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A MESSAGE FROM THE EDITORIAL TEAM

Dear Readers,

A warm and cordial welcome to the last issue of the Mongolia Today magazine for 2021!

This issue highlights political, economic and social development in Mongolia of the last quarter of this year.

As the country's population continues to grow rapidly, the issue concerning the supply of energy from a reliable source is becoming more important than ever. Mongolia is considered as one of the countries with energy systems that are heavily reliant on coal. The energy sector produces two thirds of the greenhouse gases being produced in the country as over 90 percent of the domestically produced energy is made up of thermal power plants that run on coal. In contrast, energy produced by hydropower plants has yet to make up a single percent.

This issue highlights the Chargait Hydropower Plant that is planned to be built near one of the largest rivers of Mongolia - the Delgermurun River located 28 km from Tosontsengel soum, and 50 km from the center of Khusvgul aimag. Currently, the 'Chargait Hydropower Plant' company is working to have the project acknowledged by international financial organizations.

As climate change is becoming more and more serious, our magazine focuses on environmental protection. In this edition, The Mongolia Today magazine is presenting Mongolia's position, actions, initiatives, and goals for climate change mitigation through the statement made by President of Mongolia U.Khurelsukh at the World Leaders Summit of the 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference. "Mongolia, one of the countries most affected by climate change, fully supports the efforts of the international community to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase the absorption, and will mobilize every possible resource to fulfill its commitments to the Paris Agreement, stressed President U.Khurelsukh.

The issue covers a number of stories related to Mongolia's foreign policy and international relations as Mongolia marks the 110th anniversary of development of modern foreign relations service, 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations with Chile and Argentina, 25th anniversary with the United Arab Emirates.

As the year marches to a close, some highlights of economic and social development in Mongolia of the last quarter of this year are also offered here in this issue, specifically, Mongolia's first-ever indoor ice arena opening.

We believe the readers would enjoy reading the Mongolia Today.

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MONGOLIA TODAY

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COP26 AND MONGOLIA:

ONE BILLION

TREES FOR THE EFFORTS AGAINST
CLIMATE CHANGE

President of Mongolia U.Khurelsukh attended the World Leaders Summit at the 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) held in Glasgow, United Kingdom, from October 30 to November 12. He made a statement on Mongolia's actions, initiatives, and goals for climate change mitigation and took part in the approval of the Glasgow declaration of heads of state and government. During the conference aimed at accelerating the implementation of the Paris Agreement by clarifying the commitments of parties to achieving net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 and keeping global warming at 1.5 degrees Celsius and urging the parties to raise funds, President U.Khurelsukh met with UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson and UN Secretary General António Guterres, who thanked the president for participating in the conference in person.

Mongolia aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 22.7 percent by 2030

In his statement at the November 1 General Debate of the COP26 World Leaders Summit, President of Mongolia U.Khurelsukh stressed that Mongolia, one of the countries most affected by climate change, fully supports the efforts of the international community to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase absorption, and will mobilize every possible resource to fulfill its commitments to the Paris Agreement.

Therefore, Mongolia will reduce its greenhouse gas emissions, a main cause of climate change, by 22.7 percent by 2030 and it is possible to further raise the target to 27.2 percent through introducing advanced

technology and innovative solutions and increasing of necessary funding, the President announced at COP26.

Furthermore, the President told the heads of state and government that as a contribution to solving the issue of climate change, Mongolia has launched a national campaign to plant a billion trees by 2030 to increase the absorption of greenhouse gases, combat desertification through economic means, reduce poverty, protect the health of children and women who are the most vulnerable to climate change, and improve overall quality of life. It has been decided that Mongolia will spend at least 1 per cent of its GDP annually

to mitigate the adverse effects of climate change and desertification.

The 'One Billion Trees' initiative, which the President of Mongolia first announced at the General Debate of the 76th session of the United Nations General Assembly and then again at COP26, is expected to make a significant contribution to reducing dust storms that affect the ecology, health and economy of not only Asia, but also the continent of America.

On the other hand, renewable energy policy is key to mitigating climate change. It is feasible to produce energy from renewables, particularly solar, wind and hydro power in Mongolia and some projects are underway



Mongolia supports the Asian Super Grid Initiative for increasing renewable energy sources and improving energy supply in Northeast Asia. Within this framework, we are actively collaborating with the countries in the region to build a large energy complex based on the vast solar and wind resources of the Gobi region.



Countries and international organizations pledge support to 'One Billion Trees' initiative

While attending the COP26 World Leaders Summit, Mongolian President U.Khurelsukh held meetings with heads of state and government and representatives of international organizations, during which they welcomed the 'One Billion Trees' national campaign, spearheaded by the President of Mongolia to protect the environment and fight climate change, desertification, and dust storm, and undertook to cooperate.

In particular, Executive Director of Green Climate Fund Yannick Glemarec praised Mongolia for launching specific initiatives to combat climate change and reduce desertification and expressed readiness to implement joint projects and programs in the future.

President of Asian Development Bank Masatsugu Asakawa highlighted that ADB has decided to cooperate with Mongolia in a wider scope in combating climate change and ecosystem degradation, and to significantly increase funding.

Moreover, UN Under-Secretary General and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States Courtenay Rattray underscored that the Mongolian President's 'One Billion Trees' initiative will make a significant contribution to the global efforts to mitigate global warming, desertification, land degradation and climate change.

The World Bank Group, which has been working together with Mongolia in numerous fields, undertook to consistently support the Mongolian President's activities and initiatives against climate change and in particular provide all-round support including expert advice in implementing and financing the national campaign to plant one billion trees.

During his meeting with the President of Mongolia, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification Ibrahim Thiaw expressed support to the 'One Billion Trees' initiative, emphasizing that international cooperation is important in combating desertification which is an issue of not only national, but regional and even global concern.

in this field. In his statement, President U.Khurelsukh said renewable energy sources will be steadily increased in the future. Stressing the importance of developing a cross border energy network in the Northeast Asian region in order to meet its growing energy consumption and enhance production of renewable energy, the President said, "Mongolia supports the Asian Super Grid Initiative aimed at increasing renewable energy sources and improving energy supply in Northeast Asia. Within this framework, we are actively collaborating with the countries

in the region to build a large energy complex based on the vast solar and wind resources of the Gobi region"

The President of Mongolia emphasized the importance of close regional and international cooperation in increasing capital inflows for low and middle-income countries to combat climate change and that it is time for the nations of the world to combine their efforts to fight climate change, the world's greatest challenge of all time, and have a responsible approach to nature and leave a greener world for the future generation.



The President of Mongolia presented Mongolia's actions and initiatives for fighting global warming, climate change, and desertification at the COP26 World Leaders Summit. Attended by heads of state and government from over 130 countries including the United States, Germany, and France, the event was significant in informing the international community of the country's contributions, receiving support, and opening opportunities for mutually beneficial cooperation with stakeholders.

Who said what?



Minister of Foreign Affairs **B. Battsetseg:**

- During the COP26 conference, countries highlighted the full potential of developing the renewable energy sector in Mongolia, and gave advice and recommendations based on successful practices of utilizing renewable energy. Heads of States and Governments of countries, and representatives of international organizations also noted how the initiative made by the President of Mongolia to plant 1 billion trees as a contribution to the fight against climate change is a well-calculated, forward-thinking decision. During the conference, over 100 countries pledged to make an investment of at least USD 19 billion for planting trees. The aims of the President's in-person attendance were to join initiatives being taken against climate change, raise funds, and participate in mechanisms for the implementation of projects and programs.



Minister of Environment and Tourism **N. Urtnasan:**

- While attending the 76th session of the UN General Assembly, the President of Mongolia announced the initiative to plant 1 billion trees by the year of 2030. He expressed that works for the initiative are underway. With the initiative, an objective has been set to increase the area of green space in the territory of Mongolia from 7.9 percent to 9 percent. A significant measure being taken against reducing greenhouse gases is planting trees. And with the new initiative to plant trees in large numbers and take care of them properly, the spotlight has been put on Mongolia to effectively carry out works until 2030.

In the framework of the Paris Agreement, Mongolia set the objective to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the country by up to 22.7 percent. Thus, it has now become important for the Government of Mongolia to pay attention to reflecting the recommendations issued from the COP26 conference in measures, and define a more effective policy on environmental issues and climate change.



Foreign Policy Advisor to the President of Mongolia **E. Odbayar:**

- Countries discussed measures being taken to fight against desertification as well as irrigation and financing, and highlighted the importance of leveraging in order to combat climate change. It was put forth that economically beneficial activities need to be directed by green policy, and several keywords such as 'green financing', 'green policy for a sustainable and equitable society', and 'green development' were highlighted. The countries agreed that certain measures and works must be carried out, and expressed the

As Mongolia have set the objective to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the country by up to 22.7 percent, it is now important to reflect COP26 recommendations in measures.



Economic Policy Advisor to the President of Mongolia

B. Davaadalai:

- We presented how works will be carried out against desertification and dust storms in the coming 6-10 years as well as how Mongolia could contribute to the global fight against climate change until 2030 with the objectives that have been set. The President of Mongolia also expressed the country's stance on matters such as management of renewable energy, land, and environment. The objective to have renewable energy make up about 30 percent of the total energy being produced in the country has been reflected in policy documents such as 'Vision-2050'. In connection, we are currently studying opportunities to export energy to Southeast Asian countries.

Another objective that has been set is to make a certain amount of contribution to the reduction of greenhouse gases. Thus, cooperation with international financing institutions is being prioritized. For instance, meetings were held with three main organizations that support the development of Mongolia through financing - the Asian Development Bank, the World Bank, and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. Moreover, we held a meeting with representatives of the World Wildlife Fund, an organization that provides advice for low- and middle-income countries and has a significant amount of experience in green financing.

The President of Mongolia launched a national movement to plant 1 billion trees. The movement received appraisal from delegations of other countries. As such, there are now expectations for the movement to have a significant impact on resolving the issue of dust storms and desertification in the region.

The Asian Development Bank approved a new country partnership strategy for Mongolia for the next 4 years that includes measures that require USD 1.5 billion in financing. In its framework, projects will be implemented on green development, environmentally-friendly animal husbandry, and pasture management. The bank expressed their comprehensive support in improving renewable energy sources. On top of this, in the coming four years, the World Bank will be implementing projects and programs with a financing of USD 400-500 million. This would also include providing support for measures being taken for renewable energy, forestation, and desertification.

Based on this, I believe that it is possible for Mongolia to reach significant results in the fight against climate change in the next 10 years.

importance of utilizing multilateral mechanisms in implementing green development policy measures based on mutual understanding, trust, and leveraging of climate finance.

Our delegation attended the COP26 conference to introduce initiatives and works that are aimed against climate change and hold meetings with other countries' delegations. I personally consider the conference to have been important in serving as leverage for implementing projects and programs against global warming, desertification, and greenhouse gas and sourcing funds, including the initiative to plant 1 billion trees as put forth by the President of Mongolia.



Environment and Green Development Policy Advisor to the President of Mongolia

Ts. Purevkhuu:

- Reducing climate change means boosting economic growth and having a green economy. The 'One Billion Trees' national movement initiated by the President of Mongolia is a policy aimed at citizens who are nomadic herders and more affected by climate change. For this reason, I believe it was the right decision for the President of Mongolia to attend the COP26 World Leaders Summit and express the country's stance. I believe Mongolia's measures and initiatives being taken against climate change will continue to be promoted internationally.

President U.Khurelsukh's visit:



MONGOLIA AND RUSSIA AFFIRM TO STRENGTHEN COMPREHENSIVE

President of Mongolia U.Khurelsukh paid his first foreign visit as head of state to the Russian Federation on December 15-17. On the first day of his visit, December 16, President U.Khurelsukh held a one-on-one meeting and official talks with his Russian counterpart V.V.Putin in the Kremlin.

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

During the talks, the two countries presidents summarized the development of relations over the past century, exchanged views in detail on further goals and areas of cooperation and major joint projects, and also outlined the prospect of cooperation for the next century.

Both presidents proudly noted the tradition of mutual assistance and good neigh-

borly ties between the peoples of Mongolia and Russia, that were formed during the past century. Attaching great importance to the 100th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries, the Presidents expressed their satisfaction with the celebration of the anniversary throughout the year as previously planned, and confirmed their commitment

for enriching the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership with new content for development of relations.

The Presidents stressed the importance of consistently developing the relations between sectors further, making efforts to expand the scope of economic cooperation to bring it to next level, as well as increasing trade and investment. President Vladimir

The parties expressed support for the implementation of the project to establish the Mongolia-Russia-China economic corridor.

Putin said, “As for economic cooperation, last year it shrunk by 20 percent due to the pandemic situation, but it has grown by 25 percent in the first three quarters of this year. There is every reason to believe that it will reach pre-pandemic levels.”

President U.Khurelsukh highlighted that taking advantages of its geographical location linking Asia and Europe, Mongolia aims to become a ‘Transit Mongolia’, a hub for trade, transport and logistics networks, and invited Russian partners to cooperate in major railway and road projects.

The parties affirmed to continue renewing the technology and infrastructure of the Mongolian-Russian joint venture ‘Ulaanbaatar Railway’ to boost its economic efficiency.

The Heads of State also exchanged views on the opportunities to expand cooperation in energy, agriculture and construction sectors as well as in trading oil products. President U.Khurelsukh said he hopes that Russia will pay attention to ensuring the stability of oil supply to Mongolia. He also noted the need of establishing an energy corridor between Mongolia, the Russian Federation and the People’s Republic of China.

The Presidents expressed their satisfaction with the successful implementation of the

trilateral project on the construction of gas pipeline from Russia to China through Mongolia and affirmed their continuous support for the project’s implementation.

Moreover, the parties expressed support for the implementation of the project to establish the Mongolia-Russia-China economic corridor.

The parties noted the importance of modernization of checkpoints, increasing their capacity and establishing an inter-border zone.

The two sides reaffirmed their commitment to protect the environment, combat climate change and deepen cooperation in the fields of culture, education, science and technology.

President U.Khurelsukh also briefed on ‘One Billion Trees’ nationwide campaign, expressing interest in actively cooperating with the Russian side. In turn, the Russian President stated that he would instruct corresponding officials to explore cooperation opportunities in the framework of the campaign.

Following the talks, the two presidents, U.Khurelsukh and Vladimir Putin made statements for the press and announced the Joint Declaration on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Mongolia and the Russian Federation.

President U.Khurelsukh held meetings with Deputy Chairman of the Security Council of the Russian Federation D.A.Medvedev and Chairman of the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation V.V. Volodin on December 17.



