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Nº1



CAPS Policy Overview

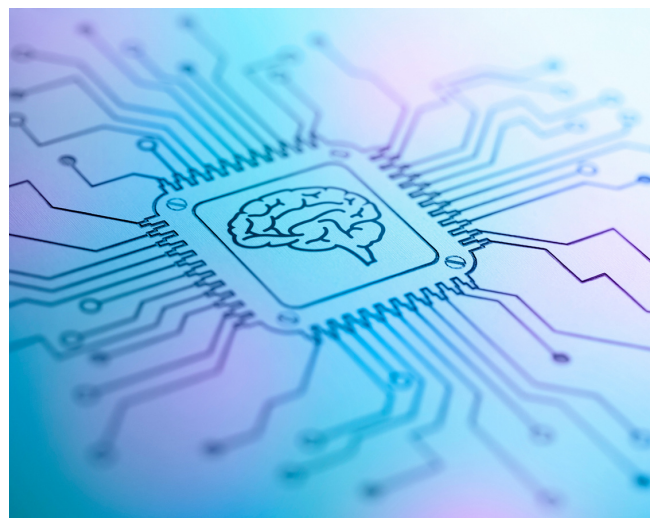
KAZAKHSTAN PLANS FOR BECOMING AN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE HUB OF CENTRAL ASIA

INTRODUCTION:

The Republic of Kazakhstan is well known as a transport hub and a country rich in natural resources, which are essential for various industries. However, Astana aims higher with its ambition of entering the artificial intelligence (AI) economy and becoming an AI hub of Central Asia. On September 8, President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev delivered his state-of-the-nation address, emphasizing the need to keep pace with the era of AI. He also presented an ambitious reform agenda centered on digitalization, economic modernization, energy sector expansion, and institutional transformation. These initiatives are designed to position Kazakhstan as a regional leader in digital transformation and technological innovation, adapting proactively to global shifts and AI-driven change. This document provides a brief overview of the announced policies.

KEY INSTITUTIONAL REFORMS:

- The new Ministry of Artificial Intelligence and Digital Development was announced.
- Adoption of a Digital Code covering AI, platform economy, and big data.
- Creation of a digital asset ecosystem with expanded use of the digital tenge.
- State Digital Asset Fund to build strategic crypto reserves.



ECONOMIC MODERNISATION PRIORITIES:

1) Investment Policy Overhaul

- New investment cycle shifting focus from extractive industries to manufacturing and high-tech sectors.
- Regional Investment Attractiveness Index for performance-based accountability of local leaders (so-called akims).
- \$1 billion high-tech investment program with the National Bank.

2) Infrastructure Development

- Integration of North-South, East-West, BRI, and Trans-Caspian routes into a single transport system supported by AI solutions.
- Launch of Smart Cargo digital platform by October.

3) Energy Transition

- Addition of 6.3 GW of renewables in five years.
- Construction of the second and third nuclear power plants following the start of the first one.
- Use of clean-coal technologies for high-quality domestic coal.

SECTORAL TRANSFORMATION:

1) Manufacturing & Industrial Diversification

- Mining-metallurgical complex (8% of GDP) to move downstream into rare earths and critical minerals.
- Launch of three high-tech processing plants within three years.

2) Agriculture Modernisation

- Use of AI-based satellite monitoring for farmland and forestry management.

3) Innovation Hub Development

- Alatau City announced as a special-status business and innovation hub to become the region's first fully digital Smart City with cryptocurrency payments.

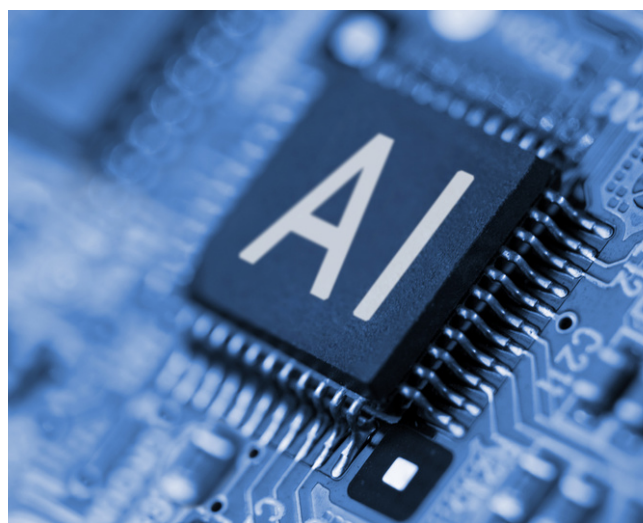
HUMAN CAPITAL AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT:

1) Education & Skills

- Integration of AI fundamentals into school curricula.
- Teacher training in AI; AI-Sana program to involve 100,000 students in high-tech projects.
- 2025 was declared the Year of Working Professions to address labor shortages.

2) Healthcare & Social Policy

- Construction of 540 rural clinics (+115 planned).
- AI-based monitoring systems for healthcare quality.



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