable to him and taking practical measures to activate inter-sectoral interaction.

Summing up the results of session, the President of Turkmenistan has highlighted that participants of the session are to take measures to improve production indicators of enterprises and organizations of the transport-communications complex, make the complex profitable.

Addressing Chairman of the «Türkmenmirýollary» Agency A. Atamyradov, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has highlighted that to encourage upward development of the country's transport-transit possibilities, it is necessary to in-full use the potential of modern objects of the railway infrastructure and achieve further increase of the railway freight traffic.

The relevant presidential instructions were given to the chief head of «Türkmenaragatnaşyk» Agency H. Hudaigulyev. It is necessary to introduce in the sector of broad range of modern technologies on the basis of international experience, enhance the communication services rendered to the population, and make Internet services available to all, the head of state stressed.

The leader of nation has also ordered to improve staffing of the communications sphere with high-qualified specialists, to use in full measure transponders and possibilities of the national satellite «Türkmen Älem».

52°E». To this end, it is necessary to intensify advertising and marketing activity.

Chairman of the «Türkmenawtoulaglary» Agency G. Akmammedov was assigned to increase passenger handling and quality of passenger transportation at the expense of purchasing of medium and small buses equipped with the cashless payment devices JIPES|Glonass; it is also necessary to widely introduce Internet-services and selling of season tickets(cards).

It is necessary to continue international cooperation in development of transit routes via the territory of our country at the expense of increasing the volumes of truck-transported cargoes, said the head of state.

To the Chairman of the «Türkmenhowaýollary» Agency D. Saburov, the head of state has exhorted to timely conduct capital and current repairs, and maintenance servicing of the aircraft, as well as take measure for ensuring flights safety.

In the instruction to the Chairman of the «Türkmendeňizderýaýollary» Agency, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has recommended to organize the work on phased construction of ships in the International Seaport of Turkmenbashi.

Not the least important is to use at full capacity the possibilities of the Joint-Stock Company «Deňiz söwda floty», to considerably increase the marine freight traffic, the head of state stressed in his assignment to the chief head of the Company.

The chief heads of high education institutions were advised to achieve active participation of students, teachers and scientific workers in the contests and exhibition of international level; to advance cooperation with the reputable foreign high-education schools, scientific centers and IT-companies in the sphere of science and education, as well as to continue phased process of joining the List of high-education schools of international level.

Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers B. Ovezov was authorized to continue the work on further realization of transport diplomacy of the Turkmen state, which is located on the advantageous junction of Central Asia and Europe.

The President of the country has ordered to accelerate the works on the development of high-technological and competitive economy through wide spread adoption of digital systems envisaged in the Digital Economy Development Concept for 2019-2025; to regularly conduct the analysis of the production and economic activity of the agencies and enterprises of the transport-communications complex; to ensure trouble-free functioning of the faculties available; to concentrate attention on regular improvement of the material and technical base and activities of all structures of the transport-communications complex of the country.

Having reminded that Turkmenistan was the heart of the Great Silk Road throughout ages and at present this

root is again revived, the head of state Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has stated that the sector of transport and communication is assigned to play a particular role in rehabilitation of that route.

President of Turkmenistan held an online working session devoted to improvement of the culture sphere and mass media

On February 7, Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov held an online working session to draw together conclusions from the past year's activity of the sphere of culture and mass media. The session was attended by some members of the Government, chief heads of the sphere of culture and mass media, Rectors of the core high education schools.

Opening the session, the head of state has highlighted the importance of the national culture – a major ingredient of the state policy and a workable instrument of the country's sustainable socioeconomic development.

In what way to organize the work of that sphere in tune with the times, what methods to use to achieve it, how to preserve the centuries-old cultural heritage of the nation, its musical-singing art, traditions and customs in their primordial versions and hand them down to descendants – these and other urgent issues were on the agenda of the session, the head of Turkmenistan said.

Starting the session, the President of Turkmenistan got connected with the Minister of Culture A. Shamyradov.

In his report on the last year's activity of the Ministry's departments and agencies, the Minister informed that in the reporting period the comprehensive work was accomplished aimed at strengthening of their material-and-technical base, raising the qualification level of the creative personnel, at creating of modern contentious and high-artistic works.

In compliance with the "Program of Turkmenistan's culture sphere development in 2020-2025" initiated by President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov, the work is ongoing on streamlining the activity of theaters, cinema-concert centers, libraries, museums, schools of arts, Culture Houses, state historical-cultural reserves.

