



KAZAKHSTAN

Ruslan Dalenov, Governor

Dear President Nakao,
Dear Mr. Sayed-Khaiym,
Dear Governors, ladies and gentlemen!

Let me first of all express my sincere thanks to the Government of Fiji and ADB for the excellent organization of the 52nd annual meeting of the Board of Governors of the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the theme of which is "Prosperity through unity".

We highly appreciate the cooperation with ADB and the holding of the annual meeting has become traditional for us and is a fruitful platform for discussing topical issues of economic development and building understanding for solving its global problematic aspects.

The theme of the 52nd annual meeting of the Board of Governors of ADB "Prosperity through unity" is closely linked with the development of the economy of Kazakhstan, which is committed to multi-vector cooperation, choosing liberal approaches to stimulate economic growth.

With the development of globalization processes, the future of the ADB countries is determined by their interaction with each other.

By 2020, it is planned to provide Kazakhstan with air connections with the 10th leading global financial centers (Singapore, New York, Tokyo, Dubai, Frankfurt, Beijing, London, Paris, Shanghai, Seoul).

The International Financial Center Astana was established, which will later become a financial hub for the entire Central Asian region.

Our focus is focused on the transformation of economic development in favor of increasing quality growth through the development of healthy competition, equitable international trade, improving the investment climate, as well as technological modernization and digitalization of economic sectors.

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It should be noted that the year 2019 marks the 25th anniversary of Kazakhstan's partnership with the Asian Development Bank.

Within the landmark date, we support the initiatives of the ADB in Kazakhstan on the implementation of 3 main activities: 1) a seminar on the implementation of the ADB Strategy 2030 and its implications for countries with above-average incomes; 2) high level financial innovation forum; 3) Summit on Sustainable Development Goals.

A seminar on the implementation of the ADB Strategy 2030 was successfully held in Nursultan on April 28 of this year. with the participation of interested state bodies.

In connection with the 25th anniversary of the partnership and at the request of the Government, ADB is considering the possibility of the visit of President Nakao to Kazakhstan in November 2019, before his planned participation in the ministerial conference of the Central Asian Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) on November 14 in Tashkent.

The government and ADB are considering the possibility of President Nakao signing two sovereign loans (irrigation and transport sectors) and opening, together with the Prime Minister, of a regional Partnership for Sustainable Development summit.

From 2017, the ADB implemented the Country Partnership Strategy until 2021. ADB expects to invest \$3 billion in Kazakhstan by increasing funding for projects in the private sector and in the field of knowledge.

In July 2018, ADB adopted its new Strategy until 2030.

An important step in the development of cooperation between the Bank and the Republic of Kazakhstan was the signing of the Framework Partnership Agreement on the initiative of the Head of State to create a diversified and competitive economy.

To implement the new Partnership Strategy for the country for 2017-2021, joint work is being carried out to sign an additional agreement to it.

We hope that the new directions of these strategies and the new framework agreement will help strengthen the partnership between ADB and the Republic of Kazakhstan.

It is important to note the technical cooperation in the Knowledge and Experience Exchange Program. Kazakhstan is considering the signing of the Supplementary Agreement to the Memorandum on the Program with the extension of the term for implementation of the Program until 2023 and making a contribution of \$ 1 million.

With great interest, we are successfully implementing a joint technical assistance project of the Asian Development Bank and the World Bank in the amount of \$1 million for the modernization of urban infrastructure.

At the same time, today, Kazakhstan has all the opportunities to achieve the SDGs, since the national priorities defined in the "Kazakhstan 2050" strategy and the new "Economic Development Strategy-2025" fully coincide with the SDG indicators.

We are interested in the further implementation of the Central Asian Regional Economic Cooperation Program with ADB and in the expansion of its strategic priorities.

Kazakhstan actively participates in the regional technical assistance project "The Almaty-Bishkek Economic Corridor.

Within the framework of the CAREC Program, a new regional project “Economic corridor“ Shymkent-Tashkent-Khujant ”is being prepared.

Dear Mr. Nakao!

Dear Mr. Sayed-Khaiym!

In order to further consolidate joint actions and expand partnerships, the Government of Kazakhstan is contributing financial contribution as a donor country to the Asian Development Fund, and our contribution amounted to \$8.1 million, of which in 2013, a contribution of \$5.2 million was made and for 2017-2020 at the rate of \$2.9 million.

The donation in the fund allows Kazakhstan to assist the development of Central Asian countries and our partners. We are considering the possibility of another contribution to the PRA in 2021.

I wish you further prosperity.