

Interstate Commission for Water Coordination in Central Asia	BULLETIN № 3 (74)	September 2017
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CONTENTS

JOINT STATEMENT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC ALMAZBEK ATAMBAEV AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN SHAVKAT MIRZIYOYEV	3
JOINT STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN SHAVKAT MIRZIYOYEV AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN NURSULTAN NAZARBAYEV	8
MINUTES OF THE 71 st MEETING OF THE INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR WATER COORDINATION (ICWC) OF THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN, KYRGYZ REPUBLIC, REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN, TURKMENISTAN AND REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN	11
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LIMITS AND OPERATION MODES OF THE RESERVOIR CASCADE OVER THE GROWING SEASON 2017 IN THE AMUDARYA AND SYRDARYA RIVER BASINS	15
EVENTS ORGANIZED UNDER THE UNECE CONVENTION ON THE PROTECTION AND USE OF TRANSBOUNDARY WATERCOURSES AND INTERNATIONAL LAKES	33
MEETING OF ICWC WORKING GROUP ON INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT	41
MEETING OF ICWC WORKING GROUP ON BUILDING CAPACITY OF REGIONAL AND NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS	43
MEETING OF ICWC WORKING GROUP ON IMPROVEMENT OF WATER ACCOUNTING QUALITY AND ACCURACY	46

JOINT STATEMENT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC ALMAZBEK ATAMBAEV AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN SHAVKAT MIRZIYOYEV

Upon invitation of the President of the Kyrgyz Republic Almazbek Atambaev, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev made a state visit to the Kyrgyz Republic on September 5-6, 2017.

In the course of high-level negotiations and meetings held in the atmosphere of traditional mutual understanding and openness, the heads of states have discussed key issues of the Uzbek-Kyrgyz relations, prospects for further expansion and deepening of bilateral cooperation in politics, trade and economic, cultural and humanitarian and other spheres, the present situation in Central Asia, as well as other pressing regional and international problems of mutual interest.

The heads of states, having noted with satisfaction progressive and dynamic development of collaboration between the Republic of Uzbekistan and Kyrgyz Republic, declare the following:

1. Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan, deeply understanding their high responsibility for conservation and strengthening of peace and stability, ensuring of development and prosperity of the whole region, have decided to further deepen traditional friendship and neighborliness at all levels.

The heads of states have expressed the conviction that the Treaty on the Uzbek-Kyrgyz State border between the Republic of Uzbekistan and Kyrgyz Republic signed during the visit would contribute to this.

2. The heads of state have stressed that completion of legalization of the State border line, which would become the border of friendship and collaboration, serves vital interests of two brotherly peoples.

The parties, according to the Agenda of the Joint Meeting of Government Delegations of the Republic of Uzbekistan and Kyrgyz Republic of August 16, 2017, have signed a Treaty on approved length of the Uzbek-Kyrgyz State borderline. Negotiations on the rest part of the Uzbek-Kyrgyz borderline would be continued.

Two Presidents, prioritizing consolidation of confidence in the border area, underline the importance of an Agreement between the Republic of Uzbekistan and Kyrgyz Republic on confidence-building measures in the Uzbek-Kyrgyz State border area after the above-mentioned Treaty would come into force.

3. The parties have confirmed the similarity of positions on the most pressing issues, such as peacebuilding, stability, security, and sustainable development in

Central Asia. They have underlined that interregional problems may be and should be resolved by the Central Asian states only through open and constructive dialogue based on equality, mutual benefits, respect, and recognition of each other's interests.

The Presidents share the same opinion that only political will would resolve any contradictions and differences through negotiations and other peaceful means, while ensuring observance of generally recognized norms of the International Law and principles enshrined in the UN Charter.

4. Based on mutual interest in continued development and strengthened and multi-faceted cooperation in all spheres, the parties have stressed the importance to ensure efficient implementation of existing bilateral agreements, as well as to further improve contractual-legal base.