The past year's cultural program included conducting of (in the online format inclusive) concerts of masters of art, fine arts exhibitions and the decorative-applied art exhibitions, museum expositions, photo-vernises, creative parties, festivals, contests and conferences.

In the accounting period, the work was kept going on inclusion of the national values of the universal importance into the UNESCO List of Immaterial Cultural Heritage of Mankind.

The Chairman of the State Committee of TV-Radio Broadcast and Cinematography A. Ashirov, in his progress report informed that the past year's events were promptly covered by the radio and TV channels. The TV and radio channels broadcasted the concerts, TV-movies, feature stories, round table meetings, literary-political

compositions, dramatized compositions, as well as the online international meetings.

In compliance with presidential assignments, the measure were undertaken to achieve high quality of TV and Radio materials, their preparation with a glance to the national features, as well as to improve organizational work on wide propaganda of the glorious history and cultural heritage of our people.

The relevant measures are being taken to implement the presidential assignments on activating international cooperation.

The Committee's Chairman has also informed the leader of nation Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov about the startup of preparation work to wide celebrating of the 30th anniversary of the country's independence in the Year proclaimed under the motto "Turkmenistan – Home of Peace and Trust".

Then, Chairman of the Turkmen State Publishing Service A. Hudaiberdiyev reported on the past year's activity of the Service.

In the accounting period, the production and services plan was fulfilled by 108.9 percent; 367 types of book production were released, 156 of them – textbook and educational aids; the Book Center "Galkynysh" supplied the books of 31 names to the libraries.

In compliance with presidential assignment on transition to the digital system and active use of its possibilities, the Internet-site of the Turkmen Publishing Service metbugat.gov.tm was created. As of now, the site releases the electronic versions of 25 newspaper and 7 magazines.

In 2020, the Internet-site "Turkmenmetnugat" and its mobile application were launched, which include the electronic versions of 19 newspapers and 7 magazines issued in the country.

In the Printing House, the newest programs based on the digital technologies were introduced in the polygraph production to promote high quality and timely production of printing products.

The report of Chairman of the State Information Agency (TDH) B. Amansaryev covered the Agency's activity in the past year on wide propaganda of the internal and foreign policy pursued by President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov. While publishing daily news about major events in the country's social-political, economic, and cultural life, reviews and analytical materials, the Agency provides spot news to the national media, including the electronic one.

The TDH sites "Turkmenistan today" and "Turkmenistan: Golden Age" (in the Turkmen, Russian, and English languages) release the news, information, video- and photo-materials, which are the object of great attention of the international 'Internet' audience.

In the running year, one of the TDH's key tasks is active covering of the significant events related to the 30th anniversary of the Motherland's independence.

Wide spread adoption of modern technologies enables in the online format to promptly and globally distribute the Internet news about achievements of Turkmenistan in various spheres and branches, as well as about implementation of large-scale industrial, transport, social and humanitarian projects.

Not the least important in the TDH activity is advancement of cooperation in the information exchange with international and national news agencies, large publishing agencies, and foreign creative and social organizations.

In compliance with presidential assignments, the measures are taken on the systemic basis on digitization of the State Information Agency of Turkmenistan.

Then, the progress reports were presented by Rectors of the Turkmen State Culture Institute A. Aidogdyev, State Arts Academy A. Nuvvayev, and the Turkmen National Conservatoire named after Maya Kulieva R. Amangeldiev. The reports covered the staff-training work conducted by the institutions.

Deputy Chairperson of the Cabinet of Ministers M. Mammedova reported on the work accomplished in the reporting period in the departmental structures (answerable to her) on streamlining of the activity of the culture sphere and media.

At present, every condition is created in the country for development of the national culture, art and literature, for careful preservation for the future generation of the material and immaterial heritage, creative labor of workers of art and culture, creation of new high-artistic works.

The material-and-technical base of the core sphere is constantly strengthened; digital systems are actively introduced; the international cooperation is intensified; the festivities in honor of national holidays and remarkable dates conducted at a high level.

In the reporting period, the measures were taken on improvement of the national journalism, media staff-training system, quality of the TV and Radio materials, modernization of the editorial structure of newspapers and magazines, their transition to the electronic format. Works are in progress on raising the quality of the Turkmen film art, production of modern films.

At present, workers of culture sphere in association with the relevant agencies and khyakimliks are preparing to celebrate at a high organizational level the glorious 30th anniversary of the country's independence; they also study the world's experience of organizing large festivities.

