



AGBU ARMENIA NEWS BULLETIN

Monday, July 27, 2009

TRANSLATIONS FROM YEREVAN NEWSPAPERS AND OTHER NEWS AGENCIES

POLITICS

1. AS OF JULY 24, AMNESTY APPLIED TO 691 PERSONS [Hayastani Hanrapetutiun, 07/24/09]

As of July 24, RA National Assembly decision N-152-4 On Granting Amnesty was used by RA courts in total to 691 persons on 407 criminal cases. Noyan Tapan was informed about it by RA Cassation Court Spokesperson Alina Yengoyan.

2. ARMENIAN COMMUNITY OF MALTA REGISTERED [Azg, 07/24/09]

The first conference of the Armenian community officially registered recently will be held in the Hilton hotel of Valletta, the capital of Malta. The community head will be elected during the conference.

As Noyan Tapan was informed by the Department of the Armenian Communities of Europe of the RA Ministry of Diaspora, the structure has already put into operation its tri-language (Armenian, English, Russian) official website: www.malta-armenia.eu. According to the responsible for the website Ilona Sarukhian, it is envisaged that the community will open an Armenian Sunday School in Valletta as well as a khachkar (commemorative cross-stone) perpetuating the memory of the Armenian Genocide victims will be placed in one of the city streets.

According to the website responsible person's data, 300-350 Armenians live in Malta.

3. MAYOR'S ELECTIONS TO BE HELD ON AUGUST 2 IN NOR HACHEN [NOYAN TAPAN, 07/24/09]

The community head's elections will be held on August 2 in the city of Nor Hachen, the Kotayk region.

As Press Secretary of the Central Electoral Committee of Armenia Tatev Ohanian informed the Noyan Tapan correspondent, the only candidate pretending on the Mayor's post is the Nakhsh LTD commercial head, Bargavach Armenia party member Gagik Matevosian.

4. NKR PRESIDENT RECEIVES DELEGATION OF PUBLIC COUNCIL OF ARMENIA [NOYAN TAPAN, 07/24/09]

President of the Republic of Nagorno Karabakh Bako Sahakian had a meeting on July 23 with members of the delegation of the Public Council of Armenia, headed by Council Chairman Vazgen Manukian, arrived in Artsakh on the same day.

As Noyan Tapan was informed by the Press Service of the NKR President's Staff, a wide circle of issues relating to the internal and foreign policy was also discussed at the meeting. Processes taking place in the two Armenian republics were paid special attention and the necessity of studying the public opinion and social developments as well as of widening the mutual cooperation in that sphere was attached importance.

B. Sahakian emphasized the role of the Public Council in the state's and society's life, mentioning that he has great expectations from the cooperation with that structure.

5. SERZH SARGSYAN VISITS ARMENIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORTS CJSC [Hayastani Hanrapetutiun, 07/24/09]

On July 24, RA President Serzh Sargsyan visited the Armenia International Airports CJSC to get acquainted with the construction work being done in airport's public zone.

The construction of the complex was launched in 2008. The complex will put into operation in 2011, after which Zvartnots International Airport will be able to serve 3 million passengers a year.

As Noyan Tapan was informed by the RA President's Press Office, S. Sargsyan also walked about the already operating departure and arrival halls, got acquainted with the new technical systems and organization of the process of passengers' service.



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6. HEAD OF ARMENIA'S REPRESENTATION IN EU, AMBASSADOR AVET ADONTS HANDS HIS CREDENTIALS TO EUROPEAN COMMISSION CHAIRMAN JOSE MANUEL BARROSO [NOYAN TAPAN, 07/24/09]

Head of Armenia's representation in EU, Ambassador Avet Adonts handed his credentials to European Commission Chairman Jose Manuel Barroso on July 23. As Noyan Tapan was informed by the RA Foreign Ministry Press and Information Department, a talk took place after the ceremony of handing the credentials, during which the Armenia-EU relations and their development prospects were touched upon. Issues regarding establishment of Armenia-EU new contract relations, signing a free trade agreement, simplification of the entrance visa regime, as well as the positive developments in Armenia's home political life were also discussed.

A. Adonts presented the European Commission Chairman with the latest developments over the Nagorno Karabakh conflict and the current condition of normalization of Armenian-Turkish relations. J.-M. Barroso reaffirmed EU's readiness to continue deepened cooperation with Armenia, for which Eastern Partnership gives good opportunities. He welcomed Armenia's efforts aimed at Nagorno Karabakh peaceful settlement and normalization of Armenian-Turkish relations. J.-M. Barroso also mentioned European Commission's readiness to undertake measures to complete OSCE Minsk Group's work.

7. ARMENIAN ASSEMBLY OF AMERICA CALLS ON BARACK OBAMA TO MAKE NAGORNO KARABAKH A PARTY IN NEGOTIATIONS ON KARABAKH CONFLICT SETTLEMENT [NOYAN TAPAN, 07/24/09]

The Karabakh problem cannot be solved unless the Nagorno Karabakh Republic participates in the negotiations. The Head of the Armenia and NKR Office of the Armenian Assembly of America (AAA) Arpi Vardanian expressed this conviction during the July 24 press conference. "The Assembly recently sent a letter to U.S. President Barack Obama, calling on the president to fulfill one of his pre-election promises and make Karabakh a party in the negotiations," she stated.

In her words, being a co-chair of the OSCE Minsk Group and a superpower, the U.S. can involve the people of Nagorno Karabakh in the discussions. In response to the question about whether Obama will keep this promise when he has already broken his promise regarding the Armenian Genocide, Arpi Vardanian replied that presidents have their interests, while the Armenian community has its interests. According to her, if even once Obama has not justified the hopes of the Armenians, the community must continue lobbying until the achievement of results.

A. Vardanian said that it is ten years that the AAA has been implementing a student program, under which each year young Armenian Americans visit Armenia for two months. They become acquainted with homeland and engage in professional activities.

8. ACCORDING TO RPA DEPUTY CHAIRMAN, FIRST OF ALL IT IS NECESSARY TO CLARIFY STATUS OF KARABAKH AND ONLY THEN TO DISCUSS ISSUE OF TERRITORIES [NOYAN TAPAN, 07/24/09]

There was a considerable leakage of information on the Karabakh problem settlement negotiations in recent years so the publication of the Madrid Principles would not be a sensation. The deputy chairman of the Republican Party of Armenia (RPA) Galust Sahakian expressed this opinion at the July 24 press conference. According to him, the Madrid document is not yet a final solution of the problem, but it is a basis for continuing the negotiations, and in this document it was established for the first time that the problem must be solved based on the principle of self-determination of nations. In response to the reporters' words that there is no such wording in the Madrid document, the RPA deputy chairman stated that "mentioning a referendum means self-determination".

