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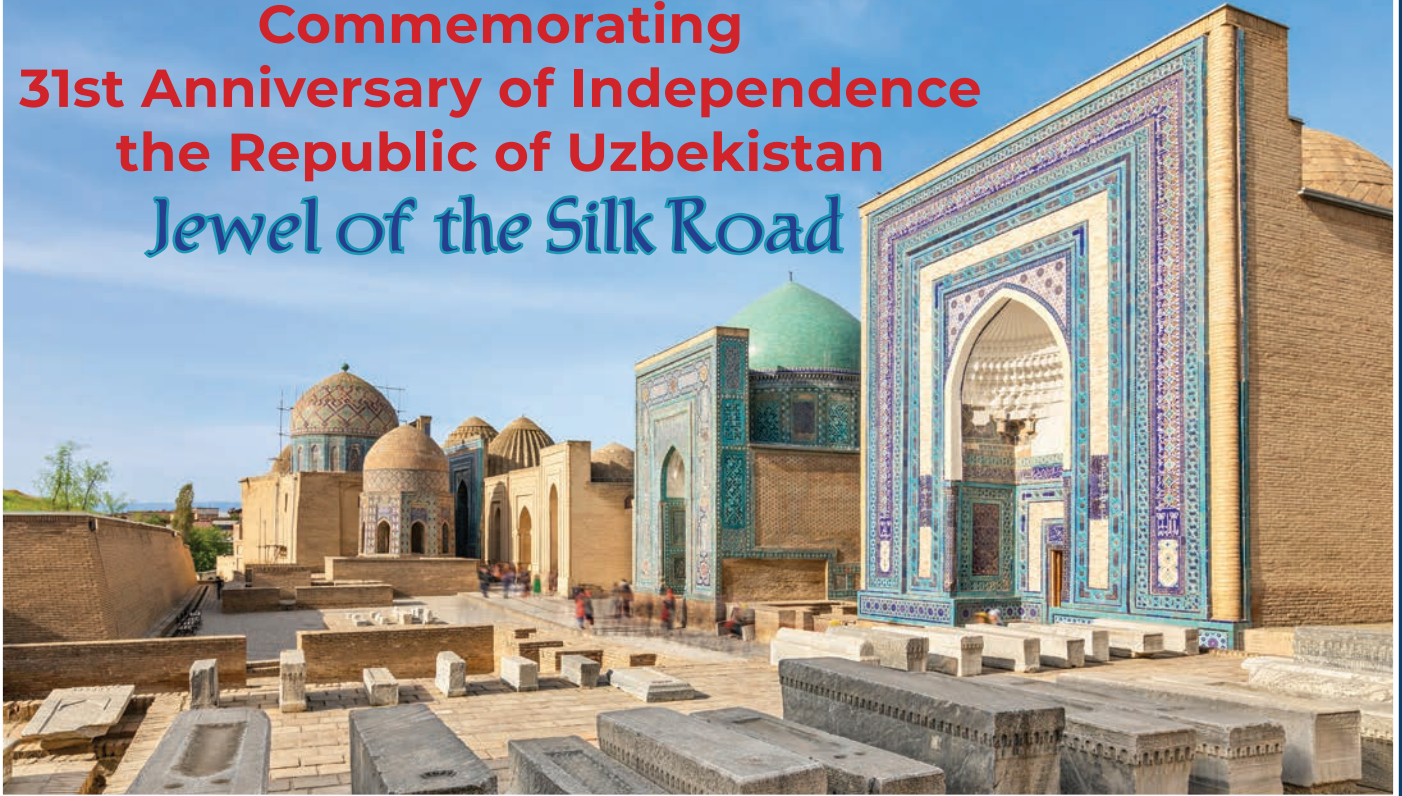
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Issue 76 September 2022

UZBEKISTAN @ 31

**Commemorating
31st Anniversary of Independence
the Republic of Uzbekistan
Jewel of the Silk Road**



Uzbekistan Winner *Halal Travel - Global Summit 2022* awards for "Best Developing Destination for Muslims of the Year" and "Islamic Heritage Address of the Year of Samarkand".