Attaching great importance to deepening the cooperation in the security and defense sectors, Deputy Chairman of the Security Council of the Russian Federation D.A. Medvedev pledged to continue cooperation in preventing and combating traditional and new threats.

Noting that deepening cooperation in the fields of trade, economy, infrastructure, railways and natural gas in the next century of the relations meets the interests of both countries, the sides exchanged views on the possibility of developing cooperation between Mongolia and the Eurasian Economic Union.

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The Presidents stressed the importance of consistently developing the relations, making efforts to expand the scope of economic cooperation to bring it to next level, as well as increasing trade and investment.





Noting that the cooperation between the legislatures of the two countries is an important part of the bilateral relation, the sides applauded the rapid development of inter-parliamentary cooperation despite the difficult situation with the pandemic. Also, they concurred to realize the talks of establishing a new mechanism of cooperation between the parliaments of the two countries.

During the meeting, the parties exchanged views on opportunities to expand cooperation in trade, economy, culture, education and humanitarian spheres. Mr. V.V. Volodin said that the State Duma would provide support in intensifying the cooperation in all areas within the framework of the objective of further deepening the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership between Mongolia and the Russian Federation and enriching it with new content.



Protocol signed to amend agreement on border checkpoints

During Mongolian President U.Khurelsukh's visit to Russia a package of intergovernmental and interdepartmental documents covering many aspects of the co-operation, including the economy and trade were signed.

Minister for Foreign Affairs B.Battsetseg and Deputy Minister of Transport of the Russian Federation Vladimir Tokarev signed the Protocol on amendments to the Agreement between the Government of Mongolia and the Government of the Russian Federation on Border checkpoints and simplified regime of crossing Mongolian-Russian border.

With the establishment of the protocol, the sides upgraded status of Borshoo-Khandgait and Khankh-Mond checkpoints. Moreover, the sides agreed to close 13

checkpoints, which have temporary or seasonal operations, lack proper facilities and infrastructure for border inspection, such as not being connected to central power grid, or had been inactive in recent years, and continue to have operations running at the remaining 16 checkpoints.

The Government of Mongolia has begun extending and upgrading the main checkpoints. As part of the efforts, development works are underway at Altanbulag, Borshoo, and Sukhbaatar checkpoints while Khankh, Tsagaannuur, and Ulikhan checkpoints have been included in the Plan to Develop Some Border Checkpoints.

Mongolia, Russia to cooperate in intellectual property

Minister for Foreign Affairs B.Battsetseg and Director of the Russian Federal Service for Intel-



The sides upgraded status of Borshoo-Khandgait and Khankh-Mond checkpoints. Moreover, the sides agreed to close 13 checkpoints, which have temporary or seasonal operations, lack proper facilities and infrastructure for border inspection, such as not being connected to central power grid, or had been inactive in recent years, and continue to have operations running at the remaining 16 checkpoints.

lectual Property Grigory Petrovich Ivliev signed a Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation between the Intellectual Property Offices of Mongolia and the Russian Federation.

The MoU will enable the sides to exchange information on their respective intellectual property systems and legislations, and share the practices being implemented for electronic applications, blockchain, and artificial intelligence.

Program for Mongolia-Russia cooperation in science and education approved

A 2022-2024 program for cooperation in the field of science and higher education between the Ministry of Education and Science of Mongolia and the Ministry of

Deputy Prime Minister S.Amarsaikhan expressed his satisfaction with the progress of the construction project for the natural gas pipeline connecting Russia and China through the territory of Mongolia as planned by the joint working group, despite the difficult situation of the pandemic.



Science and Higher Education of the Russian Federation has been approved. The program was signed by Minister for Foreign Affairs of Mongolia B.Battsetseg and the Minister of Science and Higher Education of the Russian Federation Valery Falkov.

The program will serve as a document, aimed at developing educational and scientific relations and cooperation between Mongolia and Russia, increasing student exchanges, and advancing direct relations between scientific organizations.

Document development of natural gas pipeline project starts in near future

Deputy Prime Minister S.Amarsaikhan, Chief of Staff of the Office of the President

Ya.Sodbaatar held a meeting with the Vice chairman of the board of PJSC Gazprom, Burmistrova Elena Viktorovna.

At the beginning of the meeting, Deputy Prime Minister S.Amarsaikhan expressed his satisfaction with the progress of the construction project for the natural gas pipeline connecting Russia and China through the territory of Mongolia as planned by the joint working group, despite the difficult situation of the pandemic.

The sides concurred that since the feasibility study has completed before the visit of President of Mongolia, the following agreement and document drafts should begin to be developed in the near future.

"I am grateful that the two Heads of two States are attaching great significance to the project, which is greatly important for expanding the Comprehensive



Strategic Partnership between the two countries," highlighted Chief of Staff of the Office of the President Ya.Sodbaatar.

Furthermore, the Mongolian side put forth a suggestion to supply products made from wool, cashmere, leather as well as meat products that meet international standards for Gazprom staff.

Meeting held with Minister in charge of Trade of Eurasian Economic Commission

In the framework of the visit of President of Mongolia U.Khurelsukh to the Russian Federation, Minister for Foreign Affairs B. Battsetseg held a meeting with Minister in charge of Trade of the Eurasian Economic Commission A.A. Slepnev in Moscow on December 17.

During the meeting, the sides exchanged views on possibilities to deepen cooperation between Mongolia and the Eurasian Economic Commission, and the progress of the joint study on establishing a Free Trade Agreement.

Minister in charge of Trade of the Eurasian Economic Commission A.A. Slepnev noted the possibility of expanding the cooperation with Mongolia in the fields of agriculture, light industry, technical regulation and harmonization of standards by sharing the successful cooperation experiences with other countries. The sides agreed to hold a joint seminar of Mongolia and the Eurasian Economic Commission in early 2022 to discuss

the opportunities for the cooperation in further detail.

Mining Minister meets Russian Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade

On December 16, within the framework of Mongolian President U.Khurelsukh's visit to Russia, Minister of Mining and Heavy Industry G.Yondon held meetings with State Secretary, Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade of the Russian Federation Viktor Evtukhov and other officials including Rosneft Vice President for Commerce and Logistics Otabek Karimov, and authorities of Rosgeologya and Zarubezhgeologiya JSCs to discuss stable fuel supply, supply of explosives, and a joint study on establishing an industrial and technology park focused on-chemical metallurgy under Erdenet Mining Corporation in Bayan-Undur soum of Orkhon aimag.

As part of the industrial technology park project, the Mongolian side plans to cooperate with Russia in carrying out a joint study on producing sulfuric acid, and other products from sulfur dioxide that is generated in the process of smelting and refining of copper concentrate.

Moreover, the authorities exchanged views on cooperating in a mutually beneficial manner, finalizing plans to jointly operate Chinggis Khaan International Airport's fueling station, and exploring opportunities for cooperation in supplying some necessary equipment to the oil refinery.

Mongolia-India Strategic Partnership to be expanded with oil refinery project



Parliament Speaker of Mongolia G.Zandanshatar paid an official visit to the **Republic of India** on December 1-5. This was the first visit to the Republic of India by a Mongolian Parliament Speaker in the **last 11** years.

The first oil refinery project in Mongolia, being implemented with a soft loan from the Government of India was a focus of discussion at the meetings. With India's state-owned company, 'Engineers India Limited', completing a feasibility study for the oil refinery in November 2018, the project went onto the next stage. Mongolia has been paying special attention to the realization of the project since the beginning. For instance, to intensify the project implementation and create the legal frame-

work the State Great Khural approved the Law on Supporting the Development of Oil Refinery in January 2021 and the Government of Mongolia approved Regulations on State Support to the Oil Refinery in August 2021. In addition, a working group led by the Deputy Prime Minister of Mongolia is providing full support in the implementation of the project, noted Speaker G.Zandanshatar. Mentioning the active cooperation being carried out for the successful implementation of the oil refinery

project, Speaker G.Zandanshatar requested Minister of External Affairs of India Subrahmanyam Jaishankar to provide support in the project's completion.

During the meeting with the country's Minister of Steel Ram Chandra, two sides concurred that some impacts of the pandemic have to be taken into account and that closer cooperation is needed to move the oil refinery project forward as planned.

The plant's engineering and design work has been completed, and the construction of non-

technological facilities begun in January 2021, the Mongolian side introduced during the meetings. In addition, the project will focus on resolving logistics issues in phases and plans to complete the construction of a crude oil pipeline six months before the plant is commissioned. The two sides expressed their commitments to achieve the desired results through mutual support and efforts as the project is of great importance to the further expansion of the strategic partnership between the two countries and

India was the first country to provide COVID-19 vaccine assistance – 150 thousand doses of Oxford–AstraZeneca vaccine – to Mongolia. When the situation got difficult as the spread of the disease escalated in India, the Government of Mongolia provided USD 1 million humanitarian assistance to the country.



will advance economic cooperation to a new level. Mongolia imports oil products worth USD 1 billion a year. According to the preliminary estimation, as the money stays in the country, the exchange rate will stabilize, GDP will increase by more than 10 percent, and state and local budget revenues will be raised by USD 150 million. Moreover, 600 jobs will be created in addition to developing small and medium-sized businesses along with the establishment of the oil refinery.

The parties expressed their

satisfaction with the continuous development of relations and cooperation between Mongolia and India based on common values, such as historic and cultural relations, free, democratic society, regional and international peace and stability, per the principle of Strategic Partnership, providing mutual support despite the difficult times of the COVID-19 pandemic.

“India was the first country to provide COVID-19 vaccine assistance – 150 thousand doses of Oxford–AstraZeneca vaccine – to



Mongolia. When the situation got difficult as the spread of the disease escalated in India, the Government of Mongolia provided USD 1 million humanitarian assistance to the country. The Mongolian government established an agreement with India’s Jubilant Generics company and bought 200 thousand doses of Remdesivir. This is how the two countries have supported each other through the difficult time of the pandemic,” emphasized Speaker of the State Great Khural G.Zandanshatar at the official meeting with Speaker of the Lok Sabha, the lower house of the Parliament of India, Om Birla.

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla said, “India and Mongolia have been partnering through the expansion of our long-standing historical ties and shared values of democracy.

The state visits made between the two countries in 2015 and 2019 elevated our relations to a new level. Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s 2015 visit to Mongolia was a historic event. I would like to emphasize that the visit deepened mutual trust and cooperation between the governments and people of the two countries”

The Indian side added that the mutual support between the two countries during the pandemic served as a good example to other countries and undertook

to give increased focus to opening the oil refinery, a symbol of bilateral cooperation, in the scheduled timeframe.

Speaker G.Zandanshatar put forth proposals to learn from India’s achievements in the sector of information technology, receive the country’s assistance in establishing a joint school and building a Mongolian Silicon Valley, expand cultural cooperation between the two countries, and shoot Bollywood films in Mongolia.

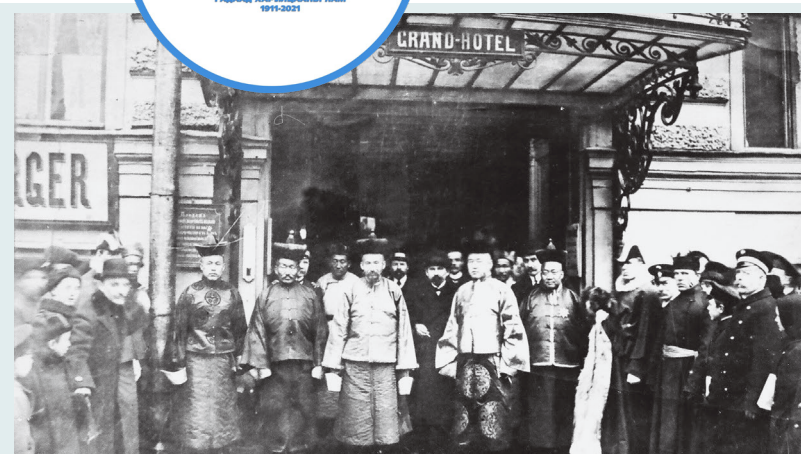
Indian side proposed expanding cooperation in mining sector, supporting Mongolia’s mining export and expressed its readiness to cooperate in efforts to export coking coal from Mongolia to India. Minister of External Affairs of India S.Jaishankar highlighted that the friendly relations between the two countries’ peoples serve as the foundation for India-Mongolia relations, and expressed willingness to develop cooperation in the sector of culture, specifically in the creative industry, as spiritual neighbors connected through history, culture, traditions, and religion.

During the visit, the Speaker paid a courtesy call on President of the Republic of India Ram Nath Kovind and also held meetings with Chairperson of the Rajya Sabha or the Council of States Venkaiah Naidu.

Foreign relations



FOREIGN RELATIONS OF MODERN



Changes, reforms, and achievements in Mongolia's foreign policy and relations

Following the transition into democracy in 1990, Mongolia made reforms to its foreign policy in a way that puts the national interest as the utmost priority, re-defining the base principles and priorities in 1994. However, as there have been many changes worldwide as well as domestically which had both positive and negative impacts on the country's foreign policy, some further changes were made in 2011. Since then, Mongolia has been consistently implementing an open, independent, multi-pillar foreign policy based on core principles.

From the time of the democratic transition, foreign relations rapidly developed with the two

neighbors and other countries in the region as well as in the rest of the world, establishing diplomatic relations with all members of the UN.

The 'Third Neighbor' policy was reflected in the National Security Concept in 2010, and in the Foreign Policy Concept in 2011. The term, 'Third Neighbor', refers to countries and international organizations that support democracy and development in Mongolia, without limiting it to any specific countries. So far, Mongolia has had significant achievements in development cooperation and partnership with 'Third Neighbor' countries. For instance, 'Strategic Partnership' relations have been established with Japan in 2010, the Republic of India in 2015, the United States of America in 2019, and the Republic of Korea in 2021, while 'Comprehensive Partnership'

relations have been established with the Republic of Turkey and the Federal Republic of Germany, and 'Expanded Partnership' relations have been established with Canada and Australia, closely cooperating with the aforementioned countries not only bilaterally but also multilaterally.

Alongside cooperating with the countries in the framework of the 'Third Neighbor' policy, Mongolia joined international financial institutions and systems, such as the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, and the Asian Development Bank, and became a member of international organizations, forums, and mechanisms such as the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA), and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), developing multilateral cooperation.