Deputy Chairperson of the Cabinet of Ministers G. Mushshikov reported to on the financial-economic activity of culture departments, and in this context – on implementation of the relevant presidential assignments.

Summing up the outcomes of the working session, the leader of nation has stated that over the years of independence, much has been done for the national

culture development, which in turn invested to achievement of great successes in this direction. What's done was well done, but so much remains to do.

It is very important to in-full use all resources available in the sphere. President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has strongly advised, relying on the latest achievements of science and technologies, to widely adopt the digital system. Having chosen the most efficient methods of labor organizing, to actively apply them in the work of sectoral agencies and enterprises, attracting simultaneously foreign investments, the head of state said, having addressed the relevant assignments to the session participants.

Among the important tasks, the leader of nation has sorted out: activation of works on restoration and protection of historical and cultural monuments; stocking of the information base and electronic libraries funds; preparation of modern, interesting and high-quality films of national character; activation of cooperation with the reputable structures, first of the first with the UNESCO.

President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has also ordered to exercise strict control over observance in the TV and Radio materials the norms of the literary Turkmen language, culture of speech, as well as to raise the responsibility of editors for the materials broadcasted.

Speaking of modernization of the material-and-technical base of the State Committee of TV-Radio Broadcast and Cinematography, the leader of nation has ordered to take measures on its phased transition to the cost accounting system.

The head of state Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has also pointed to the necessity to sufficiently provide the secondary and high education schools with necessary books and aids, increase release of feature literature including the books intended for children, to control the quality of the printing products.

Special presidential orders were given to the chief heads of the sectoral high education schools on training of high-qualified specialists highly-acclaimed in the sphere of culture and media.

To motivate young talents, the youths' desire to be involved in the creative activity and study the ancient cultural heritage, it is advisable to increase the number and gamut of the extra-school charged services and activities in such spheres, as arts and musical art.

Already now, it is high time to start preparations to the state-level measures on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of independence and to the Culture Week, which will be held in Lebap velayat on July 22-27.

Particular attention is to be given to the implementation of the running year's measures in the frames of the year's slogan "Turkmenistan – Home of Peace and Trust" and the Program of the country's socioeconomic development in 2019-2025.

Activating the international culture ties, not the least important is to continue organizing of the countries' reciprocal Culture Days and other measures, which promote realization of the peace-making policy of our sovereign state, the leader of nation stressed.

In that context, the Vice-Premier G. Mushshikov was given the presidential assignment to study the possibilities of improving the financial provision of the departments and institutions of culture through regular analyzing of their financial-economic condition, to control timely and earmarked spending of the funds allotted to them from the State Budget of Turkmenistan, and prevent overspending of the budgetary funds.

ORDERS AND RESOLUTIONS REVIEW

• The President of Turkmenistan signed a Resolution on approving the institutional structure of the Central Management Departments of the Ministry of Energy and the Ministry of Construction and Architecture, as well as on approving the Central Management Department and Regulations of the "Turkmenhimiya" State Concern.

• The President of Turkmenistan has signed a Resolution on approving the List of government agencies, which are authorized to issue the document, which confirms that within the borders of the geographical object in the territory of Turkmenistan, the applicant produces a commodity, particular qualities of which are determined by the natural and (or) ethnographical factors characteristic for the within-named geographical object of the region.

• The President of Turkmenistan signed a Resolution on approving the composition of the Inter-Departmental Commission for evaluating cost-efficiency of the projects of the under-construction and under-reconstruction important and particularly important edifices and structures erected in Turkmenistan.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Online meetings with foreign partners

The on-line foreign ministerial-level consultations were held between Turkmenistan and the Sultanate of Oman. The event was virtually attended by Foreign Minister of the Sultanate of Oman Sayyid Badr bin Hamad bin Hamood Al Busaidi.

Discussions were centered on a broad range of issues of bilateral relations in the political-diplomatic, trade-economic and cultural-humanitarian areas. The two sides recognized the significance of high-level contacts in advancing of the ties between the two countries.

The Ministers stated the effectiveness of collaboration between the Foreign Ministries and highlighted the

importance of advancing the dialogue and partnership through regional and international organizations.

Cooperation in the field of transport received special emphasis during the consultations. The diplomats have noted that due to the two countries' unique advantageous geographical location they provide essential links in the international North-South and East-West transit transport corridors.

In this context, the Agreement on Establishing of the International Uzbekistan-Turkmenistan-Iran-Oman Transport Transit Corridor, initiated by President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov, serves as one of the illustrative examples of the successful partnership.