- **Economic Reforms to Continue in *New Uzbekistan***
- **Uzbekistan and Singapore: Strong Partners During Pandemic**
- **Message from Ambassador H.E. Kakhramon Shakirov
Deep Reforms the Way Forward**



President of Uzbekistan
Shavkat Mirziyoyev

CONGRATULATIONS
to the
REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

31 YEARS
OF INDEPENDENCE

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31st Independence Day



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Singapore's national flower is a hybrid orchid - the Vanda Miss Joaquim

Why Diplomacy Matters

SINGAPORE has more than 70 resident foreign High Commissions and Embassies, 43 Consular Posts and 11 International Organisations. They act as a conduit between Singapore and their respective countries. Diplomatic missions are headed by influential newsmakers who open doors for business, trade, investment, education, the arts and culture. *IN Diplomacy's* mission is to communicate and be a bridge between the diplomatic community and Singaporeans.

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PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS

President Halimah Yacob received the credentials of the Ambassadors of Spain, Switzerland, Ireland and Bahrain on 30th August 2022 at the Istana.

H.E. Mercedes Alonso Frayle Ambassador of the Kingdom of Spain



Ambassador Frayle joined the MFA in 1988 and her diplomatic assignments have taken her to Senegal, Panama, Austria, the Philippines, the United Kingdom, Brazil and Germany. She was Deputy Chief of Cabinet of the Undersecretary and Advisor at the Cabinet of the Secretary of State of Foreign Affairs from 1990 to 1992, and was also Deputy Director General for International Agreements and Regional Fisheries Organisations at the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries from 2010 to 2012.

Ambassador Frayle holds a Bachelor of Law and Grade of Business from Deusto University and a Master of European Law at the College of Europe in Bruges.

PRIOR to Ambassador Mercedes Alonso Frayle's assignment here she was the Deputy Director General for International Organizations at the Spanish Ministry for Foreign Affairs (MFA), European Union and Cooperation.

Ambassador Frayle is fluent in Spanish, German, English, French, Italian, Portuguese and Russian. She is married and has three children.

His Excellency Frank Grütter the Ambassador of Switzerland

PRIOR to his assignment here, Ambassador Frank Grütter helmed the United Nations and International Organizations Division in the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA), leading Switzerland's successful bid for a non-permanent seat on the UN Security Council. Ambassador Grütter is a career diplomat with over 24 years of experience in the FDFA. From 2016 to 2018, he was the Head of the Division for Security Policy in the FDFA and Switzerland's Expert in the UN Group of Government Experts on Cybersecurity.

Ambassador Grütter held various positions in Bern and abroad. He was the Deputy Head of Mission at the Embassy of Switzerland in London from 2012-2016. From 2010 to 2012, he was the Chief of Staff of the State Secretary at the FDFA. He has also served as Political Coordinator at the Swiss Mission to the United Nations in New York and as Deputy Head of UN Coordination in Switzerland. From 2000 to 2004, he worked at the Office for European Integration and was a member of the team that negotiated the second package of bilateral agreements between Switzerland and the European Union on services and financial affairs.

Ambassador Grütter graduated in Law and Economics at the University of St Gallen and studied Diplomacy at the Escuela Diplomática in Madrid. He is married with two children.



Her Excellency Sarah McGrath the Ambassador of Ireland



PRIOR to Ambassador Sarah McGrath's appointment here, she served as Director for UN and International Financial Institutions in the Development Cooperation and Africa Division of the Irish

Department of Foreign Affairs. A significant portion of her career has been spent working on the Northern Ireland peace process, most recently as Political and Reconciliation Director from 2015 to 2018.



