



# ORASAM

## MONTHLY NEWS BULLETIN FROM CENTRAL ASIA



May 2020 / Number 13

### **WORLD BANK PROVIDED MORE THAN \$370 MILLION FOR CENTRAL ASIAN COUNTRIES TO FIGHT CORONAVIRUS**



The world Bank has provided more than \$370 million to Central Asian countries to fight coronavirus (COVID-19). This is reported by the World Bank representative office in Uzbekistan.

“The World Bank quickly mobilized funds to counter the COVID-19 pandemic. Together with the governments of Central Asian States, we are also reviewing our investment portfolio in the region totaling \$9.7 billion to provide additional funds to strengthen health systems and mitigate the economic consequences of COVID-19 for these countries, “ said World Bank regional Director for Central Asia Lilia Burunchuk during an online briefing today.

The funds provided will be used for the purchase of important medical equipment, including test kits, laboratory reagents, equipment for intensive care units, as well as

personal protective equipment for medical workers.

As of May 14, 2020, the World Bank has provided Uzbekistan with \$95 million, which will be used to improve the national health system, as well as support the poor affected by the economic crisis triggered by the pandemic. The World Bank also provided \$200 million to provide additional funds to the budget against the backdrop of a significant reduction in tax revenues and unexpected increases in expenditures as part of the government’s anti-crisis program to mitigate the socio-economic consequences of the pandemic. In addition, \$17 million was allocated as part of a project to improve the emergency medical care system in Uzbekistan, which will allow the purchase of ventilators, x-ray machines, infusion pumps, testing kits, and equipment for monitoring the health of infected patients.

## AMBASSADOR FIRAT GAVE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PANDEMIC AND AID CONDUCTED IN KYRGYZSTAN BY TURKEY



Ambassador of Turkey in Kyrgyzstan Cengiz Kamil Firat made statements about the pandemic in Kyrgyzstan and aid campaigns organized by Turkey. Ambassador Firat conducted activities against the coronavirus outbreak in Kyrgyzstan between March 25 -May 5, 2020. On May 5, 2020, he shared with the Turkish public the report on indirect and direct assistance campaign in Kyrgyzstan, and provided following assessments: "From 25 March 2020, a State of Emergency and Curfew were declared in Kyrgyzstan as part of the fight against the coronavirus (Covid-19) epidemic. Until May 5, 2020, 843 cases were detected in Kyrgyzstan, 11 people died and 600 people were discharged. In this process, majority of the cases were found in Bishkek, although one in every four cases was a medical worker. Between February 5 and May 5, 2020, approximately 60 thousand Covid-19 tests were taken and approximately 45 thousand spare test kits were available. Kyrgyzstan authorities announced that they would purchase 60 thousand more test kits as a humanitarian aid from Turkey and Belarus. Through the Ministry of Health of Turkey, not only our embassy, but also the Islamic Development Bank (IKB) purchased 30 thousand PCR test kits from Turkey and donated them to the Ministry of Health of Kyrgyzstan. The Ambassador informed the media about Turkish assistance in combating the outbreak in Kyrgyzstan as follows: "We have temporarily transferred the Kyrgyzstan-Turkey Friendship Hospital, which was established in early 2020, to the Ministry of health of Kyrgyzstan on March 25, 2020. Our hospital has a capacity of 72 beds, 51 of which are beds that can be used to fight the virus, and 21 are beds with artificial ventilators, and emergency intensive care units. Thus, we have provided Kyrgyzstan with one of the most important support centers for combating the coronavirus epidemic. We have allocated one of the dormitories of Manas University with a capacity of 250 beds to Kyrgyzstan." Ambassador Firat added that "500 units of humanitarian aid, the face protection masks, gloves and disinfectant were given

to the Ministry of Health of Kyrgyzstan through the Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA) attached to the Ministry of Culture and Tourism. In the month of Ramadan, another 4,500 packages of aid would be distributed. We have drivers who transport heavy cargo to Kyrgyzstan by road. They bring their cargo to Kyrgyzstan and take another load here, then return to Turkey." He added that Embassy is the drivers by providing them with all their needs including finding cargo to return to Turkey.

Through the campaign of the Turkish-Kyrgyz Business Association (TUKID), 50 thousand dollars was collected and donated buying rapid test kits, masks, disinfectant, plastic masks, face masks. Additionally, some Turkish companies joined the efforts of the Embassy: Anadolu Group Coca Cola prepared food packages and 2,400 liters of disinfectant and transmitted them through the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent; Demirbank provided financial support to 2000 families; Bishkek Park Sheraton Hotel of Mustafaçoğlu Group Companies provided 1,300 parcels of supplies; Eti Bakır Tereksay prepared boxes of humanitarian aid for Ramadan, so far they have provided 50.000 dollars direct financial aid to Kyrgyz authorities, and they are undertaking efforts to purchase 1,500 quick test kits; Borusan Holding provided Ministry of Health of Kyrgyzstan with computers and printers worth 10 thousand dollars; Nobel pharmaceutical company donated humanitarian and medical supplies worth of 12 thousand dollars; Technocave Capsule Hotel opened all its 40 rooms; 2 Turkish restaurants provided 500 health workers and 500 police officers from Kyrgyzstan with free lunch for 15 days.