Having underlined the need for developing the legal framework for the bilateral cooperation, the diplomats discussed the relevant draft documents.

The parties also expressed the two countries' interest to create an Intergovernmental Commission for Economic Cooperation to facilitate trade relations, including in the oil/gas, chemical, textile, agricultural and other sectors.

The Ministers stressed the necessity for developing closer contacts in the field of education, culture and in the health sector.

The Ministry of Culture hosted an online working meeting with representatives of the UNESCO Cluster Office (Tehran).

The meeting focused on developing of joint proposals concerning the inscription of traditional Turkmen crafts on the UNESCO Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. In particular, the sides discussed the multi-nomination file "Embroidery Art" ("Keşdeçilik Sungaty") – the age-old tradition of the Turkmen embroidery art.

During opinion exchange, the meeting participants have highlighted particular significance of the President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov's constructive policy of multilateral cooperation with UNESCO in preserving the Turkmen nation's ancient cultural treasures, including the art of embroidery.

The Turkmen embroidery art – an integral part of the national cultural heritage, reflects the distinctive character and uniqueness of the Turkmen people's traditions. Recognition of the universal importance of the embroidery art will help preserve it and cement closer the ties between the nations.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan hosted a meeting with the heads of the United Nations Offices and Agencies accredited to the country and the region. A number of participants used the advantages of the online communication.

Among those participating in the meeting were representatives of the UN Resident Coordinator Office, the UNDP, UNICEF, WHO, the Office of the

High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the International Labor Organization (ILO), and others.

Specialists of the United Nations Regional Center for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia also participated in the meeting.

The participants exchanged their views on the effective implementation of the plans and projects for the running year. In this context, they highlighted the importance of the cooperation agreements (44 documents) signed between Turkmenistan and the international organizations last year's December.

The main areas of collaboration between Turkmenistan and the United Nations include education, healthcare, social services, food security, and ecology.

During the meeting, consideration was also given to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework Program between the Government of Turkmenistan and the United Nations Organization for 2021-2025. The outcomes of the collaborative work were also considered.

Representatives of the international organizations rated high Turkmenistan's efforts to implement joint agreements.

The participants have also noted the importance of the International Year of Peace and Trust, which was officially launched in Ashgabat a few days ago. In this context, they considered the measures included in the "Roadmap", which are expected to make a meaningful contribution to achieving of the Sustainable Development Goals in the frames of the Agenda-2030.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs hosted an online meeting with Secretary General of the Road Transport Union (IRU) Umberto de Pretto.

The meeting agenda implied a broad range of cooperation-associated issues aimed at further advancement of the transport-transit corridors through streamlining and upgrading of logistics and digitization.

In the light of the global coronavirus pandemic, the parties have discussed the possibilities of working together to implement the President of Turkmenistan Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov's initiatives on ensuring stable international cargo traffic during the emergency period.

The IRU Secretary General has expressed his adherence to the cooperation with Turkmenistan in making the best use of the Lapis Lazuli Corridor as well as of other transport-transit corridors in the North-South and East-West directions.

The parties have also considered the issues of preparation for the International Ministerial Transport Conference of the landlocked developing countries to be held in Turkmenistan in 2021.

The issues of water resources effective use in the region were in the center of the agenda of the online working meeting between representatives of Turkmenistan and the Republic of Tajikistan.

Chief heads and specialists of the Water Resources Management State Committee of Turkmenistan, the Ministry of Energy and Water Resources of Tajikistan and the Executive Committee of the International Fund for the Aral Sea, as well as representatives of the Embassy of Turkmenistan in Tajikistan and the Embassy of Tajikistan in Turkmenistan attended the meeting.

The meeting participants exchanged views on the practical implementation of the proposals, aimed at the improvement of the ecological condition of the Aral Sea basin, water resources management police, economy and social sphere in the region.

An online meeting was held between Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers, Foreign Minister of Turkmenistan, and Executive Secretary of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific (ESCAP), the UN Under-Secretary General Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana.

The sides have highly estimated the by-now level of cooperation between Turkmenistan and ESCAP in such key directions as energy, statistics, trade, transport, migration management, reduction of risks of natural disasters, etc.

ESCAP is one of the partners in execution of the "Framework Program of Cooperation between the Government of Turkmenistan and the United Nations Organization in the Sustainable Development in 2021-2025", which was signed last year's March.

