

Unofficial Translation

The fifth session of the Committee on Trade of Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) took place in Geneva on « Ways to increase the participation of transition economies in international trade »

At the joint high-level segment of the UNECE Committee on Trade and the International Trade Centre (ITC) as the opening keynote speaker was the Minister for Economic Integration of Kazakhstan Zhanar Aitzhanova.

Last week the 5th Session of the Committee on Trade of the Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) took place in Geneva on "Ways to enhance the participation of countries with economies in transition in international trade." The session was attended by the representatives of member countries of UNECE, the Eurasian Economic Commission and several international organizations. At the current session of the the Committee on Trade UNECE the main focus has been given to Kazakhstan.

At the joint high-level segment of the UNECE Committee on Trade and the International Trade Centre (ITC) as the opening keynote speaker was the Minister for Economic Integration of Kazakhstan Zhanar Aitzhanova. She informed the participants about the recent advances in the development of Kazakhstan's economy, policies to attract foreign direct investment and the participation of the Republic in the integration processes.

As one of the key speakers on "Problems of exports and imports in the transition countries" was the ambassador of Switzerland to Kazakhstan and Tajikistan Mr. Stephan Nellen. He underlined the efforts that the Kazakhstan government has made to diversify the economy and attract investment in the non-primary sector. The ambassador also spoke about the work that has been done by the Kazakhstan Council of Prime Minister on improving the investment climate, in which he took part.

The preliminary results of the trade needs assessment study on Kazakhstan has been presented at the meeting of the Committee on Trade, which is carried out jointly by the UNECE Experts, ITC and the Centre for Trade Policy development "MEDT". The completion of the project and the publication of the final report is scheduled for October of this year.

During the visit to Geneva Zhanar Aitzhanova also held bilateral meetings with the WTO Deputy Director-General Alejandro Jara and the Director of the WTO Accession Division, Mr. Chiedu Osakwe. During these meetings the parties discussed the plans for the second half of the year in order to use effectively remaining time for completing the negotiations process on the accession of Kazakhstan to the WTO by the end of 2012.

Secretariat of the Minister for Economic Integration of Kazakhstan

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