Ambassador announced that between March 25 and April 21 of 2020, around 400 citizens, mostly students, were transferred to Turkey as part of the worldwide evacuation of Turkish citizens. Embassy also helped citizens of Kyrgyzstan to return to Kyrgyzstan from Turkey via Pegasus Airlines. The Embassy launched a campaign with the idea of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's campaign "We are sufficient of ourselves, Turkey". The established donation fund was contributed by all embassy staff, philanthropists and Turkish companies in Kyrgyzstan. Embassy assisted Turkish citizens, who had lost their jobs and could not pay their rents by placing them in a Turkish hotel and providing them food through Turkish restaurants. Ambassador Firat underlined: "We are proud that we have adapted the campaign 'We are sufficient of ourselves, Turkey' originally launched by our president. Our citizens, companies, embassy and other established official institutions came together in Kyrgyzstan. They demonstrated to the whole world an example, a very good example of solidarity. It was indeed a remarkable work."

## KTMU RECTOR BALCI SPOKE ABOUT THE EDUCATION PROCESS DURING THE PANDEMIC



President of the Kyrgyz-Turkish Manas University Prof. Dr. Sebahattin Balci made a statement to TRT AVAZ about the contributions made by University to the aid process carried out in Kyrgyzstan and under what conditions the education process was continued.

President of KTMU Prof. Dr. Sebahattin Balci participated in TRT AVAZ's Eurasia Agenda program on May 13, 2020. Answering the questions of the presenter Coşkun Özen, President Balci gave information about what kind of aid campaigns KTMU contributed to the process of combating the coronavirus epidemic in Kyrgyzstan and how education and training activities were continued in this process.

President Balci stated that they will complete all the studies of the university in the 2019-2020 academic year, including exams, on time and will successfully close this period on 30 June 2020. He continued as follows:

"In Kyrgyzstan, there were great difficulties especially in secondary education and primary education with the transition to distance education. Within the framework of the requests made by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Kyrgyz Republic from us and our university, we have filmed more than 100 lectures, especially science and engineering and technology courses of Kyrgyzstan, in MEDIAMANAS Studios, which are very modern-with the support of our TRT - and are currently being broadcast live on ELTR television, the National Television of Kyrgyzstan. Besides, courses for the education of

disabled citizens were taken. This is now available to the community. In addition, as a result of our cooperation with the Ministry of Culture, Information and Tourism of the Kyrgyz Republic, 5 spot shots were taken to raise awareness in the society and offered to the public. These were also exemplary studies in Kyrgyzstan.

Our current distance education activities have become an example for the universities in Kyrgyzstan. At this point, we are setting a very serious example in the future of Kyrgyzstan, or even in the new world after Corona, in the development of a good level of education by using distance education technologies much more.

We, as Kyrgyzstan-Turkey Manas University, will not be repeating the old one after that. By introducing new education and training models in higher education, we have started our studies to reach everyone who wants to study from us both on campus and outside the campus and anywhere in the world, with more flexible higher education models than time, place and people.

Of course, we also have community service work and support work. In order to overcome the many problems that come with coronavirus together, we continue our efforts to solve the problems first on campus and in the University community, and then to support the society. For example, within the framework of the work that our Turkey has done now, we also strive to contribute to the studies in Turkey. At this point, our university participated in "We are self-sufficient, Turkey!" campaign in a very active way. Of course, we continued our efforts to make our duty from our heart, so that we have salt in this soup; as before Elazığ earthquake. In the same way, our university community continued to work with unity in order to reach our citizens who are also in need in Kyrgyzstan. We can say that we have reached more than 1000 families at the moment to give support and help". President Balci thanked all the university staff and students who contributed to the execution of the work in this challenging process and made great efforts to keep the system alive.

Kyrgyz-Turkish Manas University was founded in the capital of Kyrgyzstan, Bishkek, by the agreement signed between the states of Turkey and Kyrgyzstan on September 30, 1995 and has been operating since 1997-1998 academic year. Nowadays, it is among the most prominent universities in Central Asia with its technical infrastructure, facilities and education.

## THE COUNTRIES OF THE TURKIC COUNCIL INTEND TO ACTIVATE TRANSPORT CORRIDORS

The countries of the Turkic Council intend to intensify the work of the Trans-Caspian transport corridor during the coronavirus pandemic, the press service of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Uzbekistan reported.