As regards the issue of surrendering the liberated territories to Azerbaijan, G. Sahakian noted that in general, no Armenian would like to give his historical land to others. He assured those present that today the issue of territories' surrender is not on the negotiations table. In his words, this issue should be addressed only after the status of Karabakh is clarified. "First of all it is necessary to determine the status of Nagorno Karabakh because all the other issues are derivatives of it," he said.

G. Sahakian advised the opposition forces that instead of demanding the president's resignation, they should adopt with the authorities a common position on the Karabakh problem so that the international community could see how united the Armenians are. According to G. Sahakian, the existence of two different opinions among the political forces, in particular, the members of the Armenian



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National Congress, gives the outside world an occasion to assume that the Armenian side does not exclude the possibility of making unilateral concessions. In his words, according to the first opinion, Karabakh cannot be part of Azerbaijan, while the second opinion is that nevertheless, such a thing is possible, and in this case Armenia would allegedly have a quiet life.

9. T. SARGSIAN AND CONSUELO VIDAL SIGN AN AGREEMENT ON ALLOCATING ARMENIA \$72 MILLION BY UNO [ARMENPRESS, 07/27/09]

Armenian Prime Minister Tigran Sargsian and UN Permanent Coordinator to Armenian Consuelo Vidal signed today a contract in the Armenian Government with which Armenia will be provided with \$72 million for the implementation of a number of projects in 2010-2015.

After the contract was signed the Prime Minister Tigran Sargsian expressing gratitude personally to C. Vidal for the efficient cooperation and great personal investment, noted that the sums will be directed towards several major projects.

Among them T. Sargsian pointed out to the sustainable and durable development, social projects, development of democratic institutions, protection of the environment and from the disasters as well as the proportional territorial development.

The Prime Minister stressed the importance of implementation of these projects stressing that they have a significant role for the development of Armenian economy. He also reminded that the cooperation of Armenia with the UNO started in 1992. At present 14 agencies and offices operate in Armenia affiliated to the UNO. Hereafter they will implement their activities within the frameworks of one general project.

In her turn among the range of works implemented with the allocated means C. Vidal pointed out to the fight against corruption, projects addressed towards the elimination of poverty, creation of new job places as well as the intensification of the participation of the citizens in the national processes.

According to her with this the UNO continues its support addressed to the solution of the issues of the vulnerable sections in Armenia. She said that the UNO makes assessments on the impact of the crisis on the vulnerable sections which will serve as a base for the further projects of this institution.

10. SERBIAN PRESIDENT TO PAY TWO-DAY OFFICIAL VISIT TO ARMENIA [ARMENPRESS, 07/27/09]

President of Serbia Boris Tadic will pay a two-day official visit to Armenia at the invitation of the President of Armenia Serzh Sargsyan.

Presidential press service told Armenpress that on the same the face-to-face meeting of the two presidents will take place which will be followed by the extended meeting of official delegations after which the press conference of the two presidents will take place.

Within the framework of the meeting the Serbian president will meet with the Armenian Prime Minister Tigran Sargsyan, will be hosted by His Holiness Catholicos of All Armenians Karekin II.

The president of Serbia will visit Tsitsernakaberd and put a wreath on the memorial to the victims of the Armenian Genocide and plant a tree in the Memorial Alley. Boris Tadic will also visit Matenadaran.

The delegation headed by the Serbian president will consist of Serbian Foreign Minister, Trade and Services Minister who will meet with their Armenian counterparts. On July 29 the Serbian leader will depart from Armenia.

11. REFRESHED DOCUMENT OF "MADRID PRINCIPLES" NOT COMPLETELY READY [ARMENPRESS, 07/27/09]

OSCE Minsk Group co-chairmen Bernard Fassier (France), Yuri Merzlyakov (Russia), and Matthew Bryza (USA) had July 25-26 a working consultation in the Polish city of Krakow to prepare a refreshed document on Karabakh conflict regulation based on "Madrid" principles.

OSCE Minsk Group French co-chairman Bernard Fassier in a phone conversation with Armenpress said that the document is not completely ready and they will have other sessions. "We have worked on refreshing the document based on the "Madrid" principles, we have conducted working consultation and have not prepared any statement after it as we usually do," Fassier said.

The co-chairs have not yet planned when the next session will be but Matthew Bryza, on behalf of other co-chairs, will visit the region in August, French co-chair will pay a visit in early September, and three co-chairs together in late September.



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“All our visits will be directed towards development of dialogue between the parties, towards bringing closer their positions. The refreshed document will be presented to the sides after it is completely ready,” Bernard Fassier said.

12. THE WORKS OF NKR POLICE FOR THE FIRST SEMESTER OF 2009 SUMMED UP [ARMENPRESS, 07/27/09]

The activity of the police of Nagorno Karabakh Republic for the first semester of 2009 has been summed up.

Public relations department of the NKR Police told Armenpress that during the first semester of this year 305 crimes have been registered instead of the 360 of the last year.

Within the frameworks of “hemp-poppy” events 11 cases of illegal circulation of drugs have been discovered and 15 kg of marihuana confiscated. 256 criminal cases have been taken in the investigative trial of the NKR police instead of the 177 of the last year, 168 of which has been brought to an end instead of the 107 of the last year. During the trial 29 million 627,285 drams of damage caused to the state and the citizens have been restored.

51 crimes have been discovered by the department of “Fighting against economic and official crimes” as a result of which a material damage of 60 million 803,964 drams has been discovered 3 million 082,450 drams of which has been restored.

25 road accidents have been registered during the first semester as a result of which 3 people died and 33 got injuries.

13. A. SARGSIAN SAYS WARS ARE WON NOT THROUGH ECONOMIC AND MILITARY QUANTITY ABILITIES BUT THROUGH THE WILL [ARMENPRESS, 07/27/09]

Wars are won not through the economic, military abilities but through the will. It is infantilism to think that after 3-5 years Armenia will concede Azerbaijan with its opportunities, economic power and military abilities and will take a defeated position as even during the military actions unleashed by Azerbaijan and the Artsakh war Armenians won due to their will, during today’s press conference said the member of the directorate of Russian academy of geopolitical issues, academician Araik Sargsian noting that Azerbaijan had 8.5 million residents at that time as well and thousands of warriors from Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Afghanistan and Turkey fought against the Armenian forces but the Armenian nation could prove that the geopolitical issues are not settled through quantity, economic and oil indexes.

