

# Czech ambassador completes his diplomatic term in Mongolia

*President and Speaker express gratitude for the ambassador's contributions*



President Ts. Elbegdorj awarding Czech Ambassador Vaclav Jilek Mongolia's 'Friendship Medal' for his outstanding contributions

On August 16, President Ts. Elbegdorj met Mr. Vaclav Jilek, Czech Ambassador to Mongolia in connection with the completion of his diplomatic mission.

To begin the meeting, the President said, "Mongolia and the Czech Republic have a long history of traditional and friendly relations. For some time, our two countries faced challenges after both chose democracy and a market economy. But we were able to overcome the difficult period successfully. I would like to express my gratitude for your contribution to organize Czech Prime Minister's visit to Mongolia and reinstate an intergovernmental meeting of the two countries."

In turn, the Ambassador said, "I am really happy for having worked in Mongolia as an Ambassador for four years. I sincerely appreciate Mongolia's presidency in the Community of Democracies and spreading democratic ideology. Also, Mongolia's moratorium on capital punishment has been a rightful step that was appraised by the EU."

At the end of meeting, the Ambassador was awarded a Friendship Medal in recognition of his contribution to develop friendly relations of two countries.

On August 15, Parliament Speaker Z. Enkhbold had met Mr. Vaclav Jilek. At the beginning of meeting, the Czech Ambassador congratulated Z. Enkhbold on becoming the Speaker of Mongolia, and wished him success.

"Great attention was given to activation of the Mongolia-Czech

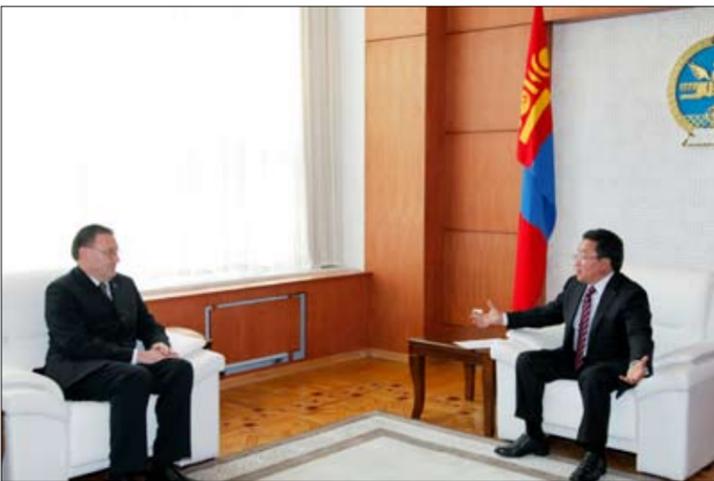
traditional relations and cooperation, to which contributed both the mutual high level visits of the last years and two meetings of the intergovernmental commission," Mr. Jilek said.

"The Czech government has successfully realized some projects in Mongolia in frames of its official developmental assistance such as projects in water purifying, exploration and repairing pipelines for hospitals and schools in Khovsgol and Bayan-Olgii aimags", he said. "If the European Union grants financial resources for the biggest projects, Czech experts are ready to work in Mongolia", he added.

Mr. Jilek hoped that bilateral relations and cooperation will expand and said the Czech Republic has appointed its next Ambassador to Mongolia.

In response, the Speaker appreciated Mr. Jilek's works in Mongolia which have deepened the ties between the parliaments of Mongolia and the Czech Republic, especially the visit of a parliamentary delegation led by the head of the Standing committee.

"Despite successful friendly relations, many opportunities are left unfinished by both countries. Mongolians recognize that European norms and standards play a vital role in the world's economy and technological progress, so they want to study the Czech experience and have its support in order to introduce the European standards," Z. Enkhbold said.



Czech Ambassador Vaclav Jilek (L) and President Ts. Elbegdorj meet in the State House



Parliament Speaker Z. Enkhbold meeting with Czech Ambassador Vaclav Jilek

## Czechs provide mobile clinics for Zavkhan and Bayankhongor aimags

*Emergency services now available for rural population*

On August 8, Václav Jilek, Czech Ambassador to Mongolia, together with Martin Klicnar, head of the Czech Republic's 'People in Need' foundation (a professional humanitarian organization focused on providing aid to crisis area and supporting adherence to human rights around the world), jointly presented keys for two, off-road mobile clinics for the hospitals in Zavkhan and Bayankhongor aimags.

Also participating in the ceremony were Ya. Sanjmyatav MP and former governor of Zavkhan province, along with other distinguished Czech and Mongolian guests.

The project aims to increase the accessibility of quality health care in remote areas of western and southern Mongolia. Basic health care is relatively accessible even in rural areas. However, the rural population does not have access to specialists,

modern diagnostic tools, or necessary care in case of dire emergency.

Six central hospitals will be provided with the off-road mobile clinics which will be equipped with all the necessary equipment and materials. The mobile clinics will go around the districts in regular intervals and provide assistance to smaller, not so well equipped or understaffed health centers. The mobile clinics will mainly provide diagnostic and prevention services and emergency health care. All key stakeholders consulted from village doctors to the representatives of Mongolia's Ministry of Health agreed that this type of support is needed most.

'People in Need' is implementing the off-road mobile clinic project with financial support of the Czech government's development assistance programs.



The two off-road mobile clinics



Support equipment for mobilization



Czech Ambassador Vaclav Jilek (R) presents the keys for two mobile clinics