



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

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ECONOMY

Uzbekistan exports fruits and vegetables to 80 countries

The Uzbek food industry keeps winning export markets. Uzbekistan exports more than 180 types of fruits and vegetables to more than 80 countries. In the last decade, exports of fruit juice have increased twofold on average, and food products - by 1.5 times. The contracts and memorandums worth over \$55 million signed at the International Investment Forum are called to strengthen these positions.

The forum in Tashkent was very productive for the industry. Uzbekistan signed memorandums on selling shares of more than a dozen companies, including Kogon Yogh Extraction Plant, Kattakurgon Yogh-Moy, Surkhonozikovkatsanoati, Yangiy'ol Yog-Moy, Urganch Yogh with international partners from the United States, Britain, South Korea, Switzerland, India.

During the forum, Uzbekistan also signed memorandums of understanding on the modernization of the food industry. It is planned to carry out projects on the platform of the Coca-Cola Bottlers Uzbekistan JV in Urgench, Namangan and Tashkent, and establish the production of margarine and butter in the Ternesi Development JV in Tashkent region.

In general, the food industry of Uzbekistan has drawn 291.7 billion soums and \$46.2 million of investments in 2015. These funds have empowered enterprises to get equipped with advanced high-tech equipment from Austria, Germany, China, South Korea, Bulgaria and Poland. The production volumes have grown by 16.5% against last year. The industry has launched the production of nearly 100 kinds of new products and created more than 10,000 new jobs (*currency rates of CB RU from 25.12.2015 1\$= 2794.98 soums*).

Today, nearly 100,000 food industry enterprises produce 96% of all consumed food products. It is expected that in the coming years Uzbek enterprises will increase meat processing by 25% a year, fruit and vegetable processing - by 30%, milk production - by almost 23%. As a result, along with meeting the needs of the domestic market, Uzbekistan will annually export products for nearly \$90 to 100 million.

(Source: «Uzbekistan Today» newspaper)

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Delegation of Uzbekistan participates at "Uzbekistan - EU" Committee session

The delegation of Uzbekistan led by Minister for foreign economic relations, investments and trade E. Ganiev participated in the regular session of the Cooperation Committee "Uzbekistan - EU" and the Subcommittee for economy, trade and investment, and a business seminar "Uzbekistan-Belgium" in Brussels.

During the meetings, the parties identified specific measures aimed at the expansion of economic cooperation, including in the framework implemented in Uzbekistan of large-scale programs of modernization and industrial diversification, infrastructure development, privatization of state ownership in joint stock companies and the introduction of modern methods of corporate governance.

The business seminar "Uzbekistan-Belgium", held at the Flemish Agency for investment and trade saw over 50 representatives of major Belgian and European companies. The event also included the discussion and exchange of views on prospects of investment cooperation in oil and gas, chemical, construction, electrical, textile, agricultural, food industries, information technologies and tourism.

During the visit, the delegation also held a number of bilateral meetings and negotiations with heads of the European Commission, including with the Secretary-General of the European external action service (EEAS) A. Le Roy, the European Commissioner for energy Union M. Sefcovic, Director General of the Directorate for international cooperation and development

Frutuoso de Melo, according to the press service of the Ministry of foreign economic relations, investments and trade.

(Source: UzReport.uz)

SOCIETY

President of Uzbekistan orders military call-up

President of Uzbekistan Islam Karimov signed a resolution on 23 December 2015 on the call-up of the citizens to the Armed Forces.

The resolution said that draft-age Uzbek citizens will be called up to the army in February-March 2016.

Citizens, who are fit for fixed-term military service and who are not eligible for deferment or exempt from conscription, but who are not being called up for the armed forces during this call-up are to be enlisted in the mobilization call-up reserve.

Citizens, who have completed their fixed-term military service, are to be transferred to the reserve of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Uzbekistan in March-April 2016.

(Source: UzDaily.com)

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