5. The parties, having mentioned dynamics of bilateral trade growth, stated the existing untapped potential for multiple increases in goods turnover. The parties have instructed relevant state agencies of both countries urgently to explore issues of further increase in bilateral trade and expansion of its nomenclature by involving high value-added products, creating favorable conditions for transit of foreign goods, and developing cooperation between business entities and regions of both states.

6. The heads of states have positively assessed the results of meeting of the Joint Intergovernmental Commission for Bilateral Cooperation between the Republic of Uzbekistan and Kyrgyz Republic held on August 15-16, 2017 in the Bishkek city. They have also stressed the need to increase the role of the Commission as an efficient mechanism for solving the whole set of issues on developing trade and economic, transport and transit, and investment cooperation, as well as on priority areas for collaboration of both states in other spheres.

7. The heads of states have underlined the importance of sustaining interparliamentary cooperation by exchanging visits, joint activities, and promoting activity of the Friendship Groups.

8. The Presidents have mentioned the importance of free movement of citizens, goods, services, and capital to create conditions for promoting trade and economic cooperation under bilateral agreements.

9. Both Presidents have expressed readiness for active cooperation on transportation and free transit and underlined the importance of mutual support in strengthening transit capacity of two countries.

They have expressed interest in speedy implementation of the railway construction project "China-Kyrgyzstan-Uzbekistan", which undoubtedly would facilitate the growth of interregional goods turnover and attractiveness of Central Asia as a beneficial transit section along the "East-West" route.

The importance to establish a new automobile corridor "China-Kyrgyzstan-Uzbekistan" has been stressed. It would allow significantly expanding mutually beneficial ties between the countries of the vast region and give momentum to their development.

10. The parties, recognizing their historical responsibility for preservation and

reinforcement of centuries-old ties of friendship, good neighborliness, brotherhood, and cooperation between the peoples of Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan, have reaffirmed their commitments to further and multidisciplinary deepening and strengthening of bilateral ties in culture, education, science, art, tourism, sport, and other area.

The parties have expressed their intentions to hold the Day of Culture of the Republic of Uzbekistan in the Kyrgyz Republic and Day of Culture of the Kyrgyz Republic in Uzbekistan throughout 2017-2018.

It was underlined that a school being built by the Uzbek party in the Osh city would further bolster cultural and humanitarian ties, and it would become one more symbol of friendship between the peoples of Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan.

The heads of states have mentioned with satisfaction the opening of flight “Tashkent-Issyk-Kul-Tashkent”, which would facilitate tourism and strengthen personal contacts.

The heads of states have called on further deepening of cooperation on public health. There is need in joint activities on public health protection and control of infectious diseases, including of feral herd and other infections, medical science development, experience exchange in training medical and pharmaceutical staff.

11. The Presidents with deep appreciation have stated unprecedented intensification of interaction between border districts, thus expressing mutual interest and further deepening of collaboration with focus on developing ties between citizens of both countries.

Joint Action Plan on Further Deepening an Expanding Cooperation between Border Districts of the Republic of Uzbekistan and Kyrgyz Republic over 2017-2019 would contribute to this high purpose.

12. The parties would further create favorable conditions for Uzbek and Kyrgyz diasporas living on the territory of two states in terms of conserving and developing mother tongue, national culture, traditions, and customs and take all necessary measures to ensure rights and legitimate interests of citizens of one state who live in another state.

13. The parties have expressed the need to further develop and activate bilateral cooperation on control of terrorism, religious extremism, drug and arms trafficking, proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, and other challenges and threats to regional and international security based on bilateral and international agreements, to which both states are parties.

In this regard, all required measures would be taken to enhance interaction through consultations between relevant authorities of Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan.

14. The parties have noted the importance to extend cooperation on prevention and mitigation of emergency situations.

They have expressed readiness to continue cooperation on developing and implementing specific practical measures to protect population and territories from emergency risks of transboundary character, as well as to address challenges related to

uranium tailings and radiation safety in Central Asia.

15. The Presidents have underscored that one of key factors of stability in the region is multipurpose use of water and energy resources, with consideration of interests of all states in the region. In this regard, open dialogue, strengthened mutual understanding, developed productive cooperation, and mutually acceptable solutions based on mutual and reasonable trade-offs are important.