A whole number of the Turkmen side's initiatives, which were avowed in the course of the meeting, were aimed, in particular, to solve the issues of social, economic and ecological character in the countries of Central Asian and neighboring regions.

Special consideration was given to the pandemic-induced global situation. It was noted that Turkmenistan led by the President Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov was ready to work together to overcome the economic, social and financial consequences of the epidemic.

In the course of meeting, the sides have also discussed key aspects of interaction in the frames the UN Special Program for the Economies of Central Asia (SPECA), the opportunities for cooperation enhancement in the statistics and trade spheres, in particular by means of wide spread adoption of the

experience in the trans-border paperless trade on the ESCAP platform.

Ashgabat hosted an online working meeting with experts of the Office of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Turkmenistan.

The Turkmen side at the meeting was represented by the officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Finance and Economy, the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of the Population, the Migration Service, the State Statistics Committee, and the Institute of State, Law and Democracy.

Lengthy discussion was given to the implementation progress of joint programs outlined for 2021.

In the course of meeting, a constructive exchange of opinions was held on drafting of the national migration strategy, data collection and analysis of the indicators.

In this context, the experts have avowed the results of joint activity, the near- and long-term plans and projects, having rated high Turkmenistan's activity on the implementation of joint agreements.

Turkmenistan – UAE: the relations of friendship, brotherhood, and constructive cooperation

On the past week, authorized by President Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov, the Turkmen delegation led by the Deputy Foreign Minister of Turkmenistan paid a working visit to the United Arab Emirates.

A series of constructive meetings were held with the leaders of the Government of the United Arab Emirates and the International Renewable Energy Sources Agency (IRENA).

A broad range of issues related to advancing of the two countries' interest-based cooperation were on the agenda of the meeting of the MFA Deputy Minister of Turkmenistan with Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Presidential Affairs Management Department of the United Arab Emirates Sheikh Mansour bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan, and Director General of the Abu Dhabi Fund for Development Mohammed Saif Al Suwaidi.

By results of negotiations, the following bilateral documents were signed:

The Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation between the Government of Turkmenistan and the Abu Dhabi Fund for Development (on funding the projects in Turkmenistan); The Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation between the Government of Turkmenistan and the Abu Dhabi Fund for Development (on establishing of investment companies); The Memorandum of Understanding on Funding Potential Projects in Turkmenistan between the State Bank for Foreign Economic Affairs of Turkmenistan (acting on behalf of the Government

of Turkmenistan) and the Abu Dhabi Fund for Development.

In the course of the meeting with Director General of the International Renewable Energy Sources Agency Francesco La Camera, the parties discussed prospects for cooperation between Turkmenistan and the IRENA in the sphere of rational use of the renewable energy sources and energy safeguarding.

At the meeting with Executive Director of the Expo-2020 Najeeb Mohammed Al-Ali, consideration was given to the organizational issues, notably to the participation of representatives of Turkmenistan in that large-scale event scheduled for October 2021.

IN RUN-UP TO ELECTIONS

An important phase in the pre-election campaign

At present, in run-up to elections of members of Halk Maslakhaty Milli Gengesha on March 28, the pre-election work and measures considerably intensified in Turkmenistan.

In compliance with the election legislation, on February 6, nomination of candidates started. The candidates to the Halk Maslakhaty are nominated by velayat, etrap, and town Halk Maslkhatys at their meetings. The political parties, groups of citizens may nominate their candidates to the members of Halk Maslakhaty via their representatives – members of the within-named structures.

Halk Maslakhaty Milli Gengesha of Turkmenistan is made up of 56 members; 48 of them are elected from each velayat and Ashgabat City on the basis of indirect secret voting at the meetings of halk maslakhaty of velayats and Ashgabat City; 8 members of Halk Maslakhaty are appointed by the President of Turkmenistan.

In the election of members of Halk Maslakhaty, the territory of each velayat, Ashgabat City represents one election district with 8 mandates. The criteria for the Halk Maslakhaty candidate are – any 35-year-old citizen of Turkmenistan (on the day of election), who has high

education, and is the resident of the country over the last ten years.

Nomination of candidates starts prior to 50 days and stops 25 days after elections. Registration of candidate to the members of Halk Maslakhaty is conducted by the Central Election Commission prior to 45 days and stops 20 days after elections.

In the frames of preparations to the election campaign, the velayats and Ashgabat City hosted the relevant seminars organized by the CEC.

Besides, registration was implemented of the national observers, who will monitor the election process in the frames of their authorities. All of them were given the relevant certificates.