Ambassador McGrath is a career diplomat with over 20 years of experience in the Irish foreign service. Ambassador McGrath has served at the Permanent Mission of Ireland to the United Nations in New York and the Embassy of Ireland in Berlin. She was also the Director of the Department's Strategy and Performance Unit.

Ambassador McGrath graduated with a Bachelor of Civil Law from University College Cork in 2001. She is an alumna of the US State Department International Visitor Leadership Programme (2019).

PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS

Her Excellency Muna Abbas Mahmood Radhi the Ambassador of the Kingdom of Bahrain

PRIOR to joining Bahrain's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Muna Abbas Mahmood Radhi worked as the Chief Reporter at the *Bahrain Tribune*. At the Bahrain Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Muna was the officer in charge of Asia and then the Director of Afro-Asian Affairs Directorate.

Presently she is also the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Bahrain to the Kingdom of Thailand since October 2021. Resident in Bangkok, Ambassador Muna is also concurrently accredited to Singapore, Laos, Myanmar, and the Philippines.

Ambassador Muna holds a LL.M. in Public International Law from the University of Nottingham, and a Bachelor of Arts Degree in International Relations from the American International University in London.

She is fluent in Arabic and English, speaks French, Spanish, and Russian, and is currently learning Thai. She enjoys traveling, drawing, and playing the piano.



EVENTS 2022

Made in AFRICA II

AFRICA RICH IN RESOURCES AND OPPORTUNITIES

In collaboration with the Embassies and High Commissions in Singapore

■ Angola ■ Egypt ■ Nigeria ■ Rwanda ■ South Africa



THE Made in Africa II webinar organised by Sun Media pte Ltd, the publisher of IN Diploma Magazine was successfully held on 31st August, 2022. It was held in collaboration with the resident African missions in Singapore: Angola, Egypt, Nigeria, Rwanda and South Africa. This is the second in the Made in Africa series where IN Diplomacy's Publisher and Editor in-chief, Ms. Nomita Dhar, welcomed participants to throw light on Africa's potential as a major force in the global supply chain, manufacturing base and logistics hub as well as a huge market for products and services.

A full report on the webinar will appear in ONE Africa magazine and readers of IN Diplomacy will receive a copy. The expertise and experience of the speakers in various sectors of the economy will be shared in this special edition of ONE Africa - an annual publication published by Sun Media Pte Ltd. Among the head of missions who spoke at the webinar included:

- H.E. Jean de Dieu Uwihanganye, the Dean of the Africa Group and High Commissioner of Rwanda to Singapore
- H.E. Daniel Antonio Rosa, the Ambassador of Angola to Singapore



H.E. Jean de Dieu Uwihanganye



H.E. Daniel Antonio Rosa



H.E. Mahmoud Assem Mahmoud EIMaghraby



H.E. Madiepetsane Charlotte Lobe

- H.E. Mahmoud Aseem Mahmoud EIMaghraby (Ambasaador of Egypt)
- H.E. Madiepetsane Charlotte Lobe, High Commissioner of South Africa

The Keynote Address was delivered by Antonio H Da Silva (Chairman of AIPEx and SDZEE EP (Angola)).

Panel Speakers

- Mr. G Jayakrishnan (Enterprise Singapore)
- Mr. V Srivathsan (MD and CEO , Africa and Middle East
- Ms. Elaina Olivia Chong(CEO Real Kaiten Group)
- Mr. Saikat Chowdhury (Founder

and MD of NiveSal) ■ Mr. Sabbir Hassanbhai (Former High Commissioner to Nigeria)

■ Dr. Dalal AlGhawas PhD, (Big Idea Ventures, Singapore) and ■ Ms Farzana d'AVEZAC de Moran (Senior Partner GreenA Consultants)

Moderators for the panels were ■ Mr. Ranveer Chauhan (Chairman of Africa Group) ■ Mr. Johan Burger (Business development Manager, College of Business and Economics at the UAE University and ■ Ms. Joanne Flinn (Strategic Sustainability Specialist).

