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## **UZBEKISTAN AND AUSTRIA EXPAND ECONOMIC COOPERATION**

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The Times of Central Asia (11 April 2019)

Tashkent hosted a regular meeting of Uzbekistan IIIIIII Intergovernmental Commission on Trade and Economic Cooperation on April 9, the Jahon information agency reported.

The event was attended by heads of ministries and government agencies, companies operating in the economic, trade, industrial, investment, scientific and educational spheres, in agriculture and water management, energy, light and chemical industries.

The Minister of Investments and Foreign Trade of Uzbekistan Sardor Umurzakov, Director General for Foreign Economic Relations of the Federal Ministry of Digital and Economic Affairs of Austria Franz Wessig and others noted that bilateral cooperation is developing in many areas, including in trade and economic spheres.

There are about 50 joint ventures with Austrian investments in Uzbekistan. In 2018, bilateral trade grew by 40 percent. Currently, products of chemical industry, agriculture, and metal products are exported from Uzbekistan to Austria.

At the meeting of the Intergovernmental Commission, it was noted that the parties are equally interested in further increasing the volume of mutual trade, expanding trade, economic, scientific, technical and investment cooperation.

The parties have great potential for developing cooperation in pharmaceuticals, light industry, science and technology, tourism, standardization and ecology. At the same time, Uzbekistan has the opportunity to provide Austrian consumers with high-quality textiles, selected dried fruits, processed fruits and vegetables.

At the event, agreements were reached on construction of plants for production of steel structures, metal galvanizing, modern greenhouses for growing melons in Uzbekistans Surkhandarya region, in Angren free economic zone.

On the same day, the Uzbekistan-Austria business forum was held in Tashkent.

https://www.timesca.com/index.php/news/21043-uzbekistan-and-austria-expand-economic-cooperation