



Asia Society's International Business Conference

Kazakhstan Draws a New Wave of Investment: Strategies for Diversification and Sustainable Growth

Co-Organizers:

Asia Society • Eurasian Media Forum

Additional Corporate Supporters:

Deloitte & Touche, LLP
KPMG

Technology Partner:

Alser Computers

In Collaboration With:

American Chamber of Commerce
in Kazakhstan

Embassy of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Eurasia Group

EUROBAK

U.S.-Kazakhstan Business Association

JUNE 14-16, 2005

**THE REGENT ALMATY,
THE ANKARA IN KAZAKHSTAN**

ALMATY, KAZAKHSTAN



Conference Focus

Global energy and security concerns have heightened the importance of the Central Asian states, and Kazakhstan is leading the way in integration with the global economy. The country's political stability, skilled workforce, market-friendly policies and vast hydrocarbon reserves have combined to make it one of Asia's fastest growing economies. Kazakhstan is deepening economic relations with the major players in Central Asia - the U.S., China and Russia - while simultaneously opening its door to a potential new wave of investment from countries throughout the Asian region.

What are the next steps for Kazakhstan in its effort to diversify its economy? How will it develop the infrastructure necessary to sustain its rapid economic expansion? Will Kazakhstan continue to improve its investment climate in order to grow partnerships with major global investors? Where do the greatest opportunities lie for new economic ties between Kazakhstan and the rest of Asia? Will the US-Central Asia TIFA yield a harmonization of intra-regional trade and investment? How can Kazakh and international entrepreneurs capitalize on this more cohesive market?

The Asia Society's International Business Conference will explore how Kazakhstan is stepping up as an important player in the global economy and challenging the world's leading multinationals to participate in the region's rapid growth.

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Confirmed Opening Keynote Address:

His Excellency Nursultan Nazarbayev,
President, Republic of Kazakhstan

Confirmed Speakers

Zeyno Baran, Director of International Security and Energy Programs, Nixon Center

Daniel Fung, Chairman, Des Voeux Chambers, Hong Kong SAR

Richard C. Holbrooke, Vice-Chairman, Perseus LLC; Chairman, Asia Society

Wilson Mitchell, Partner in Charge, Audit Practice, KPMG Janat LLC

Dariga Nazarbayeva, Chair, Eurasian Media Forum

Martha Brill Olcott, Senior Associate, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

Pan Guang, Director, Shanghai Cooperation Organization; Director, Institute of Eurasian Studies, Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences

John Ordway, U.S. Ambassador to Kazakhstan

Frederick Starr, Chairman, Central Asia-Caucasus Institute, Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies at John Hopkins University

Bill Veale, President, US-Kazakhstan Business Association

Invited Speakers

Abdullah Abdullah, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Afghanistan

Anwar-ul-Haq Ahadi, Minister of Finance, Afghanistan

Askar Chingizovich Aitmatov, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Kyrgyz Republic

Ban Ki-moon, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Republic of Korea

Fang Xinghai, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Shanghai Stock Exchange

Victor Fung, Former Chairman, Hong Kong Trade Development Council

Uzakbai Karabalin, President, KazMunaiGas CSJC, Kazakhstan

Khursheed M. Kasuri, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Pakistan

Mohsin S. Khan, Director of Middle East and Central Asia Department, IMF

Kamal Kharazmi, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Islamic Republic of Iran

Viktor Khristenko, Minister of Industry and Energy, Russian Federation

Sergey Lavrov, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Russian Federation

Steven R. Mann, Senior Advisor for Caspian Basin Energy Diplomacy, U.S. Department of State

Elmar Maharram oglu Mammadyarov, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Azerbaijan

Grigory Marchenko, Former Chairman of the National Bank of Kazakhstan; Free Lance Adviser to the President; Chairman, Halyk Bank, KZ

Micheál Martin, Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment of Ireland

Yoshihiko Miyauchi, Chairman and CEO, ORIX Corporation, Japan

Shoichi Nakagawa, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry, Japan

Kamal Nath, Minister of Commerce and Industry, India

Talbak Nazarov, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Tajikistan

Catherine Novelli, Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for Europe and the Mediterranean