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**Congratulatory Letter from
H.E. Shavkat Mirziyoyev,
President of the Republic of
Uzbekistan
on the occasion of the 57th
Anniversary of the National Day of
Singapore.**

Her Excellency
Mdm. Halimah Yacob
President of the Republic of Singapore

Your Excellency Madam President!

It gives me great pleasure to extend my cordial congratulations and best wishes to You, as well as to Your friendly people on the occasion of the National holiday of your country - National Day of Singapore.



We recognize Singapore as the country with significant influence in the international arena, which occupies an important role in political and economic processes and encourage our strong willingness to continue developing multifaceted relations, expanding practical cooperation and implementing joint programs and projects with your country in trade-economic, investment and cultural-humanitarian spheres.

I am confident that as a result of our common aspirations and efforts, our cooperation for the good of our people and prosperity of our nations will continue to be actively developed in the future in all priority areas.

Your Excellency, taking this opportunity, I wish you sound health, happiness and every success at your responsible post, as well as continuous peace and prosperity to the friendly people of Singapore.

Yours respectfully,
Shavkat Mirziyoyev
President of the Republic
of Uzbekistan

Tashkent,
August 9, 2022



**Congratulatory Letter from
H.E. Mdm. Halimah Yacob,
President of the Republic of
Singapore
on the occasion of the
31st Independence Day of
Uzbekistan**



His Excellency Shavkat Mirziyoyev
President
Republic of Uzbekistan

Your Excellency,

On the joyous occasion of the Day of Independence of the Republic of Uzbekistan, I would like to extend, on behalf of the people of Singapore, my warmest congratulations and best wishes for the continued peace, progress and happiness of your country and people.

Mdm. Halimah Yacob
President
Republic of Singapore

Singapore
1st September 2022



Ambassador K. Shakirov: Deep Reforms The Way Forward

MESSAGE FROM THE AMBASSADOR OF
UZBEKISTAN TO SINGAPORE ON THE OCCASION
OF THE 31ST ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE
OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

Time has moved so quickly for us as an independent nation. But we take pause to reflect with a great sense of achievement as we look back on the significant milestones that mark the course of this journey since we first celebrated Independence Day 31 years ago.

In 2016 when President Shavkat Mirziyoyev took the helm of Uzbekistan, Central Asia's most populous country, a shift in foreign policy signalled the opening up of the country to the world and kicked off the mood for engagement in regional cooperation. With the deep reforms he has set in our government has, since then, also simplified or removed up to 200 technical barriers and government regulations to conduct trade and business for local and international investors.

"Independence Day, which returned our national statehood and national pride, our rights and freedoms, which became a solid foundation for all our successes and achievements, will always be the greatest and dearest holiday for us and future generations", shared President Mirziyoyev on the occasion of the 31st anniversary of Uzbekistan's Independence.

Renaissance of Our Times

The anniversary is a milestone in Uzbekistan's 31 years of nation-building, even as the country moves forward to the next stage of development, in what some are calling its 'Third Renaissance.' The First Renaissance dates back to the 9th-12th centuries, which witnessed the impact of



hundreds of great scientists and famous thinkers, and the governments at the helm easing in the necessary conditions for the country's development. The 'Second Renaissance' or the "Renaissance of the Timurids" took place in the 14th-16th centuries.

Earlier on President Shavkat Mirziyoyev described "New Uzbekistan" as "a state developing in strict compliance with the universally recognised norms in the field of democracy, human rights and freedoms, on the basis of the

principles of friendship and cooperation with the international community, the ultimate aim of which is to create a free, comfortable and prosperous life for our people".

Reflecting on this great journey and its developments in recent times he had shared that: "...the fact that our democratic reforms have become irreversible is the most important result we have achieved today." Elaborating further, he said that the country's leadership has admitted "the existence of problems in our lives with forced labour, especially among children, unemployment, poverty, corruption, housing, education and health, and we are addressing them along with our general public."