An extraordinary meeting of transport Ministers of the Turkic Council countries was held on April 30 in the format of a videoconference. The parties discussed ways to ensure the continuity of transport operations in the fight against coronavirus.

“The Ministers discussed the possibility of taking the necessary measures to facilitate transport through the Trans-Caspian international transport corridor “East — West” and to eliminate the negative consequences of the global pandemic for the economies of the region,” the report says.

According to the Foreign Ministry, the participants of the online meeting agreed to consider the possibility of providing mutual benefits in such areas as transport quotas, transit documents, fees and driver’s visas between the member States. In January 2016, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Georgia and Ukraine signed a Protocol on establishing competitive preferential tariffs for cargo transportation on the Trans-Caspian international transport route (TITR), which runs through China, Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan, Georgia and then through Turkey and Ukraine to Europe. In October



of the same year, the international TITR Association was established with an office in the capital of Kazakhstan.

The Turkic Council is an international organization which was established in October 2009. The organisation unites modern Turkic States, the main goal of which is to develop comprehensive cooperation between them. It consists of Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkey and Uzbekistan, with Hungary participating as an observer. In early April, the heads of the Council countries discussed joint actions against the spread of the coronavirus during a video conference.

## UZBEKISTAN HANDED OVER THE SECOND BATCH OF HUMANITARIAN AID TO KYRGYZSTAN



On May 20, Osh city hosted the ceremony of handing over the second batch of humanitarian aid from Uzbekistan to Kyrgyzstan. This was reported by the government’s press service.

On behalf of Uzbekistan, the Kyrgyz ambassador to Uzbekistan, Ibrahim Zhunusov, provided aid to the authorized representative of the government of the Kyrgyz Republic in Osh region, Uzarbek Zhylkybayev.

The humanitarian cargo includes medical beds (440 pieces), electronic pyrometers (1000 pieces), protective coveralls (2500 pieces), medical gloves (150 thousand pieces), and medical masks (150 thousand pieces). The total amount of aid was 248 thousand dollars.

## HUMANITARIAN AID FROM TIKA TO 7 THOUSAND FAMILIES IN KYRGYZSTAN



It was reported that TIKA once again provided humanitarian aid, including food and medical supplies, to 7,000 needy families in Kyrgyzstan as part of the fight against the coronavirus epidemic in Ramadan.

The Turkish International Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA) under the Presidency of Turkey's Culture and Tourism Ministry provided in the official website [Tika.gov.tr](http://Tika.gov.tr) detailed information on the subject. According to the statement, the TIKA Bishkek Coordinatorship has been unable to work due to the coronavirus (Covid-19) epidemic and provides food and hygiene supplies to the needy people during the month of Ramadan.

It was stated that 4,600 food parcels, prepared to Ramadan and containing mask and antiseptic solution, were delivered to the Ministry of Labor and Social Development of Kyrgyzstan to be distributed in Ramadan.

Speaking at the ceremony held at the garden of the Ministry of Labour and Social Development, Minister Ulukbek Kochkorov: " I would like to thank the people and government of Turkey for the help in the fight against Covid-19 during Ramadan, and I express my gratitude to the state of Turkey for taking advantage of the opportunity to help the needy families and the elderly who have no one to support them during these days of Ramadan. Now, after the end of Ramadan, many parts of the world will be happy to celebrate this holiday. On this blessed day, I wish peace and happiness to the people of our brother Turkey". Minister

Kochkorov noted that the food support provided by TIKA will be distributed to families who have difficulties in accessing food due to the epidemic during Ramadan. TIKA Bishkek Program Coordinator Ali Muslu said: "Turkey continues to be on the side of friendly and brotherly countries in solving the economic and social problems caused by the global epidemic". Muslu continued that: "Today, we deliver a total of 7,000 food parcels, each of them includes 10 masks and antiseptics, they will be distributed throughout Kyrgyzstan. Among of them, 4,600 will be distributed with the help of the Kyrgyzstan Ministry of Labor and Social Development, rest of them 2,400 food parcels along with the organisations".

In the early days of the coronavirus epidemic, TIKA provided medical protection materials such as 3000 masks, 3000 gloves, 500 overalls, 500 protective glasses, 500 protective visors, 1000 antiseptics to some hospitals affiliated to the Ministry of Health of Kyrgyzstan. Within this framework, 500 families in need were provided with food and hygiene packages in cooperation with the Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent Association and the Ministry of Kyrgyzstan Labor and Social Development. Also built by TIKA Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan-Turkey Friendship Hospital for was transferred temporarily to the Kyrgyz Ministry of Health to use in combating the epidemic. On 13 May 2020, TIKA provided humanitarian aid, including food and medical supplies to 7,000 elderly, disabled and families in financial need in Kyrgyzstan.