“Even in the future we should be able to combine for the sake of the future of the Armenian nation, preserving a dignity in front of the generations,” he expressed confidence.

Besides that A. Sargsian thinks that in the issue of realization of its warlike projects Azerbaijan cannot rely on the support of the Great Britain as the state now suffers the heaviest phase of the world economic-financial crisis and cannot provide military and financial assistance to Azerbaijan.

A. Sargsian prognoses serious geopolitical changes in the region during the upcoming 3-5 years as a result of which the regional actors and “players” will change.

He informed that their academy directs the works towards the implementation of numerous analyses as well as towards undermining of the anti-Armenian mood in Russia.

To those who speculate the NKR issue to settle their inter-political issues A. Sargsian advised to seek for enemies not in Armenia but in Azerbaijan and Turkey.

BUSINESS

14. SEVERAL ARMENIAN WEBSITES BECOME TARGET OF NUMEROUS HACKER ATTACKS OVER PAST WEEK [NOYAN TAPAN, 07/24/09]

Several Armenian websites, including the site of the Armenian government, have become a target of numerous attacks by hackers over the past week. The hackers managed to make changes only in the first page of the RA government’s website. Grigor Saghian, Technical Director of Internet service providing Arminco company, said at the Urbat Club on July 23 that any attack of this kind presupposes the availability of the respective tools, and in the given case he can say that the attackers lacked the possibility to make more serious changes.

In his words, luckily, the latest attack was prevented in time. The attack began late July 18, and the company had to interrupt its work for 8 hours and disconnect all the sites from the network in order to take some preventative measures. G. Saghian said that the attack was made from addresses of some



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Arab, Korean and Chinese Internet service providers, although it is quite difficult to determine the real location of the attackers.

Samvel Martirosian, an information security expert, expressed an opinion that the latest attack was not the most dangerous out of those made so far. It was sensational because it had targeted the government's site. The expert added that there are a lot of hacker groups around the world, and their number is increasing. In more than 100 countries, the hacker groups operate under the patronage of special services.

The speakers were unanimous in their opinion that the hacker attack tools are developing in parallel with the development of information technologies and the improvement of protection technology. For that reason it is necessary to be ready to deal with this challenge. G. Saghian said the Armenian authorities are now working out an information security concept which will also include issues related to technical security.

15. GOVERNMENT APPROVES PROGRAM ON CREATION OF AGRICULTURAL TOURISM & HOTEL CENTER IN AREA ADJACENT TO GARNI-GEGHARD HIGHWAY [Azg, 07/24/09]

At the July 23 sitting, the Armenian government approved the program on the creation of an agricultural tourism & hotel center in the area adjacent to Garni-Geghard highway, in the rural community of Goght. The program has been prepared by RA Ministry of Urban Development based on the instructions of the prime minister. The construction project will be developed through a tender. The organization to offer the highest price for the land plot will be announced the winner. According to RA Minister of Urban Development Vardan Vardanian, the use of ecologically clean materials and solar energy (as an alternative) will be encouraged during the program's implementation.

RA Prime Minister Tigran Sargsyan said that with this program, the government starts using a new method of investment attraction which has been efficient in Chile. Its essence is that the state itself develops business plans, and after their approval by experts, it selects private investors through a tender. In the given case the site of the future hotel center in Goght is located near Garni-Geghard highway and may be attractive to investors. In case of the project's success, it can be also used in agriculture, tourism, infrastructure and other sectors.

16. 0.1% GROWTH RECORDED IN TOURISM SECTOR OF ARMENIA IN FIRST HALF OF 2009 [NOYAN TAPAN, 07/24/09]

0.1% growth was recorded in Armenia's tourism sector in the first half of 2009 on the same period of 2008. Head of the Tourism and Territorial Development Department of the RA Ministry of Economy Mekhak Apresian said at the July 24 press conference that in the indicated period 207,729 tourists from various countries visited Armenia compared to 207,479 tourists in the same months of 2008.

According to him, tourists from EU countries, the U.S, Iran, Russia and Georgia mainly visit Armenia. The number of countries, from which people travel to Armenia is increasing year by year: tourists from Scandinavian countries, Thailand, Taiwan, China and Japan have come to Armenia in recent years. Last year the first group from Turkey arrived in Armenia and was quite impressed by our country. Another group is expected to come this year.

By data of the World Tourism Organization, under conditions of the global financial and economic crisis, there was a 3% decline in the tourism sector. The growth in Armenia's tourism was conditioned by a number of factors, including the structure of travels to Armenia and the age groups. Besides, in the words of M. Apresian, the Diaspora ensures 60% of tourist visits to Armenia so there was no sharp decline in the number of Diasporan tourists due to the crisis. M. Apresian also explained the fact that the number of tourists has remained at the same level by cooperation between the state and private sector in tourism.

17. ONLY 10 OF OVER 70 HOTELS IN ARMENIA QUALIFIED [Hayastani Hanrapetutiun, 07/24/09]

There are more than 70 hotels in Armenia. Several sanatoriums, motels, camps and tourists' homes are also available. Head of the Tourism and Territorial Development Department of RA Ministry of Economy Mekhak Apresian stated at the July 24 press conference that ten hotels and four tourists' homes are qualified in the country.

The only 5 star hotel in Armenia is the Golden Palace. There are several 4, 3 and 1 star hotels. All the qualified hotels are located in the capital city. Two bids for qualification have been submitted, including a bid from Gyumri. According to M. Apresian, the qualification is done on a voluntary basis.



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As regards the price policy, M. Apresian noted that the state cannot exert any influence on the price policy of the private sector. The market has its say here: if the prices are high, people do not use these services. It is possible to affect the price policy only in the order and the cases envisaged by the law on the protection of economic competition. In the opinion of M. Apresian, the introduction of the system of hotels' qualification is a serious mechanism for regulating prices and exerting an indirect influence to ensure a favorable atmosphere. This system has just been introduced and its results will be seen in the coming years. M. Apresian said it will contribute to investment attraction.

