



Green Central Asia - Weekly Newsletter featuring the Central Asian Republics and the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

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Climate Change and Environment

President of Turkmenistan plants a tree in a new park in Ashgabat and gives start to the tree planting campaign 21/03/2021

President Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov has launched a spring tree planting campaign in Turkmenistan on Saturday, March 20. Traditionally, the campaign is held on the eve of Nowruz with the participation of all institutions and organizations of the country.

This year, the campaign has gained even wider scope as it is scheduled to plant 10 million tree seedlings in Ashgabat and 20 million in the regions of the country. In honor of the 30th anniversary of independence of Turkmenistan, in total, 30 million trees will enrich

the green belt of the country.

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Green Idea – a Good Deed: Figures and Principles of Turkmenistan's Environmental Strategy 21/03/2021

Turkmenistan's forest program is as effective as simple. Every year, at least three million tree seedlings are planted in the country. This is minimum. And in 2021, Turkmenistan will plant 30 million saplings of trees and grapes – in honor of the 30th anniversary of the country's independence.

The National Forest Program of Turkmenistan was adopted in 2013. Since then, tens of millions of trees, mostly conifers and hardwoods, have been planted across the country. Consistent steps in environmental policy are yielding positive results. From year to year, the area of forests grows, enriching the ecosystem of the country.

For specific information, ORIENT turned to the State Statistics Committee of Turkmenistan, which provided data on the volume of silvicultural and forestry-based enterprises of the Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection. Specialists of the State Statistics Committee prepared these data in two comparative positions – in relation of 2020 to 2015 and to 2019.

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Jusipbek Kazbekov appointed deputy chairman of State Committee on Ecology 24/03/2021

New staff appointment has taken place in the system of the State Committee on Ecology.

Reportedly, Jusipbek Kazbekov has been appointed deputy chairman of the State Committee on Ecology and Environmental Protection.

Prior to his appointment, Kazbekov served as First Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of Karakalpakstan for ecology and development of the Aral Sea region.

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REGIONAL DIALOGUE ON CARBON PRICING (REDICAP) IN CENTRAL ASIA SUCCESSFULLY CONCLUDED 25/03/2021

The Regional Dialogue on Carbon Pricing (REdiCAP) was organized for the five Central Asia countries (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan) on 25-26 February 2021. This Central Asia REdiCAP followed five successful regional dialogues on carbon pricing organized last year. The dialogues aim to:

- Provide Parties at different stages of adopting national and regional carbon pricing instruments (CPI) an opportunity to find out more about the benefits, challenges, tools and best practices directly from those doing the implementation;
- Foster emulation between Parties currently considering or formulating carbon pricing policies and those that have not yet taken this step; and
- Provide updates about ongoing developments and safe space to share challenges and identify potential solutions.

For the Central Asia REdiCAP, representatives came together for two days of dialogue to discuss the challenges and opportunities relating to carbon pricing in their countries and how regional collaboration can support their climate mitigation efforts.

The REdiCAP opened with high-level welcoming remarks from James Grabert, the Director of the Mitigation Division at UNFCCC, and Stefanos Fotiou, Director of the Environment and Development Division, ESCAP. They were followed by a keynote speech from Dr. Bambang Susantono, the Vice President for Knowledge Management and Sustainable Development at the Asian Development Bank.

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How greenhouse economy makes Turkmenistan an exporter of vegetables 26/03/2021

Greenhouses become one of the most profitable directions of agriculture of Turkmenistan and thanks to it the country has essentially increased manufacture of vegetables.

For first two months of 2021 manufacture of vegetables as a whole in the country has made up 12 191 ton that has exceeded the level of the corresponding period of 2020 by 41,7 %, ORIENT was informed by the State Statistics Committee of Turkmenistan.

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New greenhouse complexes are opened with the participation of the President 26/03/2021

A new greenhouse complex built in Kaakhka district, Ahal province, was opened by the President of Turkmenistan Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov. In addition, five more greenhouses in different country's provinces were put into operation after the relevant orders of the head of state, which were given via a videolink.

A total area of new modern agricultural facilities is 35 hectares. Greenhouse complexes are equipped with new technologies and are designed to produce 8,750 tons of vegetable per year. It should be noted that the commissioning of greenhouses contributed to the creation of around 400 new jobs in the country.

The complexes are made of modern and environmentally friendly materials, equipped with specialized equipment by foreign producers. Computer automation unit monitors temperature and light conditions, air humidity, irrigation and sprinkling systems in new greenhouses.