The heads of states have acknowledged the resumption of electricity supply from the Kyrgyz Republic to Uzbekistan in 2017 and emphasized interest of both countries in developing such cooperation on mutually beneficial and long-term base.

16. The parties have mentioned significant potential to continue and strengthen bilateral interaction on international arena and expressed mutual pursuit of further development of cooperation between Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan under UN, Commonwealth of Independent States (SIC), Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), and other international organizations.

The parties have underlined the importance to increase coordination, mutual support, and joint activities under UN to attract attention of international community to Central Asia and promote interests of countries in the region. In this regard, the Uzbek party has welcomed the nomination of the Kyrgyz Republic for non-permanent member of the UN Security Council in 2027-2028.

The parties have expressed mutual interest in strengthening cooperation under CIS and using more efficiently its mechanisms to turn it into effective platform for development of mutual cooperation.

The heads of state have underlined the closeness or similarity of positions on key issues of the agenda of SCO as an organization aimed at strengthening interaction between its member-states to address current challenges and threats to security and stability and develop cooperation in economic and other spheres.

To provide financial support to joint projects under SCO, the heads of states consider the importance to accelerate implementation of decision by the Council of Heads of Governments (Prime Ministers) of the SCO member-states of 2016 on continuing consultations of the Expert Working Group on establishing SCO Development Bank and SCO Development Fund (special SCO account).

17. The Kyrgyz party supports an initiative of the Uzbek party on the International High-Level Conference “Central Asia: Shared Past and a Common Future, Cooperation for Sustainable Development and Mutual Prosperity”, which would be organized in November in Samarkand under United Nations auspices. This event would facilitate delivering joint solutions to regional problems based on productive dialogues, mutual benefits, respect, and recognition of interests of each other.

18. Two Presidents have welcomed the organization of the International Forum “Altai Civilization and Kindred Nations of the Altaic Family of Languages” in the Kyrgyz Republic, expressing confidence that all-round development of relations between academic circles of both countries would facilitate deepening of mutual understanding and strengthening and expanding cooperation between the Republic of

Uzbekistan and Kyrgyz Republic.

19. The Kyrgyz party highly appreciates the International Music Festival “Melodies of the East” (Sharq Taronalari), which is held regularly in the Samarkand city, with the aim to preserve and promote national music of the peoples of the world and their consolidation through art.

20. The heads of states have also underlined the actuality of organizing the Global Snow Leopard Conservation Forum in Bishkek, which is supported worldwide.

21. The heads of states have underlined that all-round deepening of cooperation between Uzbekistan and the Kyrgyz Republic would serve vital interests of both states. The parties have expressed confidence that negotiations held and agreement signed during the visit would create a new momentum to further develop bilateral cooperation in various spheres, strengthen peace and stability in the region, as well its development and prosperity.

22. The parties have agreed to undertake a set of collaborative activities in 2018 on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of establishing diplomatic relations between the Republic of Uzbekistan and Kyrgyz Republic.

23. The President of Uzbekistan Mr. Shavkat Mirziyoyev has expressed gratitude to the President of the Kyrgyz Republic and people of the Kyrgyz Republic for warm welcome and hospitality demonstrated during the visit of the Uzbek delegation and invited the leader of the country to Uzbekistan at the time of his convenience. The dates of the visit would be approved through diplomatic channels.

JOINT STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN SHAVKAT MIRZIYOYEV AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN NURSULTAN NAZARBAYEV

Upon invitation of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev, the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan Nursultan Nazarbayev made a state visit to the Republic of Uzbekistan on September 16-17, 2017, according to the Embassy of the Republic of Uzbekistan in the Republic of Kazakhstan.

In the course of negotiations held in the atmosphere of good understanding and openness, the heads of states have discussed key issues of further development of the Uzbek-Kazakh relations, prospects for further expansion and deepening of bilateral cooperation in politics, trade and economic and other spheres, as well as other pressing regional and international problems of mutual interest.