18. THE "ARMENIA-EXPO 2009" 9TH INTERNATIONAL TRADE-INDUSTRIAL BUSINESS FORUM TO BE HELD IN YEREVAN [ARMENPRESS, 07/27/09]

The "Armenia-Expo 2009" 9th international trade-industrial business forum is to be held September 4-6 in Sport-Concert Complex hall after K. Demirchian. It is organized by "Logos Expo" Center.

PR Manager of the center Mari Ghabazyan told Armenpress that about 200 local and international organizations and associations from Armenia, NKR, Iran, Russia, Belarus, Germany, Georgia, Spain, Italy, Syria, China, and United Arab Emirates are to take part in it.

7 exhibitions - "Industrial Armenia Expo 2009", "Construction Expo 2009", "Food and Drinks Expo 2009", "Trans Expo 2009", "Comp Expo 2009", "Polygraph; Publishing and Advertisement Expo 2009", "Furniture Hall Expo 2009" are to be conducted within the frames of the forum.

The main objective of the exhibition is to promote to Armenian producers to acquire new markets and partners, to present the potential of Armenian economy and to draw the investors of other countries to economy.

Representatives of Armenian government, Embassies operating in Armenia and international organizations are to be present at the official opening ceremony of the forum.

19. RA PRESIDENT SERZH SARGSYAN GOT ACQUAINTED WITH CONSTRUCTION WORKS OF THE NEW TERMINAL IN "ZVARTNOTS" AIRPORT [ARMENPRESS, 07/27/09]

Armenian President Serzh Sargsyan visited today "Zvartnots" Airport to get acquainted with the projects being implemented and construction works of the new terminal. He was accompanied with Armenian Economy Minister Nerses Yeritsyan, head of the Chief department of Civil Aviation subordinated to the Armenian government Artyom Movsisyan, General Director of "Armenia International Airports" CJSC Khuan Pablo Gechijhan and others. The Armenian President walked around in "Zvartnots", got acquainted in detail with the process of construction works in the airport and was presented the expected results. S. Sargsyan paid a visit also to "Duty free" segment; he was interested in the presentation volumes of Armenian products, particularly – cognac, wine, as well as in their prices.

Kh. P. Gechijyan said in the interview with journalists that the construction of the new hall has begun in 2008 and is intended to be accomplished at the end of 2011.

The crisis hinders the general construction process, but the works probably will be brought to an end according to the determined chronology. The two storied building on 34 000 square kilometers is to have arrival and departure halls, here are to be conducted the registration process of passengers as well, entertainment places are intended to be constructed. The airport will supply about 3 million passengers annually.

At present negotiations are carried out with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and Asian Development Bank to get financial means for the implementation of the project.

According to the Economy Minister Nerses Yeritsian the airport will correspond to all modern international requirements, won't concede to the best airports of the world by its conveniences and services.

"Armenia International Airports" having assumed the accredited management of "Zvartnots" airport in 2009, here carries out serious works in several rounds. Currently the works of the 3-rd round – 2008-2009, are being carried out; the intended general volume of investments for them is 160 million USD. They include the construction of the new terminal in public zone on 34 000 square kilometers territory. Underground 2-storied parking intended for 600 cars on 20 000 square meters is planned to be constructed by that sum of money as well.

Technologies reducing seismic dangers by nearly 65 % are being used in construction. The new building, besides being technically well equipped, will have a beautiful appearance as well.



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20. THE TEMPOS OF INCREASE OF TOURISM VISITS TO ARMENIA FOR THE FIRST SEMESTER OF THIS YEAR HAS BEEN PRESERVED [ARMENPRESS, 07/27/09]

According to expert calculations during the first semester of this year 207,729 tourists visited Armenia. The head of the Territorial, Economic Development and Tourism Department of the RA Economy Ministry Mekhak Apresian told Armenpress that the data will not probably differ from the official one as well as from the last year's indexes – 207,479 with miserable differences.

People mainly from EU states, USA, Iran, Russia, Georgia visit Armenia. The flow from other CIS states is notably less. According to M. Apresian the geography of tourism visits to Armenia expands. People come to Armenia from the states never visited before – Scandinavia, Thailand, Taiwan China, and Japan.

Last year the first group arrived from Turkey which was rather impressed. Such a group is also expected this year.

Compared with the world tourism visits, which decreased for 3% according to the World Tourism Organization, there is no fall in Armenia, though miserable, nevertheless an increase has been registered.

Diaspora forms 60% of tourism visits to Armenia. According to the head of the department the Diaspora has greatly contributed to the formation of Armenian tourism capital. This year also there is no sharp decrease of visits from Diaspora in the conditions of the financial-economic crisis.

M. Apresian conditions the preservation of volumes of tourism and prevention of the serious fall by the state policy and the state-private sector cooperation in that sphere.

DIASPORA

21. ARMENIAN ASSEMBLY OF AMERICA ORGANIZES VISIT OF DIASPORAN ARMENIAN REGULAR STUDENT GROUP TO ARMENIA [NOYAN TAPAN, 07/24/09]

In 1988 the Armenian Assembly of America, which is one of the biggest NGOs of American Armenians, came up with an initiative of sending American Armenian students to Armenia. The first students came to Armenia by that project called Summer Student Program in 1989. From 8 to 10 students usually come to Armenia every year. AAA assumes part of program's financing and the other expenses are covered by students. Students spend 2 months in Armenia and can live with their relatives or stay at any Armenian family chosen by AAA or can rent an apartment.

A group consisting of 8 students also came in 2009. "Students come not for changing Armenia but for Armenia to change them," Arpi Vardanian, the Director of AAA Armenian and NKR Offices, said. In her time she was among the persons preparing this program.

Students - members of the group work 5 days a week and over the weekends see Armenia's sights, organize meetings with officials, celebrities. According to Mrs. Vardanian implementing the program, they try to choose as interesting job for students as possible: they often work at two places and spend their leisure as they like. Besides office work, students as volunteers assist NGOs functioning in Armenian villages. As most of the students do not know Armenian or speak Western Armenian, they also attend Armenian language courses. Mrs. Vardanian said while presenting the goals of implementing the program: "Students come to Armenia to be able to get acquainted with themselves better, to know who they are as persons, to imagine and understand what is Armenia, what challenges this country faces, how the Armenians live, what problems they have. I do not want them to continue living by only hearing others' opinion of Armenia. Besides, coming to Armenia they change, grow mature, become more independent. That work is very important for them to understand that Armenia has grown very much but in many things differs and even lags behind other countries: there can be a problem of lack of equipment necessary for work, a problem with computers or the electricity can be cut off. Students come here and begin to understand how difficult it is to work under the conditions and to succeed. Therefore any little success should be encouraged," Arpi Vardanian said.

