



# TÜRKMENISTAN: HEPDÄNIŇ WAKALARY



Onuň Alyhezreti, Türkmenistanyň Prezidenti  
Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedowa

**Türkmenistanyň çuňňur hormatlanylýan Prezidenti!**

*Sizi Milli bahar baýramy –  
Nowruz baýramy bilen mähirli gutlaýarys!*

Size tüýs ýürekden berk jan saglyk, bagt  
we Siziň jogapkärli döwlet işiňizde uly üstünlikleri  
gazanmagyňyzy arzuw edýäris!

To His Excellency, President of Turkmenistan  
Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov

**Dear President of Turkmenistan!**

*Our cordial congratulations on the  
National Spring Holiday – Novruz Bayramy!*

We sincerely wish You the best of health, happiness  
and great successes in Your responsible state activity!

Его Превосходительству, Президенту Туркменистана  
Гурбангулы Бердымухамедову

**Глубокоуважаемый Президент Туркменистана!**

*Сердечно поздравляем Вас с Национальным  
праздником весны – Новруз байрамы!*

Искренне желаем Вам крепкого здоровья, счастья  
и больших успехов в Вашей ответственной  
государственной деятельности!



# TURKMENISTAN: NEWS WEEKLY

## WEEKLY BULLETIN

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## OFFICIAL NEWS

**President of Turkmenistan received the head of the “ARETI” International Group of Companies**

On March 9, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov received the head of “ARETI” International Group, a member of the Steering Committee of the International Cycling Union (UCI) Igor Makarov.

The discussion was fixated on the upcoming Track Cycling World Championship to be held in Ashgabat on October 13-17, 2021, the organization of which was entrusted to the Ministry of Sports and Youth Policy of Turkmenistan in association with the Cycling Federation and the International Cycling Union.

As a member of the UCI Steering Committee, I. Makarov reported on the implementation progress of the earlier presidential assignments on the appropriate organization of that important sporting event, which will bring together representatives of 186 countries of the world.

“Organization of the World Track Cycling Championship is a worthy contribution of our country – a member of the International Olympic Committee and the Olympic Council of Asia, to the development of the world’s Olympic movement and popularization of sports”, - the President of Turkmenistan said. Symbolic is the fact itself, that a large world competition was scheduled for the year of celebrating the 30th anniversary of the country’s independence and the 140th anniversary of Ashgabat, the President of Turkmenistan noted.

Rating high the Turkmen leader’s initiative to host the World Cycling Championship, which plays an important role in the development of world cycling sport, I. Makarov has assured that the International Cycling Union would apply every effort to hold the tournament at the highest level.

As was noted, special attention is paid to the organizational issues. In particular, assistance will be provided to ensure that in the coronavirus pandemic-induced difficult situation in the world, all athletes arriving in Turkmenistan are vaccinated.

Given the special importance of the World Track Cycling Championship, which is held in the anniversary year for Turkmenistan proclaimed as the International Year of Peace and Trust on the initiative of the Turkmen side, particular attention will be paid to the advertisement and advocacy promotion work to popularize cycling as an environmentally friendly mode of transport.

**President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov took part in the victory ceremony of the world champion**

On March 10, President of Turkmenistan, President of the country’s National Olympic

Committee Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has visited the capital’s Olympic Village to take part in the victory ceremony on the occasion of honoring the Turkmen sportswoman Yulduz Jumabayeva – the holder of the highest awards of the World Weightlifting Championship, which was held in Ashgabat in November 2018.

Members of the Government and the State Security Council, heads of ministries and sectoral departments, social organizations, mass media, directors of universities, and Turkmen sportsmen took part in the ceremony, which was held in the Martial Arts Complex of the Olympic Village. The ceremony was also attended by the heads and representatives of diplomatic missions of foreign countries and Representative Offices of international organizations in our country.

Greeting the participants of the event, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has highlighted that the current event is a remarkable date for Turkmen sports and for the entire country. We have gathered to award the sportswoman of national team Yulduz Jumabayeva, who was recognized by the World Weightlifting Federation as the World Champion among sportswomen in the weight class up to 45 kg, the leader of nation said. More exactly, Y. Jumabayeva was awarded two gold medals in the competitions and set the world record in this sport discipline.

The magnificent victory is quite a logical phenomenon, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov continued. It is the result of unprecedented government policy aimed at the development of physical culture in the country, propaganda of the principles of healthy life style, and involvement of the people into sport movement.

In the last years, our country has become the venue of large international competitions, the head of state highlighted. V Asian Indoor and Martial Art Games as well as “Amul – Hazar” International Rally and the World Weightlifting Championship in 2018 are among the country’s important historical sporting events.

These competitions have demonstrated to the entire world that independent Turkmenistan is able to well prepare to large-scale and important sport events and hold them at a better and higher level. In this regard, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has expressed firm confidence that the World Track Cycling Championship and a round of the Davis Cup International Tennis Tournament in the IV group of Asia and Oceania Zone, which our country will host in the running year, as well as the World Sambo Championship – in 2022, would be held at a high organizational level.

The President has noted that the history of national sports is notable for quite a few remarkable pages. Speaking of this, the head of Turkmenistan



has referred to the famous weightlifter, three-fold World and European champion, champion of Asia, Altymyrat Orazdurdyev, and the outstanding, the most famous sportsman of his time, silver winner of the Olympic Games, multiple World and Europe record holder in target shooting, Marat Niyazov.

President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has highlighted that we are proud that today the traditions of Turkmen sports are advancing. Our young athletes meritoriously continue the victorious way of the older generation.

Yulduz Jumabaeva is one of them – a beautiful representative of our youth, committed, persevering, determined and infinitely devoted to the beloved Motherland, the head of state noted.

Further, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has noted that throughout centuries the Turkmen people were creating tangible and intangible values. In this context, the head of state has noted that restoration and wide popularization of the primordial traditions of honest sport competitions is an important direction and one of the basic fundamentals of our rich historical and cultural heritage further development.

Undoubtedly, the unique Akhalteke horses are an integral part of the national heritage. It is no exaggeration to say that they have become a symbol of our state and pride of the Turkmen people. At present, all necessary conditions are made in Turkmenistan for the development of horse-breeding sphere; new equestrian complexes have been built; the races attended by numerous visitors are held regularly.

We also develop other kinds of competitions and traditions inherited from our ancestors, notably falconry and tiding to hounds, belt wrestling, ancient carpet-making and jewelry arts, distinctive songs and dances, beautiful national dress.

Handing down these glorious traditions to our days, we have preserved historical succession – which is regarded as an inexhaustible power, which unites our society and inspires the courageous nation for great achievements, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov said.

Now and in the long term, our state will continue paying special attention to physical culture and sports as the priority vectors of the policy. We will allocate and invest necessary resources for development of the material base of sports, improvement of methodology and training-staff programs. The leader of nation has emphasized that these works would be carried out on the basis of the results achieved, the best world practice, and modern science.

Pending the subject, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has expressed firm confidence that in the future, Turkmenistan would have many champions who would glorify the Motherland and enhance the prestige of world sports.

Extending heartfelt congratulations to Yulduz Jumabayeva on her splendid victory in the World Weightlifting Championship, the leader of nation said that in his insight to the future he sees the neutral Turkmenistan's State Flag flying high at the international sport competitions.

Further, in the ceremonial atmosphere, President of Turkmenistan, President of the National Olympic Committee of the country Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has presented Yulduz Jumabayeva with gold medals of the World Weightlifting Championship, which was held in Ashgabat in 2018.

The National Anthem of Turkmenistan plays, and to the melody of the Anthem the State Flag of Turkmenistan was hoisted.

Continuing the ceremony, the floor was given to the President of the International Weightlifting Federation (IWF) Dr. Michael Irani who made an online address to the participants of the event.