The heads of states having noted with satisfaction progressive and dynamic development of good neighborhood, friendly, and mutually beneficial relations between the Republic of Uzbekistan and Republic of Kazakhstan,

believing that bringing bilateral and multi-faceted cooperation to a new level would serve long-term interests of two fraternal nations, peace, stability, security, and sustainable development in Central Asia

prior to the 25th anniversary of establishing diplomatic relations, relying on strong historic ties between Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan and century-long ties of friendship and good neighborhood between two nations,

guided by provisions of the Agreement on eternal friendship between the Republic of Uzbekistan and Republic of Kazakhstan of October 31, 1998 and the Agreement on strategic partnership between the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Republic of Kazakhstan of June 14, 2013,

declare the following:

The leaders of states have noted with satisfaction positive trends in the development of trade and economic ties between two countries and expressed mutual intention to provide continuous growth of bilateral trade and its diversification by involving high value-added products in goods turnover and develop long-term economic and investment cooperation.

The heads of states have underlined that sequential implementation of the Strategy for Economic Cooperation over 2017-2019 would serve to increase mutually beneficial trade and economic and investment cooperation, thus facilitating strengthened interaction in various economic sectors and increased mutual goods

turnover.

The Presidents have positively assessed results of the Uzbek-Kazakh business forums and national industrial exhibitions held on March 23, 2017 in Astana and September 16, 2017 in Tashkent.

The leaders have underlined the priority of bilateral cooperation in transport and transit corridor development ensuring the fastest and efficient outlet to foreign markets.

In this context, the parties have noted that establishment of mutual preferences and additional discounts by railway administrations of both countries to transit foreign trade goods along their territories would fundamentally expand cooperation in this area and substantially attract transit goods of not only Kazakh and Uzbek carriers but also of other countries.

The heads of states have positively assessed activity of the Joint Intergovernmental Commission on Bilateral Cooperation between the Republic of Uzbekistan and Republic of Kazakhstan. The 16th meeting of the Commission was successfully organized on February 23, 2017 in Tashkent. The key role of the Commission as an efficient mechanism for coordination and enhancement of practical interaction in priority areas of bilateral partnership was mentioned.

The Presidents have noted the closeness or similarity of positions on key issues of international politics, underlined mutual intention to facilitate peacebuilding, security, and stability in the global and regional scales, confirmed promotion of mutually beneficial cooperation under UN, SCO, and CIS, as well as other international and regional organizations.

Heads of states have underlined work of the Republic of Kazakhstan as a non-permanent UN Security Council member for 2017-2018 and promotion of joint interests of the Central Asia states by Kazakhstan.

Heads of states have reaffirmed that any disputes, differences, and disagreements in international affairs may be resolved only through political means, negotiations, and other peaceful means in strict compliance with fundamental international norms and principles enshrined in the UN Charter.

The Presidents have underlined the need to further develop cooperation to fight international terrorism, religious extremism, illegal migration, illegal drug trade, transnational organized crime and other challenges and threats to international security under both bilateral format and international structures.

Heads of states have reaffirmed their commitments to speedy restoration of peace and stability in the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (IRA). Contributions of Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan were underlined to restoring economy in IRA. The leaders of states have once again reiterated their commitments to developing long-term cooperation with Afghanistan and commended the positive efforts of two states towards implementation of infrastructure development projects, which facilitate involvement of Afghanistan in regional trade and economic cooperation based on principle of indispensable link of security and development.

The heads of states have reaffirmed intention to further develop cooperation in the defence sector, including in the defence industry and space.

The Presidents have underlined that transboundary water resources of Central Asia are of common heritage and benefit for the peoples; reasonable and equitable use of these resources would influence the lives of tens of million people, stability, and prosperity in the region.

The leaders of Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan have the same opinion that the construction of new hydraulic facilities on transboundary rivers of Central Asia should be based on constructive approach, which considers interests of all concerned parties in the region.