Sofi Mnjoyan is among the participants of this year's summer program. She learnt of this program from last year's participants. "Formerly I came to Armenia as a tourist for a week or two but I wanted to somehow improve country's condition, to work here, to find out whether I can get accustomed to life here, to see not "tourist" but real life." Sofi plans to return to Armenia after finishing her studies, in 4-5 years and to work here. She is a pharmacist by speciality. She works here at AAA Yerevan Office and drugstore, both voluntarily. As Sofi was born and for some time lived in Armenia, she was more or less acquainted with the country. And what about the others? Sofi says that the other members of the group "were not disappointed very much." And adds: "They expected less from Armenia, they expected to see



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that there is no water, no electricity: they found Armenia in a better condition than had expected. Yerevan is rather europeanized, especially the center. They were only disappointed with the relations between a woman and a man. We speak much that women and men are not in an equal condition in Armenia, no woman sits on the front seat of a mircobus or taxi, coffee should be made by a woman without fail, washing up the plates is also only woman's business: they are not used to such things in the U.S. We also did not like the fact of deceiving us in shops or on the market: from the manner of speaking or clothes they understand that we are foreigners and try to sell to us for 3000 drams foodstuffs costing 300 drams. As to the rest things, we are content with them," Sofi Mnjoyan said.

Students try to see Armenia with new eyes. They like the fact that there are many department stores and in this respect Armenia is like America and European countries. They like it that education quality is higher here: even people having no higher education have idea about everything: "People in America are not interested in such things: few know where is Armenia, there are even people who don't know the place of such big states as India," Sofi says.

Commenting upon some American Armenians' opinion that Armenia is not a place to live she said that in some issues, certainly, it does not correspond to American standards, but not all American Armenians are of this opinion. Sofi herself knows many American Armenians, who have left their comfortable life in America and have moved here. However, in this case she attaches importance to other problems: "When we met the Deputy Mayor, we asked him whether Armenia is ready to receive Diasporan Armenians. It is known that there are many people here who graduate from a university but fail to find a job. He answered that now Armenia is really not ready for Diasporan Armenians' return: it will take 5 or 6 years for the situation in Armenia to be improved, to be more or less brought closer to American or European standards. It is also important whether a person can get accustomed to the conditions here when you even do not know if the law will protect you or not."

"If people are ready to accept Armenia the way it is without trying to artificially find a similarity between it and U.S. or European countries, they can come here," Arpi Vardanian expressed her opinion over this subject at the end.

22. "I'LL COME TO LIVE IN ARMENIA," MANY OF FIRST PARTICIPANTS OF COME HOME PROGRAM SAY [NOYAN TAPAN, 07/24/09]

Young Sargis who has left Syria for Armenia within the framework of the Come Home program of the RA Ministry of Diaspora decided again to return Armenia in two months and permanently settle in Armenia. In any case, he told the Noyan Tapan correspondent about it. In Sargis' words, it is already his second visit to Armenia, but he sees great difference between those two visits. "When I first came to Armenia, it was a more Soviet country, it has greatly changed to good now," Sargis said.

Sargis likes architecture in Armenia in which he sees reflection of the Armenian soul. He likes the people's warm attitude, hospitality and does not like the indifferent attitude of inhabitants of Armenia towards cultural values: "It is minor for them," he mentioned with pain. In Sargis' words, it is also bad that young people from Armenia smoke heavily.

Tamar from Turkey also expressed a great wish for living in Armenia, though, as she mentioned, the number of people assisting Armenians increased in Turkey.

Anahit from Georgia is also among the participants of the Come Home program. Though she is already for the fourth time in Armenia, but in her words, she this time as well found Armenia changed: Yerevan has changed, it became beautiful, people's clothes changed. "Armenia develops, and it makes me happy," Anahit said. She also has a goal to move to Armenia for permanent residence.

To recap, Diasporan Armenian young people at the age of 18-25 arrived in Armenia within the framework of the Come Home program implemented by the RA Ministry of Diaspora. They live in families which are inhabitants of Armenia, closer get acquainted with the life of the Homeland, deepen their knowledge about the Armenian culture, history and other national values. The first group of young people arrived in Armenia a week ago has already visited places of interest of Armenia, has been in Matenadaran, History Museum of Armenia, had a meeting with YSU Rector Aram Simonian, RA Minister of Diaspora, learned Armenian dances. A group of them even visited one of military units of the Armenian Army.

23. PARTICIPANTS OF COME HOME PROGRAM FEEL POWER OF THEIR UNITY FOR FIRST TIME [NOYAN TAPAN, 07/24/09]

The July 23 schedule of events of the lads and girls who arrived in Armenia within the framework of the RA Ministry of Diaspora's Come Home program was also eventful as those in the previous days: a



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visit to the Armenian National Gallery, a meeting with Yerevan State University head Aram Simonian, as well as a performance within the framework of Shant TV's Folk Dances program.

At the very first hall of the Armenian National Gallery the talk full of Georgian, Russian and Turkish words changed into silence, the young people began discovering the bright colors of Armenian Highlands painted by Sarian and the Ayvazovski's wavering of wild sea. The silence gradually changed into discussions. The lads and girls listened to the guides with attention without overlooking any detail. They, of course, managed to get acquainted only with the small part of the Armenian and world fine arts' works which are kept in the Gallery. The impressions from the canvases were also discussed in the buses.

According to the hayernaysor.am, Yerevan State University head Aram Simonian acquainted participants of the Come Home program with the history of Yerevan State University and presented the teaching system. The frank atmosphere was pleasant and the children asked questions to the university head without any inhibition. The most interesting was the question of entering higher educational institutions and teaching conditions of Diasporan Armenian students in Armenia.

The same evening was the time of the most important "trial" of the Come Home 2009 program's first stage. It was the time for the Diasporan Armenian young persons who had arrived in Armenia from different countries to surprise within the framework of Folk Dances program with their mastery which they gained during the lessons in a few days thanks to the dancing-master, Director of Armenian National Choreography Union, the chief dancing-master of the Berd dance ensemble Karen Gevorgian.