Sincerely grateful to President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov for his steadfast efforts for promoting development of various sports in Turkmenistan, including the weightlifting, the IWF head wished to Turkmen sportsmen further success in international competitions.

The IWF President has highlighted that the International Weightlifting Federation in association with the International Testing Agency and the World Anti-Doping Agency makes considerable efforts to keep sports transparent and honest. The IWF welcomes active position of Turkmenistan in this direction.

The fact, that a representative of our country, Yulduz Jumabayeva, has broken the world record in weightlifting among the juniors and won gold medals at the World Weightlifting Championship in Ashgabat in 2018, is a visual result of the sport-promoting policy of the leader of nation, Mr. Michael Irani said.

Further, in the online format, the Secretary General of International Weightlifting Federation, the First Vice-President of Asian Weightlifting Federation Mohammed Jaludu has also thanked the head of state for his efforts aimed at effective development of this sport discipline.

As it was noted, because of improper observance of ethical principles of sport movement at the World Weightlifting Championship in Ashgabat in 2018, a sportswoman, who won gold medal in the 45 kg weight category, was deprived of the award. Thus, the Turkmen sportswoman Yulduz Jumabayeva has become a winner of the two gold medals and set the world record.

Taking advantage of the opportunity, Mr. Mohammed Jalud has congratulated Yulduz Jumabayeva on the high award in the world tournament.

In his closing speech, the Turkmen leader has noted that great success achieved by our sportsmen

is a true national heritage, which would add a glorious page to history of our Motherland. These achievements are also an example for thousands of boys and girls who would dedicate their lives to sports.

When the green State Flag of our Motherland is flying high at the sport grounds of the world level, we, the citizens of Turkmenistan, wherever we are, feel ourselves as the members of one consolidated family, the meritorious representatives of which bring honor and glory, authority and respect to our country, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov highlighted.

The head of Turkmenistan has also expressed gratitude to the IWE President Dr. Michael Irani for his personal contribution to development of the weightlifting in the world and for his fair sport policy.

Having also expressed gratitude to Secretary General of IWF Mohammed Jalud for the participation in the current event, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has extended best wishes to the leadership of the International Weightlifting Federation.

Finishing the ceremony, the leader of nation has one more time emphasized that citizens of the country are its greatest asset. Setting itself the task of advancing and popularizing the principles of healthy life style, physical culture and sports in the near- and long-term perspective, Turkmenistan demonstrates an example of successful upward advancement.

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That same day, the “Sport” Hotel of the capital’s Olympic Village hosted the ceremony of awarding Yulduz Jumabayeva, her coach, and Head of Turkmenistan’s Weightlifting Federation.

In the foyer of the Hotel, the exhibition of achievements and awards of Turkmen sportsmen, as well as the works of visual, decorative and applied art, has been arranged.

At the outset of the ceremony, the relevant Ukase of the President of Turkmenistan was avowed on decorating the student of the Turkmen State Institute of Physical Culture and Sports, Yulduz Jumabayeva, with the medal of Turkmenistan «Watana bolan söýgüsi üçin». According to the Order of the head of state, the sportswoman was also presented with a white-color “Lexus LX570 Sport Plus” car, 2020 year of issue.

Then, the Ukase of the President of Turkmenistan was avowed on conferring the medal «Watana bolan söýgüsi üçin» on the trainer-teacher of the weightlifting department of the Superior Sportsmanship School of the Ministry of Sports and Youth Policy M. Syahetmyradov.

According to the Order of the head of state, for training of sportsmen, who won prize-winning places at the international competitions, the coach-

teacher M. Syahetmyradov was presented with the keys to a new apartment.

In the course of the event, the Ukase of the President of Turkmenistan was also promulgated on awarding the Medal of Turkmenistan «Gaýrat» to Deputy Foreign Minister of Turkmenistan B. Myatiyev for his meritorious public and social activities.

The awardees have expressed sincere gratitude to the Arkadag-President for his permanent care of popularization of sports, for making conditions in the country for record-high sport achievements, as well as for fruitful activity in different other directions.

In honor of the remarkable event, the holiday concert and exhibition performances of sportsmen have been organized.

### **The President of Turkmenistan conducted a working session on the economic issues**

On March 11, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov held a working meeting with the participation of Deputy Chairmen of the Cabinet of Ministers, members of the State Security Council, as well as the chief heads of a number of ministries and sectoral departments.

Opening the meeting, the leader of nation has noted that in the running year preparations of our country to the festive events on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of independence are ongoing in the context of the complicated global situation.

According to the leading financial institutions, at the present phase, the global economy demonstrates slow advancement rates, the head of state added.

Slight but noticeable decline in the growth rates is observed in the countries with advanced economies. Thus, the complicated external geopolitical market trends are being formed. At the same time, the consistent decline in the oil and gas prices affects the situation at the international resource markets and the inflow of investments; the economic activity has also decreased in the states that are our trade partners.

Despite the within-named factors, the country maintains its macroeconomic stability, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov stated.

Given the recession of external demand for products, the necessary efforts are being made to provide the domestic market with locally-produced goods, as well as to motivate the enterprises to produce import-substituting products.

“We are not an iota slowing down the rates of work for implementation in the country of large-scale regional and national investment projects, as well as the reforms, in various segments of the country’s economy. Transformations in the field of financial, tax, budgetary, monetary, foreign economic policy, and pricing are being successfully implemented,” – President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov said.

All of these will enable to enhance the margins of our capacities, minimize the negative consequences impact of the global economic crisis, the President of the country continued.

The running year is the year of Turkmenistan's presidency in VI Summit of the Caspian states' leaders and XV Summit of the Economic Cooperation Organization. Thus, our country will become the venue for hosting of numerous significant international events and celebrations with the participation of the leaders of foreign countries and high-ranking foreign guests. The fact is a visual corollary of the progressive growth of the Turkmen state's international authority and of the world community's total support of our foreign and domestic policy, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov stated.

Continuing the meeting, the Turkmen leader has expressed dissatisfaction with the work of the leadership of a number of ministries and sectoral departments. Incomplete unleashing of the untapped potential, lack of initiative and professionalism of some managers were named among the shortcomings.

The present growth rate of the gross domestic product, financial situation of our state, implementation dynamics of the reform-based transformations, the economic structure in particular, cannot satisfy us, the head of Turkmenistan said, having noted that the results of the work carried out in these areas will be considered at the current meeting with the participation of all heads of the financial-economic complex, certain ministries and sectoral departments.

The President has also concentrated attention on the issues related to streamlining the activity of the oil/gas complex. As the President of Turkmenistan has noted, to transform our country into an industrially developed state with high-tech, «green», innovative economy is our primary task.

In this regard, rational use of the natural gas for production of gas-chemical products (the ones with high added value in particular) is one of the priorities in the context of the FEC development. To this end, more than US \$8.8 billion of foreign credit funds have been attracted to the complex. As of today, 93 percent of them have been expended for budgeting capital needs, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov said.

In this regard, the Turkmen leader has noted the importance of timely repayment of loans, and first of the first – to enact the industrial enterprises (built at the expense of credit funds) to their total estimated capacities.

Having evinced interest in the fulfillment of the tasks on modernization of the FEC production structures and repayment of credit funds, the President of Turkmenistan has heard the reports of the chief heads of the complex.

The Minister of State – Chairman of the State Concern «Türkmengaz» B. Amanov has reported on the steps taken to repay foreign loans in due time.

It was noted that the State Concern intends to return the remainder of loans at the expense of the funds received from the sale at the foreign markets of additional volumes of the natural and liquefied gas, sulfur, ECO-93 gasoline. Efforts are also being made to repay all debts in the running month.