The Presidents have underlined that the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea (IFAS) remains the only multilateral organization, which gives a positive momentum to regional cooperation on resolving water and environment problems in the Aral Sea basin. The parties have expressed their support to improving institutional structure and contractual and legal framework of IFAS, expanding interactions of the countries with international organizations, donors, and ecological funds to implement target programs and projects in the Aral Sea basin under IFAS. The Presidents have expressed readiness to continue mutually beneficial cooperation under Turkmenistan's Chairmanship of IFAS.

The heads of states noting cultural, historical, and language community of two nations have reaffirmed commitment to further developing cooperation in science, education, health, culture, art, tourism, sport, and other areas.

The heads of states have agreed upon declaring 2018 as the Year of Uzbekistan in Kazakhstan and 2019 as the Year of Kazakhstan in Uzbekistan.

Taking into account a special role of Uzbek and Kazakh diasporas in rapprochement of fraternal nations, the parties have expressed readiness to continue creating favorable conditions for both diasporas to preserve and develop national language, culture, traditions, and customs, to take required measures for ensuring inherent rights and legal interests of citizens of another country.

The heads of both states have underlined the importance of proper implementation of signed bilateral and multilateral agreements, as well as of further expansion of contractual framework between two states, which serves as a fundamental basis for strengthened interstate relations.

Two leaders have instructed relative agencies to hold activities on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of establishing diplomatic relations between two states.

The President of Kazakhstan Mr. Nursultan Nazarbayev has expressed gratitude to the President of Uzbekistan Mr. Shavkat Mirziyoyev and people of Uzbekistan for warm welcome and hospitality and invited the leader of the country to Kazakhstan at the time of his convenience. The dates of the visit would be approved through diplomatic channels.

MINUTES OF THE 71st MEETING OF THE INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR WATER COORDINATION (ICWC) OF THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN, KYRGYZ REPUBLIC, REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN, TURKMENISTAN AND REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

July 7, 2017

Dushanbe, Tajikistan

Chairman:

Rakhimzoda Sulton
Nurmakhmadpur

First Deputy Minister of Energy and Water
Resources, Republic of Tajikistan (MEWR RT)

ICWC members:

Nysanbayev Yerlan
Nuralievich

Vice Minister of Agriculture, Republic of Kazakhstan

Khamraev Shavkat
Rakhimovich

Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Water Resources
of the Republic of Uzbekistan (MAWR RUz)

Pashyyev Yanov Durdyevich

Head, Water Use Administration, Ministry of
Agriculture and Water Resources, Turkmenistan

ICWC executive bodies:

Dukhovniy Viktor
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Director, Scientific Information Center (SIC) of
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Babadjanova Malika
Pulatovna

Head, ICWC Secretariat

Kholkhuzhaev Odil
Akhmedovich

Head, BWO Syrdarya

Makhramov Makhmud
Yakhshibaevich

Head, BWO Amudarya

Invited:

Kipshakbaev Nariman Kipshakbaevich	Director, Kazakh branch of SIC ICWC
Kenshimov Amirkhan Kadyrbekovich	Deputy Director, Executive Administration of IFAS in the Republic of Kazakhstan
Zhienbaev Musilim Rysmakhanovich	Head, Transboundary Rivers Division of Water and Resources Department, Ministry of Agriculture, Republic of Kazakhstan
Imasheva Gulmira Saginbayevna	Head, Administration on Regulation of Use of Water Resources of the Committee for Water Resources, Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan
Gafarzoda Bakhrom Abdulafiz	Deputy Director, Agency of Land Reclamation and Irrigation under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan
Yuldashev Rauf Zarifdjanovich	Director, Tajik branch of SIC ICWC
Kuchkarov Sharifjon Zikrillayevich	Head, Water Balance and Advanced Water Saving Technologies Division, MAWR of the Republic of Uzbekistan
Sheraliev Normukhamad Ismanovich	Representative of Uzbekistan in the Executive Committee of IFAS
Beglov Iskander Ferdinandovich	Head, Information Division of SIC ICWC
Kurbonov Azamat Ilkhom ugli	Assistant Head, BWO Syrdarya
Ishankulyyev Derya Khodjamuradovich	Senior specialist, Water Use Department, Water Use Administration, Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources of Turkmenistan

Agenda of the 71st ICWC Meeting

1. Fulfillment of water withdrawal limits and operation regimes of the reservoir cascade in the Amudarya and Syrdarya River Basins over the growing season 2017;
2. Preparatory activities to celebrate the 25th anniversary of ICWC;
3. Agenda and venue of the next 72nd ICWC meeting.

