Green Central Asia - Weekly Newsletter

featuring the Central Asian Republics and the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

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Climate Change and Environment

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Priorities of cooperation between Turkmenistan in FAO up to 2025 18/01/2022

Signed last month the Framework Program for cooperation in Turkmenistan for 2021–2025 between the Government of Turkmenistan and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations became an important milestone in the cooperation of our country with the UN Food and Agricultural Organization. Noting Turkmenistan's commitment to reforming and strengthening the agricultural sector to meet national needs and addressing global challenges, FAO is ready to assist the country in this process.

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Deserts of Uzbekistan are under protection 20/01/2022

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) -- Office of the Interim Regional Central Asian Desert Initiative Secretariat opened in Tashkent.

Sultry and endless deserts of Uzbekistan are important biodiversity hotspots. It features unique habitats, breeding grounds, migration corridors and flyways for many rare and endangered animal species. The CADI (Central Asian Desert Initiative) aims to preserve and sustainably use temperate deserts, which are now under threat from overexploitation of natural resources and large-scale infrastructure construction.

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Water resources

Presentation of the 4th Asia-Pacific Water Summit at the Executive Committee of IFAS 18/01/2022

On 18 January 2022, a meeting was held between the members of the Executive Committee of IFAS and the coordinator of the High-Level Panel of Experts and Leaders on Water and Natural Disasters (HELP), and Professor of the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies of Japan, Mr. Kenzo Hiroki.

During the meeting, Kenzo Hiroki made a presentation on the 4th Asia-Pacific Water Summit, including the program, structure, and thematic sessions of the Summit, and provided information on global water challenges.

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The problems and prospects for the effective use of water resources in Russia and Central Asia are considered 18/01/2022

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Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) -- On 18 January 2022, an international round table was held on the topic "Problems and prospects for the efficient use of water resources in Russia and Central Asia".

The event, organized in the format of videoconference, was attended by the heads of international information and analytical centers, the regional branch of the Russian Ecological Society, representatives of relevant committees, as well as members of the Parliament of Uzbekistan, professors and specialists in the field and others.

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Mollakara – chameleon-lake with healing water 19/01/2022

According to mir24.tv site, a correspondent of «MIR 24» Sergei Polyakov visited a famous Turkmen balneotherapeutic resort – Mollakara.
The journalist stated that the lake water, like the chameleon, changes its colour four times a year. Not long along it was blue, and today the water area is discoloured to dark brown. Along with colour palette a chemical composition is changed. Appearance of brown tint means a beginning of a new healing season in resort, where they await for arrival of the vacationers with *musculoskeletal system diseases*.

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In Kyrgyzstan, irrigation season to start early this year 20/01/2022

Bishkek, Jan. 20, 2022 . / Kabar /. This year, the irrigation season will start early in all regions of Kyrgyzstan, Minister of Agriculture of the country Askarbek Dzhanybekov said during a briefing on Thursday.

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Water consumption standards simplified 21/01/2022

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) -- In recent years, consistent reforms have been implemented in our country aimed at ensuring well-being, further improving the living conditions of the population, improving the services provided by state organizations and departments, and eliminating cases of corruption and bureaucratic obstacles.

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Energy sector

Demand for energy in Uzbekistan to double by 2030 15/01/2022

On January 13, the Senate Committee on Aral Sea Development held a meeting to discuss the work being done in Karakalpakstan on the use of solar and wind energy in the

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economy, social facilities and housing, as well as the priorities of the development strategy for 2022-2026.

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World Future Energy Summit 2022 kicks off in Abu Dhabi 17/01/2022

ABU DHABI. KAZINFORM The World Future Energy Summit began today as part of the Abu Dhabi Sustainability Week. The summit brings together industry leaders from around the world to showcase their technologies and innovations at the Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre (ADNEC).

