

To Participants of the International Conference on “Integrating Global Energy Markets - Providing Energy Security”

Dear Conference Participants,

I would like to sincerely congratulate you on the opening of the International Conference on “Integrating Global Energy Markets - Providing Energy Security” that commences in our beautiful capital Ashgabat. I wish a success and fruitful Conference.

The development of a multi-vector pipeline system for stable and long-term supply of energy resources to the world markets and their safe and reliable transit at the global level require consecutive and multilateral discussions. In this connection, equal and mutually beneficial co-operation implies favourable conditions such as political stability and harmonious economic development in Eurasian countries and universally recognized legal framework for foreign economic affairs. Turkmenistan with its vast reserves of natural gas certified by Turkmen and international experts is one of the largest exporters of energy resources and enjoys a globally recognized reputation of a reliable partner in this field.

Diversification is the key principle of the modern global energy policy. As one of the areas of international economic relations transportation of energy resources via pipelines has always been in great demand. As a result, the demand of world economy for energy resources is increasing, especially for oil and gas products that will become the main “raw material” for the world industry. Therefore, plans of developing modern multi-vector and efficiently operating infrastructure of energy resources transit and supplies to consumers in order to increase the export potential of leading countries with vast energy reserves, including Turkmenistan, are fully justified.

Energy security is a key component of the country’s foreign economic relations and one of its indicators. This is why the diversification of energy supplies under current conditions and inclusion of new countries and regions in the geography of pipeline routes contribute to achieving balance of interests of all stakeholders in the global energy market.

Dear Friends,

Currently, our country is actively expanding the infrastructure of pipelines to deliver its energy resources. In addition to the pipelines “Turkmenistan-Russia”, “Turkmenistan-Iran” and “Turkmenistan-China” operating on the principles of diversification of energy supplies, the implementation of the “Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India” gas pipeline project is under discussion. Negotiations on supplying Turkmen natural gas to Europe became one of the main tasks of Turkmenistan’s energy policy.

Successful implementation of our energy strategy requires, first of all, market research from the perspective of the demand for energy resources and needs for natural gas in countries interested in its consumption. This is why the European vector is an important route in our new energy policy.

Turkmenistan and Europe’s mutual interest in energy co-operation is natural from the economic and commercial perspective. Establishment of mutually beneficial co-operation between the countries producing energy resources facilitates the expansion of the cooperation in this area. Turkmenistan’s interstate relations with EU member states are intensifying: the opening of the Europa House, signing of the Memorandum on Energy Co-operation between the European Union and Turkmenistan, the opening of the European Commission’s office in Ashgabat are a clear example of further strengthening of inviolable partnership between Turkmenistan and Europe. New areas of co-operation between Turkmenistan and Europe were identified in a short historical period. In this connection, one should note activities of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe.

Export of energy resources to Europe is one of the main principles of Turkmenistan’s international strategy, whereas the Trans-Caspian gas pipeline is a strategic project, thus demonstrating Turkmenistan’s willingness to co-operate with all interested parties.

Dear Conference Participants,

I would like to once again wholeheartedly congratulate you on the opening of the International Conference on “Integrating Global Energy Markets

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- Providing Energy Security”. I am convinced participants of this Conference will not spare efforts to achieve substantial results.

I wish you health, long life and success in your work and the work of the international conference.

**President
of Turkmenistan**

**Gurbanguly
Berdimuhamedov**