## GOODS FROM TURKEY WILL BE DELIVERED VIA A NEW MULTIMODAL ROUTE TO KYRGYZSTAN

Kyrgyz JSC company- UBS transit, and Turkish Arcas logistics company have launched a new multi-modal route for the delivery of goods from Turkey to Kyrgyzstan and back by rail and sea. On May 20, Osh received the first cargo of 40 containers delivered on the new route. This was reported by the press service of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Kyrgyz REPUBLIC.

According to the Director of UBS transit Talant Matkerim uulu, who is also the Chairman of the Subcommittee of the CCI (Chamber of Commerce and Industry) of the Kyrgyz REPUBLIC on transport, the new railway route for cargo transportation is not easy. The goods are transported from Turkey by rail through Georgia to Azerbaijan, then by sea to Turkmenistan, where they are loaded into railway trains, and then by rail through Uzbekistan, the cargo is delivered to the southern capital of Kyrgyzstan.

According to him, it should also be noted that the vital activity of the Kyrgyz economy depends on the efficient operation of cargo carriers. After all, they supply the country with food and basic necessities by preventing the deficit.

“Previously, we carried out cargo transportation using only



highways. However, entrepreneurs suffered huge losses for well-known reasons related to COVID-19, while crossing the borders of the Commonwealth States. The development of multimodal transportation not only eliminates the risks of cargo detention, but also allows increasing the volume of deliveries, “ Matkerim uulu stated.

## UZBEKISTAN EXPORTED MORE THAN 3.3 TONS OF CHERRIES TO KYRGYZSTAN THIS SEASON



The company “Uzozikovkatholding” this season exported 3 thousand 320 tons of cherries to Kyrgyzstan, the press service of the Uzbek company reported.

According to the company, to date, Uzbek entrepreneurs have exported more than 15.7 tons of cherries worth more than 31 million dollars.

This year, the majority of Uzbek cherry exports are to Kazakhstan, Russia and Kyrgyzstan. Kazakhstan, as the main buyer of Uzbek cherries, purchased 7,700 tons, and exported 4,551 tons to the Russian Federation.

Cherries are also exported to Belarus, the United Arab Emirates, Poland, China, South Korea, Turkmenistan and Thailand.

## A PLANT FOR THE PRODUCTION OF BUSES AND SPECIALIZED EQUIPMENT WILL BE OPENED IN THE KARAGANDA REGION



Prime Minister of the country Askar Mamin visited the Karaganda. At SEZ (special economic zone) “Saryarka”, a project of a new plant for the production of buses and specialized equipment of the Yutong brand was presented to the Head of Government, Kazpravda.kz reports with reference to the press service of the regional administration. “The plant will be opened in Saran (the territory of the former plant of rubber products in Karaganda). In the presence of the Prime Minister, an agreement was signed between

the mayor and the investment consortium to establish the plant. The first bus is planned to be released this year. The first stage will be completed by the end of the year. Thus the project will carry on working.” the message reports. It is noted that the total amount of direct and attracted investments for the new enterprise will be about 23 billion Tenge. The project involves the reconstruction of existing buildings and the construction of new production facilities. It is also planned to purchase high-tech welding and painting equipment.

“1,100 jobs will be created. The annual capacity of the plant is 1,200 buses and 500 units of specialized equipment. The products will be sold within the country. Possibly, they will be exported to neighboring countries as well. It is assumed that Karaganda Universities will train personnel for the automotive industry. Universities will launch specialized educational programs. Creation of an enterprise is carried out with the participation and support of Karaganda’s administration, JSC “Development Bank of Kazakhstan” and JSC (Social and Entrepreneurial Corporation) “Saryarka”, - added the press service of Karaganda’s mayor office.

## A GAS PROCESSING PLANT WILL BE BUILT IN KASHAGAN

During the reporting meeting with the population at the Central communications Service under the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Minister of energy Nurlan Nogayev announced that a gas processing plant will be built at the Kashagan field, Kazinform reports.

“If in 2019 the volume of exports of condensate and oil amounted to 72.2 million tons, this year it amounted to 67.5 million tons. In the Atyrau region, the Tengiz field is implementing a prospective expansion project worth \$ 45.2 billion. Our (domestic) share is 36 percent, or \$ 16 billion. About 230 domestic service companies are involved in construction work, metal construction and other works. After the completion of the project, an additional 12 million tons of oil can be extracted, “ explained the Minister of energy of Kazakhstan Nurlan Nogayev.

According to him, work is underway at the Kashagan field to reach the level of oil production up to 450 thousand barrels per day by 2022. Work is also underway to build a gas processing plant and modernize compressors.

