



MISSION OF AZERBAIJAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS

Press release

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AZERBAIJANI OIL REACHES THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA

On 28 May 2006, Azerbaijani oil reached Ceyhan terminal in Turkey through the Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan oil pipeline (BTC). Hence, the BTC pipeline project has successfully entered a new stage of its existence and started to deliver on its main objective, which is to transport Azerbaijani crude oil through Georgia to Turkey and, from there, to Western markets.

The pipeline will thus become an important route in international oil traffic and secure alternative supply to global energy markets. About 300,000-400,000 barrels of oil a day will be pumped within the next few months. In 2008, the volume will reach a million barrels.

In an address to the people of Azerbaijan on May 29th, President Ilham Aliyev congratulated his fellow countrymen on the occasion, calling it a great historical event. “Construction of the Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan oil pipeline is an extremely important event for Azerbaijan. It will ensure long-term development of Azerbaijan, enrich our country and strengthen our economic potential. ...It is very remarkable that arrival of the Azerbaijani oil at the Ceyhan terminal timed to the Republic Day. It is of great symbolic significance, as well because the role of the Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan oil pipeline in strengthening of Azerbaijan's independence is unquestionable and significant” said the President.

The official ceremony of inaugurating the pipeline's Turkish section will be held in Ceyhan on July 13 and will be attended by the Presidents of Azerbaijan, Georgia, Turkey and other high-ranking officials.

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