Chairman of the State Concern «Türkmennebit» G. Baygeldiev has also reported on the situation in the structures answerable to him and on the measures taken to step-by-step repay foreign loans, which were attracted to fund the contract for procurement of oil and gas equipment.

It was noted that at present time, repayment of the remainder of loans is carried out as planned in order of precedence. For the successful solution of the tasks set, integrated works are being carried out.

Chairman of the State Corporation «Türkmengeologiýa» M. Rozyev has reported on taking comprehensive measures to increase work productivity in the departmental structures and ensure timely repayment of loans.

The head of Turkmenistan has noted that when attracting foreign investments, as well as credit funds for creating new complexes, one should take responsibility and pay special attention to determining and dovetailing the timing of the credit funds repayment.

To repay loans in due time, it is necessary to increase production capacities of enterprises and their production efficiency through wide spread adoption of advanced experience and digital technologies, the President stressed in the assignments to the officials concerned.

During the meeting, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov gave the floor to the Prosecutor General of Turkmenistan B. Atdayev, who reported on the results of the President-sanctioned prosecutor inspection carried out in the FEC structures. In this regard, it was reported on educating of individual shortcomings in the context of effective development and timely return of foreign credit funds.

Summing up the report, the head of state has focused on the necessity of proper organization of work in the sectors of national economy, strict observance of the legal requirements. The head of state has exhorted the Prosecutor General to keep under surveillance timely return of credit funds and investments in the FEC structures and observance of lawfulness in their activity.

To increase the FEC productivity, its capacities should maximum be used through modernization of the FEC's research institutes, improvement of the training-staff work, and enhancement of international cooperation in the sector.

The within-named issues need detailed analysis. In particular, the talk is about expansion of the



interest-based cooperation with the reliable foreign partners, use of the systemic approach to the work, the head of state said, having addressed the relevant instructions to Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers, Chairman of the Supreme Control Chamber S. Berdymuhamedov.

The report of Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers Sh. Abdrahmanov (in charge of the fuel and energy industry) covered the state of affairs in the departmental structures, implementation progress of the investment projects, and the measures taken to timely repay foreign loans received by the oil/gas complex.

The leader of nation has highlighted that timely repayment of foreign credit funds is an essential condition of the constructive international cooperation advancement. To this end it is necessary to enact the enterprises to their total estimated capacity and modernize the industrial structures, the head of Turkmenistan emphasized, having exhorted the Vice-Premier to exercise unremitting control over the relevant works.

It is necessary to accelerate the rates of construction of new gas-chemical complexes through attracting direct investments in joint ventures. When attracting foreign capital, including the loans, for construction of modern production facilities, it is also necessary to prepare a detailed feasibility study of the would-be objects, the head of state noted, having exhorted the officials concerned to analyze the terms of self-repayment and cost-efficiency of the projects, study sale markets of readymade products. In this context, the emphasis was placed on improving of the training-staff work.

Pending the subject, the head of state has instructed to keep under control all the issues related to reduction of import of additional components through organizing their domestic production, to monitoring of the financial and economic condition of the enterprises supervised by the heads of the relevant structures, taking the necessary measures to repay loans on time.

The oil/gas complex is the main source of replenishing the central budget and foreign currency reserves of the state. These funds are directed to the economic and industrial development of the country, provision of food security and improvement of the well-being of the population.

Therefore, all specialists, scientific and auxiliary personnel, heads of the FEC are to make their worthy contribution to the development of the complex, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov said.

Further, the head of state has proceeded to the financial issues in the construction, electric power, and chemical industries.

Over the last years, the 2 billion 682 million US dollars foreign loans have been attracted to the

construction and industrial complex; as of now, 69.4 percent of the funds have been expended for budgeting capital needs.

The relevant managers were asked questions on the work they are doing with creditors to postpone repayment of the loans received, in particular, by the State Concern «Türkmenhimiýa», as well as what measures are being taken to bring the enterprises to their estimated capacity.

The Energy Minister Ch. Purchekov has reported that the Ministry of Energy is implementing important projects of national and international importance through attraction of loans and investments.

Thus, at present, the construction is in progress of: the country's ring power-supply system Akhal-Balkan and Balkan-Dashoguz and associated substations; the Energy Equipment Maintenance Center in Byuzmeyin etrap of Ashgabat; gas-turbine power plant in the Charjew etrap, Lebap velayat; Turkmen section of the Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan power transmission line, the first stage of which is planned to be completed by August 2021.

It was also said that all measures would be taken to timely repay all loans received.

Having listened to the report, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has entrusted the leaders of the sector with a task to exercise strict control over the accelerated implementation of energy projects of the national and international importance.

Chairman of the State Concern «Türkmenhimiýa» N. Niyazlyev has reported on the use of investments attracted for the development of the domestic chemical industry. Today, the investments are channeled to fund construction of large production facilities of the industry, wide spread adoption of the most modern, high-performance technological equipment from leading world manufacturers, production of new types of products highly acclaimed at the local and foreign markets.

At present, the State Concern «Türkmenhimiýa» is working over timely repayment of the loans at the expense of the proceeds from sales of chemical products made by the enterprises of the complex.

Summing up the report, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has pointed to the necessity of total repayment of foreign loans through increasing profitability of the industry, in particular, through building of modern facilities and further technical revamping of the existing enterprises.

Having evinced interest in the state of export of mineral fertilizers by the «Türkmenhimiýa» State Concern, the President of the country concentrated attention on the importance of increasing profitability of the branch and output of products highly acclaimed at the foreign market.

Necessitating intensification of the contacts with reliable partners, the leader of nation has addressed



the relevant instructions to the Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers, Chairman of the Supreme Control Chamber S. Berdymuhamedov on keeping control over the work carried out in this direction.

Reporting on credit indebtedness of the sectoral ministries and departments, Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers Sh. Durdulyev has informed that at present practical steps are taken to repay the foreign loans in compliance with the dates of their discharge.

Summing up the report, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has ordered to contentiously study the candidate options of timely repayment of foreign credit funds and to promptly prepare the relevant proposals on this point.

To work out the factors favorable for repayment of foreign loans, which were attracted to the State Concern «Türkmenhimiýa», it is necessary to increase production of the export-orientated and import-substituting goods and the inflow of the funds in the foreign currency. In addition, by attracting direct investments in joint ventures to open the facilities for production of complex mineral fertilizers and other products, the head of Turkmenistan noted.

In this regard, the leader of nation has ordered: to prepare a detailed feasibility study of the would-be objects to be built with attraction of foreign investments (including credit funds); to analyze the terms of self-repayment and cost-efficiency of the projects in tune with international practice; to ensure optimum training-staff system; to study the sale markets of readymade products; and as far as possible, to reduce import of additional components through their production in the country, the head of state noted.

Having defined the priority tasks, the President of the country has addressed a number of instructions to the heads of the construction and industrial complex.

Addressing the heads of the transport-communication sector, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has stated that 1 billion five and a half million US dollars of foreign loans have been invested in the industry over recent years. As of today, 67.8 percent of these funds have been expended.

Inquiring how the plan of timely repayment of credit funds would be implemented, the head of state has necessitated taking measures in order the objects funded by the loan resources, the North-South railway in particular, operate at their estimated capacity.

Chairman of the «Türkmen Demirýollary» Agency A. Atamyradov has reported on keeping work going for strengthening of the hardware base of the railway industry, efficient use of the funds received from various sources to finance the projects of international importance, and construction of the transit-transport corridors.

The head of «Türkmenaragatnaşyk» Agency H. Hudaygulyev has reported on the situation in the structure under his supervision, measures taken to improve the material support of its core divisions. Reporting on the implementation of the earlier presidential instructions, information was avowed on taking practical measures to improve the efficiency of data transmission multidisciplinary systems, and timely resolve the financial issues.

Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers B. Ovezov has fixated his report on setting in motion the resources available in order to increase the profitability of transport-communication complex, improve the activities of its core enterprises, fund the sectoral projects, and timely repay the credit funds.

Summing up the report and highlighting the need to ensure repayment of the credits received in due time, or reconsider the terms of credits repayment, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has instructed to study all possible options and prepare the concrete proposals on the issue.

It is necessary to analyze the financial-economic situation of the facilities of the «Türkmen Demirýollary» Agency, to assess their ability to repay foreign loans and take all measures to pay them off within the agreed timeframe, the head of state said. To cope with the task, it is necessary to maximum promptly set in motion the estimated capacities of enterprises, to achieve effective functioning of the production structures.

The head of state has stressed that it is necessary to most efficiently use modern railway infrastructure facilities and achieve an increase in the volumes of cargo transportation by railways.

Having addressed a number of the branch development-favored instructions, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has stressed that experience and useful innovative developments exchange with foreign partners would promote an additional inflow of investments to the industry.

For timely repayment of foreign loans, the «Türkmenaragatnaşyk» Agency is to enact the potential of the «Türkmen Älem» satellite communication system, the President of the country noted.

To keep pace with global development of information technologies, it is important to continue improving the quality and network capacity, to expand the range of communication services.

Prior to construction of new production facilities, it is necessary to prepare a detailed feasibility study of foreign investments, including those related to lending. Not the least significant is to analyze the timing of projects, ensure the training of highly qualified personnel, study the markets for the placement of services, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov stressed.

Continuing the meeting, the President of Turkmenistan has noted that 822,200,000 US dollars were attracted and expended in the agricultural complex in the last years.

At present, the balance on loans is 607,700,000 US dollars. Out of this amount, \$ 145 million are to be repaid between March and December of the running year.

The head of state gave the floor to Minister of Agriculture and Environment Protection A. Altyev, who reported on the implementation progress of fundamental reforms in the agricultural sector and on the measures taken to ensure the profitability of the branch.

It was noted that agricultural machinery and equipment from leading world manufacturers, as well as spare parts, are regularly purchased. For these purposes, the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment Protection attracted significant investments. Currently, necessary work is carried out to pay back the loans in due time.

Chairman of the State Water Resources Management Committee G. Bayjanov has reported on financial condition of water management facilities and measures taken for rational use of water resources.

Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers E. Orazgeldiyev has reported on attraction of foreign loans by the Ministry and AIC sectoral departments for procurement of agricultural machinery and equipment.

It was noted that the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment Protection as well as the State Committee of Water Resources are planning to repay the loans at the expense of the income obtained from the works accomplished, services rendered, and sales of produce.

Summing up the reports, the President of Turkmenistan has addressed a number of instructions to Vice-Premier E. Orazgeldiev and heads of the AIC.

President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has ordered to thoroughly study all possibilities related to timely repayment or restructuring of the foreign loans and prepare the appropriate proposals.

It is necessary at the earliest possible date, to set in motion the enterprises at their estimated capacities as well as to provide efficient operation of production structures.

President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has stressed the importance of furthering the reform-based upgrading of the national AIC. Primary attention is to be given to increasing profitability of all sectors of agriculture and farming associations, attraction of private business representatives to the agricultural sector.

It is necessary to use in the AIC new, effective methods of management and the world's best practice, the head of state said, having addressed to the Minister the relevant instructions.

President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has noted that successful implementation of large-scale investment projects in the water management industry promotes obtaining of heavy yields of grain, cotton and other agricultural crops, food abundance in the country, strengthening of the export potential of the agri-sector.

When attracting foreign investments, it is necessary to work out the detailed feasibility studies and timing of projects, analyze their cost efficiency, ensure a high level of training-staff advanced study system, study the sale markets for finished products, the President continued, having given specific instructions to the heads of agricultural complex in this regard.

Further, Minister of Health and Medical Industry N. Amanepesov has reported on the measures taken to solve the tasks set to improve the system of providing medical services to the population at the level of international standards, comprehensive modernization of the relevant infrastructure including at the expense of construction of new specialized facilities.

Necessitating timely development and targeted use of significant financial resources regularly allocated by the state for the development of health system and medical industry, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has addressed a number of the relevant instructions to the Minister.

Continuing the meeting and addressing the heads of the financial-economic complex, the leader of nation has evinced interest in the practical steps undertaken to ensure timely repayment of credits.

Chairman of the Central Bank, M. Annadurdyev has reported on the results of work related to repayment of foreign investments channeled at the development of the national economy, including such sectors as oil/gas, chemical industry, energy, transport, and textile complexes.

Having listened to the report, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has fixated on the importance of taking appropriate measures together with the ministries, sectoral departments and banks of the country to tackle the primary tasks enshrined in the state programs.

Necessitating implementation of the comprehensive work to increase the exchange rate of the national currency, the head of state has focused on regulation of foreign currency transactions, expansion of banking services and improvement of the culture of customer service, strict control over the implementation of regulations when converting manat funds into foreign currency at the official rate. In this context, the appropriate presidential instructions were addressed to the Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers, the State Security Council Secretary Ch. Amanov.



Chairman of the State Bank for Foreign Economic Affairs R. Jepbarov has reported on implementation of the assignments of President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov, as well as on the measures taken to attract investments according to the "Program of Turkmenistan's Foreign Economic Activity Development for 2020-2025".

To increase production of export-oriented and import-substituting products, as well as to implement the Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India international gas pipeline project, cooperation with specialized foreign financial structures on the issue has been established.

Summing up the report, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has noted the necessity to carry out the appropriate works on strengthening productive contacts with the reputable international organizations and banks.

Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers G. Mushshikov has reported on the results of the President-authorized analysis of using by ministries and core departments of foreign loans intended for the development of leading branches of the national economy.

Received in accordance with the currently valid agreements from international financial organizations and foreign banks, the investments were directed to the implementation of projects, construction works, and purchase of equipment and machinery.

The Vice-Premier has presented to the leader of nation a detailed account of expending the loan funds in each of the branches as of March 8 of this year and of the scheduled timeframes of repayment of the credit funds remainder.

It was also reported that comprehensive measures would continue to be taken to maintain the country's solvency at the international level, timely fulfill credit obligations by the ministries and sectoral departments to foreign banks and international financial institutions.

Having listened to the report, the head of Turkmenistan has noted that the activities of the structures supervised by the Vice-Premier, especially banks, do not meet the requirements of the times. Speaking of the work of financial-economic complex, the leader of nation has emphasized that currently, the privatization process of state property is not up to the mark.

Focusing on the activities of the Ministry of Finance and Economy, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has stressed that the Ministry is entrusted with a task to pursue the state policy for development of the private sector of the economy including small and medium-sized businesses. However, despite this fact, work in this direction leaves much to be desired.

Major measures for development of entrepreneurship are carried out by the Industrialists and Entrepreneurs Union, the head of Turkmenistan

said, having noted that the Ministry of Finance and Economy does not show sufficient activity in this matter.

The President of the country has also stressed the importance of ensuring proper monitoring of the implementation of the National Rural Development Program. Having stated that the rates of construction of objects do not meet the requirements, the head of state has ordered to analyze the reasons of the delay in construction from the target dates.

Continuing the meeting and addressing M. Annadurdyev, the Turkmen leader expressed dissatisfaction with the banks' activities.

Noting that the main task of the country's credit institutions is to maintain the stability of national currency (manat), the head of Turkmenistan drew attention to the fact that until now this work is not being carried out properly.

At present, the level of fixed capital in the banking sector is in general not very high. It is necessary to increase this indicator, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov noted.