“Together with the contractors, we are working on the



roadmap for the second stage of the Kashagan field. The construction of a gas processing plant with a capacity of 1 billion cubic meters during the contract period will allow for additional production of about 8 million tons of oil, “ N. Nogayev said.

## **KAZAKHSTAN SURPASSES CHINA AS THE SECOND COUNTRY OF IMPORTATION IN UZBEKISTAN**



China moved down to the third place in terms of exported goods volume from Uzbekistan. Kazakhstan took its place now. Russia is still the leader in importing Uzbek products. This was stated by the Ambassador of the Republic of Uzbekistan Saidikram Niyazkhodjayev in Kazakhstan.

“I analyze the trade turnover between Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan and with our strategic partners on a daily basis. Today, I can say that the Russian Federation now takes the first place in importing Uzbek products... Kazakhstan is already the second country, China has moved to the third place in importing Uzbek products,” Niyazkhodjayev said during the international video conference: “Prospects for the development of trade and economic relations of the EAEU countries after the current sanitary and epidemiological situation”.

Meanwhile, the Republic of Uzbekistan is actively developing measures to increase internal competition among enterprises. This is important for the further development of Uzbekistan’s economy, including the export sector.

The day before, President Shavkat Mirziyoyev stated that Uzbekistan’s ties with the world economy are becoming more intense, which requires increasing the competitiveness of domestic producers. In the first quarter of the year, the main foreign trade partners of the Republic were Russia (16.9% of the total turnover), China (16.8%), Kazakhstan (8.3%), South Korea (6.7%) and Turkey (5.8%).

## **TURKMENISTAN WILL STRENGTHEN ITS PARTNERSHIP WITH THE TOP JAPANESE CORPORATION**

Turkmen agency Türkmenawtoulaglary intends to expand cooperation with the Japanese trade company “Sumitomo Corporation”. The development of cooperation in the transport sector will be prioritized. This was reported on May 14 by the news agency Turkmenistan Today.

The event was held in a video conference format. The parties expressed interest in building up relations in the logistics sector within the framework of the transport and transit center of Turkmenistan along the North-South and West-East lines. Particular emphasis was made on expanding network within the “Open Door” program carried out by the country’s leader Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov. Representatives of the Japanese company noted that the Turkmen market has great potential. They emphasized that in this area all the necessary conditions have been created for the productive work of foreign entrepreneurs. In this regard, Japanese businessmen expressed that they are ready to expand on this trading platform.

Sumitomo Corporation is one of the largest wholesale



trading structures in Japan. The company is represented in 65 countries. The company is engaged in product development (together with manufacturers), investments in production and trade.



## FUEL AND ENERGY COMPLEX PRODUCTS - FOR EXPORT

The development of foreign economic relations of Turkmenistan is one of the key principles of President Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov's politics. At the meeting of Cabinet of Ministers, the head of state again drew attention to the fact that it is necessary to intensify efforts to expand the export of goods produced in the country on May 8.

Oil and gas industry play an important role in solving this problem. Currently, the cost of the fuel and energy complex sold over the four months of this year has exceeded \$ 1.87 billion. Almost 11.8 billion natural gas was exported. Through the state commodity and optical exchange of Turkmenistan, large quantities of automobile gasoline have been produced, including ECO-93 in a production plant Akhal, as well as diesel fuel, polypropylene and polyethylene, petroleum coke, aviation and technical kerosene, liquefied gas, basic technical oils, and petroleum raw materials, road bitumen, sulfur.

United Arab Emirates, Switzerland, Afghanistan, Great Britain, Turkey, Kazakhstan, Malta, Singapore, Singapore and other countries are the suppliers of oil and gas.



## FOREIGN MINISTERS OF TURKMENISTAN AND TURKEY HELD ONLINE TALK



The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan Rashid Meredov and the head of the Foreign Ministry of the Republic of Turkey Mevlut Cavusoglu discussed the ways to activate the interstate dialogue and other important issues today during the online meeting.

According to the State News Agency of Turkmenistan, the ministers continued the telephone conversation between leaders of the two countries – Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov

and Recep Tayyip Erdogan held a day before.

During the conversation, the Presidents agreed to give instructions to their foreign ministries to further develop partnership, strengthen their transport and transit, trade and economic components, and intensify cooperation in other relevant areas. During this online meeting, the Ministers outlined new vectors for realization of mutual potential taking into account the conditions and trends of the modern world order. The diplomats emphasized the importance of combining efforts to counter the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, taking into account the experience and practice of cooperation.

The heads of diplomatic departments of the countries also discussed a wide range of issues in the political, diplomatic, trade and economic fields at the regional and global levels. The parties attached great importance to the gradual establishment of “green corridors” for cargo and goods in accordance with the requirements of sanitary and phytosanitary control at the borders.

They stressed the importance of regular talks at various levels between the two countries and the active resumption of bilateral meetings of delegations from the public and private sectors in the online mode.