Mongolia's standing in the international arena

Mongolia first applied for membership in the United Nations on June 21, 1946, thus making the first steps towards joining 'the world's only truly universal global organization'. In its application letter, the country reaffirmed its right to become a member of the United Nations as a sovereign state and a country that has made a significant contribution to the common cause of humankind during World War II. Mongolia had submitted five applications until it officially joined the United Nations as its 101st member on October 27, 1961—15 years after its first application.

Today, Mongolia has diplomatic relations with 193 countries and is party to more than 290 international treaties.

Today, Mongolia has diplomatic relations with 193 countries and is party to more than 290 international treaties.

MONGOLIA IN THE LAST 110 YEARS



Multilateral cooperation plays a vital role in safeguarding Mongolia's national security and foreign policy interests through political and diplomatic means, promoting Mongolia's contribution to addressing the challenges the world faces, and voicing Mongolia's stance on international issues. As defined in its Constitution and National Security Concept, Mongolia pursues a multi-pillar foreign policy, actively develops relations and cooperation with countries and international organizations, and participates in the international community's efforts.

Mongolia has initiated and tabled over 90 UN General Assembly resolutions on nearly 20 agenda items, including the Disarmament Week, Declaration on the Right of Peoples to Peace, economic development, environmental protection, cooperatives, situation of women in rural areas, literacy, education for democracy and Mongolia's nuclear-

weapon-free status.

Mongolia's efforts to tackle the common challenges and protect interests of 32 landlocked developing countries, resulted in the establishment in Ulaanbaatar in 2018 of an International Think-Tank of Landlocked Developing Countries - the first-ever intergovernmental body of LLDCs.

Participation in UN peacekeeping operations is a powerful tool for small countries to play a greater role in the maintenance of international peace and security. Participation in UN peacekeeping is Mongolia's tangible contribution to UN goals and objectives. It is also in line with Mongolia's aspirations to be a proactive player in world affairs and a responsible citizen of the international community. The year of 2022 will mark the 20th anniversary of Mongolia's participation in UN peacekeeping. During this time, Mongolia has become one of the top 25 contributing

countries. Mongolia is determined to increase its potential involvement in the work of the United Nations and other international organizations.

Mongolia's active policy and activities carried out in the framework of the United Nations have significantly contributed to strengthening its standing in the international arena.

Mongolia-Russia relations

Mongolia and the Russian Federation established diplomatic relations on November 5, 1921. Per the 'Treaty between Mongolia and the Russian Federation on Friendly Relations and Comprehensive Strategic Partnership' signed in the framework of the official visit of President of the Russian Federation Vladimir Putin on September 3, 2019, bilateral

cooperation is being developed in all sectors during this time of the 100th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

Over the course of the past century, the two countries' peoples jointly fought for freedom and independence, overcame various challenges and obstacles, and strengthened their friendship as a result of the efforts put into implementing numerous large-scale construction projects alongside developing active relations in all social sectors.

The historic 100th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Mongolia and the Russian Federation was jointly celebrated by organizing mutual high-level visits and various events in the sectors of politics, economy, culture, and education as well as the humanitarian sector. In the framework of the anniversary, a telephone

Foreign relations

montsame

conversation was held two times between the Mongolian and Russian Heads of State, an official visit to the Russian Federation was made by President of Mongolia U.Khurelsukh, visits were organized for certain sectoral ministers of Mongolia as well as Deputy Speaker of the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly, and the Deputy Prime Minister of the Russian Federation. The Mongolia-Russia Intergovernmental Commission convened, and the 40th anniversary of the joint Mongolian-Soviet space mission was celebrated - various events involving the public were organized such as photography exhibitions depicting the history of relations between the two countries, concerts and performances, and competitions involving the children and youth.

As for trade and economic cooperation, bilateral trade turnover reached USD 1.8 billion as of the first 11 months of 2021 (an increase of 37.8 percent compared to the same period of the previous year), which makes up 12.1 percent of Mongolia's total foreign trade turnover.

Imports reached USD 1.7 billion and exports reached USD 100 million. Currently, there are a total of 904 entities that have been established with investment from Russia.

With an aim to start the next century of diplomatic relations by launching large-scale projects and programs and joint large-scale construction projects, projects and measures such as the construction of the gas pipeline connecting Russia and China through the territory of Mongolia, construction of highways, new railroads, and power grid connecting the two neighbors through the country, establishment of free economic zones, and the implementation of 'Transit Mongolia' national program are planned to be implemented in order to further develop bilateral relations.

Mongolia-China relations

In 2021, the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership relations between Mongolia and the People's Republic of China was enriched with new content, maintaining the frequency of mutual high-level visits and strengthening mutual trust despite the current pandemic situation.

Political relations and mutual

high-level visits actively took place between the two countries. For instance, the two countries' Heads of State held a telephone conversation in July and came to the agreement to further develop cooperation in the environmental sector and jointly implement a project to fight against desertification and dust storms. With the virtual meeting of the two countries' Speakers in April, and the 4th meeting of the Regular Meeting Mechanism between the State Great Khural of Mongolia and the National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China organized in November, relations and cooperation between legislatures were successful this year.

The Premiers of Mongolia and China held a telephone conversation in April, and had a virtual meeting in October. During the meeting, the two sides exchanged views on matters such as COVID-19 vaccine supply, operations of border checkpoints, measures being taken against the pandemic, and maintaining economic cooperation as normally as possible, and reached an agreement on active cooperation at border checkpoints as well as implementing large-scale projects.

Minister of Foreign Affairs B.Battsetseg made an official visit to the People's Republic of China, and held official talks

with State Councilor and Foreign Minister of the People's Republic of China Wang Yi on July 27. Following the talks, they agreed to actively cooperate for further strengthening of trust and political mutual understanding and implementing the agreements reached between the two countries' state and government heads.

Trade and economic cooperation: As of October 2021, bilateral trade turnover reached USD 8.71 billion which is an increase of 44.4 percent compared to the same period of the previous year. Exports to China amounted to USD 6.49 billion (86.2 percent of Mongolia's total export, with an increase of 47 percent compared to the same period of the previous year), and imports amounted to USD 2.22 billion (39.3 percent of Mongolia's total import, with an increase of 37.3 percent compared to the same period of the previous year). As a result of the corresponding measures that were taken in order to increase trades, the amount of mining products being exported has increased.

Mongolia-China relations were active in all sectors and levels, and the frequency of mutual high-level visits were maintained - these two factors served as a boost for mutual understanding and bilateral cooperation. With the stable development of trade

SOME INTERESTING FACTS

ABOUT THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

OF MONGOLIA:



1947

The new office building and the apartment complex for employees of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs were commissioned. In total, 44 employees and 23 families moved into the new office building and apartments.

1958

The extension to the right of the Ministry's building was completed. By the resolution No.199 dated 29 April 1956 of the Central Committee of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party in charge of international organizations was setup in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. At that time the Ministry had 68 employees.

2005

The Central Archives of Foreign Affairs was relocated to the 'Elchin' Service Center, which was built in 1992 to provide services to the diplomatic corps in Mongolia. As a result of the 1992 Parliamentary elections, the Government of Mongolia made changes in the organizational structure of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, including 5 departments, 4 divisions with 111 employees in addition to the Minister and First Deputy Minister.

2017

The extension building of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the 'Yosolol Khundetgeliin Urguu' was commissioned, completing a complex building for the Ministry. Currently, there are 147 employees working at the Ministry.

Works are being carried out to attract investment and increase exports by utilizing opportunities to develop livestock-sourced products, the trade and services sector, and especially the sectors of ICT, tourism, renewable energy, and mineral processing.

and economic cooperation between the two countries, the People's Republic of China continues to be one of Mongolia's main partners for foreign trade and investment.

Foreign trade and economic cooperation

Over the course of some 30 years, Mongolia made significant achievements in liberating its economy and expanding trade-economic cooperation. During the challenging times of the pandemic in 2020, the country's trade turnover amounted to USD 12.8 billion in 2020 with exports making up USD 7.5 billion and imports making up USD 5.3 billion. However, as of the first 11 months of 2021, exports have reached USD 8.8 billion and imports have reached USD 6.2 billion. Statistics show that exports exceed imports by USD 2.2 billion, which creates a positive trade balance. As foreign trade currently amounts to 130 percent of Mongolia's GDP, a notable contribution is being made to the country's economy.

By becoming a member of the World Trade Organization in 1997, it became possible for Mongolia to conduct trades with the other 164 member countries with a balance of rights and obligations, enjoy favorable conditions

such as the national treatment principle, and be involved in jointly making decisions for multilateral trade systems. Although it may seem that the World Trade Organization's multilateral trading system imposes some strict obligations for member countries, it also gives an opportunity for countries to protect their domestic markets and production as well as for developing countries to receive support in economic development, ensuring food security, and balance-of-payments problems. In its framework, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has developed a set of regulations on safeguard measures, which is currently being implemented following the approval of the Government.

For Mongolia, an open, free trade policy creates more opportunities for the mining sector compared to other economic sectors such as agriculture and industry - of which exports do not meet a satisfactory amount in the country's total exports.

Thus, the Ministry is currently carrying out works with a policy on creating a favorable legal environment for manufacturing, sales, investment, financing, and taxes, diversifying exports by supporting non-mining products, providing support in exporting value-added goods and products that meet international

standards, facilitating trades, and boosting exports by increasing the options available for foreign markets.

Within its framework, the 'Mongolian Trade and Investment Roadmap' document developed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs with the support of the International Trade Centre (ITC) in 2019 is currently being implemented. Works are being carried out to attract investment and increase exports by utilizing opportunities to develop livestock-sourced products, the trade and services sector, and especially the sectors of ICT, tourism, renewable energy, and mineral processing.

In the framework of the policy on increasing exports, the Mongolia-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement began to be implemented from 2016. As a result, exports to Japan have reached USD 16 million and imports have reached USD 409 million as of November 2021.

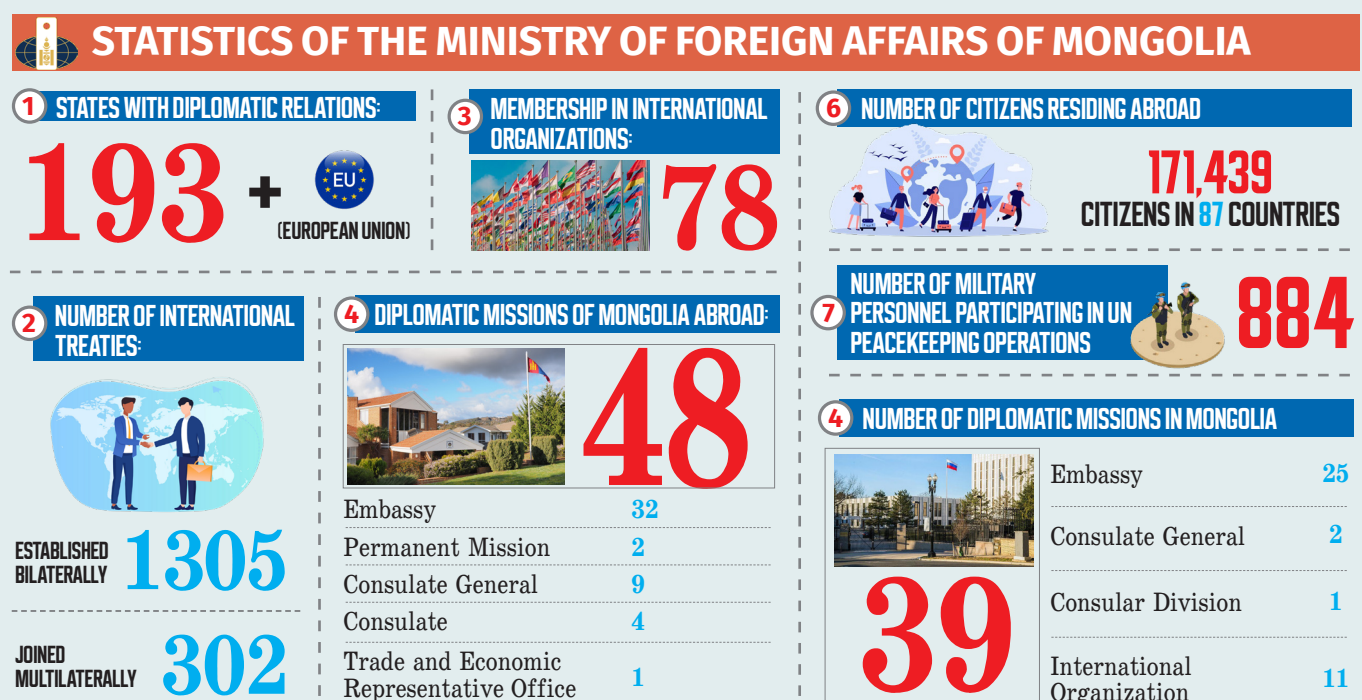
In 2020, Mongolia acceded to the Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement (APTA) as its seventh member. It is the first regional agreement Mongolia has joined. Within the frames of the agreement, Mongolia will enjoy 5-100 percent tariff discounts for a total of 10,677 types of products in 6 countries such as China, India, and South Korea. For instance, the import tax imposed on coal by China is

reduced by two times which in turn creates a great opportunity for Mongolian exporters. The agreement has been in effect since January 1, 2021.

Furthermore, in the framework of the implementation of the National Security Concept and the 'Vision-2050' long-term development policy, a joint study was conducted on establishing an Economic Partnership Agreement with the Republic of Korea. A joint study has also been launched on possibilities to establish a Free Trade Agreement with the Eurasian Economic Union.

For a landlocked, developing country, foreign trade is an important driving force for the economy as it connects domestic production with consumers. However, in order to safeguard and develop the domestic market, it has become necessary to efficiently implement tariff and non-tariff regulations, support the production of export products based on their advantages, create a structure to develop exporting companies and a financing mechanism to support them, and implement an efficient set of rules and regulations that create favorable conditions for foreign markets.

For more information on foreign trade and economic cooperation, please visit: <https://ecrc.mn/macro-economic-overview-november-2020/>



For more information visit: www.consul.mn

50 years - Mongolia-Argentina

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS



MONGOLIA-ARGENTINA

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Mongolia and Argentina

Joint projects to be implemented in *agriculture*

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Mongolia and Argentina. On the occasion of the anniversary, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Mongolia to Argentina Sh.Battsetseg was interviewed on the relations and cooperation between the two countries.

-2021 marks the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Mongolia and Argentina. Please give us information on the current state of bilateral relations and cooperation, as well as the work and activities planned for the future?

-It has been 50 years since Mongolia and the Argentine Republic established diplomatic relations. During this period, the heads of state of the two countries mutually appointed ambassadors with dual accreditation, but bilateral relations and cooperation did not yield significant results.