The "New Uzbekistan" is primarily about the new economic relations, the new economic vision. "The economic system of our country is being completely restructured and even if it is difficult, we have begun to put into practice the market mechanisms," President Mirziyoyev pointed out. Massive economic and social projects are now

underway in cooperation with foreign countries and organizations. Today, we are moving from a period of national revival to a period of national prosperity. We are also implementing the new Strategy of Development of New Uzbekistan for 2022-2026. It has already witnessed the acceleration of moves from foreign investors including from Singapore in an effort to develop our economy, which is being revamped and is now abrim with business opportunities for large companies and small and medium enterprises (SMEs). The most attractive sectors for investment are tourism, textiles, food processing, education, information technology (IT) banking and finance, mineral resources and urban development.

The restructuring and rapid development on multiple fronts has boosted our Gross Domestic Product (GDP), which was able to grow strongly around 7 percent over the past three to four years despite the Covid-19 hit. As a result of the overhaul foreign investment attracted by the country has tripled to US\$7-8 billion a year now, from US\$3 billion five years ago.

Brighter Investment Scenario

Uzbekistan's investment scenario has brightened with the likes of Singaporean companies, which have invested nearly half a billion US dollars in such sectors as education, food, agriculture, and the chemicals and textile industries. Other areas that Singaporean companies can explore are information technology (IT) such as block chain management and smart banking systems.

The government is also working together with SMCCI for joint efforts. Several trade discussions and business matching conversations have already taken place. Arrangements are being made for a trade mission to visit Uzbekistan and give Singapore executives occasion to explore business opportunities there meet with government agencies and Uzbek traders. As gauged from SMCCI, this should happen in the fourth quarter of this year. Among the Singapore companies that have operations there are the education entities such as: Management Development Institute of Singapore (MDIS) and the TMC Institute that has a campuses in Tashkent.

A great emphasis is being laid on developing the tourism sector and preserving and developing world heritage sites such as Samarkand, Bukhara and Khiva. The government is working together with the Singapore-Malaysian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SMCCI) and tourism firms here to attract more tourists. Before COVID-19, Uzbekistan attracted 7 million tourists and this year, it aims to attract up to 9 million foreign tourists.

Uzbekistan produces over 20 million tonnes of fresh fruits and vegetables annually, out of which products such as apricots, prunes, raisins, melons and cherries have been exported to Singapore. Textiles are amongst one of the big sectors in Uzbekistan and clothing, including silk, is largely exported to Europe. Also rising in numbers are Uzbek companies which are using Singapore as a base to explore the Southeast Asian market. This also gives me a great sense of satisfaction about the progress in strengthening the ties between the two nations.



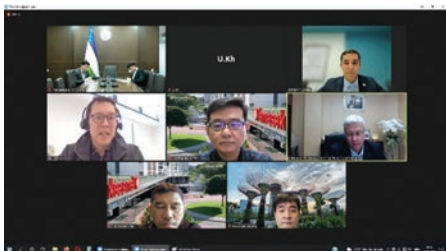
Strong Partners During Pandemic

THE LAST TWO YEARS HAVE STRENGTHENED TIES AND THE CURRENT EASING OF COVID-19 MEASURES AND RESTRICTIONS, BOTH IN UZBEKISTAN AND SINGAPORE IN 2022 OPENS UP NEW PERSPECTIVES AND BOLSTERS BILATERAL ECONOMIC, TRADE, CULTURAL, HUMANITARIAN AND POLITICAL RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

During the reporting period, with the assistance of the Embassy, many video conferences were organised between the heads of ministries, departments and companies of Uzbekistan and Singapore, presentations and round tables.



▲ **February 2022** The management of the Singaporean company **Indorama Corporation Pte. Ltd.** and **Deputy Prime Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan S.U. Umurzakov** and **Sh.M. Ganiev**, discuss prospects for further expansion of the company footprint in Uzbekistan.