Warehouses with modern refrigerators are provided for storing the collected harvest.

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Water resources

Speech at the High-Level Meeting on the Implementation of the Water-Related Goals and Targets of the 2030 Agenda 19/03/2021

Excellency Chairman,

Secretary General,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

At the outset, I would like to express my profound gratitude to Mr. Chairperson for the invitation and the opportunity to outline my thoughts at this High-Level Meeting.

Read more: here

President Emomali Rahmon Attends an Online High-level Meeting to promote the Implementation of the Water — related Goals and Targets of the 2030 Agenda 19/03/3021

DUSHANBE, 19.03.2021 (NIAT Khovar) – The Founder of Peace and National Unity, Leader of the Nation, President of Tajikistan Emomali Rahmon took part in an online high-level meeting to promote the implementation of the water — related goals and targets of the 2030 agenda.

The meeting took place in the UN headquarters as per Tajikistan's initiative titled "Comprehensive Mid-Term Review of the International Decade for Action 'Water for Sustainable Development' 2018 – 2028,» which had been adopted by UN Resolution in 2018.

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«Deryayollary» was transformed into Open-End Joint-Stock Company 20/03/2021

President Berdimuhamedov with his resolution has changed the organizational-legal form of production association "Deryayollary" of "Turkmendenizderyayollary" Agency, having

transformed it into Open-End Joint-Stock Company.

It was made for perfection of work of the enterprise, increase of its efficiency and the solution of arising tasks.

With the given presidential resolution "Turkmendenizderyayollary" Agency and Turkmenbashi international seaport were allowed to become founders of Open-End Joint Stock Company "Deryayollary" with shares in an authorised capital stock of 10 and 50 per cent accordingly.

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Permanent Representative of the Kyrgyz Republic to the UN Mirgul Moldoisaeva took part at the High-level meeting on the "Implementation of the water-related goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda" 23/03/2021

On March 18 and 22 the High-level meeting on the "Implementation of the water-related goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda" took place at the UN Headquarters. The main goal of this event was the multilateral discussion on issues of implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly Goal 6 "Clean water and sanitation".

Deputy Secretary-General Amina Mohammed, President of the 75th session of General Assembly Volkan Bozkyr, President of the Economic and Social Council - Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the UN Munir Akram took part in the High-level meeting. Also President of Republic of Tajikistan Emomali Rakhmon and Prime Minister of Netherlands Marck Rutte participated in the format of pre-recorded statements.

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Energy sector

Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan agree on mutual supply of electricity 25/03/2021

Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan have agreed on mutual supplies of electricity.

The parties have reached an agreement on mutual supplies of electrical energy in the amount of up to 750 million kilowatt-hours at a conditional price, the Ministry of Energy and Industry of Kyrgyzstan reported.

The supply of electricity from Uzbekistan will take place from March to October 2021 and in March — April 2022 with subsequent return of this amount of electricity to Uzbekistan from June to August 2021-2023.

The agreement on mutual supplies has been reached to accumulate water in the Toktogul Reservoir and provide irrigation water to agricultural consumers in Uzbekistan during the

2021-2023 growing season.

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Afghanistan's multilateral relationship with CA countries

Foreign Ministers of Uzbekistan and Afghanistan hold a telephone conversation 20/03/2021

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) -- On 20 March 2021, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan Abdulaziz Kamilov had a telephone conversation with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan Hanif Atmar.

At the beginning of the conversation, the heads of the foreign ministries exchanged sincere congratulations and warm wishes in connection with the traditional spring holiday of the awakening and renewal of nature - Navruz.

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International Online Briefing was held at the IRA Embassy in Ashgabat 26/03/2021

Today, on March 25, the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan in Turkmenistan has hosted an International Online-Briefing "Afghanistan Peace Process: Current status, Challenges and Solutions".

As the ORIENT correspondent was informed by the Afghan diplomatic mission, during the meeting, which was chaired by Khan Wali Khan Basharmal, Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan to Turkmenistan, the possibilities of a peace negotiation process in Afghanistan were discussed.

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Cooperation between Central Asian countries

PM Rasulzoda Meets Deputy Prime Minister of Kazakhstan 19/03/2021

DUSHANBE, 19.03.2021 (NIAT Khovar) – Yesterday, the Prime Minister Kohir Rasulzoda met with the Deputy Prime Minister of Kazakhstan Roman Sklyar. The parties discussed important bilateral and multilateral issues.