The Mongolian delegation led by State Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Kh. Bekhbat visited Argentina in 2007 and signed a Memorandum of Understanding between the Foreign Ministries of the two countries, which resulted in the establishment of political consultation mechanism. Subsequently, the consultative meetings between the ministries were successfully



organized in 2017 and 2019, which could be considered as a real start for the development of cooperation. During this period, an intergovernmental agreement on technical cooperation was established between the two countries, which created the conditions to implement joint projects and programs in the field of agriculture and animal husbandry.

We are preparing to hold the third consultative meeting between the foreign ministries in an online format due to the global pandemic. Mongolia is represented in Argentina

“

Subsequently, the consultative meetings between the ministries were successfully organized in 2017 and 2019, which made a real start for the cooperation development.

With the development of organic farming in recent years, we are willing to further develop bilateral cooperation.

through its Embassy in Cuba. Argentina is represented in Mongolia through its Embassy in Beijing, China.

We work closely with the Argentine Embassy in Havana. I presented a copy of my letter of credence to Pablo Anselmo Tettamanti, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Argentine Republic, in March this year and officially assumed my duties. I plan to present my credentials to the Argentine president and hold a series of formal meetings as soon as the pandemic situation improves. Recently, there has been some progress in education and sports. Support was given to develop cooperation between the National University of Mongolia, the University of Buenos Aires and the National University of San Martin, and as a result, direct contacts were established between the universities. Football associations of the two countries signed a memorandum of cooperation.

-You've highlighted agriculture as an important area of bilateral relations. How are the countries cooperating in this sector?

-We share many similarities, including vast geographical territory and traditional agriculture and animal husbandry. The southern part of Argentina that is closely located to the Antarctic Ocean has the same weather as Mongolia. Also, people who live there consume more mutton. Argentina is known for its agricultural development not only in the region but also in the world. It is the fifth largest beef exporter in the world. In recent years, organic farming is also developing. In this sense, we are willing to further develop bilateral cooperation in this area. Argentina also has abundant experience in milk and dairy production technology, animal health and immunization, and the export of beef that meets international standards, and has completely eradicated contagious foot-and-mouth disease. As part of South-South cooperation, more than 200 projects in these fields have been successfully implemented abroad. Within the framework of an inter-governmental agreement between Mongolia and Argentina on technical cooperation, the countries are working to implement a joint project in the fields of agriculture and animal husbandry. Argentine specialists from the National Agricultural Technology Institute (INTA) and the National Food Safety and Quality Service (SENASA) visited Mongolia in 2018-2019 to conduct research to determine the direction of projects and programs needed in Mongolia. We are preparing to establish a joint working group to ensure the implementation of the technical cooperation agreement and to hold the first meeting of the working group.

Moreover, as citizens of the two countries have been able to travel mutually without visas for up to 90 days since 2017, we are ready to give all-round support to our businesses in establishing contacts and developing cooperation with the Argentine side in the fields of food, agriculture, animal husbandry and tourism.



TIMELINE OF BILATERAL RELATIONS BETWEEN MONGOLIA AND ARGENTINA

1971	Established diplomatic relations
2007	Mr. Kh. Bekhbat, State Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mongolia, paid a working visit to Argentina
2007	Signed the Memorandum of Understanding on Political Consultations between the Ministries of Foreign Affairs
2014	Signed the Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministries of Agriculture
2016	H.E. Ch. Sosormaa, non-resident Ambassador of Mongolia to the Argentine Republic, presented her Letter of Credence
2017	Organized the first Political Consultations between the Ministries of Foreign Affairs in Ulaanbaatar
2017	Signed the Agreement on Visa Exemption
2017, 2020	Mongolia-Latin America parliamentary group established in the State Great Hural (Parliament) of Mongolia
2019	Organized the second Political Consultations between the Ministries of Foreign Affairs in Buenos Aires
2019	Signed the Intergovernmental Agreement on Technical Cooperation
2019	Mr. Ch. Ulaan, Minister of Food, Agriculture and Light Industry of Mongolia, paid a working visit to Argentina
2019	Mr. Jose Ignacio de Mendiguren, member of the Chamber of Deputies of Argentina and head of the Argentina-Mongolia parliamentary group, paid a visit to Mongolia
2021	H.E. Sh. Battsetseg, non-resident Ambassador of Mongolia to the Argentine Republic, presented a copy of her Letter of Credence



Mongolia and the Argentine Republic established diplomatic relations on September 7, 1971.

MAY 6-8, 2007

The Mongolian delegation led by State Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Kh. Bekhbat paid a working visit to Argentina on May 6-8, 2007. During the visit, State Secretary Kh. Bekhbat held talks with Espeche Gil, Director for Foreign Policy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship of Argentina, and signed a Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mongolia and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship of Argentina, which created a bilateral political consultative mechanism.

MARCH, 2017



In March 2017, the first Political Consultation between the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of Mongolia and Argentina was held in Ulaanbaatar.

2019



Within the margins of the consultations, the two sides established the Agreement on Mutual Visa Exemption for holders of all types of passports from both countries. Thus, citizens of the two countries have been able to travel mutually without visa for up to 90 days.

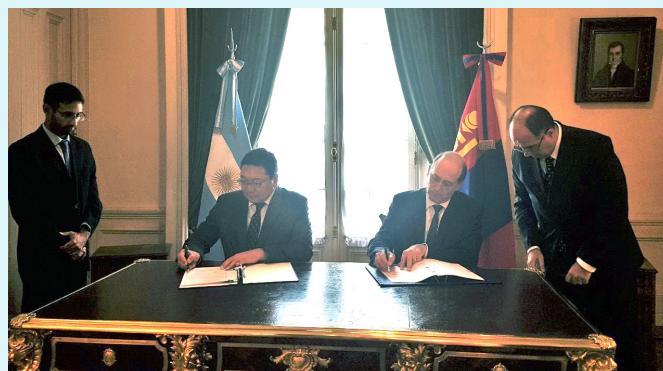
JANUARY 2019



The Second Consultative Meeting between the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of Mongolia and Argentina was held in January, 2019 in Buenos Aires.

The delegations were headed by D. Davaasuren, State Secretary for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mongolia, and Daniel Raimondi, Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship of the Argentine Republic, respectively. Both sides highlighted the importance of expanding and developing friendly ties and cooperation between Mongolia and Argentina and agreed to cooperate in the fields of agriculture, education, culture and sports.

2019



The Agreement on Technical Cooperation between the Government of Mongolia and the Government of the Argentine Republic signed during the meeting made it possible to implement joint projects and programs in the fields of agriculture and animal husbandry.

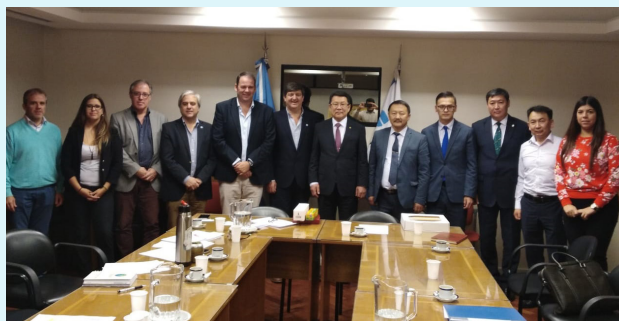
BILATERAL RELATIONS AND COOPERATION

APRIL, 2019



The Argentine delegation headed by Mr. Jose Ignacio de Mendiguren, Member of the Chamber of Deputies of Argentina and head of Argentina-Mongolia Parliamentary Group, made a working visit to Mongolia in April, 2019. During the visit, Deputy Speaker of the Parliament L. Enkh-Amgalan and head of Mongolia-Latin America Group in the Parliament Ts.Davaasuren held meetings with Mr. Jose Ignacio de Mendiguren.

MARCH 20-24, 2019



A delegation headed by Minister of Food, Agriculture and Light Industry Ch.Ulaan paid a working visit to the Argentine Republic on March 20-24, 2019 and took part in the Second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation. In the course of his visit, the Minister met with his Argentine counterpart Luis Etchevehere. The sides exchanged views on studying the Argentina's achievements in animal husbandry and veterinary medicine, exchanging experiences, expanding active cooperation and deepening ties in the sector.

MARCH 18, 2021



Ambassador Sh. Battsetseg presented a copy of her letter of credence to His Excellency Pablo Anselmo Tettamanti, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Argentine Republic, on March 18, 2021 and officially assumed her duties.

During the virtual ceremony, the two sides underlined that this year marks the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Mongolia and Argentina and affirmed their commitment to actively developing bilateral cooperation in the fields of agriculture, trade, tourism, education and sports.

2021

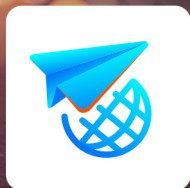
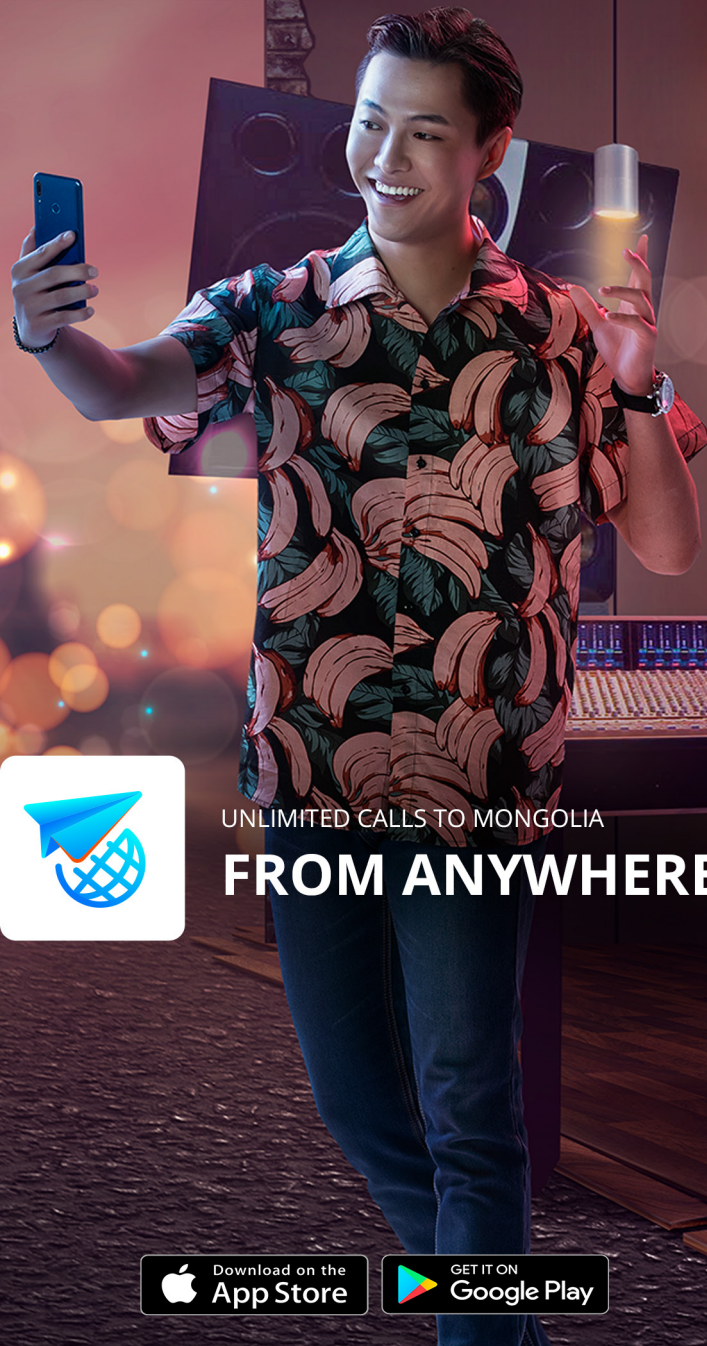


On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Mongolia and the Argentine Republic in 2021, the Presidents and Foreign Ministers of the two countries exchanged congratulatory letters. The both parties mutually expressed their satisfaction with the fact that the two countries and peoples have come to know each other and become friendly over the past half century, and reaffirmed their readiness for further expansion of bilateral cooperation in agriculture, tourism, business, culture and sports.



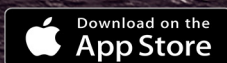
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Cally



UNLIMITED CALLS TO MONGOLIA

FROM ANYWHERE



50 years - Mongolia-Chile



50th anniversary of diplomatic relations
between Mongolia and Chile

CITIZENS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES TRAVEL VISA-FREE FOR 90 DAYS

- Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Mongolia to Chile Sh. Battsetseg was interviewed on the relations and cooperation between the two countries -

-2021 marks the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Mongolia and the Republic of Chile. Could you inform us on the bilateral relationship between the two countries?

-The relations and cooperation between Mongolia and Chile have been expanding in recent years. In 2019, a mechanism for political consultations was created between the two countries and the first consultative meeting of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of Mongolia and Chile successfully took place in the city of Santiago. Citizens of the two countries are travelling to each other's country visa-free for 90 days since December 2019. Though geographically distant, the two countries have numerous similarities. In particular, we have an abundance of natural resources, therefore mining can be identified as a key area for cooperation. Moreover, we are aiming to expand cooperation in the areas of agriculture, trade and business development, tourism, education, and culture.

Preparations are underway to organize the second consultative meeting between the foreign ministries in a virtual format on account of the global pandemic within this year. As the Mongolian Ambassador to Cuba is accredited to Chile on a non-resident basis, we maintain contact and closely work with the Chilean Ambassador to Cuba. I have presented my Letter of Credence to the Chilean head of state once the pandemic situation improved.