COMMODITIES EXCHANGE NEWS

At the past week's trades at the State Commodities and Raw Materials exchange of Turkmenistan 59 deals were registered.

The contracts in the foreign currency for purchasing of jet kerosene and motor gasoline (TRC) were made by the entrepreneurs from The United Arab Emirates, and Cyprus.

The heavy vacuum gasoil (Seidi Refinery) was subject to the contract made by businessmen from Switzerland and Afghanistan; carbamide ("Turkmenhimiya" State Concern) was subject to the contract of representatives of business circles of Great Britain.

Besides, the contracts in the foreign currency for purchasing of colorless sheet glass, licorice died roots, cotton yarn were made by businessmen Russia, UAE, Turkey, Pakistan, Azerbaijan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan. The sum total of the deals exceeded US \$33,494 thousand).

The in-manat deals for purchasing of cotton yarn,, raw fat acids, cotton soap-stock, cotton-delint wastes were made by businessmen from Scotland, UAE, Turkey, Pakistan, Kazakhstan and Armenia. The sum total of the contacts was over 91,265 thousand manats.

For the domestic market, local businessmen purchased polypropylene and cotton fiber (some 965,000 manats).





TÜRKMENBAŞY JINS TOPLUMY

BAŞ SAHYPA BIZ BARADA ÖNÜMLERIMIZ HABARLAŞMAK ÜÇİN TAZELIKLER DİL SAÝLAMAK: Q



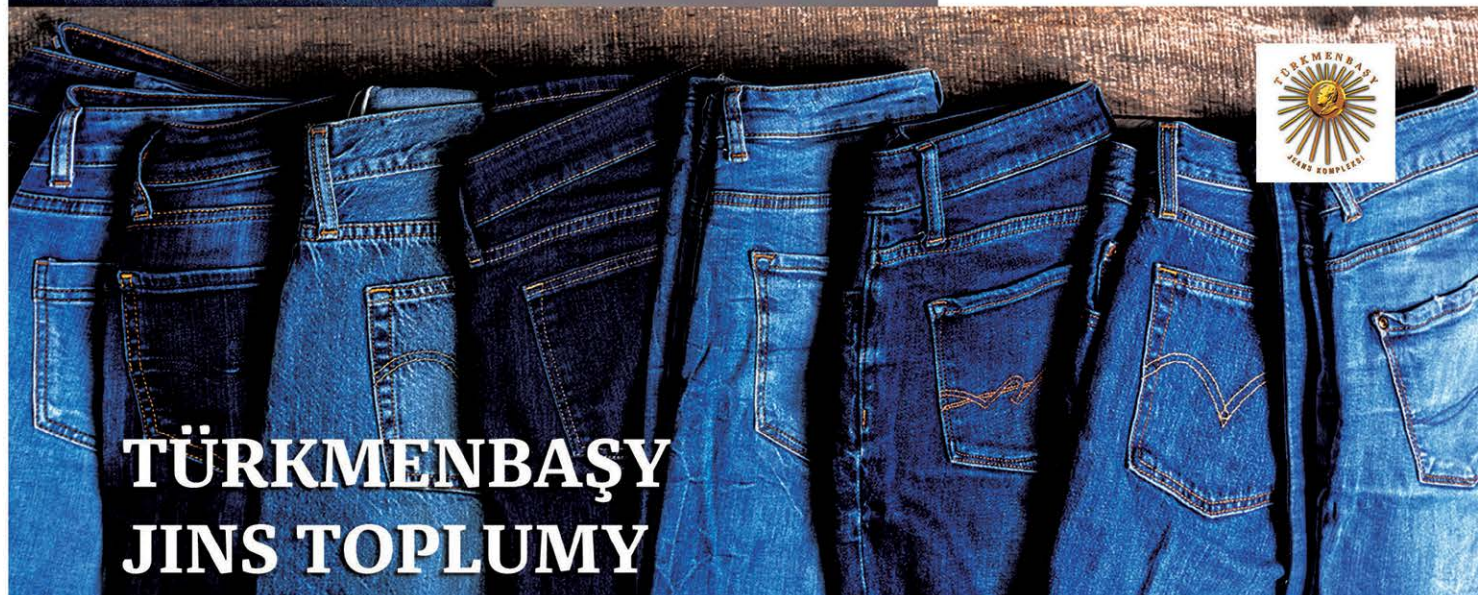
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Arzan bahalardan döwrebap jins lybaslaryny alyň!

