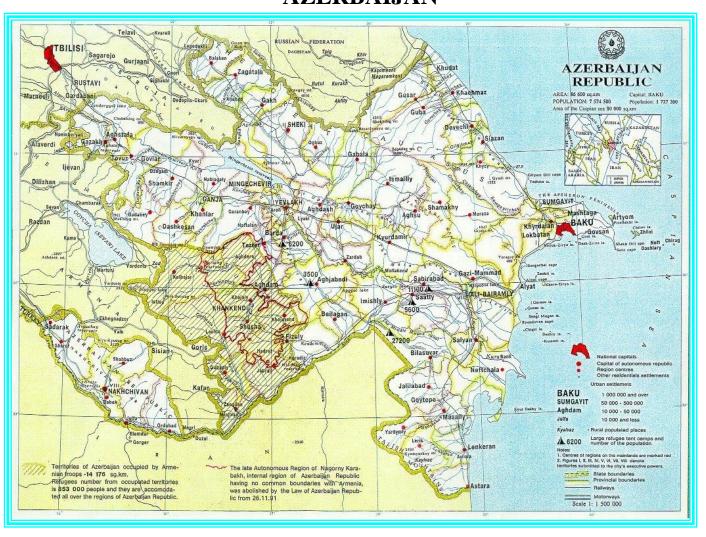
Ramiz Akhundov – Deputy Secretary General, International Association of Shippers of Azerbaijan ABADA

ULAN-BAATAR, MONGOLIA, 6-8 October 2014 DEVELOPMENT OF CUSTOMS BORDER POINTS INSTRUCTURE IN AZERBAIJAN



As Azerbaijan is situated at the junction of 2 continents, its territory is crossed by natural corridors between Europe and Asia: East – West, North – South, TRASECA and CAREC corridors.

The customs border crossing points (BCPs) in Azerbaijan include:

- Baku for ferry transport,
- Ksasnyi Most and Belakany border with Georgia,
- SDK border with the Russian Federation,
- Astara and Bilasuvar border with Iran.

All BPCs are equipped with modern equipment and operated under the SINGLE WINDOW arrangement. That is there are no other services at BCPs except for the border and customs. All documents – on transport, shipments and sanitary requirements are examined by customs officers. Thus, the driver submits the documents in one window and in10-15 minutes he is ready to cross the border.

Baku-Tbilisi-Kars railway is under construction to link Asia and Europe.

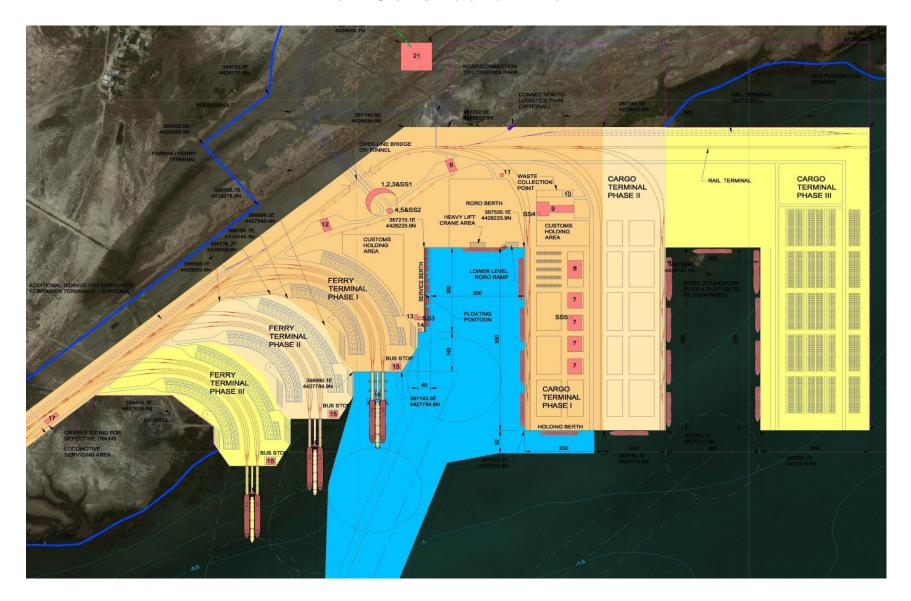
Sea routes – are ferry crossings: Baku sea port – Aktau port (Kazakhstan) and Turkmenbashi port (Turkmenistan).