▲ **February 2022** Regular online discussions for practical steps for implementing the project to create a *Joint Cooperation Center* between **Temasek Polytechnic** and the **National Office for Innovation and Technology Transfer** (National Office) under the Ministry of Innovative Development of the Republic of Uzbekistan

● **March 2022** Online discussions between the **University of World Economy Diplomacy of Uzbekistan (UWED)** and the **Business School at the National University of Singapore (NUS)** for the organization of training courses for advanced training for the leadership of the republic under the Singapore program



▲ **April 2022** **Singapore Business Federation (SBF)**, co-ordinates Uzbek-Singapore webinar on the topic: *Development of a modern city with an up-to-date infrastructure.*

● **April 2022** Online meeting between the Singaporean construction firm **Tiong Seng Group** and the leadership of **Khokimiyats** of Uzbekistan, as well as Uzbek construction firms

● **April - May 2022** Discussion between **State Committee for Ecology of the Republic of Uzbekistan** and Singaporean firm **Alpha Global Capital (S) Pte. Ltd.** about prospects for cooperation in the field of improving the waste processing system

● **May 2022** Meeting and negotiations between **State Customs Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan** and the Singaporean firm **CrimsonLogic Pte.Ltd.** on cooperation in the field of further improvement of the digital customs services



▲ **May 2022** **Ministry of Tourism and Cultural Heritage, the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Trade, the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Republic of Uzbekistan** and **AK Uozikovkatsanoat** participate in expanded presentation of the economic and investment potential of Uzbekistan for business circles and member companies of the **Singapore Malay Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SMCCI)**.
(See next page for more on the engagement between Uzbekistan and SMCCI)

▼ **May 31 - June 1, 2022** **Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Tourism and Cultural Heritage of the Republic of Uzbekistan, A. Abdulkhakimov**, addresses audience at *Halal Travel - Global Summit 2022* held by the Singaporean company **Crescent Rating**. The Republic of Uzbekistan won two awards for: The best developing destination for Muslims of the Republic of Uzbekistan of the year* and: "Islamic heritage address of the year of Samarkand".



● **July - September 2022** Several Singaporean companies visited Uzbekistan to conduct detailed negotiations for joint projects in the agricultural and chemical industries, education and tourism, food processing, development, implementation of alternative energy sources, IT technologies in the transport system and other promising areas of mutual interest.

Constructive Negotiations on Expanding Economic Cooperation Between Uzbekistan & Singapore

On 17 May 2022 Embassy of Uzbekistan in Singapore hosted an online presentation of the economic and investment potential of Uzbekistan for member companies of the **Singapore Malay Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SMCCI)** and the business community of the country as a whole.



(From left): Mr Kamar Serkaev and Mr Farid Khan

Singapore side was attended by SMCCI President Mr. Farid Khan, employees of this organization, as well as representatives of more than 60 SMCCI member companies. The multilateral meeting was also attended by heads of Singaporean companies from Canada.

The Uzbek side was represented by the First Deputy Chairman of the Association

Uzyogmoisanoat Kamar Serkaev, directors of the relevant departments of the **Ministry of Tourism and Cultural Heritage and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry.**

The event participants were given detailed information on the republic's modern economic development, its investment potential and

new opportunities for Singaporean companies in the development of tourism infrastructure and services, deep processing of agricultural products, and the production of finished food products, as well as the prospects for cooperation between the two countries small and medium-sized businesses.

Mr. Farid Khan, President of SMCCI, also stated that with the easing of quarantine measures in Singapore, SMCCI can finally begin the projects discussed aimed at enhancing investment, trade, and economic cooperation between the countries.

He emphasized Singapore's business circles, particularly SMCCI member companies strong interest in establishing long-term partnerships with representatives of industry associations and private circles in Uzbekistan.

Economic and Investment Opportunities of Uzbekistan Presented in Singapore



On 7 September 2022 Embassy of Uzbekistan in Singapore with the assistance of the largest Singaporean company "Food Empire" hosted a round table with a presentation on the topic "Modern economic and investment potential of Uzbekistan - new business opportunities for Singaporean companies".