We have carried out quite a number of important activities in the year of the anniversary. Specifically, the first virtual meeting of the businesspeople of the two countries was

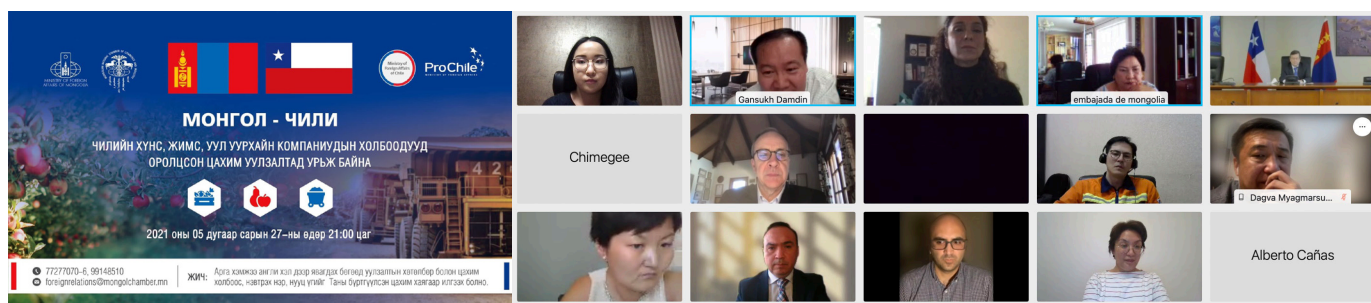


“ Though geographically distant, the two countries have numerous similarities. In particular, we have an abundance of natural resources, therefore mining can be identified as a key area for cooperation. Moreover, we are aiming to expand cooperation in the areas of agriculture, trade and business development, tourism, education, and culture. ”

held successfully on May 27, 2021 and we provided support in establishing contact between the Mars-V project team from Mongolia and the teams of the United States National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the European Space Agency studying Chile's Atacama Desert.

This year also marks the beginning of cooperation between the Mongolian University of Science and Technology and the Department of Mining Engineering of the National University of Chile. Furthermore,

There are opportunities to closely partner with Chile, which leads the world with its mining industry, especially copper production, diversify the economy through mining, and cooperate in a wide range of areas.



preparations have been completed to establish a memorandum between the mining ministries of the two countries and the document will be signed in the near future. We are also working with relevant organizations to organize a podcast competition on 'My impression of the country of Chile' and 'My impression of the country of Mongolia' among youth of the two countries.

-As the Ambassador of Mongolia to Chile, what impression do you have of the country?

-It was moved by how in his letter when the two Heads of State recently exchanged congratulatory letters in celebration of the 50th anniversary of diplomatic relations, President of Chile Sebastian Picera cited what Chilean Noble prize laureate, poet Pablo Neruda, who wrote in his autobiography, "Around Ulan Bator, rounded aridity, infinite, opens up, similar to the Atacama Desert in my homeland, interrupted only by groups of camels that make solitude more ancient... But what a wonder it is to have been in Ulan Bator! Even more so for me that I dwell in the beautiful names."

Not long ago, I received an intriguing letter from Professor Sergio Carrasco of the Department of Historical Sciences of the National University of Chile, who specializes in the study of Asian countries, especially Mongolian history and Chinggis Khaan. He voted from Chile when the Time magazine selected Chinggis Khaan as the Man of the Millennium. He told me that he has been teaching his Asian studies class about the Mongol Empire, the nomadic people of the steppe, and their life since 2000, which suggests there are Chileans who study Mongolia.

Chile is a unique country. It stretches 4,300 kilometers from the Atacama Desert in the north, the driest desert in the world, which is rich in copper, to Antarctica's coastline. The country's former President Salvador Allende once said copper is Chile's bread. Until 1970, Chile's economy had been greatly dependent on mining with copper and copper

concentrate accounting for over 90 percent of the country's exports at the time. As the overdependence on a single sector was causing instability in the economy, the country placed substantial emphasis on diversifying its economy at that time and managed to greatly increase its export of agricultural products, which now make up nearly the same percentage as mining products in the country's export. Also, as of 2020, the country established free trade agreements with 66 countries. ProChile export promotion agency based on public and private partnerships played a key role in achieving this. Chile is ranked 19th in global Economic Freedom Index and is the first Latin American member country of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

Further, the Economic and Social Stabilization Fund or simply the wealth fund was formed with funds raised from copper revenue to ensure budget stability. The country is ranked 25th in the world for its Corruption Perception Index. They successfully implemented civil service reform as well. Competent young individuals headhunted by world-famous companies are in civil service in Chile. Also, with ski resorts built in beautiful Antarctic sites and majestic landscapes of the Andes and a central region that has a climate similar to that of the Mediterranean Sea, the country annually receives approximately 4 million tourists for its tourist attractions.

-In what areas the sides are planning to further expand their cooperation?

-There are opportunities to closely partner with Chile, which leads the world with its mining industry, especially copper production, diversify the economy through mining, and cooperate in a wide range of areas including the study of the country's experience in raising its agricultural industry to world standards, good governance, trade and business development, and tourism. As countries that both have a mining-driven economy and

abundant natural resources, the two countries can cooperate in the area and particularly in processing copper concentrate, developing value-added production, establishing a mining stock exchange, concluding free trade agreements, and building tourism infrastructures. Therefore, we are striving to reach concrete results by planning our future undertakings.

-What are the opportunities for strengthening economic cooperation between the two countries?

-I previously mentioned that the way has been paved for cooperation in trade and business development. Over 20 mining, food, fruit and other agricultural businesses and professional associations exchanged information and views at the first meeting of Mongolian and Chilean businesspeople organized by the two countries foreign ministries and embassies as well as Mongolian National Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and ProChile agency of Chile.

As a result of the meeting, the businesses of the two countries agreed to establish partnerships and the Mongolian National Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the ProChile Agency decided to enter into a memorandum on cooperation. Chile is famous for its fruits, fishes, nuts, and wine. Recently, the Chilean side said that some businesspeople of the country are planning to start a restaurant business in Mongolia. I have no doubt that Mongolia's private sector will actively partner with Chile.

I plan to have meetings with Chile's government organizations for trade, chamber of commerce and industry, and business sector representatives to discuss ways to boost trade between the two countries.

As Mongolians have been made eligible to travel to most Latin American countries such as Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Cuba, Peru, Uruguay, and Ecuador visa-free for tourism and business purposes in recent years, it is now possible to cooperate with countries in the region in trade and business development and tourism.



THE WAY HAS BEEN PAVED FOR COOPERATION IN TRADE AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT. OVER 20 MINING, FOOD, FRUIT AND OTHER AGRICULTURAL BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS EXCHANGED INFORMATION AND VIEWS AT THE FIRST MEETING OF MONGOLIAN AND CHILEAN BUSINESSPEOPLE ORGANIZED BY FOREIGN MINISTRIES AND EMBASSIES OF THE TWO COUNTRIES, MONGOLIAN NATIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY, AND PROCHILE AGENCY OF CHILE.

50 years - Mongolia-Chile



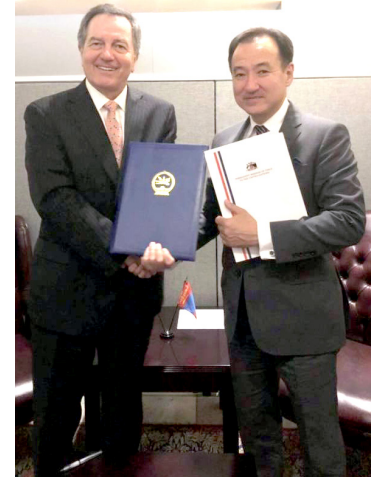
Bilateral relations and cooperation



President Salvador Allende welcomes the Mongolian delegation, 1970
/taken from 'Truth be told' book by D.Yondon/

A delegation led by special envoy of the Government of Mongolia, then Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs D.Yondon attended the 1970 inauguration of former Chilean President Salvador Allende, which marked the launch of talks to establish diplomatic relations. Accordingly, on June 1, 1971, Mongolia and Chile officially established diplomatic relations.

The first consultative meeting of the foreign ministries of Mongolia and Chile took place in Santiago on January 16, 2019. During the meeting, then State Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mongolia D.Davaasuren and Undersecretary of Foreign Affairs of Chile Carolina Valdivia signed the 'Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation between the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of Mongolia and Chile', creating a mechanism for political consultations between the two sides.



Since the foreign ministers of the two countries exchanged notes on mutual exemption of visa requirements for ordinary passport holders between the Government of Mongolia and the Government of Chile during the 73rd session of the United Nations General Assembly in 2018, the people of the countries travel to each other's country visa-free for 90 days.



Former President of Mongolia N.Bagabandi paid an official visit to Chile on September 25-26, 2003.

During his participation in the 26th Annual Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum held in Hanoi, Vietnam in 2018 former Speaker of the State Great Khural of Mongolia M.Enkhbold held a meeting with then President of the Chamber of Deputies of the Chilean Congress Fidel Espinoza. The two countries actively cooperate within the Inter-Parliamentary Union. Member of the State Great Khural Ts.Davaasuren chairs



the Mongolia-Latin America parliamentary group.

In 2021, to mark the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Mongolia and the Republic of Chile, the presidents and foreign ministers of the two countries exchanged congratulatory letters. In addition to expressing their pleasure that the two countries and their people have come to know about each other and established friendly relations in the last half a century, the sides affirmed their readiness to cooperate in a wide range of areas including mining, business development, risk management, and climate change control.

COOPERATION IN MINING

● A memorandum on cooperation was signed between Erdenet Mining Corporation and Codelco state-owned company of Chile in 1997, followed by a protocol on cooperation between the mining ministries of Mongolia and Chile in 2003 and a letter of intent between Erdenes Mongol company and the Chilean copper commission Cochilco in 2016.

● In 2017, a delegation led by Member of the Mongolian Parliament Ts.Davaasuren worked in Chile to learn from the country's experience in building copper and copper concentrate factories and establishing long term investment and concession agreements and treaties.

● In 2019, the mining ministers of Mongolia and Chile held a meeting during the Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada Convention in Toronto and discussed further cooperation.

● Representatives of Erdenet Mining Corporation, Rio Tinto, Mongolian Copper Corporation, and Chile's Minnovex association of mining innovation and export companies participated in the first business meeting of the two countries held virtually in May 2021.

TIMELINE OF BILATERAL RELATIONS BETWEEN MONGOLIA AND CHILE

1971

Diplomatic relations were established

1973

Diplomatic relations interrupted due to the coup d'état in Chile

1990

Diplomatic relations were re-established

2002

Delegation of mining sector headed by Mr. T.Ochirkhuu, chairman of the Standing Committee on Economy of the State Great Khural, paid a visit to Chile

2000

Mr. A.Rios, Vice Speaker of the Senate of Chile, paid a working visit to Mongolia

1999

Mr. Ya.Ochirsukh, Minister of Finance of Mongolia, paid a visit to Chile

2001

Mr. J.Byambadorj, Vice Speaker of the State Great Khural (Parliament) of Mongolia, paid a visit to Chile

2003

H.E. N.Bagabandi, President of Mongolia, paid an official visit to Chile

2007

Mr. Kh.Bekhat, State Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mongolia, paid a working visit to Chile

2017

Delegation of the Committee on FTA and Concession Agreement headed by Mr. Ts.Davaasuren, Member of the State Great Khural, paid a working visit to Chile

2016

H.E. Ch.Sosormaa, non-resident Ambassador of Mongolia to the Republic of Chile, presented her Letter of Credence

2008

Mr. Santiago Gonzalez, Minister of Mining of Chile, paid a working visit to Mongolia.

2017, 2020

Mongolia-Latin America
parliamentary group was
established in the State Great
Khural

2018

Agreement on Visa Exemption
was signed

2018

H.E. Luis Schmidt, non-resident Ambassador of Chile to Mongolia, presented his Letter of Credence

2021

H.E. Sh.Battsetseg, non-resident Ambassador of Mongolia to the Republic of Chile, presented a copy of her Letter of Credence

2019

First Political Consultative Meeting was organized between the Ministries of Foreign Affairs in Santiago



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*Mongolia, the UAE:
25 years of diplomatic relations*

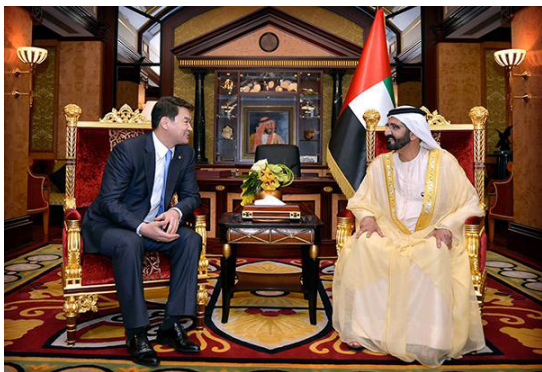


One. Political Relations

The year 2021 marks the 25th diplomatic anniversary between Mongolia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) as the two countries established diplomatic relations back on 1 April 1996. The State Great Hural (Parliament) of Mongolia passed Resolution №12 on 28 March 1996 regarding the establishment of diplomatic relations between Mongolia and the UAE.

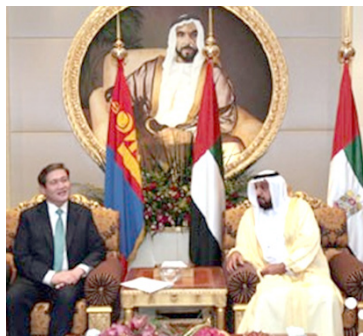
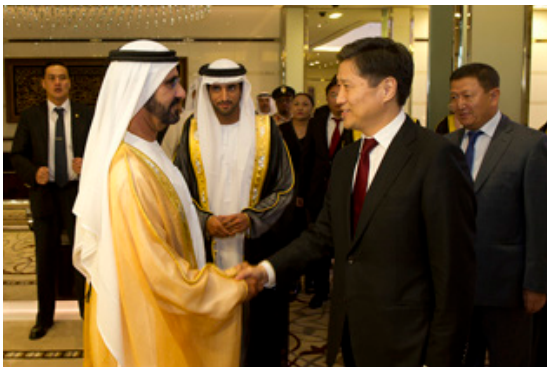
This was the beginning of our formal relations, which since blossomed rapidly. Today, we enjoy active bilateral relations that have the potential to further expand and grow stronger. Relations and cooperation between Mongolia and the UAE are based on several factors, most notably strong political will of our leaders to improve overall ties, the convergence of their views on regional and international topics, and the full realization of the nature of their mutual interests.

Over the past 25 years, both countries have reinforced their partnership by organizing official visits and meetings between senior officials of both countries. His Excellency Mr. N. Bagabandi was the first Mongolian President to visit the United Arab Emirates back in 2001.



From the Emirati side, Her Excellency Sheikha Lubna Al-Qassimi, Minister for Foreign Trade, visited Mongolia in 2009, His Highness Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, visited Mongolia in 2014, and H.E. Reem bint Ibrahim Al-Hashimi, Minister of State for International Cooperation visited Mongolia in 2018.

Moreover, His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, visited Mongolia in 2013 and his son H.H. Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammad, Crown Prince of Dubai, visited Mongolia in 2017, 2018 and 2019 on private visits.



