



# UK Trade Mission to TURKMENISTAN

## 5-7 March 2012

*Organised by the Turkmenistan UK Trade & Industry Council, with official support from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan and the British Embassy, Ashgabat.*

### Visiting the capital Ashgabat, with the option to extend to the new tourism city of Avaza on the Caspian Sea

Turkmenistan gained independence from the Soviet Union in 1991. A small country in terms of population (5.2 million), its importance, both commercially and politically, lies in the fact that it has the fourth largest reserves of gas in the world, including the second largest single deposit of 21tcm.

Turkmenistan's hydrocarbon wealth has allowed the Government to undertake a massive development programme which is transforming the major cities of Ashgabat (the capital), Turkmenbashi (the port on the Caspian Sea), and the creation of a new tourist resort, Avaza, on the Caspian Sea. It is this infrastructure development programme, together with the continuing development of gas fields and a wide range of services, as well as the need to educate and train the Turkmen people, which provides opportunity for UK companies.

GDP grew at around 10% from 2006-8, dropped to 6% in 2009 with the global financial crisis and has since recovered back to previous levels.

The 2012 budget has recently been approved at \$26 billion, and there is also significant off-budget public spending financed by higher than forecast hydrocarbon prices and the State Stabilisation Fund. Ashgabat and the new city of Avaza will continue to absorb a substantial portion of development funds, with other priorities being in education, healthcare, sport, transportation, power, and public welfare.

The Government has prioritised the development of sporting facilities, including the construction of an "Olympics" complex in Ashgabat, which will host the 5<sup>th</sup> Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games in 2017.

Ashgabat – the new Ministry sector



#### Booking Procedure

Please complete the form over and return to Yvonne Jones (email: [yj@britishexpertise.org](mailto:yj@britishexpertise.org)) or fax to 020 7824 1929. Enquiries can also be made to Nigel Peters (email: [np@britishexpertise.org](mailto:np@britishexpertise.org)) or tel: 020 7824 1920.

A mission management fee per delegate of £295 + VAT (CEA/CATBIG/BE members), £395+ VAT (all others) will be invoiced on receipt of the booking form.

The closing date for applications is Friday 3 February, however you are advised to book as soon as possible.

Supported by:



## OUTLINE PROGRAMME

### ▪ Sunday 4 March

Travel to Ashgabat (recommended flight Turkmenistan Airlines T5-430, d. Birmingham 1815 Sunday a. Ashgabat 0435 Monday)

### ▪ Monday 5 March & Tuesday 6 March

Group meeting programme in Ashgabat to include:

Briefing by HM Ambassador Keith Allan and Ronald Nash, UK Co-Chair of TUKTIC

Business Forum to include: Meetings with the Government of Turkmenistan at Deputy Prime Minister/Minister level; Turkish Construction Companies; European Bank for Reconstruction & Development & other financing institutions; Turkmenistan private sector organisations

Monday Evening: Reception hosted by HM Ambassador

### ▪ Wednesday 7 March

Reserve time for follow-up meetings or optional visit to Avaza by internal flight.

Return to UK, options include:

Wednesday 7 March: Turkmenistan Airlines T5-421 d. Ashgabat 1805 a. Birmingham 2055 (for those visiting Avaza or wishing more time in Ashgabat the next direct Turkmenistan airlines flight is on Friday 9 March, d. Ashgabat 0920 a. Birmingham 1210

**Working with the British Embassy and our recommended travel agent we will provide you with an extremely good value travel package to include: return flights with Turkmenistan Airlines, Birmingham-Ashgabat return (Business Class c. £900 return/Economy class c. £500 return); rooms at the 5 star Sofitel Oguzkent Hotel in Ashgabat for c. £135/night; letter of support for a visa to be issued by the Turkmenistan Embassy in London for c.EUR 50. Further details on the mission together with information on how to book the above package will be given on receipt of the mission management fee of £295/395 per person.**



**TO SECURE YOUR PLACE PLEASE SEND THIS BOOKING FORM (BY EMAIL OR FAX) TO:**

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**TEL:** 020 7824 1920

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**EMAIL:** [yj@britishexpertise.org](mailto:yj@britishexpertise.org)

## BOOKING FORM

Name & Company:

Position:

Address:

Phone Number:

Fax Number:

Email:

Please state nature of business