This measure will ensure the stability of the banking sector, contribute to the development of service markets, and increase client confidence. At the same time, it will give impetus to strengthening of effective interaction with other sectors of the economy, including through intensification of credit activities.

The head of state Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has focused on the wide spread adoption of advanced technologies. In this regard, the head of the Central Bank was instructed to monitor timely implementation of the works planned.

Addressing Vice-Premier G. Mushshikov and heads of banks, the leader of nation has identified a number of practical steps aimed at improving of the country's credit institutions activity.

First of all, it is necessary to keep under constant control the targeted use of foreign investments, to timely carry out a complex of works on risks in this area, the head of Turkmenistan said, having ordered to envisage the appropriate measures on timely repayment of the foreign credit funds.

President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has identified a detailed analysis of feasibility studies among the key aspects of the forthcoming work on attraction of foreign investments including the loans for construction of new production facilities. The interested party - a customer, together with the lender, should consider the payback (recoupment) periods of projects and markets for placing the finished products in accordance with the generally-admitted international practice.

The head of state has noted that the assessment of the activities of the heads of banks will be given by results of the first quarter.

Further, addressing the participants of the meeting, the President of Turkmenistan has again

emphasized that it is necessary not only to ensure favorable macroeconomic development, but also to strengthen it. It is important to maintain the stability of national currency within the established limits, the head of state emphasized.

According to the Constitution of the country, it is necessary to intensify the rates of transition to the market economy. The state should only manage the property necessary for exercising of power authorities in order to ensure the security and defense of the country.

Closure of obsolete and uncompetitive facilities, formation of an economic environment designed for introduction of new technologies were specified among the priority tasks. As a result, it is necessary to ensure that our state takes its rightful place in the world market, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov emphasized.

Focusing on the mechanisms for achieving the modern level of the financial, banking and credit system, the head of Turkmenistan has fixated on provision of availability of credit funds and improvement of the quality of financial services. This is applicable not only to the economy, but also to the citizens.

In this context, first of all, the loans for real estate, educational and consumer credits should be envisaged, the President of Turkmenistan said.

Having demanded from all leaders to work hard to increase the inflow of funds received in the foreign currency, to find the ways to increase the volume of goods exported to other countries, the leader of nation has noted that he expects for specific proposals on that issue and is ready to consider them.

Continuing the meeting, the head of state has noted that to correct the existing shortcomings, only a certain part of the tasks was outlined, which are to be tackled over a short period of time. Of course, it will not be easy to cope with them.

Unfortunately, there are still numerous issues and shortcomings in various areas that are well known to everyone, the leader of nation Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov emphasized, having focused on the need to rigorously implement the ongoing reforms in order to eliminate the negative factors affecting the development of the country.

“Despite the difficulties, we will continue to move forward along the way of reforms. Onward and only onward! We have all the possibilities for this”, - the head of state said.

## **Session of the Cabinet of Ministers of Turkmenistan**

On March 12, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov held an online regular session of the Cabinet of Ministers.

Proceeding to the agenda of session, the head of state gave the floor to Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers G. Mushshikov who reported

on the work carried out in the structures answerable to him. In this regard, a relevant proposal, which was developed on the basis of the analysis made by the Ministry of Finance and Economy in association with Ashgabat city's administration, was submitted to the leader of nation for consideration.

In particular, it is proposed to devolve shopping centers to the members of the Industrialists and Entrepreneurs Union through direct (addressed) privatization. All the facilities, which are proposed to be privatized, have been in the prescribed manner considered at the session of the Interdepartmental Central Commission under the Ministry of Finance and Economy.

Having listened to the report, the leader of nation has noted that due to taking integrated measures, the dynamic growth of the economy is provided in the country. Steadfast transition to market relations is one of the main objectives of the government course. In this regard, phased privatization of the facilities is ongoing in the country aimed to intensify the fundamental reforms on the basis of wide spread adoption of modern management methods and various structures of ownership.

It is necessary to carry out necessary work together with the Supreme Control Chamber on the proposal presented, the head of state ordered.

Further, the Vice-Premier has presented the proposal of residents of S. A. Niyazov etrap (Dashoguz velayat) on construction of a modern recreation park for children.

Funding of the project is proposed to implement at the expense of the monetary prize the etrap was awarded by the outcomes of 2020 according to the presidential Resolution (February 12 of the running year). In the would-be 1.5-hectare park complex, construction is projected of the administrative building, café, shop, car parking lot, and various park amusements.

Having approved the proposal on construction of Children Park in S. A. Niyazov etrap of Dashoguz velayat, the President addressed to the Vice-Premier a number of certain instructions.

Reporting on the state of affairs in the country's FEC, Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers Sh. Abdrahmanov has concentrated special attention on taking measures for the planned modernization of the FEC production infrastructure and strengthening of its material and technical base.

In the comments on the report, the head of state has ordered to exercise strict control over the issues of increasing production and processing of the hydrocarbon resources, export of energy carriers and high-quality production, as well as over the implementation progress of major national and international projects.

The implementation progress of the seasonal agri-works and measures for further strengthening in the country of food abundance were in the center of the progress report of Deputy Chairman of the



Cabinet of Ministers E. Orazgeldiyev. The Vice-Premier has also reported on preparation to the coming season of cocoon production.

Having listened to the report, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has highlighted the importance of successful solution of the tasks on provision of food abundance in the country and year-round supply to the population of the home-produced fresh vegetable and other agri-products. Not the least significant is to ensure qualitative care of the winter crops and integrated preparation to the cotton-seeding campaign, the leader of nation noted.

On signing the Resolution on cocoon production in Turkmenistan in 2021, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov sent it to the Vice-Premier via the electronic document management system, having ordered to create every condition for successful implementation of contractual obligations by silkworm breeders.

In his online report, Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers Sh. Durdylyev has informed about implementation of the presidential assignments on increasing of production capacities of the cement enterprises in Baherden etrap, Akhal velayat, and in Koytendag etrap, Lebap velayat. At present, the issues are studied thoroughly on designing of the 2nd phase of those objects in tune with the world standards and their upgrading with advanced technologies to ensure high quality of production.

Summing up the report, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has noted that being a strong adherent of the 'open door' policy and broad international cooperation, Turkmenistan is interested in attraction of the leading reliable foreign companies (notable for their significant experience of work and innovative technologies) to the development of all branches of the national economy, including to the process of the powerful construction industry formation.

In this context, the head of state has exhorted Vice-Premier Sh. Durdylyev and Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers, Chairman of the Supreme Control Chamber S. Berdymuhamedov to thoroughly analyze the issue of construction of new cement plants.

Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers B. Ovezov has reported on the ongoing appropriate work related to conducting of the regular contest of innovative projects "Digital Solution – 2021". The results of the contest will be summed up in the frames of the International Exhibition "Türkmentel-2021".

Having approved the proposal on conducting of the contest, the President of Turkmenistan has focused on the importance of the contest in educating the talents and abilities of the youths.

Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers M. Mammedova has reported on preparation of

the events dedicated to National Spring Holiday – International Nowruz Day. Prior to the holiday, the nationwide tree-planting action will be held.

Concentrating attention on the international significance, ethical, philosophic and cultural components of the age-old Nowruz Bairamy, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has highlighted its consolidating role in the present-day world. The officials concerned were exhorted to hold all festive events at a higher and better level in terms of organization and content.

Along with the state of affairs in the spheres answerable to Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers M. Geldinyazov, the Vice-Premier has presented the proposals on opening of the department "Digital system and information security" in the structure of central offices of the ministries of education, health and medical industry, sports and youth policy, as well as in the Academy of Sciences of the country.

