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ПРОДУКТЫ ПИТАНИЯ, НАПИТКИ
WorldFood
KAZAKHSTAN
FOODSTUFF AND DRINKS

Dear USAPEEC members!

On November 1- 4, 2006 the biggest trade show in Central Asia – “WorldFood Kazakhstan” will take place in Almaty.

We will have a separate pavilion and members are welcomed to join us at the USAPEEC lounge. All additional info on the trade show can be found at www.worldfood.kz/en

Kazakhstan



Kazakhstan sees economy growing 8.8 pct mid-term

Kazakhstan’s economy is likely to expand by an average of 8.8 percent a year in 2007-2009, while industrial output growth is expected to be around six percent.

The government said in a mid-term development plan published in the Kazakhstan Pravda newspaper that real gross domestic product (GDP) growth of 8.8 percent a year would help to double the size of the economy by 2008 compared with 2000 levels.

Industrial output would grow by a yearly average of 6.1 percent during that period, while inflation was expected to stay within the range of 5-7 percent. Kazakhstan’s economy expanded 9.4 percent in 2005, matching the growth rate in 2004.

The country’s economic growth has been propelled by high global prices for its key oil and metal exports, but the government says the pace of production might be slowing. - *Source: Reuters*

Kyrgyzstan



Russia restricts animal imports from Kyrgyzstan

Russia’s Agriculture Ministry said that imports of animals and animal products from Kyrgyzstan will be temporarily restricted due to the outbreak of an

unspecified disease in the Central Asian country. The ministry says in a statement posted on its website that the new regulation, which came into force on August 22, also applies to equipment used in the breeding and slaughter of cattle.

There has been no reaction from the Kyrgyz authorities to date. Outbreaks of brucellosis and foot-and-mouth disease have been recorded in some areas in 2006.

According to data of press secretary of the Agriculture Ministry of Kyrgyzstan Kymbatbek Musaev, 115 nidus were registered, where 7 thousand 940 animals infected. 1170 centers of anthrax were registered. - *Source: Kyrgyz National News Agency*

Uzbekistan



Boucher concerned by rights abuses in Uzbekistan

A top U.S. diplomat has said Washington is “profoundly concerned” about the human rights situation in Uzbekistan. Richard Boucher, the assistant U.S. secretary of state for South and Central Asian Affairs, said in Tashkent on August 9 the United States and Uzbekistan have “obviously very strong differences about the events in Andijon and human rights issues.

He was referring to the May 2005 uprising in the eastern city that was violently put down by government forces. Reports say hundreds of people were killed.

U.S.-Uzbek relations soured after Uzbek President Islam Karimov denied an international probe into the Andijon violence. And in the past year, authorities have intensified a crackdown on opposition and rights groups, expelling media outlets and dozens of foreign-funded aid groups. Boucher said after talks with Karimov that there are some continuing problems in the relationship between the United States and Uzbekistan. - *Source: Associated Press*

Uzbekistan investigating members of U.S. NGO

Uzbek authorities say they have opened a criminal case against the representatives of a U.S.-based aid group that specializes in providing assistance to farmers. A pro-government website, press-uz.info, quotes officials with the Tashkent prosecutor's office as saying Winrock International representatives are accused of conducting illegal publishing activities.

An Uzbek court on July 26 ordered the closure of the local branch of Winrock International, saying it had, among other things, sponsored the publication of a booklet that misquotes the Koran. Earlier this month, a spokesman for Uzbekistan's government committee

on religious affairs, Aziz Abidov, said the booklet -- called "Islom dini va hotin-kizlar" ("Islam and Women") -- distorts the life of the Prophet Muhammad and is not suitable for widespread circulation. - *Source: Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty*

Tajikistan



Only 17% of medical staff in Tajikistan have access to information on bird flu

Tajik Strategic Researches Center has completed monitoring of level of awareness of the population on bird flu. The results of the monitoring "Level of knowledge, attitude to and practice of prevention and elimination of the spread of bird flu in Tajikistan" indicate that only 80% out of 1000 respondents have a common notion of the virus, said representative of the center Firuz Saidov. The monitoring, which covered seven regions of the country including ShakhriNAV, Vakhdat, Dangara, Bokhtar, Jilikul, Jabborrasulov, Kabodiyon and Dushanbe, was conducted by the center in collaboration with UNICEF. - *Source: SNGnews.ru*

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