Decisions on the first item:

1. Take into account the reports by BWO Amudarya and BWO Syrdarya on the fulfillment of water withdrawal limits and operation regimes of the reservoir cascade in the Amudarya and Syrdarya River Basins over the growing season 2017.
2. BWO Amudarya should present the updated option of forecast for operation regimes of the reservoir cascade in the Amudarya basin for the rest of the growing season (July, August, and September 2017).
3. BWO Syrdarya should continue working based on sub-item 6, item 2 of the 70th ICWC meeting.

Decisions on the second item:

1. To take into account the information on activities carried out by the Organizing Committee to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of ICWC.
2. ICWC members should review the list of participants and search funding opportunities to cover travel and accommodation expanses, as well as to review the event program for its finalization.
3. On behalf of the ICWC members, the Secretariat and SIC ICWC should appeal to donors for financial support of Anniversary events.
4. To support organization of the international conference International Scientific-Practical Conference “Transboundary Cooperation in Central Asia – a Way to Safety, Stability, and Prosperity in the Region” as a preparatory process for the ICWC Anniversary and 8th World Water Forum in September 2017 in the Republic of Kazakhstan.
5. Continue working on preparatory activities to celebrate the 25th anniversary of ICWC.

Decisions on the third item:

1. Conduct the next 72nd meeting of ICWC in November 2017 in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

2. Propose the following agenda for the next 72nd meeting of ICWC:

1) The results of use of water withdrawal limits and operation regimes of the reservoir cascade in the Amudarya and Syrdarya River basins over the growing season 2017 and forecasts for the non-growing season 2017-2018.

2) Other items.

3) Agenda and venue of the next 73rd meeting of ICWC.

Republic of Kazakhstan

Y.N.Nysanbayev

Kyrgyz Republic

K.D.Tashtanaliev

Republic of Tajikistan

S.N.Rakhimzoda

Turkmenistan

Ya.D.Pashsyev

Republic of Uzbekistan

Sh.R.Khamraev

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LIMITS AND OPERATION MODES OF THE RESERVOIR CASCADE OVER THE GROWING SEASON 2017 IN THE AMUDARYA AND SYRDARYA RIVER BASINS¹

I. Amudarya River basin

The actual water content in the Amudarya River basin at the nominal Atamyrat gauging station upstream of Garagumdarya was 126.7 % of the norm over 3 months of the growing season 2017. The calculations were made taking into account the natural flow in the Vakhsh River and the flow regulation by the Nurek reservoir. According to the Hydromet’s forecast, the water content was to be 120-150% of the norm. Given the norm 21,076 mcm, the actual water content amounted to 26,707 mcm. In the past season, water content was 101.6 % for the same period.

The use of approved water withdrawal limits by state is as follows for 3 months of the growing season:

Taking into account such hydrological conditions (wet year), totally in the basin 90.7% of the approved water withdrawal limits was used against cumulative limit. While the limit was 18,970 mcm, actually used volume was 17,203.3 mcm, of which:

The Republic of Tajikistan actually used 2,781.7 mcm; (85.1 % of the cumulative limit, 40.1 % of the total limit);

The Republic of Uzbekistan actually used 7,409.8 mcm; (92.2 % of the cumulative limit, 43 % of the total limit);

Turkmenistan actually used 7,011.8 mcm; (91.4 % of the cumulative limit, 45.2 % of the total limit).

