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**Sustainable development**

**Letter dated 3 September 2019 from the Permanent  
Representative of Turkmenistan to the United Nations addressed  
to the Secretary General**

I write with regard to the first Caspian Economic Forum, which was held in Turkmenbashi, Turkmenistan, on 11 and 12 August 2019.

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the declaration of the Chair on the outcome of the Forum (see annex).\*

I would be very grateful if you could kindly circulate the present letter and its annex as a document of the General Assembly.

*(Signed)* Aksoltan Ataeva  
Permanent Representative

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\* Circulated in English and Russian only.



**Annex to the letter dated 3 September from the Permanent Representative of Turkmenistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

[Original: Russian]

**Declaration of the Chair on the outcome of the first Caspian Economic Forum**

The first Caspian Economic Forum was held in Turkmenbashi, Turkmenistan, on 11 and 12 August 2019.

A number of international events were organized as part of the Forum, the outcome of which was as follows:

Emphasis was placed on the role of the Convention on the Legal Status of the Caspian Sea, which was signed by the Heads of State of Azerbaijan, Iran, Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation and Turkmenistan at the fifth Caspian Summit held in Aktau, Kazakhstan, on 12 August 2018, and which creates the necessary conditions for placing cooperation between the countries of the Caspian region on a qualitatively new partnership level;

It was recognized that the Agreement between the Governments of the Caspian States on Trade and Economic Cooperation and the Agreement between the Governments of the Caspian States on Cooperation with regard to Transport contributed to the further strengthening and development of interaction between the littoral States on economic matters;

It was noted that the Caspian Economic Forum platform could become an important form of cooperation aimed at ensuring economic growth in the region and beyond;

Emphasis was placed on the need to build capacity with regard to trade and investment policy, facilitate trade processes, and build export supply capacity in the interests of trade and investment in the Caspian region;

It was recognized that the countries of the Caspian region and all stakeholders, including the private sector, associations and academia, could maintain an active dialogue on best practices and measures relating to the implementation of goals for ensuring the development of economic contacts;

Attention was drawn to the importance of active participation and assistance on the part of international organizations and financial institutions for the development of international economic cooperation in the Caspian region;

It was recognized that there was a need for combined efforts to realize the significant economic potential of the Caspian States.

On the basis of the foregoing, the following actions were recommended:

1. Take the necessary steps to increase the attractiveness of the economies of the Caspian States with the aim of further active integration of the Caspian region into the international economy;
2. Encourage investment and stimulate innovation in the energy, industrial, transport, trade and other sectors of the economies of the Caspian States;
3. Further strengthen regional cooperation in areas such as socioeconomic development, environmental protection, science and innovation, and the exchange of economic information;

4. Strengthen cooperation and coordination between the countries of the Caspian region and the United Nations system, including the United Nations regional commissions;

5. Hold Caspian Economic Forums on a regular basis in the littoral cities of the Caspian States.

The Forum participants expressed their gratitude to the Government of Turkmenistan for the high level of organization of the first Caspian Economic Forum and for the hospitality provided.

Turkmenbashi, Turkmenistan  
12 August 2019

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