Having listened to the report, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has placed accent on the exclusive significance of advancing the hi-tech system of digital economy as an efficient management-favored tool in modern conditions, which directly promotes better organization and coordination of all processes, efficient control over effectiveness and quality of works.

The President of Turkmenistan has strongly recommended exercising strict control over the planned steps in this direction and gave a number of certain instructions on further introduction of modern digital technologies.

Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers, Foreign Minister R. Meredov has reported on the preparation work for celebrating the remarkable dates of the national calendar and for holding important international measures in the current year.

It was noted that at the 75th UN General Assembly in 2021 Turkmenistan will function as the vice-chairing country. Moreover, in the running year, our country has also been unanimously elected as the chairing country of the Economic Cooperation Organization.

At the XIV Summit of ECO on March 4, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has avowed the Turkmenistan's ECO Presidency Concept, outlined the main tasks on intensifying the efficient interstate partnership. The next, XV Summit of the Economic Cooperation Organization, is planned to be held in Ashgabat on November 28.

It is also planned in the current year to hold the VI Summit of the heads of Caspian states and trilateral meeting of the Presidents of Turkmenistan, the Republic of Azerbaijan, and the Republic of Turkey.

Late in the year, it is planned to organize in Ashgabat a top-level International conference

dedicated to strengthening of the multilateral cooperation for achievement of global peace and trust, universal security and sustainable development. At present, the relevant comprehensive work is ongoing for preparation to all the within-named events.

International activities, which are aimed at realization of the creative initiatives and proposals of the head of state that meet national, regional and global interests, are included in the program of the year.

Summing up the report, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has highlighted that independent Turkmenistan is a strong adherent of its foreign-policy strategy based on the principles of positive neutrality, peacefulness, and wide international cooperation. Its main goal is in the advancement of constructive bilateral and multilateral partnership in the political, trade-economic, cultural and humanitarian spheres with the states of the world, in particular with the countries of the region and neighboring states.

In the year of countrywide celebration of the 30th anniversary of sacred independence, it is planned to hold a number of important international events with the participation of leaders of foreign states, the head of state noted.

In honor of the remarkable dates, a number of big facilities will be commissioned in the southern part of the capital. Hence, the head of state has authorized the Vice-Premier, Foreign Minister R. Meredov to promptly start preparatory-and-organizational work for conducting in the new edifice of the Congress Center of Turkmenistan of the conference with participation of the representatives from foreign states.

The Mejlis Speaker G. Mammedova has informed about the issues, which would be considered at the next session of the National Parliament, which will be held in the online format March 13.

President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has highlighted the importance of the law-making work of deputies, as well as of planned enhancement of international cooperation and inter-parliamentarian relations.

Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers, the State Security Council Secretary Ch. Amanov has reported on keeping the work going for improvement of social and living conditions of the military personnel (who serve in the frontier territories of the country) and their families.

It was informed that social facilities, in particular, modern residential complexes in Balkan and Legap velayats, as well as medical facilities in Koytendag and Baherden etrap, have been built at the frontier outposts of the State Border Service.

The report covered also the construction rates of residential buildings, cultural center, school, kindergarten and health center in Balkan velayat

by the Ministry of Defense, which are planned to be commissioned in the nearest future.

Summing up the report, the leader of nation has noted that creation of maximum favorable conditions for service of the military personnel and for the life of their families is one of the priority directions of the military reform ongoing in the country. Necessitating exercising strict control over realization of the plans on the of military and law enforcement agencies' infrastructure development, the President has addressed to the Vice-Premier, State Security Council Secretary a number of specific instructions.

Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers, Chairman of the Supreme Control Chamber S. Berdymuhamedov has reported on the results of analysis of works for construction of hothouses in the country.

At present, the construction is completed and the works on neighborhood improvement are ongoing of the hothouses in Kaahka etrap and Ak Bugday etrap (Akhhal velayat), Turkmenbashy etrap (Balkan velayat), Gyorogly etrap (Dashoguz velayat), Charjew etrap (Lebap velayat), and Sakarchaga etrap (Mary velayat). The new complexes, which are designated for cultivation of vegetable and cucurbitaceous crops, are provided with modern technological automatic equipment.

Highlighting the significance of opening of new facilities in promoting further steadfast economic growth, the head of state has exhorted the Chairman of the Supreme Control Chamber to provide high level of preparation to the commissioning of the hothouse complexes.

Particular attention is to be given to the construction objects, which are planned to be launched on the occasion of the remarkable dates of national calendar.

Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers Ch. Gylyjov has reported on the preparatory activity to the opening of modern hothouses in Kaahka etrap, Akhal velayat and other regions of the country. Total area of the hothouses is 35 hectares, and their annual output production is 8,750 tons of fruits and vegetables.

The Vice-Premier has also reported on the measures undertaken for provision of the would-be textiles complexes (which are under construction in Kaahka and Babadayhan etrap) with proficient specialists.

To ensure uninterrupted work of profile facilities at their estimated capacity, high quality of production, and efficient use of the advanced technological equipment, the training-staff work is ongoing.

In this context, it is planned to open 2- and 3-month courses on the basis of a number of vocational elementary and secondary education facilities in Ashgabat and Akhal velayat.



The work for development of educational plans, as well as for attraction of youth with higher education in such demand-driven specialties as technologists, engineers and other professions is carried out in association with the Ministry of Education and administration of Akhal velayat.

Having listened to the report, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov has highlighted that due to the huge resource potential, the textile industry has become a sample of dynamic development of the processing sector of Turkmenistan's economy.

Measures undertaken in this sphere have favored attraction of young personnel and improved labor occupancy of the population, the President said. Having highlighted the importance of training of qualified specialists for the textile industry, the head of state has exhorted the Vice-Premier to take measures for efficient use of the capacities of educational facilities.

Finishing the online session of the Cabinet of Ministers, President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov wished splendid health, family wealth and great success in work to the participants of session.

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#### ORDERS AND RESOLUTIONS REVIEW

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- The President of Turkmenistan signed the Ukase on decorating the student of the Turkmen State Institute of Physical Culture and Sports Jumabayeva Yulduz Alymbai gyzy with the medal of Turkmenistan «Watana bolan söýgüsi üçin».

- The President of Turkmenistan signed the Ukase on conferring the medal of Turkmenistan «Watana bolan söýgüsi üçin» on the trainer-teacher of the weightlifting department of the Superior Sportsmanship School of the Ministry of Sports and Youth Policy of Turkmenistan Meretguly Ylyasgulyyevich Syahetmyradov.

- The President of Turkmenistan signed the Ukase on awarding the medal of Turkmenistan «Gaýrat» to Deputy Foreign Minister of Turkmenistan Berdiniyaz Gurbanberdiyevich Myatyyev.

- The President of Turkmenistan signed the Resolution, having obliged the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment Protection to ensure in 2021 production of 2,100 tons of silkworm cocoons, distributed as: Akhal velayat – 155 tons; Balkan velayat – 25 tons; Dashoguz velayat – 500 tons; Lebap celayat – 1010 tons; Mary velayat – 410 tons.

- The President of Turkmenistan signed the Order, which resolves on behalf of the President of Turkmenistan:

To donate a three-room apartment to Meretguly Ylyasgulyyevich Syahetmyradov, the trainer-teacher of the weightlifting section of the Superior Sportsmanship School of the Ministry of Sports and Youth Policy of Turkmenistan.

To donate a “Lexus LX570 Sport Plus” car to the 5-grade student of the Turkmen State Institute of Physical Culture and Sports Jumabayeva Yulduz Alymbai gyzy.