Due to expansion of Baku city a decision was made to transfer the existing Baku sea port to Alyat settlement, which is 50 km away from Baku. It is a very convenient location, as a road and a railway line are located nearby.



Port Construction Plan



Alyat Port

The new Baku International Trade Sea Port is conducted in Alyat settlement 50 km away from Baku.

It will be the largest and most modern port at the Caspian Sea and along TRASECA, East-West, North-South and CAREC corridors.

Its area will be 400 hectares. Its location has not been selected randomly - main highways and railway lines are located nearby.

The port will be constructed in 3 phases.

Phase 1

Construction of the entry channel: its length will be 7 km, width - 160 meters, depth - 7.5 meters and turn-back - 450 meters.

This will enable to accept all types of ship operating in the Caspian Sea.

Phase 1 will include conduction of the ferry terminal, for Ro-Ro ships, bridges for dry cargo, customs and border posts, warehouses. Appropriate cranes and devices, a modern navigation system will be installed, passenger zones and official premises will be established. Besides, a 2-km 6-lane road and a 3-km railway line will be constructed. The turnover at the first phase will be 10 mln. tons and 40 thousand containers.

I would like to report to you, that the opening of the ferry terminal was held on September 22, 2014 under Phase 1 of the new complex of the Baku International Trade Sea Port.

President of the Azerbaijan Republic Ilham Aliyev took part in the opening ceremony. Firstly the head of the state reviewed the pictures reflecting the work done and the model of the port complex. The President of Azerbaijan made a speech at the ceremony.

Then there were speeches by Minister of Transport Ziya Mamedov and regional director of Dunch company "Van Oord" Hans Luigenburg. Then the head of the state launches the terminal.

President Ilham Aliyev watched the process of ferry loading and their departure from the terminal.

Phase 2

Depending on growth in commodity turnover, the port will be expanded to increase its handling capacity to 17 mln. tons and 150 thousand containers.

Phase 3

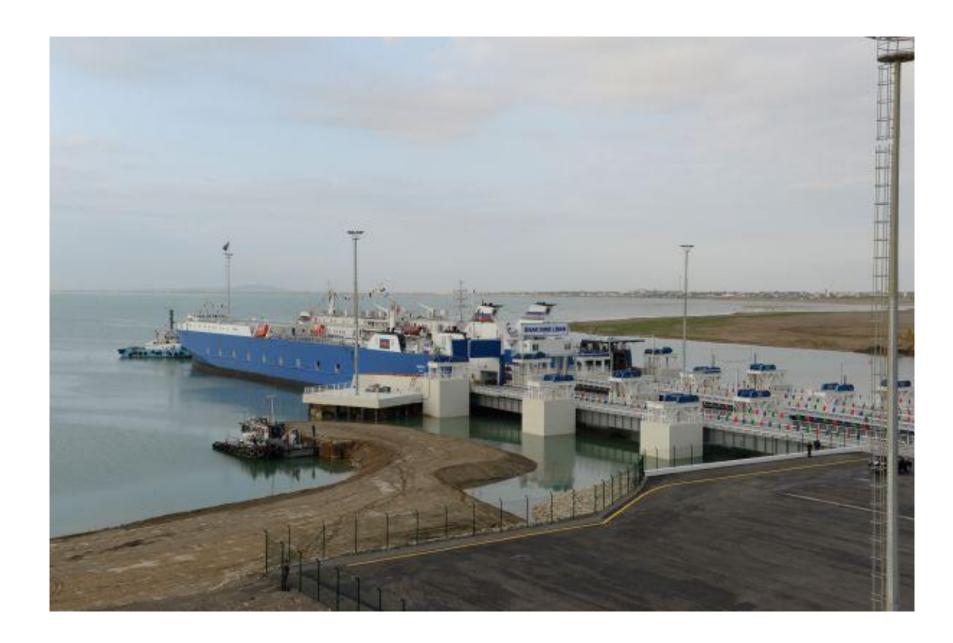
Under Phase 3, given growth in container shipments throughout the world, a container yard for 1 mln. containers will be constructed and equipped with a modern system.

Thus, the cargo handling capacity will be increased to 25 mln. tons.

Besides, the largest logistics center in the region is being designed at the current stage. This logistics center equipped with the most modern system, will have a adequate place in the transport system of Azerbaijan and will promote further growth of the country's economy.

Recently I read that intends to construct a railway to the Caspian sea. This will lead to even greater growth in trade between Asia and Europe.







Thank you for your attention!

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