APPENDIX
Appendix- I

BASIC FACTS OF KAZAKHSTAN

Official Name and Capital
Republic of Kazakhstan
Capital: Astana since December 10, 1997 (Almaty was the former Capital)

Area
2.7 million sq. km, it is the ninth largest nation in the world.

Borders
Russia 6,846 km., Uzbekistan 2,203 km., China 1,533 km., Kyrgyzstan 1,051 km., and Turkmenistan 379 km.

Names of Provinces
14 Oblasts (regions) and 2 cities

Oblasts: Atyrau, Aktau, Aktobe, Pavlodar, Semipalatinsk, Karanganda, Kyzylorda, Taraz, Shymkent, Jezkazgan, Kustanai, Petropavlovsk, Uralsk, Taldykorgan
Cities: Almaty, the former Capital; Astana, the current Capital.

Population
15,340,533 (July 2008 est.)

Ethnic composition
Kazakh 53.4%, Russian 30%, Ukrainian 3.7%, Uzbek 2.5%, German 2.4%, Tatar 1.7%, Uygur 1.4%, other 4.9% (1999 census)

Language
Kazakhstan is a bilingual country. Kazakh language has the status of the “state” language, while Russian is the “official” language. Russian is used for business purpose.
Religion
Muslim 47%, Russian Orthodox 44%, Protestant 2%, other 7%

History
Native Kazakhs are a mix of Turkic and Mongol nomadic tribes. These tribes migrated to the region in the 13th century. The area was conquered by Russia in the 18th century. Kazakhstan became a Soviet Republic in 1936. Under the Soviet "Virgin Lands" agricultural programme (1950-1960) Soviet citizens were encouraged to help cultivate Kazakhstan's northern pastures. The influx of migrants (mainly Russians but also other deported nationalities) gradually changed the ethnic composition and in the process non-Kazakhs exceeded the natives. Kazakhstan became independent in 1991 following Soviet disintegration.

Independence Day
16 December 1991 (Constitution-first post-independence constitution was adopted on 28 January 1993; new constitution adopted by national referendum on 30 August 1995)

Currency
Tenge

Central Bank:
National Bank of Kazakhstan, Republic of Kazakhstan

Legislature
Bicameral Parliament: The Senate has 47 seats (7 members are appointed by the president; other members are elected by local assemblies; to serve six-year terms). The Mazhilis has 107 seats. (9 out of the 107 Mazhilis members are elected from the Assembly of the People of Kazakhstan representing the country's ethnic minorities; members are popularly elected to serve five-year terms)

Elections: Senate - (indirect) last held December 2005 (next to be held in 2011)
Mazhilis - last held 18 August 2007 (next to be held in 2012)
Type of government
Republic

Political Parties
Ten political parties are registered: Nur Otan ("The Light of Fatherland" in Kazakh), Azat ("Free"; formerly known as True Ak Zhol), the National Social Democratic Party, Ak Zhol (Bright Path), Auyl (Farm), the Communist Party of Kazakhstan, the Communist People's Party, Party of Patriots, Adilet (Justice), and Rukhaniyat (Spirituality).

President:
Nursultan Nazarbayev since April 1990. (Last Presidential election was held in December 2005.)

Prime Minister:
Karim Massimov (Since January 10, 2007)

Multilateral and Regional Organizations
ADB, CIS, CSTO, EAEC, EAPC, EBRD, ECO, FAO, GCTU, IAEA, IBRD, ICAO, ICRM, IDA, IDB, IFAD, IFC, IFRCS, ILO, IMF, IMO, Interpol, IOC, IOM, IPU, ISO, ITSO, ITU, MIGA, NAM (observer), NSG, OAS (observer), OIC, OPCW, OSCE, PFP, SCO, UN, UNCTAD, UNESCO, UNIDO, UNWTO, UPU, WCL, WCO, WFTU, WHO, WIPO, WMO, WTO (observer)

NATO Partnership for Peace
Joined in May 1994

Economy
Kazakhstan, a resource rich country, has the strongest economy among the five Central Asian Republics. Kazakhstan has the second largest uranium, chromium, lead and zinc reserves, the third largest manganese reserves and the fifth largest copper reserves in the world. It ranks among the top ten for coal, iron and gold. Kazakhstan ranks twelfth for gas, thirteenth for oil and seventeenth for aluminium reserves. It also has a large agricultural sector featuring livestock and grain.