## UZBEKISTAN WILL HELP TAJKISTAN TO BUILD A TEMPORARY HOSPITAL



The Republic of Uzbekistan sent 144 container hospitals to the territory of Tajikistan.

The press center of the Embassy of Uzbekistan in the Republic of Tajikistan reports that the containers that have arrived in Tajikistan are equipped with everything necessary to treat citizens infected with coronavirus. In particular, the containers are equipped with beds, showers, bathrooms, and air conditioning systems.

Earlier it was reported that a temporary medical facility will be built at the "Bofanda" stadium, that is located opposite the Tajik textile factory.

The State Committee for Architecture and Construction of Tajikistan developed the plan together with the Institute of Design. Cargo containers for the establishment of a temporary hospital was delivered to Tajikistan by rail as was ordered by the President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev. In addition, Tajikistan is also expecting the delivery of Turkmenistan's humanitarian cargo, which will be delivered on May 8.

## TURKISH AIRLINES ANNOUNCED THE DATE FOR RESUMING FLIGHTS TO TURKMENISTAN

Turkish Airlines plans to resume flights to Turkmenistan on July 1. This is reported on the website Turizm Guncel.

According to this information, at the first stage, Turkish planes will fly to 70 countries. The first country with which Turkey will resume air service on June 1 will be the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus.

On June 10, flights are scheduled to Bahrain, Bulgaria, Qatar and Greece, and on June 15 – to Germany, Austria, the Czech Republic, Switzerland, Japan, North Macedonia, Lithuania, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Serbia and Azerbaijan. By the way, Baku will be the first capital in the CIS where Turkish Airlines will start flying after the break caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

From the CIS countries, Turkey will resume flights to Kazakhstan on June 20, Kyrgyzstan on June 22, Belarus, Moldova, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan on July 1, Russia on July 15, and Armenia on August 1.

Turkmenistan, which has not recorded a single case of



COVID-19 infection, extended the ban on international air traffic until June 20 as a measure to prevent the import of this virus into the country.

## UZBEKISTAN SENT HUMANITARIAN AID TO TAJIKISTAN

A military transport plane of the Ministry of Defense of Uzbekistan delivered humanitarian cargo to Tajikistan on May 8, the Tajik Telegraph Agency (Tajikta) reported.

“By order of the President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev, a military transport plane from Tashkent to Dushanbe will deliver 10 medical ventilators, medical protective coats, gloves, and respirators,” the Embassy of Uzbekistan in the Republic of Tajikistan reported.

According to the report, eight Uzbek doctors- virologists, epidemiologists and anesthesiologists, who have experience working with coronavirus, will fly to Dushanbe on the same plane.

According to the Ministry of Health of Tajikistan, 82 new cases of coronavirus infected ones were registered on May 7. Thus, the total number of cases reached 461 on May 7.

12 cases of death from coronavirus infection were registered so far. On May 7, 4,205 people were under medical supervision at the medical institutions of the country.



## HUMANITARIAN AID FROM TIKA TO TAJIKISTAN



The Dushanbe Coordination Office of the Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA) provided humanitarian aid consisting of food and hygiene materials to those in need in Tajikistan.

On the official site [Tika.gov.t](http://Tika.gov.t) of the Turkish International Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA) under the Turkey's Culture and Tourism Ministry was given broad information about the statement. According to the

statement, humanitarian aid packages consisting of food and hygiene materials were distributed to 1,000 needy families in Tajikistan within the scope of combating the coronavirus (Covid-19) epidemic. It was stated that the humanitarian aid packages were distributed in cooperation with the State Social Security Agency affiliated with the Ministry of Health and Social Security of Tajikistan.

In the scope of the humanitarian aid project, which was launched to support the families whose economic situation has worsened during the outbreak, 13 different basic food supplies and cleaning supplies such as protective masks, detergents and bleach were prepared.

The aid packages were delivered to 1,000 families in need living in the districts of Rudaki, Hisar, Fayzobod, Varzob and Shahrinav, which were previously determined in cooperation with the Tajikistan's State Social Security Agency.

In addition, since the 9th of May was celebrated as the Victory Day in Tajikistan, World War II veterans were included in the project and it was announced that TIKA's aid packages were delivered to 26 veterans living in the capital Dushanbe, all of whom are over 90 years old.

## **PRESIDENT RAHMON ANOUNCED AID OF HALF A MILLION DOLLARS TO BE SENT TO BADAKHSTAN**



On May 15, Tajik President Emomali Rahmon announced a decision to send material assistance of almost about half a million dollars to the Gorno-Badakhshan region. The main focus will be on supporting COVID-19 patients and doctors. This was reported on the online radio "Voice of the CIS" in the press office of the Ministry of Health.

