

**Information on transport sector improvements in Azerbaijan**

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I would like to provide you with brief information on main trends in development of the transport sector in Azerbaijan.

Transport sector grows together with rapid economic development to our country.

Yearly, the investment in the transport sector of Azerbaijan increase. In last 5 years, 5 bn USD was invested into transport infrastructure of Azerbaijan.

On 3 November 2010 the construction of the new Baku Sea Trade Port has been started next to Alyat.

The design of the port was prepared by Royal Haskoning Group (NL), who won an international tender.

At present, at the land side the site preparation works are in place in order to prepare the ground for construction of the transport infrastructure to connect the port to the highway and railway. On the marine side, the dredging works are in place (deepening of the navigation channel and port harbour). The works are carried out by “Van Oord Dredging And Marine Contractors B.V.” who won an international tender.

In order to speed up implementation and to introduce a monitoring function, the new Directorate for Construction of the International Sea Trade Port has been created.

On the port territory (400 ha) a construction of the international logistics centre is being planned. This site was positively considered by logistics experts, therefore within an EU funded project a master plan for the new hub has been created. Three schemes on construction of the logistics centre were proposed – purely private, PPP or BOT ones.

The state programme of the railway development in 2010 -2014 the reconstruction of the railway network in order to bring its condition to the international standard is planned. This includes increase in the operation speed at the section Baku – Georgian Border, transmission to the 27.5 KV AC, modernisation of the automated and signalling systems, rolling stock renewal and other measures. The programme will result in the USD 2 bn investments, thereof foreign investments include a World Bank loan in the amount of USD 450 m.

The Ministry of Transport of Azerbaijan and the Ministry of the Economic Development are jointly coordinating activities on launch of the Poti-Baku-Poti container – contrailer train operation, as well as implement actions to attract additional cargo onto TRACECA corridor and the new railway connection Baku-Tbilisi-Kars.

Currently, the internal procedures are being settled within Azerbaijan to enable accession to the Agreement on Development of the Cargo Transportation on the Black Sea – Baltic Sea Axis, aka VIKING project. This will allow to combine the capacities of the TRACECA corridor with the opportunities offered by Viking block train.

The development of TRACECA and the North-South corridors, which provide an access to the wide Eurasian transport network comprises an important development vector in our transport policy.

Thank you for your attention.

The territory allocated for the construction of the port constitutes 400 ha.  
The port will be constructed in 3 stages.

Cargo handling capacity:

**1st stage**

- up to 10 m t
- up to 40000 TEU

**2nd stage**

- up to 17 m t
- up to 150 000 TEU

**3rd stage**

- up to 25 m t
- up to 1 m TEU

Construction duration of the 1st stage – 3 years and 6 months

**Facilities to be constructed at the 1st stage:**

➤ **Access channel:**

- length – 7 km
- width – 160 m
- depth – 7,5 m
- turn radius – 450 m

➤ **Number of berths – 8**

including:

- Ferry berth – 2
- Ro-Ro – 1
- Bulk and container berths – 4
- Service berth – 1

➤ Dock for service vessels

➤ Port administration

➤ Passenger platform (terminal)

➤ Border crossing points, equipped with modern technologies

➤ Cargo handling areas and storages

➤ Modern systems of navigation and communication

➤ Modern cranes, machinery and equipment