



***THE EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN
TO THE KINGDOM OF BELGIUM
MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN
TO THE EUROPEAN UNION
MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN TO NATO***

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**ON THE PRESENTATION OF RESULTS
OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN IN 2005
AND KEY PRIORITIES OF ECONOMIC REFORMS IN 2006**

On February 23, 2006 presentation of the results of social and economic development of Uzbekistan in 2005 and major priorities of economic reforms in 2006 based on the address of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Islam Karimov at the Cabinet of Ministers session on February 10, 2006 has been held at the Embassy of Uzbekistan in Brussels. The event was chaired by Ambassador of the Republic of Uzbekistan to the Kingdom of Belgium H.E. Mr. Vladimir Norov, who delivered the main speech on the topic.

During the presentation Dr. Albena Azmanova, Director of the Brussels School of International Studies, and Mr. Renato Batti, Vice-President of the European Institute of International Relations, also intervened providing their comments and evaluations of the current economic development of Uzbekistan. In particular Dr. Azmanova and Mr. Batti stressed the significance of the social and economic achievements in Uzbekistan, which resulted from gradual and deliberate implementation of reforms aimed at enhancing economic liberalization, reduction of tax burden, modernization of administrative structure and increase of life standards of Uzbekistan's population.

Besides, there are a lot of numerous feedbacks and comments on the President Islam Karimov's address from various mass media, political, economic, scientific and analytical sources from different parts of the world. These sources include such well-known press agencies as BBC, Deutsche Presse-Agentur (DPA), Agence France Press (AFP), ITAR-TASS, Interfax, such international, state and regional institutions as Dow Jones Agency, Federal Ministry of Economy and Technology of Germany, Department of Foreign Economic Relations of the Government of Brussels-Capital, Federal Economic Chamber of Austria and research and analytical centers like London based Research Center "Global Insight", International Analytical Centre "EurAsia Group", Institute of Asian and African countries under European University of Israel and many others.

Preliminary analysis of feedbacks received from foreign media, official and expert circles allow to admitting, that there is significant interest to social and economic processes taking place in Uzbekistan, as well as positive assessments by foreign observers of current reforms in Uzbekistan.

The slide report of the presentation of the results of economic development of Uzbekistan in 2005 and major priorities of economic reforms for 2006 made on February 23 in the Embassy of the Republic of Uzbekistan are attached herewith for your information.