Mr. M. Enkhbold, Chairman of the State Great Hural of Mongolia, visited the UAE in 2016 and during the visit, the two sides signed Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation between the State Great Hural of Mongolia and the Federal National Council of the UAE. This visit gave a fresh start for parliamentary cooperation between the two countries. At the moment, friendship groups have been established in two parliaments, headed by S. Byambatsogt, member of the State Great Hural of Mongolia, and Dr. Nidal Mohammed Al Tunaiji, member of the Federal National Council of the UAE, respectively. Parliamentary friendship groups are working to further develop cooperation between the two legislative bodies.

There were two Prime Minister level visits conducted to the UAE in 2011 and 2015, respectively, during



The visit of the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the UAE in 2014 opened a new chapter in our bilateral relations as it was the first official visit by the Foreign Minister of the UAE. During the visit, the two sides reached an agreement to establish embassies in their respective capitals. Accordingly, the UAE opened its Embassy in 2016, and H.E. Mr. Abdullah Al-Teneiji was appointed as the first resident Ambassador of the UAE to Mongolia. The opening of the UAE Embassy in Ulaanbaatar gave an important impetus to our bilateral cooperation.

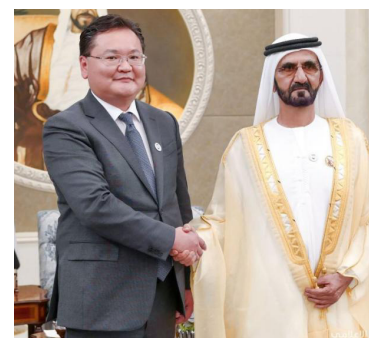
The visit of President N. Enkhbayar to the UAE in 2007 was one of the key milestones in our partnership. Number of important documents, including Agreement between the Government of the UAE for Air Services, Memorandum of Understanding on the Cooperation in Animal Quarantine and Veterinary Services, and Memorandum of Understanding on Conservation of Birds of Prey in Mongolia were signed during the visit.



which the two sides discussed ways to further strengthen bilateral economic, trade, investment, and tourism. Over the span of the last 5 years, our Minister for Foreign Affairs, Minister of Finance, Minister of Justice and Internal Affairs, and Minister of Construction and Urban Development paid official visits to the UAE, during which the two sides discussed further development in particular fields of cooperation.



The resolution of the State Great Hural on opening the Mongolian Embassy in Abu Dhabi was passed on 11 October 2019. In July 2021, Sh. Odonbaatar, Director-General of the Department of Policy Planning of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, was appointed as the first resident Ambassador of Mongolia to the UAE.



Two. Trade and Investment Sector Cooperation

Bilateral trade and economic ties with the UAE are more extensive compared to other countries in the region, with exception of Kuwait. Although our trade volume is limited to USD 4 million, it is continuously growing year by year. Since 2011, the UAE has invested USD 9.5 million in our trade, tourism, and public food sectors from which USD 2 million has been invested during the last three years alone.



The Abu Dhabi Fund for Development provided soft loan worth 13 million USD for the construction of the Taishir hydropower plant in 2003. Construction project of the hydropower plant was completed in 2008 and since then, it has been providing electricity for Gobi-Altai and Zavkhan aimags and its eight nearby soums.



The UAE Government has also provided around USD 2 million to the fight against air and environment pollution, and protection of birds of prey. Moreover, with USD 2 million grant from the UAE Government, two kindergartens each with a capacity of 100 children have been constructed in Kherlen soum of Khentii province, and Sainshand soum of Dornogobi province, as well as a kindergarten № 25 has been rebuilt in Sukhbaatar district.

The Government of the UAE donated 48 tons of medical supplies to support Mongolia's effort to contain and curb the spread of corona virus disease. Supplies included 450 boxes of medicines, medical supplies, face masks, and protective gear and equipment.

Three. Cooperation in Other Sectors



- Since 2008, the United Arab Emirates University (UAEU) has been providing two undergraduate degree scholarships to Mongolian students every year. As of now, 14 students have graduated from the UAEU with bachelor's degree in political science and business administration.

- As the number of travelers is increasing, the two sides are attaching great importance to easing visa requirements for the citizens of the two countries. Since 15 May 2019, the UAE citizens became eligible

to obtain visas on arrival at the international borders of Mongolia. Both sides are now working towards finalizing the agreement on visa waiver for holders of all types of passports.

- Mongolia has participated in the Expo 2020 Dubai under the theme of "Nomadic by Nature". Mongolian National Day event was organized on 16 November 2021, and the national flag of Mongolia was hoisted at the venue, where traditional music and dance show was performed.

- As part of the event, the Mongolia-UAE business forum took place on the following day with an aim to expand economic and investment cooperation between the two countries. The forum was co-organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Development Agency, the Mongolian National Chamber of Commerce and Industry from the Mongolian side and UAE Federation of the Chambers of Commerce and Industry from the Emirati side. 40 business representatives from Mongolia and 30 business representatives from the UAE attended the event.

TIMELINE: MONGOLIA - THE UAE RELATIONS



APR 1, 1996

Established
diplomatic relation



	Feb 2001	
H.E. Mr. N.Bagabandi, President of Mongolia visited the UAE	2003	Abu Dhabi fund for Development provided a soft loan worth USD 13 million for the construction of Taishir Hydropower plant
H.E. Mr. N.Enkhbayar, President of Mongolia visited the UAE	Nov 2007	
	Apr 2009	H.E Lubna Al-Qassimi, Minister of Foreign Trade of the UAE visited Mongolia
H.E. Mr. S.Batbold, Prime Minister of Mongolia visited the UAE	Jan 2011	
	Aug 2013	H.H. Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum – Vice President, Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai paid a private visit to Mongolia
H.H.Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan – Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the UAE visited Mongolia	June 2014	
	May 2015	H.E.Mr. Ch.Saikhanbileg, Prime Minister of Mongolia visited the UAE
The United Arab Emirates opened its Embassy in Ulaanbaatar	15 Mar 2016	
	Mar 2016	H.E. Mr. L.Purevsuren, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Mongolia visited the UAE
Mr.Enkhbold, Chairman of the State Great Hural of Mongolia visited the UAE	Dec 2016	
	Mar 2017	H.E. Mr. S.Byambatsogt – Minister of Justice and Interior of Mongolia visited the UAE
Mongolia expressed its intention to participate in the World Expo 2020 to be held in Dubai, the UAE	15 Mar 2017	
	2017	H.H.Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed Al Maktoum – Crown Prince of Dubai paid a private visit to Mongolia
H.H. Sheikh Sultan bin Khalifa Al Nahyan, Advisor to the President of the UAE visited Mongolia	Oct 2017	
	2018	H.H.Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed Al Maktoum – Crown Prince of Dubai paid a private visit to Mongolia
H.E. Reem Al Hashimy, Minister of State for International Cooperation of the UAE visited Mongolia	Aug 2018	
	Mar 2019	H.E. Mr. Ch.Khurelbataar, Minister of Finance of Mongolia visited the UAE
The Government of Mongolia allowed holders of ordinary foreign passport of the UAE to obtain a tourist visa upon arrival	May 2019	
	2019	H.H.Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed Al Maktoum – Crown Prince of Dubai paid a private visit to Mongolia
Mr. Kh.Badelkhan, Minister of Construction and Urban Development of Mongolia visited the UAE	Feb 2020	
	July 2021	Handover ceremony of kindergarten № 25 which was built with grant of the Government of the UAE
Mr. Sh.Odonbaatar appointed as the first resident Ambassador of Mongolia to the UAE	July 2021	
	16 Nov 2021	Mongolian National Day event was organized at the Expo 2020 Dubai

Our Embassy in Abu Dhabi is about to officially open



-This year marks the 25th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Mongolia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE). In connection with this event, could you tell us about Mongolia – Emirati relations and cooperation to our readers?

-Mongolia and the UAE officially established diplomatic relations on 1 April 1996. Since then, with the joint efforts from both sides, Mongolia – Emirati relations have kept moving forward with frequent exchanges of high and ministerial level visits.

Relations between the two countries began to become active after the official visit of H.E. Mr. N.Bagabandi, President of Mongolia, to the UAE in 2001, which marked the start of cooperation between respective organizations of the two countries in various fields and laid legal foundation for the future cooperation. Since then, we have exchanged a number of high-level visits between our two countries, which made a significant contribution to further development of

”

In the course of 25 years, the two countries attached great importance to the strengthening of bilateral relations. During the visit of Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation to Mongolia in 2014, the two sides reached an agreement to open Embassies reciprocally. Accordingly, the UAE opened its Embassy in 2016 in Ulaanbaatar, and our Embassy will start operating soon.

Interview with H.E Odonbaatar Shijeekhuu,
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of
Mongolia to the United Arab Emirates

bilateral relations.

In the course of 25 years, the two sides attached great importance to the strengthening of bilateral relations. During the visit of Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation to Mongolia in 2014, the two sides reached an agreement to open Embassies reciprocally. Accordingly, the UAE opened its Embassy in 2016 in Ulaanbaatar, and our Embassy will start operating soon.

On the international level, our bilateral relations and cooperation continue to develop within the framework of international organizations such as the United Nations and its specialized agencies. Mongolia supported the UAE's candidacy to the UN Security council non-permanent membership for the term of 2022-2023.

-Could you tell us about the

cooperation between two countries in the fields of investment, trade and economy?

-Although our trade volume is limited to USD 4 million, it is continuously growing on a yearly basis. Since 2011, the UAE has invested USD 9.5 million in our trade, tourism, and public food sectors from which USD 2 million of direct investment has been made during the last three years.

While our two countries working closely on a Governmental level, our cooperation with the Abu Dhabi Fund for Development has reached a certain level with the successful implementation of projects. For example, the Abu Dhabi Fund for Development provided soft loan of 13 million USD for the construction of Taishir hydropower plant. Abu Dhabi Fund expressed its readiness to cooperate with us if our side proposes projects with a fully conducted feasibility study.



Since 2008, the UAE University has been providing two undergraduate scholarships on a yearly basis. We are working with the UAEU to increase the number of scholarships in the fields of engineering, IT, and petroleum.

With the aim to expand trade and economic relations between Mongolia and the United Arab Emirates, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mongolia, the National Development Agency, Mongolian National Chamber of Commerce, and Industry and the Federation of UAE Chambers of Commerce and Industry co-organized “Mongolia - UAE Business Forum” on 17 November, 2021. 70 business representatives from both countries attended the event. I believe that this event will trigger incentives between business people to explore investment opportunities in both countries.

-Could you tell us more about cooperation in the field of education, culture, and humanity?

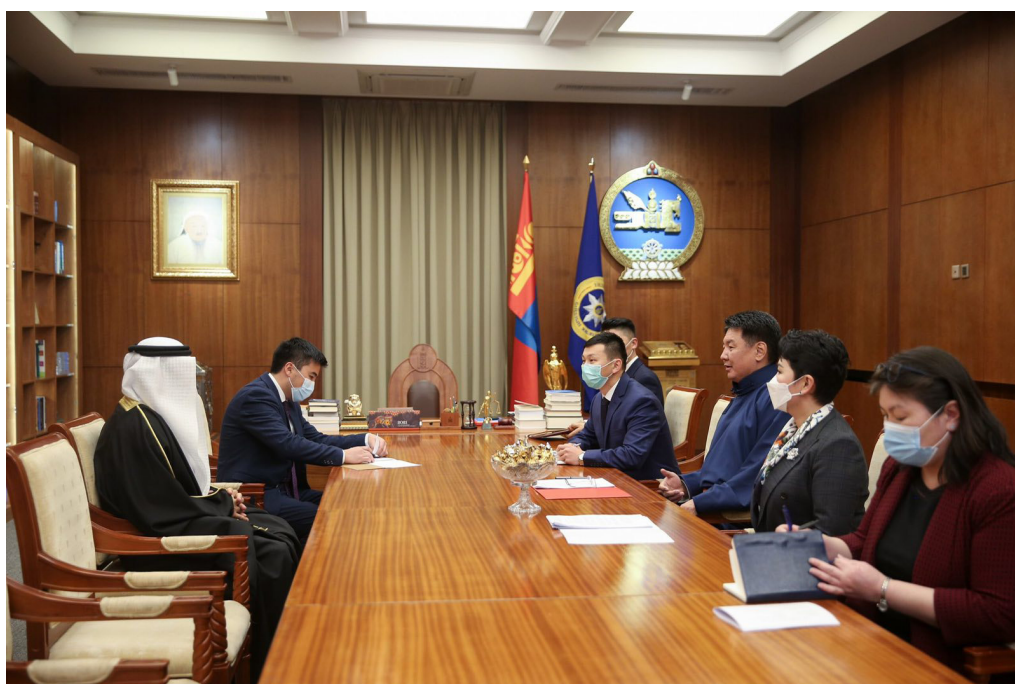
-Our bilateral cooperation in these fields is going on a steady-fast pace. Since 2008, the UAE University has been providing two undergraduate scholarships on a yearly basis. We are working with the UAEU to increase the number of scholarships in the fields of engineering, IT, and petroleum. “Mongolian National Day” was organized on 16 November 2021 on the sidelines of Expo 2020-Dubai, where our traditional music and dance performance was showcased to the officials and visitors of the Expo.

Our cooperation in the field of tourism is expanding. The UAE has become a tourist destination for Mongolian travelers during the winter season. Mongolian flag carrier MIAT Airlines operates 1-2 charter flights to Dubai every year.

-How many Mongolians are living in the United Arab Emirates?

-As registered in the Embassy records, there are 45 Mongolians living in the UAE at the moment. Our citizens are employed in civil aviation, university, and IT industries. In addition, number of people who are traveling from Mongolia to the UAE for tourism is growing year by year. This shows that the scope of people to people ties is increasing.

-How is the anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations being celebrated this



year?

-Number of works was planned for the celebration of the anniversary. As the anniversary befalls on 1 April 2021, our President and Foreign Minister sent congratulatory letters to their counterparts. Within the framework of celebration, we held the opening ceremony for the kindergarten No. 25, organized Mongolian National Day event at the Expo 2020 Dubai, and “Altan Argamj” television program was aired at our National Broadcaster. And now, our Embassy in Abu Dhabi is about to officially open.

-How the UAE defined its foreign policy with Mongolia? What is special about the UAE's foreign policy?

-The principles guiding the UAE's foreign policy were identified by the country's first President His Highness Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan.

These principles included an underlying belief in justice in international dealings between states, a principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of other states and the pursuit, wherever possible, of peaceful resolutions of disputes, with strong support for international institutions such as the United Nations. Within the Arabian Gulf

region, and in the broader Arab world, the UAE has sought to enhance cooperation and resolve disagreement through dialogue. As of today, the UAE has established diplomatic relations with 189 countries, and has 82 embassies and 4 permanent missions abroad. In the framework of its foreign policy of maintaining a good and stable relation with all countries, the UAE has been maintaining and developing political relations with Mongolia.