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Construction of 500 kV transmission line underway in Kyrgyzstan as part of CASA-1000 project 19/01/2022

Bishkek, Jan. 19, 2022. / Kabar /. As part of the implementation of the CASA-1000 project in Kyrgyzstan, the construction of a 500 kV transmission line is underway, the press service of the National Electric Grid of Kyrgyzstan OJSC reported.

In total, 455 kilometers of transmission lines will be laid in Kyrgyzstan, which is built specifically for this transmission line at the 500 kV Datka substation, from there the line will stretch through Jalal-Abad, Osh and Batken regions to the border with Tajikistan.

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Four solar photovoltaic stations with a total capacity of about 1100 MW to be built in Uzbekistan 19/01/2022

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) -- The President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev signed resolutions on the construction of 4 solar photovoltaic stations with a total capacity of about 1,100 MW.

According to the resolutions, by the end of 2023, 4 solar photovoltaic stations with a total capacity of 1096.6 MW will be built and put into operation in four regions of the republic.

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Ministry of Energy comments construction of nuclear power plant in Kyrgyzstan 21/01/2022

Bishkek, Jan. 21, 2022. / Kabar /. The Ministry of Energy of Kyrgyzstan and Rosatom State Corporation of Russia signed on Jan. 20 on the sidelines of EXPO-2020 a memorandum of cooperation in a wide range of areas in the field of energy development.

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Kyrgyzstan and Rosatom intend to construct small nuclear power plant 21/01/2022

Bishkek, Jan. 21, 2022. / Kabar /. Rosatom State Corporation and the Ministry of Energy of Kyrgyzstan signed in Dubai a Memorandum of Cooperation on the construction of small nuclear power plants.

Within the framework of the memorandum signed by Director General of Rosatom State Corporation Alexei Likhachev and Minister of Energy of the Kyrgyz Republic Doskul Bekmurzaev, the parties express interest in developing cooperation in the construction of a low-power nuclear power plant based on the RITM-200N reactor plant in Kyrgyzstan, according to the corporation's website.

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Turkmenistan aims to develop hydrogen energy. 22/01/2022

The draft Roadmap for the development of international cooperation of Turkmenistan in the field of hydrogen energy for 2022-2023 was presented on Friday, January 21, at a government meeting. The implementation of this program will allow building a new industry in a short time with a significant multiplier effect for the Turkmen economy, responding to foreign economic challenges and synchronized with the country's export policy and its environmental strategy.

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Subsidizing energy: Why is Uzbekistan keen on keeping the policy the richest countries could not afford? 22/01/2022

In the 1930s, the deserts of Arabia along the coast of the Persian Gulf were populated with tribal people whose only source of wealth were camels and who got by in the harsh climatic conditions thanks to fishing or pearl diving. When oil and gas were discovered, life for these people started to change.

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Afghanistan's multilateral relationship with CA countries

"It will not affect our relations" – Taliban representative speaks about aviation equipment problem with Uzbekistan 15/01/2022

Taliban press secretary Suhail Shahin, answering a question about the controversies surrounding aviation equipment, stressed that they do not affect relations with allied

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states, the Nigoh Telegram channel reported.

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Afghan delegation holds talks in Ashgabat. 16/01/2022

A meeting of Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan Rashid Meredov with Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan Amir Khan Mottaki was held in Ashgabat. According to the press service of the Turkmen Foreign Ministry, the foreign ministers of the two neighboring states discussed the development and strengthening of partnership in a wide range of areas.

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Afghanistan's trade with Central Asia is on the rise. 17/01/2022

Figures provided by the Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce and Investment (ACCI) show that trade between Afghanistan and the three Central Asian states - Turkmenistan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan - has increased in the current (solar) year. According to ACCI, this year, Afghanistan has exported $33 million worth of goods to Central Asia, while imports have exceeded $2 billion, TOLOnews reported on Monday, citing ACCI Acting Chairman Mohammad Yunus Mohmand.

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Helicopters taken from Afghanistan to Uzbekistan will not be returned to Taliban – Pentagon 19/01/2022

Helicopters taken from Afghanistan to Uzbekistan and Tajikistan during the change of government in August 2021 will not be returned to the Taliban, Pentagon press secretary John F. Kirby said at a press briefing.

