Workshop on Energy Investments in Uzbekistan

International Energy Charter,
Boulevard de la Woluwe 46, 1200
Brussels

Nagant Meeting Room

Thursday 4 October, 2018
from 10:00 - 14:00 hours

Provisional agenda

10:00 - 10:30  Registration and welcome coffee

10:30 – 11:00  Opening Remarks

Mr Dilyor Khakimov, Ambassador of Uzbekistan and Head of Mission to the EU and to the Kingdom of Belgium

Dr Urban Rusnak, Secretary General, Energy Charter Secretariat

11:00 – 13.00  Presentations and interactive discussion

Moderated by Dr Marat Terterov, Principal Coordinator of the Knowledge Centre, Energy Charter Secretariat

- The emergence of Uzbekistan as an attractive Investment destination
  Presentation by Faizulla Shaismatov, Head of the Department of the Integrated Development of Energy and Chemical Industry, State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan on Investment

- The pros and cons of investing in the energy sector in Uzbekistan: why there is no time like the present
  Presentation by Aziz Khamidov, Head of the Energy Division and Construction Materials, State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan on Investment

- Uzbekistan in the wider-Central Asian investment context and market assessment
  Comments by Richard Wheeler, Head of the International Centre for Energy Security Dialogue and former-Senior Official at the OSCE working on Central Asia
Presentation on Central Asia-EU joint activities and cooperation in the sphere of energy transit
by Kanat Botbaev from the Energy Charter Secretariat Transit Unit

The Energy Charter’s work and flagship report on Investment Risk Assessments as tool for the improvement of the regulatory framework for energy investments
Report by the Energy Charter Secretariat Investment Unit

Interactive discussion with the speakers under the Chatham House Rule will take place throughout the workshop

Closing remarks
Mr. Dilyor Khakimov, Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of Uzbekistan to the Kingdom of Belgium TBC
Dr Marat Terterov, Principal Coordinator of the Knowledge Centre, Energy Charter Secretariat

13:00 – 14.00 Networking lunch at Tri Logia Restaurant

Main speaker biographies

Aziz Khamidov oversees the fields of energy and construction at the State Investment Committee (SIC) of the Republic of Uzbekistan (SIC). The SIC is the Uzbekistan state body responsible for all fields of investment in the country, covering all sectors of the economy. Mr Khamidov works with a team of officials evaluating energy investment proposals, as well as those relating to building materials. He specializes in project management, procurement and consultancy. He has more than 10 years work experience in the energy sector which he obtained in Europe as well as in the Republic of Uzbekistan. Prior to joining the SIC, he worked for seven years in JSC Uzbekenergo (former-Ministry of Energy of Uzbekistan) as the Head of the Project Management Unit. Prior to that he worked as a trainee with the Energy Charter Secretariat in Brussels. Mr Khamidov received his academic education from the Vrije Universiteit Brussels (VUB) and Tashkent State Economic University, which includes an MA in Management and Economics. He is a fluent speaker of the English, Russian and Uzbek languages.

Fayzulla Shaismatov is the Head of Department for Comprehensive Development of Fuel, Power and Chemistry Sectors at the State Investment Committee (SIC) of the Republic of Uzbekistan. The SIC is the Uzbekistan state body responsible for all fields of investment in the country, covering all sectors of the economy. Mr Shaismatov leads a team of officials overseeing all investment activities in the fields of fuel, power as well as those relating to chemical industry. Prior to joining the SIC, Mr Shaismatov worked in leading positions in the area of trade finance and loans disbursement at the National Bank Uzbekistan, covering all forms of foreign economic activity. Mr Shaismatov earned a Masters in Economics from the Ritsumeikan University, Japan and a Masters in International economic relations from the University of
Richard Wheeler is the Managing Director of the Centre for Energy Security Dialogue, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization headquartered in California, USA. Mr. Wheeler worked for nearly a decade in the upstream oil and gas industry in both external relations and project management roles on exploration and development projects on three continents, with major experience working in Central Asia. He also worked in Vienna, Austria as the senior energy security advisor for the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), the world’s largest regional intergovernmental security organization. He also worked for the OSCE for several years in Central Asia. He is a member of the Pacific Council on International Policy and the Association of Petroleum Negotiators (AIPN). His works include Energy Security and Intergovernmental Organizations (OGEL 2, 2014); he also co-authored Gas Exports to the Countries of the European Union and Asia Pacific Region (ICEED Journal of Energy and Development, 2015) with R. Subhankulova and K. Furmanov. He obtained his MA in Russian Studies at Georgetown University’s Centre for Eurasian, Russian and East European Studies (CERES). He speaks fluent Russian and has lived and worked in the Central Asian region for over 9 years.