The emotions and excitement of the children sitting at the hall grew. And here is announced the debut of the participants of the Come Home program. The spectators got animated at once, the young persons performed a dance named Lulke, at that, they danced so skillfully and fluently that it seemed that a dance ensemble with many years' experience was performing. A storm of applause followed the last sounds of the dance tune. The eyes of the children standing on the stage continued to shine but they also expressed regret that the wonder of joint connection with the Armenian mighty dance finished. However it was only today. And tomorrow they will have no less interesting and eventful day.

24. PARTICIPANTS OF ARMENIAN ASSEMBLY OF AMERICA'S SUMMER STUDENT PROGRAM VISIT RA MINISTRY OF DIASPORA [NOYAN TAPAN, 07/24/09]

On July 22, RA Minister of Diaspora Hranush Hakobian received regional director of AAA Summer Student Program Arpi Vardanian, co-ordinator of the program Vram Karakeshishian and eight participant young persons. The latters arrived in Armenia to have their student practice. Some of them are in their homeland for the first time.

According to the Press and Public Relations Department of the RA Ministry of Diaspora, the Minister listened to everyone, got acquainted to their problems and concerns. The young students were particularly worried about the local legislative field, what reforms are realized there and what can be done for the Diasporan Armenian businessmen, scientists, students to have an opportunity to make intellectual, professional and financial contributions in Armenia and gain a profit.

The Minister in her turn presented three strategic problems faced by the Ministry of Diaspora, preservation of Armenian identity, discovery and use of Armenian nation's intellectual power and repatriation. It was noted that the best and perhaps the only pledge of good living of Armenians is the use of intellectual potential. H. Hakobian reminded the position of RA President that our compatriots of Diaspora should have an opportunity to make investments and gain a profit in their homeland.

"To give a solution to these and many other problems our compatriots living in Diaspora should at first be informed and concerned, should take part in all activities concerning the development of the homeland. And our friendly and kind talk should help you to become the friends and little ambassadors of the RA Ministry of Diaspora in your countries," Mrs. Hakobian concluded her speech.

25. HRANUSH HAKOBIAN: "BRIDGE CREATED BY COME HOME PROGRAM IS ETERNAL" [NOYAN TAPAN, 07/24/09]

On July 22 evening, RA Minister of Diaspora Hranush Hakobian met the Diasporan Armenian young persons who arrived in Armenia within the framework of the Come Home program.

The Minister began her speech with the words "Welcome to your Ministry", then she thanked them for responding to the call of RA Ministry of Diaspora to visit their homeland. The Minister expressed gratitude to the families which receive the Diasporan Armenian young persons, as well as the schools where lessons are held within the framework of the Come Home program.



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H. Hakobian noted that within the framework of the program these young persons visited places of interest of Armenia and gained friends. They will remember everything they have seen in their homeland and will tell their impressions to their friends and children. "You are infected with Armenian virus on condition of never getting cured," Hranush Hakobian noted expressing the conviction that next year much more Diasporan Armenians will come to their homeland within the framework of the Come Home program.

"Being the citizens of another country, remember that Armenia is your homeland. Sarians, Aznavours, Kerkorians should be born among you," the Minister added. She suggested the young persons presenting their impressions that they had gained from the program and the considerations concerning them.

To the suggestion of Syrian Armenian Sargis that the program should be prolonged and include working events Mrs. Hakobian answered that Come Home 2009 was the first one and as if it is an experimental one. It is envisaged that next year the program will be held according to age groups.

One of the Turkish Armenian young persons noted that Armenian water and air are more tasty. One of the Georgian Armenian girls told that she is a painter and said that every time when returning to Tbilisi she paints new canvases being inspired with the cultural values of the homeland. And a Egyptian Armenian lad thanked the organizers for creating an occasion for getting acquainted with the homeland and its culture.

According to the Press and Public Relations Department of the RA Ministry of Diaspora, in her concluding speech Mrs. Hakobian stressed that by the implementation of the Come Home program "a bridge was created which is impossible to destroy. This bridge is eternal. The Come Home program will always call the Diasporan Armenians." The Minister presented "Wonders of Armenia" encyclopedia to all young participants of the program.

26. NEARLY 23,000 ARMENIANS LIVE IN NORTH OSSIA [ARMENPRESS, 07/27/09]

The official "Erebuni" newspaper of the Armenian ethnic-cultural unity of North Ossia started to be published.

According to the "Yerkramas" newspaper two issues of the official newspaper have already been published first of which was dedicated to the World War I.

In the editorial of the "Erebuni" periodical it is mentioned that articles about the Armenian history, modern Armenian political, social and culture figures, local Armenian Diaspora and interesting events are planned to be published in the new Armenian newspaper.

The author of the editorial expressed hope that the staff of the new periodical will conduct a full informative activity on the Armenian Diaspora directed towards preservation of Armenian identity.

According to the data issued by the new newspaper there are nearly 23,000 Armenians living in the North Ossia.

ARTS

27. ARMENIAN DRAMA THEATRE OF TBILISI TO TOUR ARMENIA [NOYAN TAPAN, 07/24/09]

The Armenian Drama Theatre of Tbilisi will tour five Armenian cities: Yerevan, Etchmiadzin, Artashat, Ashtarak and Charentsavan on July 26-31. Azg daily reported, citing the press service of the RA Ministry of Culture that the Armenian Dramatic Theatre of Tbilisi will present three plays: Gabriel Sundukian's "Khatabala" ("Embarrassment"), a collection of Sayat-Nova's works "Ashkharums Imn Dun Is", and "Desire under the Elms" by Eugene O'Neill.

28. OPEN MUSIC FESTIVAL TO TAKE PLACE BETWEEN JULY 30 TO SEPTEMBER 21 IN YEREVAN [NOYAN TAPAN, 07/24/09]

The goal of holding the Open Music Festival dedicated to music of various genres is to meet the lack of cultural events noticed in July, August and September in Yerevan. Artistic director and principal conductor of the National Chamber Orchestra of Armenia Aram Gharabekian stated it at the July 23 press conference. He said that the festival which consists of twenty-three separate concerts and a number of special events will start on July 30 and continue till September 21.

"A summer music illumination will take place," A. Gharabekian promised. He emphasized that the peculiarity of the expected concerts is that they will be organized at the open-air hall of the Moscow



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cinema, with vocal equipments brought from abroad specially for this festival. "I do not know any other capital which has such a wonderful open-air hall," A. Gharabekian added.

