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Ashgabat host talks on Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Tajikistan railway project

April 10, 2014

The Turkmenistan and Tajikistan foreign ministry officials on Thursday met to discuss the Turkmenistan-Afghanistan- Tajikistan railway construction project.

The meeting of the Joint Coordination Group was held at the foreign ministry of Turkmenistan to review the project.

Turkmenistan's foreign ministry in a statement carried by Trend News said, "During the talks, the delegations of the two countries discussed the prospects of bilateral cooperation in the field of transport in the context of implementing the memorandum of understanding on the Turkmenistan-Afghanistan- Tajikistan railway construction project among Turkmenistan, the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and the Republic of Tajikistan."

The Turkmenistan-Afghanistan- Tajikistan railway construction project has been implemented since June 2013, and the project is expected to become operational by 2015.

The 400 kilometer railway will connect Central Asia and world markets through the sea ports near the Indian Ocean.

China, Islamic Republic of Iran and Kyrgyzstan are also expected to join the project in the near future. Turkmen railway men will lay an Afghan section of the railway which will have two crossings in Afghanistan.

The project is considered to be vital for strategic, political and economic interests of all participants of the project.