It was attended by the heads of more than two dozen Singaporean companies, such as "Food Empire", "Tech Storm", "Wine Tatler", "Universal Integrated Corporation Consumer Products",

"Zero1", "Oceanus Group", "SCash", "Power Hero", "Farquhar VC" and others, as well as the deputy director of the department for work with European countries of the state corporation "Enterprise Singapore" Ikai Yao.

The round table participants were given detailed information on Uzbekistan's economic and investment opportunities, the favorable investment climate created, special economic zones, the privatization of 620 large companies in strategic sectors of the economy, new business

opportunities for Singaporean companies in information technology, education, healthcare, telecommunications, agriculture, and other sectors of the economy of Uzbekistan.

The round table featured multimedia presentations and a video film on the development of information technologies, the telecommunications sector, and Uzbekistan's e-government system, as well as comprehensive answers to the participants questions.



Economic Reforms to Continue in New Uzbekistan

SINCE LATE 2016, PRESIDENT SHAVKAT MIRZIYOYEV HAS STAYED ON COURSE AND POWERED THROUGH TO OPEN THE COUNTRY TO THE WORLD FOR INVESTMENT AND INFUSE FRESH ENERGY TO TRANSFORM THE ECONOMY

The sweeping winds of new reforms have worked apace to rid Uzbekistan of time-worn paradigms to create a 'New Uzbekistan' which is well-equipped to face the present-day challenges for transforming its economy. These reforms primarily comprise the flexibility of the exchange rate, a comprehensive tax reform and the liberalization of foreign trade. Uzbekistan's economy is transforming from a closed, state-centred economic model to an open market economy.

The results of these efforts, reflected in its impressive progress, have been apparent to the international community at large. Before COVID-19 pandemic, Uzbek economy has advanced significantly, as mirrored by:

- The strong growth of foreign trade, which increased from USD 24B in 2016 to almost USD 42B in 2019;
- Huge improvement in the Doing Business Index, where Uzbekistan jumped from rank 87 in 2016 to rank 69 in 2020;
- Stronger foreign direct investment policy (FDI). According to the World Bank, FDI increased from 2% of GDP in 2016 to almost 4% of GDP in 2019.

Despite this impressive development the government is alive to the cause of the challenges that still follow fast on its heels. These challenges include, promotion of small and medium enterprises, gradual reduction of state intervention to economy, decreasing the extent and impact of state owned companies to the competition in the markets, reduction of Red Tape and lowering the regulatory burden on private sector.

New Strategy & Roadmap Launched

In 2020, Uzbekistan leadership announced a new, large-scale 5-year National Strategy and Roadmap to enhance competition in the commodity and financial markets in order to address structural problems inhibiting economic development. The key objective of the Strategy is fostering economic development, innovations, increasing inflow of investments and new jobs, as well as increasing welfare of consumers through ensuring a "level playing field" to all market players. The Strategy actions include such areas as creation of the system of "smart" antitrust regulation and transition to preventive system of competition protection, develop effective tools of regulation of digital markets, implement

new tools of market analysis, and decrease level of state price regulation. The Roadmap envisages diminishing domination of State-Owned Enterprises (SOEs) in such key sectors as automobile industry, steel manufacturing industry, telecoms, chemical, banking and oil and gas sectors.

The low intensity of Uzbekistan's domestic competition has been one of the major challenges for decades. Driven by irreversible reforms on the way to the market economy the situation has been changing dramatically over the past four years as can be seen in the significant improvement in the competitive environment. Non-discriminatory access to the infrastructure of monopolies has been the key factor in ensuring the activity of SMEs and gradual competition development.

The Strategy Of Management And Reforming of SOEs 2021 - 2025, envisages reduction of the number of SOEs by 75%, primary and secondary public offering of shares of at least 20 state-owned enterprises, to increase the number of independent members of the Supervisory Board of SOEs to 30% by 2025.

