Caspian European Club to hold business forums jointly with Ministry of Energy and SOCAR

08.05.2015

Caspian European Club will conduct two business forums on May 13. The first forum will be chaired by Minister of Energy of the Republic of Azerbaijan Natig Aliyev. The second one will be chaired by Vice-President on Refining Issues of the State Oil Company of Azerbaijan Republic (SOCAR) David Mammadov.

“The business forums will consider prospects of development of the energy and downstream sectors of Azerbaijan, questions and proposals of member companies of Caspian European Club, discuss prospects of expansion of cooperation between government agencies and business representatives,” Chief Executive Officer of Caspian European Club Telman Aliyev stated.

According to him, participation in business forums will provide companies an opportunity to get answers to questions for the issues that are of interest to them, discuss and find solutions for problems, concerning the development of the fuel-energy complex of Azerbaijan as well as to make proposals aimed at maintenance of an active business-to-government dialogue.
Together with the member companies of the Caspian European Club the event can be attended by organizations with a partnership agreement with the club, in particular the National Confederation of Entrepreneurs (Employers) of Azerbaijan, ATIB TUSIAB and Azerbaijan Insurers Association.

**Azerbaijan, US discuss prospects of ICT cooperation**

**08.05.2015**

Azerbaijani Minister of Communications and High Technologies Ali Abbasov has met US ambassador to the country Robert Cekuta.

The Minister hailed successful development of bilateral relations, as well as reforms carried out in the field of ICT in the country and the regional initiatives.

Touching upon the activity of the US companies in Azerbaijani markets, the Minister highlighted the cooperation with Cisco Systems, HP, and Microsoft.

Robert Cekuta praised the fact that the ICT sector was declared a priority direction in the future development of the country’s economy.

Speaking about Azerbaijan-US cooperation in the satellite industry, the diplomat expressed willingness to organize trainings for Azerbaijani personnel in the US in certain specialties. He said that the US was interested in sharing its ICT experience with Azerbaijan.

**President Ilham Aliyev received a delegation by the Secretary of the Security Council of the Russian Federation**

**11.05.2015**

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev has received a delegation by Secretary of the Security Council of the Russian Federation Nikolai Patrushev.
The head of state said Azerbaijani-Russian relations were successfully developing in all areas, expressing confidence that the visit of the delegation led by Secretary of the Security Council of the Russian Federation Nikolai Patrushev and meetings to be held as part of this visit would be fruitful. Touching upon successful development of the ties between the two countries’ law enforcement bodies, President Ilham Aliyev underlined the importance of conducting mutual information exchange and holding joint events in terms of the strengthening of security in the region. Noting that the 70th anniversary of Victory over fascism was celebrated on a high level in Azerbaijan, the head of state emphasized the importance of these events in terms of continuation of the tradition of celebrating the Victory and building of a common opinion for maintaining historic justice.

Secretary of the Security Council Nikolai Patrushev greeted the head of state on behalf of President of the Russian Federation Vladimir Putin. Nikolai Patrushev stressed that they witnessed high-quality redevelopment and construction activities in Baku from the first hours of their visit. He said the relations between the two countries were successfully developing on all fronts. Nikolai Patrushev emphasized the importance of high-level meetings, including contacts between the Azerbaijani and Russian presidents during the celebration of the 70th anniversary of Victory over fascism in Moscow in terms of the expansion and strengthening of the bilateral ties. On the 92nd anniversary of national leader Heydar Aliyev, Nikolai Patrushev said the national leader was an outstanding statesman and political figure and underlined his exceptional role in Azerbaijan’s achieving present-day development level. Nikolai Patrushev highlighted the first European Games, expressing his confidence that the event will be held at a high level.

The parties discussed a range of issues of mutual interest.