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#### INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

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#### Online meetings with foreign partners

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**A webinar was held with the participation of chief heads of the American National Natural History Museum of the Smithsonian Institute and the “Gallagher & Associates” Company, which is specialized in organization of museum work, and representatives of the Culture Ministry of Turkmenistan, museums and local mass media.**

The webinar participants have highlighted that due to the President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov's constructive policy, our country expands its all-round partnership with foreign countries, including in the humanitarian sphere. A good corollary of it is the present webinar devoted to cooperation between the museums – the centers of protection, restoration and conservation of the historical and cultural monuments.

It was also noted that in popularization of the Turkmen people's rich historical and cultural heritage special role is assigned to the museums of the country, which are not only the centers of spiritual life of our society and custodians of the priceless heritage of the nation, but are also large scientific centers.

Consideration was also given to the proposals on activating international partnership between the museums of Turkmenistan and other countries.

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**Specialists from the relevant ministries and sectoral departments took part in the online seminar with representatives of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) on further expanding cooperation in the field of aviation and tourism.** The meeting was organized in the frames of the Program “The Central Asian regional economic cooperation” (CAREC).

Our country joined the Asian Development Bank in 2000 and thenceforth we have accumulated the experience of successful joint work, including within the framework of CAREC, in such priority sectors as energy, transport, trade facilitation, customs issues, tourism, formation of economic corridors, human development. Based on the aforementioned Program, the ADB takes an active part in funding investment projects in Turkmenistan.

During the webinar, the main focus was placed on the key vectors of the “Program 2030: Connecting the Region for Shared and Sustainable Development”, as well as on the issues of further

strengthening of multilateral cooperation. As was noted, the long-term objectives identified by the ADB for implementation in this strategic document are in tune with the national plans and the Sustainable Development Goals.

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**The Ministry of Foreign Affairs held an online meeting with First Deputy Director General of the Federal State Unitary Enterprise «All-Russian State Television and Radio Broadcasting Company» (FSUE VGTRK) Anton Zlatopolsky.** The possibilities of enhancing cooperation in information exchange and interaction between the media were discussed during the meeting.

Russian colleagues were invited to Turkmenistan to attend and cover the celebrations on the occasion of the 140th anniversary of Ashgabat and 30th anniversary of independence.

By results of the meeting, the Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the State Committee on Television, Radio Broadcasting and Cinematography of Turkmenistan and the within-named the Federal State Unitary Enterprise of the Russian Federation.

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**Members of the Parliamentary Friendship Group of Turkmenistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan held an online meeting to discuss the priority areas of bilateral partnership.**

During the meeting, the sides expressed themselves in favor of furthering advancement of productive contacts in the areas of common interest. Special emphasis was placed on strengthening of ties between the two friendly, neighboring countries' legislative bodies regarding them as an integral part of the Turkmen-Uzbek relations.

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**In the format of online communication, the delegation of Turkmenistan took part in the exhibition held within the framework of the «CIS-30» International Economic Forum of the member-countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States.**

Ministries and sectoral departments, regions of our country have presented their virtual stands. The videos clips tell about the industrial, food and household goods, textiles, furniture, electronic equipment, modern household appliances, and other goods produced in Turkmenistan.

The exhibition introduces to the ever-growing export possibilities of our country's business circles, which produce various products that meet international quality standards, and enables to the remote users not only to receive the information they are interested in, but also to directly contact with a separate ministry and department.

The CIS-EXPO / CIS EXPO marketplace works as a catalogue with video broadcasting of

the materials about companies, products and the virtual presence of the CIS exhibitors.

The delegation of Turkmenistan took part in the online Tourist Congress «Elements of the World» within the framework of the CIS International Economic Forum.

During the online meeting, it was noted that active involvement of business in the tourism sector contributed to the growth of the export of travel services, whereas the development of the management system and digitalization of this industry would give a new impetus for diversification, through providing a wide access of the international community to information about all tourist sites and routes in Turkmenistan.

Underlining the enormous social, cultural and economic importance of tourism, the Congress participants have evinced interest in working together to restore, promote, and further intensively develop this highly profitable area after the end of the coronavirus pandemic.

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**Representatives of the State Library of the State Cultural Center and large regional libraries of Turkmenistan took part in the two-day online International Forum entitled «The Library Community: Achievements and Prospects for Long-Term Partnership».**

The online forum in the format of expert meeting entitled «Best Practices – 2020 and Guidelines for 2021» brought together the heads of libraries from the CIS countries.

The development of library services in Turkmenistan has always been and remains in the focus of President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov's attention. The head of state has consistently emphasized the role of libraries as the guardians of national spiritual heritage, and academic research and learning centers, which promote popularization of the nation's historical and cultural legacy and modern achievements of the country, motivate young people's intellectual development, and patriotic upbringing.

Today, the Ministry of Culture of Turkmenistan is in charge of 230 libraries. A considerable number of libraries are directly managed by the Ministry of Education, the Academy of Sciences, sectoral ministries and agencies. Collections of books in the academic institutions' libraries increase constantly.

As was highlighted during the meeting, this year, the country will celebrate the 30th anniversary of Turkmenistan's independence and 140th anniversary of Ashgabat. In this context, the participants were familiarized with the holiday program of events and invited to participate in them, including in the online format.

In the frames of the International forum, the report was delivered on the activity of velayat libraries of our country. The activity of libraries in

conditions of restricted measures and on solution of the primary tasks was covered in the course of the discussion «The 2020 challenges: the issues addressed to the Commonwealth community».

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### **Members of Turkmen delegation took part in the 89th online meeting of the Economic Council of the Commonwealth of Independent States.**

During the meeting, consideration was given to the draft Agreements on cooperation in the employment sphere of the CIS member-states' population, in the sanitary control of the CIS territories. Besides, a draft medium-term joint Action Plan of the CIS member-states for preventing the spread of infectious diseases has been discussed.

By results of meeting, the Perspective Joint Works Plan of the CIS member-states for the Exploration, Use and Conservation of Mineral Resources for 2021-2025 was adopted. Its implementation will help to tackle complex geological issues, to form a common information-legal framework for the efficient and rational use of mineral resources.

The Interstate Space Council put the issue on cooperation in the integration of the GLONASS ground-based infrastructure before the meeting for consideration. In this regard, it is advisable to create a high-accuracy Navigation Service System, the speakers noted.

A total of 12 documents were approved at the 89th meeting of the Economic Council of the CIS.

### **Signing of the Memorandum of Understanding**

On behalf of the President of Turkmenistan, the Ministry of Finance and Economy hosted the ceremony of signing the Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Finance and Economy of Turkmenistan, the Industrialists and Entrepreneur Union of Turkmenistan (IEUT), and the «JCB Sales Limited» company.

In compliance with the document, the IEUT evinces its interest in purchasing of the JCB products for their further use; in turn, the JCB company is interested in joint work with the IEUT in the formation of technical parameters of products, as well as in placing to the IEUT the data on the latest accessible technologies capable to increase the general effectiveness, reduction of costs, and productivity.

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## **PARLIAMENT**

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### **Session of the Mejlis of Turkmenistan**

A number of new laws, legal and regulatory acts were adopted at the 13th session of the Mejlis of the 6th Convocation, which was held in the online format. The session was also attended by heads of

some ministries and departments, representatives of mass media.

Draft Law of Turkmenistan «On approval and enactment of the Arbitrage Procedural Code of Turkmenistan» was submitted for consideration of the parliamentarians. The normative and legal act, which regulates arbitration procedures, (the cases related to entrepreneurship activity) is assigned to protect the rights and legal interests of the legal entities and individuals, to promote strengthening of law in the economic sphere. The updated version of the Law will become operative as of October 1, 2021.

Interested exchange of opinions as taken place during discussion of the Draft Laws of Turkmenistan «On instituting of the honorary title of Turkmenistan «Türkmenistanyň halk itşynasy» and «On instituting of the honorary title of Turkmenistan «Türkmenistanyň at gazanan itşynasy».