Despite the pandemic, the volume of trade between Tajikistan and Kazakhstan in 2020 amounted to \$ 909.8 million. Goods and products in the amount of \$ 152.2 million were

exported from Tajikistan to Kazakhstan, and \$ 757.5 million was imported from Kazakhstan to Tajikistan.

The parties noted that the integration between Tajikistan and Kazakhstan will be strengthened on the basis of the successful policy of the heads of the two states, and in the future the opportunities will be used purposefully.

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Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan to hold talks on border delimitation and demarcation 23/03/2021

Tashkent, **Uzbekistan** (**UzDaily.com**) -- Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan will hold talks on the delimitation and demarcation of the Kyrgyz-Uzbek state border on 24-25 March.

The head of the government delegation of the Kyrgyz Republic on the delimitation and demarcation of the Kyrgyz-Uzbek state border - Chairman of the State Committee for National Security of the Kyrgyz Republic Kamchybek Tashiev flew to Tashkent on 22 March.

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Delegation of the Ministry of Interior Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic pays a working visit to Uzbekistan 23/03/2021

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) – On 22-23 March 2021, a delegation of the Ministry of Interior Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic headed by Minister Major General of Militia Ulan Niyazbekov paid a working visit to the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The visit of the Minister of Law Enforcement to Uzbekistan took place within the framework of the implementation of bilateral agreements following the state visit of the President of Kyrgyzstan Sadyr Japarov to Uzbekistan on 11-12 March 2021.

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Turkmenistan is among the top countries in terms of import to Uzbekistan 25/03/2021

Turkmenistan is among the top group of countries in terms of import of goods and services to Uzbekistan in January-February 2021. According to Sputnik Uzbekistan, the State Committee of Uzbekistan announced the leading import and export countries during the first two months of this year.

The top countries in terms of import includes China (\$ 623 million), Russia (\$ 618.4 million), Kazakhstan (\$ 433.7 million), Turkey (\$ 188.9 million), South Korea (\$ 169.5 million), India (\$ 80.8 million), Lithuania (\$ 72.1 million), Germany (\$ 71 million), Ukraine

(\$ 57.9 million) and Turkmenistan (\$ 56.2 million).

The list of Top-10 countries in terms of export is as follows: China (\$ 285.5 million), Russia (\$ 225.5 million), Turkey (\$ 215 million), Kazakhstan (\$ 151.9 million), Afghanistan (\$ 107.5 million), Kyrgyzstan (\$ 91.6 million), Tajikistan (\$ 54.7 million), Canada (\$ 45.5 million), Iran (\$ 27 million) and Ukraine (\$ 24.7 million).

The report reads that, on outcomes of 2020, Uzbekistan's foreign trade turnover reached USD\$36.29 billion, which, compared to the same period of 2019, decreased by 13.1%. Out of the total volume of the foreign trade turnover, export made up US\$15.128 billion (decrease by 13.4%), and import – US\$21.171 billion (a decrease by 12.8%).

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Government delegation of Kyrgyzstan arrives in Uzbekistan 25/03/2021

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) -- A delegation of Kyrgyzstan headed by Prime Minister Ulukbek Maripov is arriving in Uzbekistan for conducting bilateral negotiations today, Dunyo news agency reported.

It is planned that Tashkent, chaired by the heads of government of Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan, will host the 9th meeting of the Joint Commission on Bilateral Cooperation.

A representative delegation of Kyrgyzstan, which includes the heads of a number of ministries and departments, will visit a number of high-tech enterprises in Tashkent, where they will get acquainted with production and manufactured products.

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The Prime Minister of the Kyrgyz Republic visits the innovation technopark "Yashnabad" and "IT-Park" 25/03/2021

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) -- Today, the Prime Minister of the Kyrgyz Republic Ulukbek Maripov, as part of a working trip to the Republic of Uzbekistan, visited the Yashnabad innovation technology park and IT-Park in the city of Tashkent.

The Prime Minister of the Kyrgyz Republic Ulukbek Maripov and the Prime Minister of the Republic of Uzbekistan Abdulla Aripov visited the exhibition hall of products, inspected production workshops and pavilions with products produced in the Republic of Uzbekistan.

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President of Uzbekistan receives the Prime Minister of Kyrgyzstan 26/03/2021

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) -- On 26 March, President of the Republic of

Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev received the Prime Minister of the Kyrgyz Republic Ulukbek Maripov, who arrived in Tashkent to attend the meeting of the Joint Commission on Bilateral Cooperation.

Issues of further development of multifaceted cooperation between Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan were discussed at the meeting.

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