The Development Strategy of New Uzbekistan for 2022-2026 has identified seven priority areas:

- Building a humane state by raising the honour and dignity of a person and further developing a free civil society
- Turning the principles of justice and the rule of law into a fundamental and necessary condition for the development of the country
- Accelerated development of the national economy
- Pursuing a fair social policy, developing human capital and ensuring high growth rates
- Ensuring spiritual development and raising this area to a new level
- Approach to global problems based on national interests
- Strengthening the security and defense potential of the country, maintaining an open, pragmatic and active foreign policy

In the first quarter of 2022, the economy of Uzbekistan came under increased pressure from external conditions: instability in the countries that are the main trading partners, increased volatility in the global goods market and disruption of supply chains. Meanwhile, the economy of Uzbekistan in the first three months has demonstrated not only resistance to large-



scale external challenges, but also a growth trend. According to the State Statistics Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the gross domestic product (GDP) of Uzbekistan increased by 5.8% in January-March against an increase of 2.6% in the first quarter of 2021.

In the first quarter of 2022, the economy of Uzbekistan continued its sustainable development, despite the continued increased turbulence of the global economy. Meanwhile, in all sectors of the economy there is an increase in production. Investment activity in the first quarter shows a desire to reach pre-pandemic levels. Exports are growing at a double-digit pace, excluding gold exports. In addition, in order to overcome the crisis and counteract external shocks, the country has already announced measures to support the economy, which is expected to help maintain a stable economic growth dynamics this year.

For the full article above please visit

www.indiplomacy.com

Uzbekistan Chairs Shanghai Cooperation Organization 2022

The 22nd Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Summit was held under the chairmanship of the Republic of Uzbekistan on 16th September 2022 in the city of Samarkand in Uzbekistan. This is the first SCO Summit to take place in person since the advent of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In his opening address, the President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev highlighted that the SCO is the world's largest regional organisation that occupies a large geographical space and about half of the world's population. This year he welcomed Iran as a new member of the organisation and the SCO will begin to process new membership applications that include Bahrain, the Maldives, the UAE, Kuwait, and Myanmar as new dialogue partners. Qatar, Saudi Arabia and Egypt have already been granted the status of SCO dialogue partners. For President Shavkat's full address please visit

www.indiplomacy.com



SMCCI many events and activities: (Left photo - seated in front) Mr Farid Khan, President of the SMCCI with Board Member Ms Maslina Mohamed who is also the Vice-President of DEWI @ SMCCI. (Above photo - seated far right): Mr Abu Bakar Mohd Nor, Deputy President as well as the Chairman of SME Centre @ SMCCI

The Singapore Malay Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SMCCI) together with its subsidiary, SME Centre@SMCCI, is a strategic partner of Enterprise Singapore.

Established more than 65 years ago, this leading Malay/Muslim business organisation has almost 700 members and is active in offering a comprehensive range of advisory and business services including seminars, workshops, one-on-one complimentary business advisory, productivity assessments and many other services.

In line with THE SMCCI mission to nurture a vibrant entrepreneurial culture amongst local enterprises, SMCCI serves as a platform to create invaluable opportunities for members through regular business missions, conferences, networking sessions and activities to bridge members and the business community to the local and **overseas markets**.

For more information please visit:
www.smcci.org.sg

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Our warm wishes to the people of Uzbekistan on the 31st Anniversary of Independence

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Indorama Group takes great pride in being an active development partner with the Government and people of Uzbekistan. JSC JV Indorama Kokand Textile, a member of Indorama group is the most modern facility for Compact Cotton Yarn in Central Asia. The Group has recently launched its first commercial large scale Farming Operations, as backward integration of its Cotton Spinning Business and stepped into Fertilizer Production in the country. The Group continues to further evaluate new business opportunities in the fertilizer and chemicals sectors in the country. It is a testament to Indorama's commitment and confidence in Uzbekistan.

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