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Cooperation between Central Asian countries

The President of Turkmenistan ratified agreements with Kazakhstan and Turkey. 15/01/2022

The President of Turkmenistan signed a resolution at a government meeting on Friday, ratifying a number of international documents. Among them is the intergovernmental agreement between Turkmenistan and Kazakhstan on cooperation in the field of civil defense, prevention and elimination of emergency situations, signed in Ashgabat on October 25, 2021. Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov also approved an agreement between the governments of Turkmenistan and Turkey on cooperation in the field of healthcare

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and medical sciences and a memorandum of understanding between the governments of Turkmenistan and Turkey on a joint Turkmen-Turkish secondary school.

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Turkmen-Uzbek trade turnover increased by 65% in 2021. 18/01/2022

Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan have increased mutual trade fivefold over the past four years, and in 2021 its volume increased by 65%, amounting to about $880 million. This was discussed at a meeting between Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers of Turkmenistan Serdar Berdimuhamedov and Deputy Prime Minister - Minister of Investments and Foreign Trade of Uzbekistan Sardor Umurzakov. Readiness was expressed at the meeting to intensify joint work and establish partnerships between entrepreneurs and manufacturers of the two countries in order to increase the volume of mutual trade to $1 billion in the near future.

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Turkmen-Uzbek inter-MFA consultations were held 18/01/2022

On January 17, inter-ministerial consultations between the foreign policy agencies of Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan were held in Tashkent. The Turkmen side at the meeting was headed by the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan B. Myatiev, the Uzbek side - by the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan V. Norov. About this reports Press service of the MFA of Turkmenistan.

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The visit of the Government delegation of Turkmenistan to Uzbekistan 18/01/2022

On January 17, 2022, in accordance with the instructions of the President of Turkmenistan, a working visit of the government delegation of Turkmenistan headed by Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers Serdar Berdimuhamedov to the Republic of Uzbekistan took place. About this reports Press service of the MFA of Turkmenistan.

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Telephone conversation between the President of Turkmenistan and President of the Republic of Uzbekistan 20/01/2022

Today there was a telephone conversation between the President of Turkmenistan Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov and President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev.

Welcoming each other, the leaders of the two countries expressed satisfaction with

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the high level and progressive dynamics of the development of traditionally friendly interstate relations, which are a true example of trust, mutual understanding and respect.

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Kyrgyzstan sends note to Kazakhstan over beating of Kyrgyzstani in Almaty 21/01/2022

Bishkek, Jan. 21, 2022 . / Kabar / . The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kyrgyzstan handed a note to Kazakh consul because of beating of a Kyrgyz citizen in Almaty.

The press service of the Kyrgyz Foreign Ministry reported that consul of the Kazakh Embassy in Kyrgyzstan was invited on Jan. 21.

In the course of the meeting, a note was handed over regarding citizen of Kyrgyzstan Cholponbek Sydykov, which expressed the concern of the Kyrgyz side about the actions of some law enforcement officers of Kazakhstan to use illegal actions against this citizen, which led to serious harm to health.

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Tokayev vows to continue political transformation of Kazakhstan's society 21/01/2022

Bishkek, Jan. 21, 2022 . / Kabar / . President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev vowed to continue the policy of political transformation and modernization of Kazakhstan's society at the meeting with the representatives of business community on Friday, Kazinform correspondent reports.

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CSTO secretary-general says it is necessary to help Tajikistan contain potential threats 21/01/2022

Bishkek, Jan. 21, 2022 . / Kabar / . The Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) Secretary-General Stanislav Zas has stated the need to help Tajikistan contain potential threats, ASIA-Plus reported.

The CSTO Secretariat notes that he said this yesterday at a meeting of the State Duma (Russia's lower chamber of parliament) Committee on CIS Affairs, Eurasian Integration and Relations with Compatriots.

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