The head of state thanked for the greetings of President Vladimir Putin, and asked Nikolai Patrushev to convey his greetings to the Russian head of state.
14th International transport, transit and logistics exhibition opens in Baku

12.05.2015

The 14th International Transport, Transit and Logistics Exhibition, TransCaspian 2015 opened at the Baku Expo Center here.

The exhibition has been supported by the Ministry of Transport of Azerbaijan since their foundation. The exhibition also benefits from official support of the Azerbaijan Export and Investment Promotion Foundation (AZPROMO) and the National Confederation of Entrepreneurs’ (Employers’) Organizations of the Republic of Azerbaijan (AEC). The TransCaspian exhibition closely cooperates with one of the transport industry’s leading organizations, TRACECA.

As the transport sector’s leading event in the Caucasus region, the TransCaspian exhibition contributes to the development of transport infrastructure in Azerbaijan, demonstrates the potential of attracting cargo for transit through the territory of Azerbaijan and helps to find the best transportation options for cargo owners. Each year, the exhibition assembles carriers and logistics companies, manufacturers of rolling stock, shipbuilders, manufacturers of products for intra-logistics and information systems for transport, as well as the representatives from sea and river ports, under the same roof.

As such, TransCaspian 2015 presents 72 companies from Azerbaijan, Austria, Belarus, France, Georgia, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Russia, and Switzerland. Among the participants this year are Access Trans, Alstom Transport, ArcelorMittal, Auto Lift Gmbh, Liebherr, Matrix, Stadler Rail Group, Trans Caucas Terminal, AVP technologies, Brest Electrotechnical Plant, Gomel Wagon Works, GT-aluminothermic welding, MTZ Transmash, Murom Railway Points Works Company, Pakobo, Pervaya Lokomotivnaya Kompaniya (First Locomotive Company), Transmash holding, Uralvagonzavod Plant, and many others. In addition to commercial companies, the exhibition also welcomes Azerbaijan’s public transport structures - Azerbaijan Railways, Azerbaijan Caspian Shipping Company and the State Automobile Transport Service. The TransCaspian 2015 exhibition is sponsored by Swiss Stadler Rail Group, who manufactures railroad passenger cars, specialized rail cars and trams.
Elmar Mammadyarov: Azerbaijan contributes significantly to RSM by providing troops, multimodal transit, training and financial assistance

13.05.2015

“Azerbaijan contributes significantly to the Resolute Support Mission (RSM) by providing troops, multimodal transit, training and financial assistance,” said Foreign Minister Elmar Mammadyarov as he addressed a meeting of NATO foreign ministers in Antalya, Turkey.

Mammadyarov noted that “Azerbaijan has already made one million Euros donations to the Afghanistan National Army (ANA) Trust Fund in 2012, and will further donate 2 million Euros to ANA Trust Fund by the end of 2017.

But experience of the last decade demonstrated that military assistance alone is not enough for establishing sustainable peace in Afghanistan. Therefore, my country’s contribution to the stability of Afghanistan goes well beyond of our involvement in NATO operations. We support Afghanistan on its path towards self-reliance by enhancing practical contributions in the areas of education and training, infrastructure development, investments, and financial aid.”

“ADA University in Azerbaijan holds annual governance trainings for Afghan officials in addition to NATO trainings at its facilities, our Mine Agency provides mine-awareness projects, Ministry of Emergency is about to sign a memorandum to allow Afghan nationals to have a full 4-year education at its Academy, and we are building a school in Afghanistan. My government covers all expenses.”

The Azerbaijani FM said: “We also need to help Afghan government in its vast reform agenda. Transport infrastructure is a very important part of it. We should link Afghanistan and Europe in the shortest way possible. New Alat Sea Port on the Caspian shore of Azerbaijan and Baku-Tbilisi-Kars railway, linking Turkey, Georgia and Azerbaijan, will bring its added-values in this regard and beyond, restoring the ancient Silk Road.”