Water user state	Water withdrawal limits	Cumulative		%% of use	%% of the total limit
		Limit, mcm	Actual, mcm		
Republic of Tajikistan	6,942.5	3,265.1	2,781.7	85.2	40.1
Turkmenistan	15,500	7,672.1	7,011.8	91.4	45.2
Republic of Uzbekistan	17,220	8,032.8	7,409.8	92.2	43
Total	39,662.5	18,970	17,203.3	90.7	43.4

Over 3 months of the growing season 2017, the use of limits downstream of the nominal Atamyrat GS (upstream of Garagumdarya) was 92.7% of the cumulative limit

¹ Information on the first item of the 71st meeting of ICWC

and 44.5% of the total limit, of which:

The Republic of Uzbekistan actually used 7,028.8 mcm (94 % of the cumulative limit and 43.9 % of the total limit)

Turkmenistan actually used 7,011.8 mcm (91.4 % of the cumulative limit and 45.2 % of the total limit)

Water user state	Water withdrawal limits	Cumulative		%% of use	%% of the total limit
		Limit, mcm	Actual, mcm		
Downstream of the nominal Atamyrat GS	31,520	15,011.3	14,040.6	93.5	44.5
Turkmenistan	15,500	7,672.1	7,011.8	91.4	45.2
Republic of Uzbekistan	16,020	7,339.2	7,028.8	95.8	43.9

Actual use of the approved water withdrawal limits (of the cumulative limit) by river reach is as follows:

1. Upper reaches – 82.7 %, including 85.2% in the Republic of Tajikistan and 68.2 % in the Republic of Uzbekistan.

2. Middle reaches – 97.1 %, including 100% in the Republic of Uzbekistan and 95.5 % in Turkmenistan.

3. Lower reaches – 87.5 %, including 90.3 % in the Republic of Uzbekistan and 82.1 % in Turkmenistan.

River reach. Water user state	Water withdrawal limits	Cumulative		%% of use	%% of the total limit
		Limit, mcm	Actual, mcm		
Upper reaches	8,142.5	3,824.1	3,162.7	82.7	38.8
Republic of Tajikistan	6,942.5	3,265.1	2,781.7	85.2	40.1
Republic of Uzbekistan	1,200	559	381	68.2	31.8
Middle reaches	16,207	8,210.2	7,971.3	97.1	49.2
Turkmenistan	10,472	5,318.2	5,079.4	95.5	48.5
Republic of Uzbekistan	5,735	2,892	2,891.9	100	50.4
Lower reaches	15,313	6,935.6	6,069.3	87.5	39.6
Turkmenistan	5,028	2,353.8	1,932.4	82.1	38.4
Republic of Uzbekistan	10,285	4,581.8	4,136.9	90.3	40.2

Water supply to the Amudarya River delta and Aral Sea is planned to be 1,010 mcm. During 3 months of the growing season, 4,158 mcm was supplied; this amount is 4.1 times more than the scheduled one because of high water availability in the growing season 2017.

For 3 months of the growing season, the forecast inflow to the Nurek reservoir was to be 8,735 mcm; it actually was 10,382 mcm or 118.9%. Water releases from the reservoir were planned to be 7,093 mcm; they actually were 8,047 mcm or 113.4%. By the beginning of July, water volume in the reservoir was to be 8,375. The actual volume was 9,080 mcm or 108.4%.

The forecast inflow to the Tuyamuyun reservoir for 3 months of the growing season was to be 14,215 mcm; however, it was 13,938 mcm or 98.1%. Water releases from the reservoir were planned to be 12,404 mcm; actual releases were 12,174 mcm or 98.1%.

By the beginning of July, water storage in the reservoir was planned to be 4,396 mcm; however, actual storage was 4,350 mcm or 99%.

Name		unit	Nurek reservoir	Tuyamuyun reservoir
Volume: beginning of the season		mcm	6,733	2,585
Inflow to the reservoir	forecast	mcm	8,735	14,215
	actual	mcm	10,371	13,938
		%%	118.7	98.1
Water releases from the reservoir	forecast	mcm	7,093	12,404
	actual	mcm	8,074	12,174
		%%	113.8	98.1
Volume: end of the season	forecast	mcm	8,375	4,396
	actual	mcm	9,040	4,350
		%%	107.9	99
Accumulation (+), drawdown(-)	forecast	mcm	1,642	1,811
	actual	mcm	2,307	1,765
		%%	140.5	97.5

More detailed information is given in Tables 1.1–1.4.