Touching upon the festival title, maestro mentioned that the term "open" symbolizes people's open hearts, free way of thinking and tolerance. The festival will represent both famous musicians of Armenia and artists and companies arrived from abroad, including accordionist and bandoneonist Mario Stefano Pietrodarchi, clarinetist Michel Lethiec, Mezzo-soprano Anna Maria Chiuri and saxophonist Federico Mondelci. Famous jazz pionist Tigran Hamasian will also perform.

In A. Gharabekian's words, the festival would not take place if there were no people believing in its success. He mentioned that VivaCell-MTS, Converse Bank, HayPost, Diasporan Armenian benefactor Hovig Kurkjian, U.S. Embassy in Armenia, Gimishian fund are the sponsors of the festival.

SOCIAL

29. AMBASSADOR OF ROMANIA TO ASSIST ROMANIAN ARMENIAN COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES' PARTICIPATION IN PROGRAMS AND ALL-ARMENIAN EVENTS OF RA MINISTRY OF DIASPORA [NOYAN TAPAN, 07/24/09]

RA Minister of Diaspora Hranush Hakobian received Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Romania to Armenia Mrs. Crina Prunariu.

Directions of cooperation with the Romanian Armenian community, particularly possibilities of raising the level of teaching the Armenian language at the Bucharest University, increasing the number of listeners and organization of research works on Armenology were discussed during the meeting. The Ambassador also got acquainted with the activity and programs of the RA Ministry of Diaspora. According to the Press and Public Relations Department of the RA Ministry of Diaspora, Mrs. Prunariu expressed readiness to assist the Romanian Armenian community representatives' participation in programs and all-Armenian events organized by the Ministry of Diaspora.

30. PERSONS WHO ROBBED VTB ARMENIA BANK'S BRANCH ARRESTED [NOYAN TAPAN, 07/24/09]

Thanks to the efficient cooperation of the RA Police sub-units and the frontier guards of the Bagratashen customs house of the RA National Security Service, the participants of the July 22 robbery attack on branch No.4 of the VTB Armenia Bank were arrested.

On July 23 the following citizens of Georgia: Revaz Gulbatashvili, 38, Tinatin Davitashvili, 37, and Davit Abuladze, 33, were taken to the police from the Bagratashen check-point - on suspicion of having committed a robbery. Davit Abuladze's cousin - Gela Abuladze, 33 was taken to the police from Yerevan's Zvartnots Airport.

The above mentioned persons were searched, as a result of which the policemen found and seized 3,800 dollars, 6,000 rubles, sport garment, wigs, hats, bags, dark sunglasses, a clasp-knife, alcoholic drinks, etc.

Under the weight of the evidence, the members of the gang confessed that they had committed the robbery of the VTB Armenia Bank's branch.

Measures are being taken to reveal other crimes committed by them.

To recap, at 9:20 am on July 22, three armed persons in masks entered VTB Armenia Bank's branch No. 4 at 56 Baghramian Avenue in Yerevan. They threatened the manager Seda Hovhannisian with a knife and beat her. After taking 3 million 913 thousand drams, 3,040 dollars, 420 euros and 18,000 rubles, the robbers took to flight.

31. RELATIVES OF IRANIAN PLANE CRASH VICTIMS STAGE PROTEST IN TEHRAN [NOYAN TAPAN, 07/24/09]

A protest against the indifference and the policy of Caspian Airlines and the Iranian authorities in relation to the Tu-154 plane crash was staged in Tehran on July 22.

Marmara daily reported that the protesters handed letters consisting of 14 points to Iran's parliament and government, representatives of the mass media, and the officials of Caspian Airlines.

According to the newspaper, the correspondent of Iran-based Alik daily Artyom Gharibian was arrested during the protest, but several hours later he was released thanks to the mediation of Gevorg Vardanian, a parliamentary deputy representing the northern Iranian Armenians.



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32. CHILDREN OF 160 INSECURE FAMILIES FROM TAVUSH PROVINCE LEAVE FOR CHILDREN'S CAMPS WITH THE SUPPORT OF ARMENIAN GOVERNMENT [ARMENPRESS, 07/27/09]

On the financial support of the Armenian Government in July 160 children from Tavush insecure families left for the "Sunrise" children's camp in Hankavan.

Head of the education, culture and sport department of the Tavush governor's office Ashot Pashinian told Armenpress that 80 children had a 20-day rest in "Sunrise" from July 1-20, and the second group of children left on July 20.

A. Pashinian said that the RA Government, taking into consideration the fact of being a bordering village, involved greater number of children from Tavush than from the other provinces.

33. A NUMBER OF INTER-COMMUNITY ROADS BEING RECONSTRUCTED THIS YEAR WITH THE MEANS OF RA STATE BUDGET AND THE WORLD BANK [ARMENPRESS, 07/27/09]

A number of inter-community roads are being reconstructed on the RA state budget and World Bank means.

At present the Harich-Nahapetavan road sector is being reconstructed. Reconstruction works of Gyumri-Kaps-Amasia, Saragyugh-Bavra roads and the road taking to Jajour related to the Gyumri-Vanadzor highway will kick off in the nearest future.

Governor of Shirak province Lida Nanian told Armenpress that another 6 roads will be reconstructed in the province by the end of the year with the financial means of the World Bank.

Reconstruction of Gyumri-Voghji-Gyulibalagh-Aregnadem, Gyumri-Aygabats, Pempashen-Lernakert, Geghanist-Horom and Tavshut-Aghvorik roads is in process.

34. STEPS ARE UNDERTAKEN TOWARDS THE DEVELOPMENT OF IT SPHERE IN THE RA PROVINCES [ARMENPRESS, 07/27/09]

Nearly 80% of internet users in the republic come to share for Yerevan, and 20% - for the provinces.

Head of the Union of IT enterprises Karen Vardanian told Armenpress that considerable works should be implemented to ensure the internet availability in the provinces.

"If the mentioned 20% we divide between all the provinces of the republic we will have a very sad result. A few days ago the heads of the companies of our Union discussed the opportunities of development of IT technologies in the provinces with the vice Prime Minister Armen Gevorgian. The fact that the state as well as the private sector have an interest in conduction of the works in this direction is pleasing," K. Vardanian noted.

According to him, the IT companies wish utmost greater number of residents to make use of their services, the state in its turn is concerned with the establishment of information society, which will contribute to the development of the economy.

Companies involved in the Union of IT Enterprises are ready to assist and apply their experience in the development of the IT sphere in the provinces.

K. Vardanian said that during the meeting with A. Gevorgian it has been suggested to implement a pilot project of internet spread in a village of a province.