The speakers have highlighted that preservation and popularization of the national historical and cultural heritage in the world are the main priorities of the government policy consistently pursued by President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov. Development of the Turkmen Alabay dog-breeding sphere has become an important aspect of large-scale work performed in this sphere.

Further, the Draft Law (its updated version) of Turkmenistan «On prevention and mitigation of emergency situations» was brought out for discussion by the Mejlis deputies. The Law establishes the legal and organizational principles of the activity related to prevention and liquidation of emergencies, which may happen in certain territories as a result of accident or breakage, dangerous situation of the anthropogenic character, natural calamity, or any other disaster.

The updated version of the Law «On combating the legalization of proceeds of crime, funding of terrorism and financing of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction» was yet another legal act submitted for consideration..

New edition of the Law determines legal basis of combating money-laundering, financing of terrorism and proliferation of weapons of mass destruction; regulates the legal relations of individuals who make operations or monetary deals, of the authorized body and other government authorities in this sphere.

The report was presented of the Authorized Human Rights Representative in Turkmenistan – the Ombudsman, which highlighted the main directions of the policy pursued by President Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov aimed at provision and observation of economic, social, cultural, political rights and freedoms of citizens. Consideration was also given to the outcomes of work carried out in the within-named sphere.



Discussing the Law “On infectious diseases prevention”, which determines legal, organizational, economic and social fundamentals of the infectious diseases prevention, the deputies have highlighted that our country takes targeted measures for improvement of entire health system, modernization of its infrastructure, enhancement of the gamut and improvement of quality of medical services rendered to the population.

The Draft Law “On renewable sources of energy”, which was submitted for discussion, specifies the legal, organizational, economic and social principles of activity in the sphere of renewable sources of energy and regulates the relations linked with their use, including solar, wind, natural movement of water flows, heat of the Earth and environment, anthropogenic sources of initial energy resources (bio mass, biogas and other fuel received from organic wastes).

The deputies have also discussed the drafts of the following Laws: “On amendments and addendums to the Code of Turkmenistan on Administrative Violations”; “On amendments and addendums to the Law of Turkmenistan on ‘Border Troops of Turkmenistan’”; “On amendments and addendums to the Law of Turkmenistan On enterprises”; “On amendments and addendums of the Law of Turkmenistan ‘On the State Pension Insurance’”; “On amendments to the Code of Turkmenistan for Social Protection of the Population”; “On amendments to the Family Code of Turkmenistan”; “On amendments and addendums to the Law of Turkmenistan ‘On Culture’”; “On amendments and addendums to the Law of Turkmenistan on the State Land Cadastre”; “On amendments and addendums to the Law of Turkmenistan ‘On Horse-Breeding and Equestrian Sports’”; “On amendments and addendums to the Law of Turkmenistan ‘On Diplomatic Service’”; “On amendments and addendums to some legal acts of Turkmenistan”; “On amendments and addendums to some legal acts of Turkmenistan”.

At the same time, Draft Resolutions of the Mejlis “On Ratification of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of Turkmenistan and the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan on joint exploration and development of hydrocarbon resources of the “Dostluk” Field in the Caspian Sea”, “On joining to the Convention against Discrimination in Education”, “On Ratification of the Convention No. 122 on Employment Policy”, “On joining to the Patent Law Treaty”, “On joining to the Convention on

the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Self-expression”, “On Ratification of the Agreement on instituting of the Institute of Central Asian Regional Economic Cooperation.

The draft legal acts, which were presented for discussion at the session of the Mejlis of the 6th Convocation, have been unanimously approved and adopted.

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#### IN RUN-UP TO ELECTIONS

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### Meetings of candidates with Halk Maslakhaty members – next phase of the election campaign

In the context of the pre-election campaign of members of the Halk Maslakhaty Milli Gengeshi of Turkmenistan, the meetings have started with the electorate – the members of the halk maslakhaty of velayats and Ashgabat City.

Equal conditions have been created for all candidates for introduction of their programs to the members of local halk maslakhaty. The biographies of the candidates to the members of the Halk Maslakhaty Milli Gengeshi of Turkmenistan were released in the press. Information about the incoming elections is regularly updated on the website of the Central Election and Referendum Commission of Turkmenistan.

The meetings were held in Akhal and Balkan velayats, and in Ashgabat City. At the meetings, the authorized representatives of candidates have presented the biographies and detailed programs of candidates.

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#### COMMODITIES EXCHANGE NEWS

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32 transactions were registered at the trades of the State Commodities and Raw Materials Exchange of Turkmenistan last week.

In the foreign currency, representatives of business circles of foreign countries bought the petrochemical production. In particular, businessmen from Russia, Great Britain, Switzerland, United Arab Emirates, Turkey and Afghanistan have bought base oil, polypropylene, liquefied gas, hydrofined diesel fuel, petroleum road bitumen and jet kerosene produced at the Turkmenbashi Refinery Complex. Entrepreneurs from Afghanistan have also bought liquefied gas (SC “Türkmengaz”). The sum total of the deals exceeded US \$38,083 thousand.



Onuň Alyhezreti, Türkmenistanyň Prezidenti  
Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedowa  
*Çuňňur hormatlanýan jenap Prezident!*

**Sizi Milli bahar baýramy bilen  
mähirli gutlaýarys!**

*Size türkmen halkynyň abadançylygynyň we gülläp ösüşiniň  
hatyrasyna alyp baryan ähli işiňizde we başlangyçlaryňyzda  
üstünlik gazanmagyňyzy arzuw edýäris!*

*Çuňňur hormatlamak bilen,  
Hytaýyň Nebithimiýa Korporasiýasynyň (Sinopec)  
ýanyndaky Halkara nebit hyzmatlar kompaniýasynyň  
Türkmenistandaky şahamçasynyň  
Direktory Szin Haýfen*

Его Превосходительству Президенту Туркменистана  
Гурбангулы Бердымухамедову  
*Уважаемый господин Президент!*

**Сердечно поздравляем Вас  
с Национальным праздником весны!**

*Желаем Вам успехов во всех делах и начинаниях  
во имя счастья и благополучия туркменского народа!*

*С искренним уважением,  
Цзинь Хайфэн, директор Филиала  
Международной нефтяной сервисной компании  
при Китайской Нефтехимической  
Корпорации (SINOPEC) в Туркменистане*





Onuň Alyhezreti, Türkmenistanyň Prezidenti  
Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedowa

*Çuňňur hormatlanylýan jenap Prezident!*

**Sizi hem-de Türkmenistanyň halkyny  
Milli bahar baýramy  
bilen tüýs ýürekden gutlaýarys!**

**Size berk jan saglyk we uzak ömür, türkmen  
halkynyň eşretli geljeginiň hatyrasyna alyp barýan  
ägirt uly işleriňizde täze üstünlikleri arzuw edýäris!**

«Dräger», Germaniýa  
Stefan Dräger  
Müdiriýetiň başlygy

«Med Concept Europe S.A.», Belgiýa  
Ahmad Hassoun  
Baş menejer

Его Превосходительству Президенту Туркменистана  
Гурбангулы Бердымухамедову

*Глубокоуважаемый господин Президент!*

**Искренне поздравляем Вас  
и народ Туркменистана  
с Национальным праздником весны!**

**От всего сердца желаем Вам крепкого здоровья  
и долголетия, успехов в Вашей грандиозной  
деятельности во имя светлого  
будущего туркменского народа!**

«Dräger», Германия  
Стефан Дрегер,  
Председатель правления

«Med Concept Europe S.A.», Бельгия  
Ахмад Хассун,  
Генеральный менеджер

**Dräger**