“Future of Afghanistan will also very much depend on the neighbors and we should all help to make Afghanistan story a successful one,” FM Mammadyarov added.
President Ilham Aliyev received a delegation led by the chair of the Germany–South Caucasus Parliamentary Friendship Group at Bundestag

14.05.2015

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev has received a delegation led by chair of the Germany–South Caucasus Parliamentary Friendship Group at Bundestag of the Federal Republic of Germany Karin Strenz.

Karin Strenz handed a keepsake to the head of state.

President Ilham Aliyev said Azerbaijan and Germany had high-level bilateral relations in various areas, including inter-parliamentary cooperation, expressing confidence that the visit of the delegation led by the chair of the Germany–South Caucasus Parliamentary Friendship Group at Bundestag of the Federal Republic of Germany would contribute to the expansion of this cooperation. Hailing the importance of high-level meetings in terms of the strengthening of the bilateral ties, the head of state recalled with pleasure his visit to Germany and the fruitful meetings he had held there.

Chair of the Germany–South Caucasus Parliamentary Friendship Group at Bundestag Karin Strenz highlighted the importance of the fact that Azerbaijan would organize a historical event this year – the first European Games, saying her country wanted to closely follow these Games. Karin Strenz stressed the necessity of demonstrating a just position on Azerbaijan, saying they will try to ensure that there are no double standards, and that there is just position. “We are also concerned about double standards,” she said.

The head of state expressed his regret at demonstration of unjust position ahead of the first European Games, saying it contradicts the spirit and charter of the Olympic Games. President Ilham Aliyev said it was important that there is the same attitude to all states, adding double standards negatively affect public opinion both in the country and Europe.

The role of Azerbaijan`s energy cooperation with the European Union was emphasized, and the parties noted the significance of large energy projects initiated by Azerbaijan,

**Azerbaijani-Vietnamese documents were signed**

14.05.2015

A ceremony of signing the Azerbaijani-Vietnamese documents has been held with the participation of President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and President of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Truong Tan Sang.

President of the State Oil Company of Azerbaijan Republic (SOCAR) Rovnag Abdullayev and President and Director General of Vietnam Oil and Gas Group Nguyen Quoc Khanh signed “The memorandum of understanding on cooperation in oil and gas industry between SOCAR and PetroVietnam”.


Chairman of the State Customs Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan Aydin Aliyev and Deputy Minister of Finance of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Do Hoang Anh Tuan signed “The agreement on cooperation and mutual assistance in the field of customs between the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam”.


7 | P a g e
ARMENIAN AGRESSION AGAINST AZERBAIJAN

Armenians violated ceasefire with Azerbaijan 42 times throughout the day
14.05.2015

The situation on the contact line between Azerbaijan and Armenia has remained tense as the Armenian Armed Forces shattered ceasefire a total of 91 times throughout the day, Azerbaijan`s Defence Ministry said.

The ceasefire was violated in Alibayli village of Tovuz region, nameless hills in Gedebe region, Goyarkh village in Tartar region, Sarijali, Shuraabad, Javahirli, Shikhlar, Shirvanli, Garagashli, Merzili villages in Aghdam region, Kuropatkino village in Khojavand region, Horadiz, Gorgan, Garakhanbeyli, Ashagi Seyidahmadli villages in Fuzuli region, Mehdili village in Jabrayil region, as well as nameless hills of Goranboy, Khojavand, Fuzuli and Jabrayil regions.

The enemy was silenced with a retaliatory fire.

Briefly about Armenian-Azerbaijan Nagorno Karabakh conflict

The conflict between two South Caucasus countries began in 1988 when Armenia made territorial claims against Azerbaijan. Armenian armed forces have occupied 20 percent of Azerbaijan territories since 1992, including the Nagorno-Karabakh region and 7 surrounding districts. Azerbaijan and Armenia signed a ceasefire agreement in 1994.

The co-chairs of the OSCE Minsk Group – Russia, France and the USA – are currently holding the peace negotiations.