"It is good to present suggestions and new ideas, but the support of the Governors' offices and necessary steps conducted by them are also essential in the issue of the realization of these projects," K. Vardanian added.

A cooperation agenda is planned to be formed by August 15 and before that the heads of Companies of the Union of IT Enterprises and the Governors will meet together.

35. 5 SCHOOLS FROM ARMENIA ARE TO TAKE PART IN PRE-ELECTORAL ROUND OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONTEST "INNOVATIVE SCHOOLS" OF "MICROSOFT" [ARMENPRESS, 07/27/09]

Five schools from Armenia are to take part in pre-electoral round of the international contest "Innovative Schools" of "Microsoft" Company. Coordinator of the program "Partners in Educational Sphere" of the "Microsoft" Armenian office Kristine Gyonyan told Armenpress that the Armenian round has already finished, 20 schools had initially presented applications, 5 of which have been elected – Yerevan educational complex "Seminary after Anania Shirakatsi", the physics-mathematics special school after A. Shahinyan subordinated to Yerevan State University, Yerevan educational complex "Mkhitar Sebastatsi", Vanadzor's N 10 school, Abovyan's N 10 school after V. Hambardzumyan.



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The educational centers having passed the international pre-electoral round, will get the opportunity of working out a new educational model on the basis of IT during a year. According to K. Gyonjyan, the succeeded models will serve as examples for different schools of the world and are possible to be applied in a number of countries, including – Armenia. The one of the 5 schools which will be elected from Armenia, will be clear only on September 15.

For taking part in the “Innovative Schools” contest 30 schools from the world are selected annually to use their whole potential in working out flexible and trustful models, convey their experience and worked out models to other schools of their countries and region.

A memorandum of mutual understanding on “Partners in Educational Sphere” was signed December 3 2008 between the Armenian Education and Science Ministry and “Microsoft” Company intending to extend cooperation in 3 directions – “Innovative School”, “Innovative Teacher” and “Innovative Pupil”.

Meetings and discussions are periodically organized between the sides on purpose of arranging the joint works efficiently.

36. NEW MARAGHA-MARTAKERT CHANNEL HAS BEEN EXPLOITED [ARMENPRESS, 07/27/09]

The new Maragha-Martakert channel has been exploited in Martakert region, which enables to irrigate about 1.2 00 hectares cultivating lands. The head of Water Economy Department affiliated to the government of Nagorno Karabakh Republic Seyran Mikaelyan told Armenpress that the newly built channel has a length of nearly 15 km, the water capacity in a second is 1. 500 liters.

The irrigating territories include almost the whole plane zone of the eastern region of Martakert, where the fruitfulness level of the land is quite high. According to the head of the department, the construction of the new channel suggests that the quantity of agricultural goods will be incomparably added in the new sub-region, for the consumption of which a market is intended to build in the territory in near future by NKR Prime Minister Ara Harutyunyan’s proposal.

37. “THE ROLE OF THE YOUTH IN PREVENTION OF TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS” PROJECT KICKS OFF IN YEREVAN [ARMENPRESS, 07/27/09]

The “Role of the Youth in prevention of Trafficking in Human Beings” four-year project kicked off today in the state sport college of Olympic successors. The project is being implemented by the Armenian Sport and Youth Affairs Ministry. During the project seminar-trainings are intended during which the participants from the provinces will be provided with information on trafficking in human beings, the international and national law regulating the trafficking sphere and the international experience will be presented, meetings will be organized with the representatives of international institutions dealing with trafficking, state departments as well as the NGOs.

Deputy Sport and Youth Affairs Minister Arsen Karamian welcoming the participants informed that the project is aimed at increasing the awareness of the youth on the trafficking in human beings and its prevention.

The deputy Minister noted that abuse of people is a phenomenon that is related to nearly all the spheres of the social field, all the sections and through the increase of the awareness the spread of such phenomena must be prevented.

Head of the international organization department of Armenian Foreign Affairs Ministry Dzyunik Aghaganian expressed hope that after the four-day meetings the present people will really be armed with the knowledge which will give people an opportunity to keep back from appearing under such threat.

In virtue of knowledge and skills got as a result of the courses during 2009 the participants will organize meetings in the province center of organization of youth events with the representatives of youth social organizations of their provinces.

The center will provide a necessary information and consultation; propaganda materials and informative sheets will be spread.



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SPORTS

38. ARMENIAN FREE-STYLE WRESTLING JUVENILE TEAM GAINS 4 MEDALS AT EUROPE CHAMPIONSHIP [NOYAN TAPAN, 07/24/09]

The Europe Free-Style Wrestling Juvenile Championship finished on June 22 in Serbia. Artak Hovhannisian was recognized the winner from the representatives of Armenia (42 kg, Armavir). His team-mates Volodya Frangulian (50 kg, Yerevan), Valter Margarian (58 kg, Yerevan) and Emin Gevorgian (60 kg, Artashat) took the third place. The team coach is Edward Tunian.

Juvenile wrestlers of the Greco-Roman style wrestling perform in Europe on July 24.

39. MINI-FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP TO BE HELD IN LUGANSK AMONG ARMENIAN COMMUNITIES [NOYAN TAPAN, 07/24/09]

A mini-football championship will take place between September 26 to 27 in the city of Lugansk. According to the website of the Armenian Youth Union of Ukraine, youth organizations of Odessa, Krimsk, Lugansk and Cherkassk placed orders for holding the mini-football championship. The youth organization of Lugansk got a right of holding the championship, based on the placed orders.

40. SPORTINFO.AM NEW SPORTING WEBSITE OPENS [NOYAN TAPAN, 07/24/09]

www.sportinfo.am information-analytical Internet project on sporting started functioning. Its goal is to become a source of information for sport fans and professionals, to make sporting urgent materials of Armenia reachable for a wide circle of readers.

The main goal of the www.sportinfo.am project is to give the website users possibility to get to know everything taking place in the world of sport, both in Armenia, Nagorno Karabakh, Diasporan Armenian communities and in other parts of the earth. The main attention of the website will be attached to the Armenian sport and its development.

The website users can find here the latest sporting news, get acquainted with the current sporting federations, watch the calendar of competitions to take place in Armenia or out of its borders. One may choose a day and type of sport or get the list of events for a month.

You will be represented a voluminous encyclopedia in the Encyclopedia part of the www.sportinfo.am website where there is information about eminent sportsmen and trainers who glorified Armenia in competitions of the highest level.

Produced by AGBU Armenian Representation

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