-Could you tell our readers about the most interesting information about the UAE in brief?

-This year marks the 25th anniversary of the establishment of our diplomatic relations, which coincides with a half centennial jubilee of the establishment of the United Arab Emirates. Since its formation, the UAE has witnessed tremendous development in a short period of time. In 1975, GDP of the country stood at USD 15 billion but today it is increased 30 fold to reach USD 420 billion. The country has seen pioneering developments that have garnered worldwide attention. Recent statistics confirm that the UAE has become a globally prominent financial and economic center. The fact that only 1.5 million out of 10 million residents are

local residents shows that the country has become a melting pot of the Middle East. With its world's tallest building, the most expensive 7 star hotel and the largest artificial island, the UAE attracted 16.9 million tourists in 2019 alone.

-What is the real need and desire for our country to open resident Embassy in the UAE?

-Our country is opening a resident embassy in the UAE because there is a real interest in developing relations and cooperation between the two countries. The fact that we are opening an embassy in the face of difficult economic and pandemic conditions is a sign that relations between the two countries are becoming more active.

The UAE is a country with an active foreign policy and big ambition in the region and global arena. Our two countries have been closely cooperating within the framework of the UN and other international organizations. I am confident that Mongolia will be a reliable partner of the UAE in East Asia as our relations and cooperation continue to develop and expand further.

-Your Excellency, thank you for the time to have this interview.



The “*constitution*” of the *capital city*

WAY PAVED FOR URBAN DEVELOPMENT

The legal status of Ulaanbaatar, the capital of Mongolia, has improved, paving the way for urban development. This is because the Law on the Legal Status of the Capital City, which was approved in 1994 and has become irrelevant over time and incapable of regulating the capital city's relations, was amended by the Parliament this year, after 27 years.

TIMELY AND HISTORIC LAW

In the 27 years since Ulaanbaatar, the capital of democratic Mongolia, first had its legal status approved, its economic capacity has increased tenfold, accounting for 64.7 percent of the country's GDP.

However, the city's population that was 550,000 has risen to almost 1.6 million, making the city's infrastructure, transportation, logistics, and access to social services inadequate, which has left Ulaanbaatar residents unable to exercise their constitutional right to live in a healthy and safe environment.

The problems that have accumulated for 30 years are directly related to the failure to update the Law on the Legal Status of Ulaanbaatar in a timely manner. It is said that the law was changed only once in the past. This situation is being remedied by the adoption of a new version of the law. In other words, the government has created new regulations to support the development of Ulaanbaatar, and it has become legally possible for the capital city to independently resolve some social, economic, and financial issues with the aim of



fully ensuring the rights of its citizens.

"INDEPENDENT" CAPITAL CITY

With the adoption of the law, the capital city has earned the right to pursue a wide range of independent policies. Metaphorically, the eldest son of a family who had worked since he was a minor and supported his father and younger siblings has left home and given the right to spend his income for the comfort and health of his own children. The amended law is improving the status of the capital city at all levels.

The capital city, Ulaanbaatar, is reaching the level of a ministry and the governor the level of a minister and will be able to table draft government resolutions on issues within their authorities other than initiating laws and sit in cabinet meetings to have the issues resolved by directly communicating with the Prime Minister and other cabinet ministers. Districts will be ranked at the same level as aimags. As a result, the city and district budgets are expanding significantly, and it is becoming possible to discuss budgeting of khoroos.

As mentioned before, the law enables the Governor of the capital city to submit proposals to the Cabinet on issues related to the city, participate in Cabinet meetings and express their views, table draft government resolutions on issues within their authority. Moreover, the law provides an opportunity for direct contact with the Prime Minister and members of the Cabinet.

Economically, the revenues of the city will no longer go to the state budget and the city is having the right to pursue independent policies on concessions and bonds. As a result, the capital city is getting the opportunity to classify a great number of issues that have accumulated over 30 years and improve the standards of technology

and services that require large investments, entrusting some necessary ones to foreign investors and partners.

After the law was amended, large companies interested in investing in LRT or light rail transit, public transport electric trains, electric bicycles, and electric taxi services began to turn to the city administration. Judging from this situation, the law is showing its effectiveness relatively fast and there is a prospect that citizens will start to reap the benefits.

ROADMAP CREATED FOR SATELLITE CITY DEVELOPMENT

Looking at Mongolia as a whole, there is not much opportunity to attract large amounts of investment in sectors other than mining. However, the expansion in the legal capacity of the capital city of Ulaanbaatar opens up great opportunities for the establishment of satellite cities and special zones (the number of special zones shall not exceed 5).

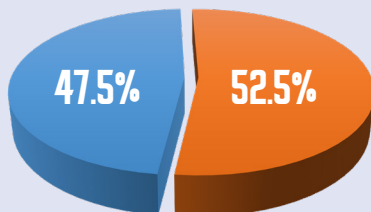
After the law was amended, Japan expressed its desire to cooperate in this area. The current conditions in rural areas are worse than in the capital city in all respects, so it is not possible to forcibly relocate citizens. However, the amended law stipulates that satellite cities will be free economic zones and will attract people through the implementation of special regulations on taxes, discounts, and exemptions. It can be said that not only satellite cities but also districts are getting the opportunity to implement different policies according to their own characteristics.

*Media Relations Department of the
Governor's Office of the Capital City*

Today the capital makes up a hefty portion of the following :



Population of Mongolia



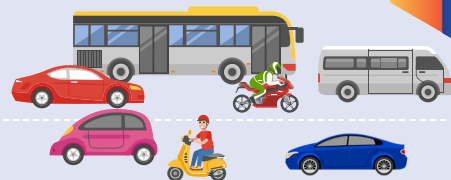
Ulaanbaatar
Rest of the country



Vehicles

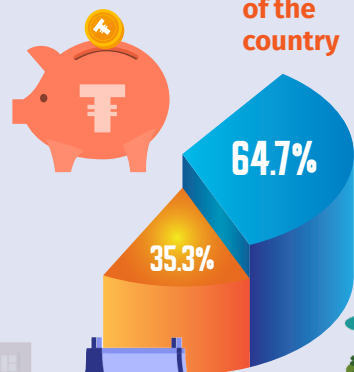
Ulaanbaatar
Rest of the country

45.9%
54.1%



GDP

Ulaanbaatar
Rest of the country



Enterprises



Ulaanbaatar
Rest of the country



Total territory of Mongolia



University

95.8%

0.3%





CHARGAIT
hydro power plant

A step towards energy independence:

CHARGAIT HYDROPOWER PLANT



For the very first time, discussions have begun to take place for establishing a hydropower plant in Mongolia with the investment of private entities. The plant in question is the Chargait Hydropower Plant that is currently being planned to be built near one of the largest rivers of Mongolia - the Delgermurun River located 28 km from Tosontsengel soum, and 50 km from the center of Khuvsgul aimag.

However, it should be noted that this is not a completely new project that was recently launched. Corresponding studies began to be carried out in 2008, and its feasibility study was conducted by Mongolian scholars in 2012. After five years in 2017, the Energy Regulatory Commission of Mongolia issued the special permission for constructing the hydropower plant, and the Ministry of Environment and Tourism also did a general assessment for the plant. As 13 years have already passed while making contact with investor companies and discussing cooperation with construction companies, it became necessary to conduct a new feasibility study. Currently, the 'Chargait Hydropower Plant' company is working to have the project acknowledged by international financial organizations.

With a capacity of 24.6 megawatts, the hydropower plant is expected to have a significant role in supplying energy for not only the local area, but also in the Central Energy System. By operating at only half of its full capacity, it will be able to fully supply the electricity demand in Mongolia's most populous aimag - Khuvsgul, explained the project team.

As the country's population continues to grow rapidly, the issue concerning the supply of energy from a reliable source is becoming that much of an important issue. Mongolia is considered as one of the countries with energy systems that are heavily reliant on coal. The energy sector produces two thirds of the greenhouse gases being produced in the country, which also has an impact on public health due to its contribution to air pollution. It is apparent that the aforementioned statistics will continue to grow if we are not able to take the correct step by finding an environmentally



Location of the Chargait Hydropower Plant

friendly solution. And it is for this exact reason that we have to pay special attention to the renewable energy sector.

Currently, the country produces 80 percent of its demand for electricity, while importing the rest from its two neighbors. Over 90 percent of the domestically produced energy is made up of thermal power plants that run on coal. In contrast, energy produced by hydropower plants has yet to make up a single percent. Alongside making its own contributions to the domestic energy production, the Chargait Hydropower Plant will have a crucial role in positively affecting local infrastructure, increasing job opportunities, reducing greenhouse gases, and in keeping ecological balance and rehabilitation. By storing flood water partially or fully, it also reduces the potential danger of flooding and creates a more favorable weather condition for the area as the level of humidity will increase due to the reservoir.

A solution for reducing greenhouse gases

Aside from becoming a global trend, reducing coal-based energy production has become a part of the development policies for various countries. And it is good news that private entities have begun to make their contributions to diversifying energy production in the country. Works to attract investors to the Chargait Hydropower Plant project and select contractor companies specialized in the field are currently underway.

A part of the plan to fully supply the domestic demand for energy and eliminate the sector's dependence will be met following the launch of the Chargait Hydropower Plant's operations. As of currently, 11 small hydropower stations are operated during warmer seasons due to weather conditions, and two medium-scale hydropower plants - Taishir Hydropower Plant and Durgun Hydropower Plant are producing energy within its capacity all-year round.

Included in the country's plans for development, the Chargait Hydropower Plant will help balance the load of the ever-increasing electricity demand for 60 years according to currently available studies.

To reach the objective of reducing greenhouse gases by 14 percent by 2030, Mongolia is paying significant attention to replacing the current method of coal-based energy production with renewable energy. One of the top solutions for producing energy without the emission of greenhouse gases is hydropower plants. And for this exact reason, the Government of Mongolia has announced that the construction of energy production structures based on nuclear energy and hydrogen will be supported by state policy. In fact, the government will implement a comprehensive policy supporting the launch of large-scale hydropower plants and increasing the sector's role in the economy in order to fully supply the domestic demand for energy. Each year, the country spends over MNT 400 billion on importing energy. The mining company, Oyu Tolgoi alone sources power amounting to USD 110-120 million from China.

Considering the ever-increasing energy consumption as well as its economic impact, many sources of energy production are required for Mongolia. With all thermal power plants based on raw coal, and a large percentage of households in the capital city using refined fuel for heating, it is absolutely necessary for Mongolia to diversify its energy sources. On top of the significant imbalance between the production capacity and demand for heating and electricity, the current situation with thermal power plants having to halt operations time and time again demands the establishment of new energy sources. Attracting foreign investment and fully supplying the domestic demand - the renewable energy sector also needs to have a long-term plan for exporting energy. And a part of that plan would be realized with the implementation of the Chargait Hydropower Plant project.



Mongolia's first-ever
indoor

Winter

Sports Palace



Mongolia's first-ever indoor Winter Sports Palace opened its door on September 29, with a grand opening ceremony.

The 'Ice Palace' complies with the standards of the International Olympic Committee. The architectural design and blueprints for the sports palace was done by a team of young Mongolian architects at Anagram LLC, with the advice and consultancy of professional institutions and architects specialized in sports facilities such as the Canadian architecture firm HDR and VDA Architecture Ltd.

By having the venue put into operation, it becomes possible for those interested in winter sports as well as many generations of ice skaters and hockey players to hone their skills no matter the season. Alongside competitions for certain winter sports such as hockey and figure skating, various other sports events such as basketball, handball, and boxing as well as concerts and performances, and conferences are able to be organized in the arena. The venue has a capacity of seating 2,600-3,600 people.

The opening ceremony of the Winter Sports Palace was attended by President of Mongolia U.Khurelsukh, who gave remarks congratulating the project implementing body.

He said in his remarks, "During my time as the Deputy Prime Minister four years ago, I became acquainted with the construction project for the winter sports palace and held discussions with the corresponding organizations about its construction alongside former President Kh.Battulga. The 'Ice Palace' has been constructed through the partnership between domestic companies. I express my sincere gratitude to you all for completing this large-scale project by introducing new engineering technologies and overcoming the challenging obstacles and circumstance."

Governor of the Capital City and Mayor of Ulaanbaatar city D.Sumiyabazar, Chief of the Physical Culture and Sports Authority Ts.Sharavjamts, and representatives of foreign countries' embassies in Mongolia attended the ceremony.

As Mongolia has no prior experience in constructing indoor venues for organizing winter sports competitions and events, an invitation for bid was issued for companies in the regions of North America and Europe for the supply of products, its installation, and appropriate corresponding training. AST Eis- und Solartechnik GmbH, an Austrian company specialized in constructing professional ice rinks, was selected for constructing the Olympic-size ice rink at the venue.

A total of 95 Mongolian companies and six foreign companies, 1,600 construction workers and engineers were involved in the construction of the Winter Sports Palace. On the occasion of the event, President of the International Olympic Committee Thomas Bach also sent greetings to Acting President of the Mongolian National Olympic Committee Ch.Naranbaatar. In the letter, he congratulated the committee on the establishment of the venue that will allow international sports events to be organized, and wished success for the preparation of athletes for the 2022 Winter Olympics.



Education



First of all, we started the construction of teacher and student service center building. The construction work of seventh school block of the university will begin soon. In addition, digital governance is one of the issues we are placing emphasis. Some 10 types of services and activities are being digitalized.

-Let's start our interview with the vision and objectives of NUM?

-As a state owned and leading university, we should consider what role must the university play in the society. Regarding management and governance of the university, we need to focus on three things.

Firstly, we talk about quality of our products, which cover two aspects: quality of graduates and their effectiveness. It is impossible to be a research institution without conducting research with good quality. On the other hand, it is about conducting scientifically based research. Research is also our product aside from preparing students. Secondly, there is the issue related to the salaries, which can satisfy the teachers and staff. For any organization, employees must be satisfied. What lies behind it is proper financial mechanism. Proper income, proper governance and proper allocation should be definitely taken into account. Thirdly, the standard environment. As we are one organization, collective, and family, it is very important for all- the students and teachers to be provided with good environment that meet standard for learning and conducting research. The main goal of a state-owned university is to train professionals and produce graduates who can create wealth in Mongolia. In

other words, our organization aimed at training professionals, who are capable to work and create wealth in the sectors reflected in the government vision-2050.