Condoleezza Rice, Secretary of State, US

Anvar Saidenov, Governor, National Bank of Kazakhstan

Vladimir Shkolnik, Minister of Energy and Natural Resources, Kazakhstan

Kassymzhomart Tokaev, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Kazakhstan

Bo Xilai, Minister of Commerce, People's Republic of China

George Yong-Boon Yeo, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Singapore

Nina A. Zhushypova, Chairman of Board of Directors, Kazkommertsbank

Conference Agenda

Tuesday, June 14

OPENING NIGHT DINNER & KEYNOTE ADDRESS

His Excellency Nursultan Nazarbayev,
President, Republic of Kazakhstan

Wednesday, June 15

OPENING ADDRESS:

Kazakhstan's Emergence as a Global Economic Player

SESSION 1

Building a Sustainable Base for a Diversified Market Economy

- Oil Revenue Management: Prioritizing Spending Allocations
- Encouraging Entrepreneurialism, Enterprise Restructuring and Privatization
- Capacity-Building through Foreign Direct Investment and Education Reform
- Fostering the Development of SMEs
- Furthering Technological Innovation: Funding R&D, Technology Transfer Programs

SESSION 2

Strengthening Kazakhstan's Investment Climate in Non-Oil Sectors

- How East Asia Earned International Investor Confidence: Case Studies on Competitiveness
- Productivity Enhancement: Examples of Managerial Innovation, Skills Incentives and a National Certification System
- Political, Legal, Tax and Accounting Reforms: Pre-requisites for a Strong Business Environment
- Internationally Recognized Approaches to Transparency, Corporate Governance, Civil Service Reform and Corporate Social Responsibility

SPECIAL LUNCHEON SESSION:

Kazakhstan's Entrepreneurs

SESSION 3

Developing Kazakhstan's Key Sectors, Beyond Energy

- Infrastructure Development: Building a Transportation and Logistics Hub
- Kazakhstan's Home Grown Advantage: Potential in the Agro-Processing Sector
- Restructuring Kazakhstan's Manufacturing Capacity
- Advancing IT & Telecom Infrastructure: How To Compete

SESSION 4

Financial Sector Strength as an Engine for Diversification: Second Generation Reforms

- Kazakhstan's Banking Sector Reform as a Model for the Region: Next Steps
- Creation of Domestic Capital Markets and Additional Sources of Debt and Equity Financing
- Reinvigorating Kazakhstan's Stock Market: How to Boost Domestic Companies
- The Dangers of Rapid Credit Expansion: Maintaining Asset Quality
- Establishing a Benchmark for the Cost of Capital: Sovereign Benchmark Bonds to Stimulate Fixed Income Markets

Thursday, June 16

SESSION 5

Opportunities in the Energy Sector

- Global Energy Insecurity & the Growing Importance of Central Asia as an Energy Provider
- Accessing World Markets: Choosing a Pipeline Route for Future Oil Exports
- Untapped Potential: Exploring Offshore Energy Opportunities in the North Caspian
- Contract Sanctity: Future Investment Implications of Pre-emptive Law and Retroactivity
- The Energy Boom as a Springboard for a Domestic Oil-Services Industry

SESSION 6

Building Strong Economic Partnerships in Central Asia: Focus on Regional Cooperation

- Progress and Potential of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, EURASEC and other Regional Institutions
- Cross-Border Strategies for Cooperation on Trade, Fossil Fuels, Water Management & Security
- Areas of Opportunity for Increased Economic Cooperation with Russia, i.e. Oil Transport
- The U.S.-Central Asia TIFA: New U.S. Investment in the Region?
- Events in Afghanistan and the Aftermath of the War in Iraq: Regional Economic Consequences

SPECIAL SESSION:

What WTO Accession Would Mean for Kazakhstan & the Region

SESSION 7

The "Second Wave" of Investment: Building New Business Alliances with Asia

- Expanding Kazakhstan's Profile in Asia and Drawing Large-Scale Investment From the Region
- Capitalizing on China's Booming Export Market, Demand for Energy and Stake in Developing Central Asia's Hydroelectric Power Potential
- Expanding Korean Investment in Kazakhstan's Electronics and High-technology Industries
- Southeast Asia to Bring Port and Facilities Management Experience to Kazakhstan
- Japan's Emerging Interest in Kazakhstan's Investment Potential: Opportunities for Cooperation

CONCLUDING DISCUSSION:

The Path Forward for Kazakhstan

The conference organizers are grateful to the following outreach organizations:

(LIST IN FORMATION)

British-Kazakh Society

Confederation of Indian Industry

Kazakhstan Business Association for Sustainable Development

KWR International, Inc.

Union of Chambers of Commerce and Industry of the Republic of Kazakhstan

REGISTRATION FORM

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THE REGENT ALMATY,
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ALMATY, KAZAKHSTAN

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS



THE ANKARA IN KAZAKHSTAN

The Regent Almaty, The Ankara in Kazakhstan

181, Zheltoksan Str.,
480013, Almaty, Kazakhstan
Reservations Telephone:
(7) (3272) 50 50 00 / 58 21 11
Hotel Fax: +7 3272 58 21 00
Reservations fax: +7 3272 50 37 19
Website: www.regenthotels.com/almaty

Hyatt Regency Rahat Palace Hotel

Akademik Satpayev Avenue 29/6, 050040
Almaty, Kazakhstan
Telephone: +7 3272 50 12 34
(reservations department ext. 2340)
Facsimile: +7 3272 50 88 88
E-mail: almaty.regency@hyattintl.com
Website: www.almaty.hyatt.com

Special Room Rates for Conference Delegates
will Be Available Shortly.

To register, please fill out this registration form, then fax to 212-327-2280. You may also contact Cameron Jones at the Asia Society by phone at 212-327-9356 or by email at almaty2005@asiasoc.org. (M-F 10am-5pm EST) On-site registration will be available from June 7-June 14. You may register in person at the Asia Society Conference Secretariat located within the Regent Ankara Hotel in Almaty.

Russian-speakers with questions about the conference may contact Mirgul Issanova or Dinora Bisenova at the Eurasian Media Forum (T: 7(3272)506504, E: mirgul@eamedia.org; dinora@eamedia.org)

Given Name _____

Family Name _____

Name as you would like it to appear on your badge

Honorific: Mr., Dr., Mrs., Ms., Other _____

Title _____

Company _____

Address _____

City / State / Zip / Country _____

Telephone _____

Fax _____

Email _____

If you are a member of a conference collaborating or outreach organization, please list:

Name of accompanying spouse: _____

I will attend the Opening Night Dinner on June 14th. Yes No

REGISTRATION FEE

US\$

KZT*

Member

\$250

41,000

Non-Member

\$450

61,000

**Accompanying Spouse (not colleague)

\$100

13,500

Please contact
Cameron Jones at
212-327-9356 for
NGO/Academic Rates

* Estimated Kazakhstan Tenge; Actual exchange rate will vary **Includes Opening Night Dinner only

PAYMENT

Check in US Dollars only (payable to Asia Society / Kazakhstan Conference) or
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VISA INFORMATION

A visa is required of travelers from certain countries when entering Kazakhstan. Please contact Kazakh authorities in your area to determine if you need a visa. For conference attendance, we suggest requesting a tourist visa. Please allow time for processing if a visa is required.

TRAVEL INFORMATION

If you need help making your travel arrangements, please contact Maria Sirico at New York Travel Service by phone at 800-727-6989, or by email at maria@newyorktravelusa.com

CONFIRMATION

Upon receipt of registration payment, confirmation of registration will be sent. Payment must be received before June 7 in order to guarantee your place. Registrations are on a first come-first serve basis and space is limited.

CANCELLATION POLICY

All cancellations must be sent or faxed to the Asia Society by June 7 in order to receive a refund.