A total of 45 trucks will be shipped to the region. The vehicles will contain food, namely flour, rice, potatoes, sugar. In addition, missing medicines for the treatment of infectious diseases will be delivered to 8 cities and regions of Gorno-Badakhshan. As part of socio-economic support, an ambulance will be brought to the central regional hospital as a gift from Rakhmon. Medical masks and gloves will be separately purchased for healthy workers, and the missing medical equipment will be purchased for hospitals. Earlier, on behalf of the president, 500 tons of coal were delivered to all social facilities in the country.

## **61 NEW ENTERPRISES HAVE BEEN LAUNCHED IN 4 MONTHS IN TAJIKISTAN**

In Tajikistan, 61 new businesses have started operating in four months of this year, the Tajik Telegraph Agency (TajikTA) reported on Friday.

"During this period, 61 new enterprises were commissioned, at which 980 people were employed. More than 20 of these enterprises are at the Sogd region. 19 enterprises are in the Khatlon region, 10 of them are in the capital," - the Ministry of Industry and Innovative Technology of the country reports.

Between January-April of this year, these new enterprises manufactured products worth 203 million Somoni (\$ 19.7 million), the agency said.

In general, 2204 industrial enterprises were registered in the republic at the beginning of May of this year. According to the Ministry of Industry, this figure is for 7% or 143 enterprises more than in January-April of 2019.



## TAJIKISTAN SENT A TRAIN WITH BUILDING MATERIALS TO UZBEKISTAN FOR THE VICTIMS IN SARDOB



On May 20, aid from the government of Tajikistan was delivered to the victims of natural disasters in Uzbekistan, the NIAT Khovar reports citing the press service of the Sughd region's chairman.

Humanitarian aid was delivered by representatives of the government of Tajikistan, the Executive authority of the Sughd region and the State Unitary Republican enterprise "Zahirakhoi moddii Sughd" to the administration of the Syrdarya region of Uzbekistan.

The aid consists of 51 freight cars, mostly including construction materials: cement, slate, paint, nails, and other necessary supplies.

Friendly aid will be aimed at eliminating the consequences of the natural disaster, which broke the dam of the Sardob reservoir and caused huge damage to the national economy.

## PAKISTAN AND UZBEKISTAN INTEND TO LAUNCH NEW TRANSPORT ROUTES

The importance of increasing the volume of trade between the Republic of Uzbekistan and Pakistan was discussed by Uzbek Deputy Prime Minister SardorUmurzakov and adviser of the Pakistan's Prime Minister on Trade, Textile Industry and Investment Abdul Davud. This was reported by the news resource UzDaily.

The meeting was held in a video conference mode. The participants unanimously noted the need to increase the level of mutual trade, as well as the opening of new cargo routes between the Republic of Uzbekistan and Pakistan.

In addition, the politicians considered the prospects for investment cooperation between the countries in the field of tourism, agriculture, food and textile industries, as well as pharmaceuticals and construction materials.

At the end of the video meeting, the parties agreed to form a joint working group of Deputy Heads of Foreign economic departments of both countries. Last year, trade between Uzbekistan and Pakistan amounted to \$ 92.4 million, which is 2.5 times more than in 2017.



## **SOUTH KOREA SENT THE SECOND PART OF THE HUMANITARIAN CARGO TO UZBEKISTAN**



On May 10, the second part of the humanitarian cargo from South Korea with a total weight of 34 tons arrived in Tashkent. This was reported by the news Agency "Dunya". The delivered cargo, worth about 192 thousand dollars, includes multifunctional medical beds with an automatic mechanism, antiseptic and disinfectants, medical masks and nutritional supplements to strengthen the immune system.

The first batch of cargo worth about 1 million dollars and a total weight of 6.2 tons arrived in Tashkent at the end of April.

The assistance was formed with the support of South Korean companies BOMI Engineering, LH Corporation, Evergreen Motors, Infinity Co., Shinhan University, as well as compatriots temporarily working in South Korea, and students of Uzbekistan studying there.

## **30 COUNTRIES WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE TENDER FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF WIND POWER PLANTS IN UZBEKISTAN**

70 companies and consortia from 30 countries have applied for participation in the tender for the construction of the first 100 MW wind power plant in Uzbekistan. This was reported by the press service of the Ministry of Energy. The wind power plant will be built in the Karauzyak district of the Republic of Karakalpakstan. "The first tender for the wind energy project will be implemented with the support of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development under the cooperation agreement, the main purpose of which is the construction of wind power plants with a total capacity of 1 GW," the ministry reported. The winners of the tender will participate in the development, financing, construction, ownership and operation of facilities under this project. This project is a part of comprehensive strategy for launching renewable energy sources implemented by the government of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

It is planned to expand the range of cost-effective and environmentally friendly wind farms to meet the growing demand for electricity in the country in the next 10 years.