Based on our financial savings and operations carried out in recent years, we have launched the works to build standard environment for learning. First of all, we started the construction of teacher and student service center building. The construction work of seventh school block of the university will begin soon. In addition, digital governance is one of the issues we are placing emphasis. Some 10 types of services and activities are being digitalized. These include the digital system for hour management, human resource, scientific projects, registration, and the system of ensuring transparency for procurement process.

Could you elaborate about the goal of becoming a top research university in Asia?

Research must be effective and credible. The government adheres a policy to increase the investment for researches. As mentioned earlier, a university is not just an institution for training students, but also a research organization. Good research leads to creation of new knowledge. New knowledge changes curriculum. Therefore, university will be elevated to the next level by

Our university will give an opportunity of being a member of the National University of Mongolia to the young people, who sincerely want, determined and strive to be the best.



President of the National University of Mongolia **B.Ochirkhuyag:**

NUM STRIVES TO BE **RANKED** IN THE WORLD

Interview with B.Ochirkhuyag, President of the National University of Mongolia (NUM), touched upon the policies, activities and further plans of the first university of Mongolia.

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We are striving to be ranked in the world. But if we continue on the current path, we will lose huge time. The breakthrough could be made when Government invests sufficient funding. Without making breakthrough, it will take a long time to achieve the goal of becoming a top university and research university in Asia.

having research base. The mechanism to define who is capable, who is making the results, and who is being realistic should be clear. The research funding should be provided to the group, capable to conduct the research. This process is a competition. The Mongolian National University certainly will keep pace with the law and policies that support research universities. The assessment of higher education in Mongolia is the next important issue to be considered. The issue is about being internationally recognized. Being recognized means being ranked.

We are striving to be ranked in the world. But if we continue on the current path, we will lose huge time. The breakthrough could be made when Government invests sufficient funding. Without making breakthrough, it will take a long time to achieve the goal of becoming top university and research university in Asia. Our goal is right. As long as self-financing continues, the process of building research university environment, attracting good teachers, and creating a standard for teaching and research environment is expected to be slowed down. It is not an easy task to be recognized at the Asia's Top universities without an essential support and encouragement to be provided. It is considered that the support is required financially.

Could you address the youth, who want to enter NUM.

The youth who want to study at the National University of Mongolia need to understand why you need to choose it, what will you study and what effort you can make in order to maintain the reputation of the university. In other words, one must have a goal. Entrants should acquire the profession, they chose with clear goals. One can be motivated to learn only when he or she determine what he or she will achieve by choosing the profession- not by parental pressure or with self-doubt. The confidence to study will be built with the determination where to work after the graduation, planning what to do next and what can one do in the field he/she chose.

The National University of Mongolia is always ready to welcome young people with such beliefs, goals and dreams. It should be a great honor to study at the first university in Mongolia. Our university will give an opportunity of being the member of the National University of Mongolia, having one academic family, leading Mongolia and competing in the world to the young people, who sincerely want, determined and strive to be the best.



Mongol Costumes LLC, known for making traditional costumes and promoting Mongolian culture through their works, and Semuun studios have jointly made a documentary called "The Secret History of Mongolian Costumes". The documentary features a wide range of Mongolian clothing, ranging from the archaeological findings from the ancient times found in the territory of Mongolia from the 13th to 16th centuries. Mongol Costumes has been working since its establishment to introduce and promote the history and culture of Mongolian costumes.

It is believed that clothing changes as time passes, but retains its original soul and shape. The Mongols built a huge empire during the conquest of Chinggis Khaan. This could be the

main reason behind the multi-cultural essences that Mongolian clothes contain. That is why the documentary was made in order to promote Mongolian history through the culture of traditional clothing. The documentary also gives a clearer understanding of how Mongolian traditional clothes are linked to clothes worn in many different parts of the world.

Some petroglyphs in Mongolia are pieces of evidence that prove Mongolian traditional clothing has been worn since centuries ago. It is also clear from the petroglyphs that ornaments on Mongolian clothes are derived from the hooves and horns of animals. Therefore, the work is rich in facts, such as the possibility of ornaments being originated in Mongolia.





B.Suvs:

Mongolian Clothes represent our history and culture

-B.SUVD: Nomads laid foundations for many beginnings of human clothing and fashion-

Here is a short conversation with B.Suvs, the Director of Mongol Costumes about the documentary, "The Secret History of Mongolian Costumes" and about the culture and history of Mongolian clothes.

-Would you please tell us about the significance of the documentary?

-We visited about 40 cities and states of 16 countries to make the documentary. Our project team named the documentary "The Secret History of Mongolian Costumes" because we wanted to show that our clothing culture was widespread in many foreign countries during the era of the Mongol Empire. Many other things, such as history and customs are kept along with them. The documentary aims to show that the Mongolians are not only known to the world with their long pants and shoes.

-That is not true, is it?

-It is not. I visited the exhibition in Ka-

zan which was unveiled on the occasion of the 750th anniversary of the Golden Horde in 2019. At the exhibition, a very well-preserved "Bogtagan" hat worn by the Mongol queens was on display, which made me admire it a lot. What also made me proud the most was that everyone knew that it belonged to our ancestors.

-A museum in Taiwan also has a picture of the Bogtagan hat, right? We also have some same findings here in Mongolia.

- Yes. The Qatari museum also has a Bogtagan hat, gloves, and a deel. The same version of the 13th-century deel displayed in the museum is available in the museum of Dornogovi aimag of our country. Many

scientists have confirmed that it is originated from Mongolia. That's what we wanted to show in the documentary.

-Which country do you think is the most influenced by Mongolian clothing culture?

-I would say that many countries are influenced by Mongolian clothing culture to a certain extent. In general, Mongolian clothes represent our history and culture. Nomads laid foundations for many beginnings of human clothing and fashion. Because the clothes are comfortable to wear and have health and scientific advantages. In any place, clothes are the best tangible expression of a culture. The powerful cultures are also spread by clothing.



**U. Erdenebat:
Clothing is an
important
component of any
nation's culture**

*U. Erdenebat /Ph.D./, Re-
searcher, Department of Anthro-
pology and Archaeology, National
University of Mongolia.*

-How many archeological findings related to clothes have been found?

-Archaeological excavations have uncovered items of organic origin, felt, silk and fabric. Items made of these materials are rarely found. Therefore, they are considered very rare items. Many other rare and precious artifacts have been discovered.

-As you were a researcher of the documentary team, how do you feel about this work?

-Clothing is an important component of any nation's culture. It is believed that with the advent of clothing, mankind has truly broken away from the same classifications as the animal and started creating its own culture. That is why the origin of culture in our country is very early, which is confirmed by the findings of costumes and ornaments. These include petroglyphs and deels found in tombs. The em-



pires and countries that existed in the territory of Mongolia over the centuries have spread the culture of Mongolian clothing to many countries in Asia and Europe. The main purpose of the documentary is to give people better understandings of Mongolia's influence on clothing to modern people based on historical and archeological research.

-Research in this area must have been done in many countries around the world. Which country is most influenced by Mongolian clothing?

-I think it is China. During the Yuan Dynasty, the clothes of kings and queens, ornaments, and the color of fabrics had a strong influence on the country's fashion. Some archaeological excavations have shown that our ancestors were associated with China, Persia, Turkey, Central Asia, and even Italy and Rome.

-"Secret History of Mongolian Costumes", a two-volume book was published before. Would you elaborate on this?

-In collaboration with the National Academy of Clothing Studies, Mongol Costumes published the books - "Mongolian Clothes" and "The Secret History of Mongolia Costumes", in 2011 and 2015. It is an overview of the development of clothing in Mongolia since its inception. Furthermore, I am very pleased that this collaboration continues through a documentary created by Dr. B.Suvd, director B.Bayar and dozens of others. There are numerous sources for Mongolian clothing in Doha, Qatar, Turkey, India, Azerbaijan, China, and Taiwan. Based on this, it is possible to recreate Mongolian clothes in chronological order.



In addition, Kim Dong-wook, a South Korean researcher, said that many different types of clothes in Korea, Japan, China, Iran etc, from ceremonial costumes to ordinary clothes, were influenced by the clothes worn among central Asian nomadic people.

The fact that some Mongolian cultures spread internationally through clothing can be seen in the documentary.

"The problem is that we do not register and own the patterns, decorations, and designs of Mongolian clothes. The main thing is that if this work is done step by step and deepened, the time will come to prove that many works of fashion originated from the culture created by Mongolians" said B.Suvd.

AWARDS

2011

"3rd place from the 1st Exhibition of Top Young Artists of Mongolian" at the Gallery of the Union of Mongolian Artists (UMA)

2015

Grand prix from "Exhibition of Mongolian and French artists" at Art Gallery of UMA

2016

One of top 30 artists from "The Oita Asian Sculpture Exhibition" Japan

2017

"Top Youth Leader of Ulaanbaatar city" medal

2017

"Top Mongolian artist" medal

2017

Artwork was selected for the Mongolian National Modern Art Gallery

2018

The best artwork of the year

SOLO EXHIBITION

2019

"Ceramic sculpture" solo Exhibition at Khan bank Art Gallery

2017

"Lost Shadow" solo exhibition at Red Ger Art Gallery

2012

"The Role" solo exhibition, Art Gallery of UMA

2010

"Grove" solo exhibition, Art Gallery of UMA

2007

"You&me" solo exhibition, Chinggis Art Gallery

2006

"Noise" solo exhibition, Xanadu Art Gallery

Artist



Artist and ceramic sculptor N.Sukhburen's exhibition 'Manan' (Fog) features more than a dozen of his works. He graduated from the Mongolian National University of Arts and Culture as a ceramic artist, and then graduated from Myongji University in Seoul, Korea in 2013. N.Sukhburen is a leading cultural worker of Mongolia and an award-winning sculptor of the Union of Mongolian Artists.



"Mongolians live closer and in harmony with the mountains, water and nature. Thus, the works of 'Fog' exhibition have shapes of wind, sound of water, river twist.."



Five elements including water, earth, fire, wind, and iron serve equally in ceramic art. While absorbing these elements in artwork, an artist born again and again, becoming simpler from simple, and begins to search own-self from their inner soul. Similarly, N.Sukhburen's "Manan" exhibition displays works that strives to listen to yourself and find yourself.

Artist N.Sukhburen said, "Creation of an individual and a living existence is caused by natural process and time, not depending on us. Similarly, the creation absorbs into nature unrelately from us. If we look inside each other, we are all the same. Peace and freedom exist inside us, not outside."

His artistic work reflects the man's feeling of inner nature and peace. Generally, artworks discover the artist's inner world. These characteristics are clearly visible in Sukhburen's works such as "Existence of Power", "Deel", "Disbelief in the Stone, Wind", and "Snow Queen". Mongolians live closer and in harmony with the mountains, water and nature. Thus, the works of 'Fog' exhibition have shapes of wind, sound of water, river twist.. Occasionally, there is a sound of the wind blowing through the hollow created in the sculpture.



Listening to your inner voice

Another soul of his artworks is looking inside. Every character depicted in his sculptures and ceramic works looks peaceful with closed eyes. In his sculptures gods and angels are flying, newborns are being born from their mothers- still connected through the umbilical cord. In addition, the characters who represent peace, tranquility, water, wind, and clouds usually depicted wearing traditional clothes. Through the traditional costumes, the artist expresses connection of the man and nature. Such precious forms, expression and characters existing in their time make Sukhburen's work special.











ULAANBAATAR 2023

Second East Asian Youth Games to be held in Ulaanbaatar in 2023

In 2023, the 2nd East Asian Youth Games will be held in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

During the East Asian Olympic Committee meeting held in Taiwan in 2017, Mongolia was selected to host the sports festival. Although Mongolia has hosted several international and regional sports tournaments, this is the first time for the country to organize a continental multi-sports event.

The organizing committee headed by the Mayor of Ulaanbaatar and Governor of the Capital City D.Sumiyabazar convened in November, 2021 and discussed the preparations of the event, as well as the works to be done.



1500 athletes from the nine countries will compete in the games. In addition to the athletes, about 500 guests, delegation and media representatives will be brought together in Ulaanbaatar city.

Why is it the second?

The East Asian Olympic Committee consists of the Olympic Committees of China, Japan, South Korea, North Korea, Macao, Taiwan, Guam and Mongolia. At its first meeting in 1991, it was decided to organize the first East Asian Games in Shanghai in 1993. It has been held every four years until 2013, then changed its name to East Asian Youth Games.

The first East Asian Youth Games was supposed to be held in Taichung, Taiwan in 2019, but was canceled due to political reasons. Although Taichung-2019 has been canceled, it kept its title as the first festival. As a result, “Ulaanbaatar-2023” will be the first festival to be organized, but officially the second.

Construction of the sports palace is at 55 percent

The opening ceremony of the event will take place at a sports palace being built in the territory of Khan-Uul district, Ulaanbaatar city. It will be consisted of sports hall, sports complex, 50-metres-long swimming facility. The construction is currently at 55 percent with the funding of the state budget and other sources.

Mongolia to host two out of 12 sports events to be selected

In addition to the main categories - swimming, athletics, badminton, basketball, 3x3 basketball, futsal, judo, table tennis, taekwondo, tennis, volleyball - two additional categories will be added by the other two host countries.

Aside from the sports palace which is currently being built, the event is planned to take place in ‘Buyant-Ukhua’ sports complex, Central Sports Palace, football field of Mongolian Football Association, Futsal Palace, Central Amusement Palace, Steppe Arena, UB Palace, National Park, Athletics field in Nalaikh district, Sports facility of the National University of Mongolia and Bayangol Sports Palace.

1500 athletes to compete

1500 athletes from the nine countries will compete in the games. In addition to the athletes, about 500 guests, delegation and media representatives will be brought together in Ulaanbaatar city.

Mongolians in the East Asian Youth Games

The team of Mongolian athletes has been actively participating in the East Asian Youth Games since 1993. Looking back, the team has harvested a total of 101 medals, of which five were gold, 14 were silver and 82 were bronze medals. Now it is less than two years left to see how our athletes compete at home.



THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE EVENT WILL TAKE PLACE AT A SPORTS PALACE BEING BUILT IN THE TERRITORY OF KHAN-UUL DISTRICT, ULAAN-BAATAR CITY. IT WILL BE CONSISTED OF SPORTS HALL, SPORTS COMPLEX, 50-METRES-LONG SWIMMING FACILITY. THE CONSTRUCTION IS CURRENTLY AT 55 PERCENT WITH THE FUNDING OF THE STATE BUDGET AND OTHER SOURCES.





THE HAPPY FAMILY

