

COMMENTS AND PROPOSALS

by the Delegation of the Republic of Tajikistan on the draft Final Resolution of the International Conference “Towards the 6th World Water Forum – Cooperative Actions for Water Security” and the draft Charter of Global Water Security

I. Draft Final Resolution

The presented draft of Final Resolution does not reflect fully the results of Conference discussions and debates, where one of major issues was the energy-water nexus as the key to solution of many problems in Central Asia. The text of this document disregards hydropower, which is a vital sector for Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan, whose energy basis relies on water resources. It is impossible to achieve water security in Central Asia without addressing the issues of energy and water nexus.

In this context, the Tajikistan’s Delegation proposes to insert the following amendments in the draft Final Resolution of the Conference:

Para 1. After the word “food” insert “, energy”, further as the text goes.

Para 3. The first sentence should be replaced by the following “In this context, particular attention should be paid to observance by the region’s states of the principles of mutually beneficial cooperation, good neighborhood, meeting of commitments in good faith under international agreements, inalienable sovereignty over natural resources, equitable and wise use of water resources, and of other international law norms.”

Para 4. After the word “ensuring” insert “energy security and”, while citation “reduction of anthropogenic risks causing pollution of water resources and disturbance of fragile ecological balance” should be deleted.

Para 5. Item I should be excluded since joining to international conventions and treaties is a sovereign right of each state. At the same time, this item contains two recommendations that conflict with each other. While calling for close adherence to international law norms and principles, it is proposed to build hydraulic structures with consent of downstream states. This disagrees with international law norms.

Item III should be stated as follows: “Ensure reliable regulation of flow of transboundary rivers for normal life sustenance in the region and meeting of drinking, energy and agricultural needs by constructing seasonal and multiannual regulation reservoirs.”

The following new item should be added to this Para: “Give a priority to hydropower development in order to solve multiple regional problems, including provision of population with cheap and green electricity, reliable water supply of irrigated lands, reduction of hydrocarbon and other gas emissions from thermal power stations, improvement of environmental situation, reduction of mudflow, flood, and drought risks, as well as adaptation to climate change.”

II. Draft Charter of Global Water Security

Given document was presented to the Conference participants by a representative of the Russian Federation and its content proves that the author knows absolutely nothing about the issues of water and energy use in the Central Asian region. Announcement of this draft documents and its

adoption for presentation during the 6th WWF on behalf of Central Asia is a vain attempt to protect the interests of downstream countries, even being contrary to principles and norms of international water law. This document clearly shows one-sided approach and absolute ignoring of the interests of upstream countries. Therefore it does not merit approval.

The Delegation of the Republic of Tajikistan does not recognize this document and fully disagrees with that this document is to be presented during the 6th WWF on behalf of Central Asia.

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