## UZBEKISTAN SENT AMBULANCES TO TAJIKISTAN



UzAuto Motors company sent a batch of ambulance vehicles to Tajikistan, the press service informs. “Today, during the acute epidemiological situation in the world, the need for emergency medical vehicles has significantly increased in medical institutions. In order to expand the special ambulance fleet of the ambulance service and provide timely assistance to patients during the pandemic, a batch of ambulances made on the basis of the Damas car was sent to Tajikistan,” the report says. According to the information, each car was equipped with additional personal protective equipment for medical personnel. The cars were transferred to the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Tajikistan for further distribution among medical institutions.

## UZBEKISTAN WILL RESTORE TOURISM THROUGH THE SYSTEM “UZBEKISTAN. SAFE TRAVEL GUARANTEED”

Uzbekistan intends to implement a set of measures to restore and develop domestic tourism. One of its main parts is the new system of sanitary and epidemiological safety for tourists in Uzbekistan is Safe travel guaranteed (Uzbekistan. Safe travel is guaranteed). Today it was presented to Shavkat Mirziyoyev.

The President stressed that first it is necessary to allow domestic tourism between regions with a “green” status. Instructions are given for the organization of recreation centers in mountain areas and for the coast of lakes with the use of light structures.

Together with the khokims, the location of recreation centers will be determined, and the relevant data will be posted on the electronic portal.

At the second stage, it is necessary to create a list of countries with a stable situation for coronavirus and gradually restore tourist ties with them. It was said on the meeting.

Tourism entrepreneurs who have suffered losses due to the pandemic are unlikely to be able to cover them in the next 1-2 years. In this regard, the President stressed the need to provide additional benefits and preferences to this industry.

In particular, the previously granted benefit in the form of exemption from paying tourist fees will be extended until the end of the year. In addition, industry enterprises will be



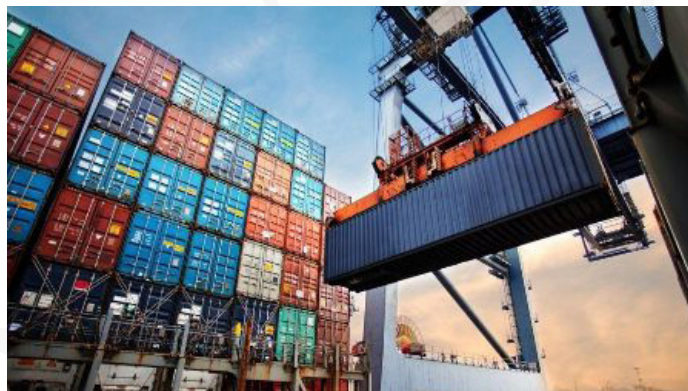
allowed to deduct losses incurred in 2020-2021 from the profits of subsequent years when calculating profit tax. We remind that since March 16, Uzbekistan is closed to foreign and local tourists. As a result, more than 1.5 thousand tour operators and 1.2 thousand hotels suspended their activities. To mitigate the effects of the pandemic, a number of preferences were also provided to the tourism industry. In particular, 1,750 entities were granted privileges on property tax, land and social taxes in the amount of about 60 billion soums.

## UZBEKISTAN'S FOREIGN TRADE TURNOVER REACHED \$10.82 BILLION

Uzbekistan's foreign trade turnover has reached \$10.82 billion, according to the Uzbek Telegraph Agency (Uztag). Uzbekistan has trade relations with more than 150 countries around the world. The largest volume of its foreign trade turnover among them is recorded with the Russian Federation (16.7%), China (16.6%), Kazakhstan (8.3%), the Republic of Korea (7.4%), Turkey (5.6%), Kyrgyzstan (2.0%) and Germany (2.0%).

As a result of the increase in production of products that replaced imported goods and the diversification of industrial production, significant changes have been achieved in the export structure. In addition, there is a strengthening of relations with neighboring countries, and a lot of work is being done to develop relations in the socio-economic, commercial, industrial and cultural spheres with these countries.

In recent years, there have been significant changes in the WTO with neighboring states, such as Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan. The presence of an active foreign trade balance with Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Afghanistan can be considered as a positive result in the country's foreign trade. The largest volume of the WTO with other states



(except neighboring countries) falls on Russia, China, the Republic of Korea and Turkey.

Among the 20 major partner countries in foreign economic activity, there is also an active foreign trade balance with six countries, in particular with such countries as Afghanistan (\$213.7 million), Kyrgyzstan (\$138.8 million), Tajikistan (\$93.7 million), Turkey (\$42.8 million), France (\$23.6 million) and Iran (\$8.0 million). The remaining 14 countries maintain a passive balance of foreign trade turnover.

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No: ISSN 1694-7994



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