Table 1.1

**Analysis
of the use of water withdrawal limits in the Amudarya River basin for 3 month of the
growing season 2017**

Name	Water withdrawal limits, mcm	Cumulative, mcm as of 01.07.17			% to the total limit
		Limit	Actual	%%	
Upper Amudarya Administration	8,142.5	3824.1	3162.7	82.7	38.8
(upper reaches) of which:					
Tajikistan	6,942.5	3265.1	2781.7	85.2	40.1
Uzbekistan	1,200.0	559	381	68.2	31.8
Water withdrawals from the Amudarya River at nominal Atamyrat gauging station (Kerki)	31,520.0	15,145.9	14,040.6	92.7	44.5
of which:					
Turkmenistan	15,500.0	7,672.1	7,011.8	91.4	45.2
Uzbekistan	16,020.0	7,473.8	7,028.8	94.0	43.9
Middle Amudarya Administration	16,207.0	8,210.2	7,971.3	97.1	49.2
(middle reaches) of which:					
Turkmenistan	10,472.0	5,318.2	5,079.3	95.5	48.5
Uzbekistan	5,735.0	2,892.0	2,891.9	100.0	50.4
Lower reaches, of which:	15,313.0	6,935.6	6,069.3	87.5	39.6
Turkmenistan	5,028.0	2,353.8	1,932.4	82.1	38.4
Uzbekistan:	10,285.0	4,581.8	4,136.9	90.3	40.2
Total for the basin, of which:	39,662.5	18,970.0	17,203.3	90.7	43.4
Tajikistan	6,942.5	3,265.1	2,781.7	85.2	40.1
Turkmenistan	15,500.0	7,672.1	7,011.8	91.4	45.2
Uzbekistan	17,220.0	8,032.8	7,409.8	92.2	43.0

Table 1.2

Actual hydrological conditions in the Amudarya River basin for 3 months of the growing season 2017

Parameter	unit	actual		
		April	May	June
Inflow to the Nurek reservoir	m ³ /s	751	1,426	1,781
Volume of the Nurek reservoir	mcm	6,893	7,617	9,080
Water releases from the Nurek reservoir	mcm	695	1,157	1,214
Atamyrat GS, actual	m ³ /s	1,387.6	2,608.7	3,012.0
norm	m ³ /s	1,072.0	2,313.9	2,853.3
%%	%	129.4	112.7	105.6
Upper of Garamudarya (actual water content)	m ³ /s	2,123	3,644	4,384
norm	m ³ /s	1,613	2,646	3,783
%%	%	131.6	137.7	115.9
Cumulative, actual	mcm	5,504	15,263	26,625
norm	mcm	4,182	11,269	21,076
%%	%	131.6	135.4	126.3
Surkhandarya province	m ³ /s	38	49	58
Water withdrawals upstream of Atamyrat	m ³ /s	636	716	749
Water inflow at Kelif GS	m ³ /s	2,023	3,325	3,761
Water withdrawals at Kelif-Birata reach	m ³ /s	877	1,035	1,135
Return water at Kelif-Birata reach	m ³ /s	140	133	129
Water losses at Kelif-Birata reach	m ³ /s	353	674	340
Inflow to Birata GS, actual	m ³ /s	934	1748	2,415
norm	m ³ /s	899	1,689	2,077
Cumulative, actual	mcm	2,420	7,101	13,360
norm	mcm	2,329	6853	12,236
%%	%	103.9	103.6	109.2
Water losses at Birata-Tuyamuyun reach	m ³ /s	-54.5	-33.8	-134.0
Volume of the Tuyamuyun reservoir; beginning of the season	mcm	2,585	3,344	4,083

Parameter	unit	actual		
		April	May	June
Inflow to the Tuyamuyun reservoir	m ³ /s	988	1,782	2,548
Water releases from the Tuyamuyun reservoir	m ³ /s	695	1,505	2,445
Volume of the Tuyamuyun reservoir; end of the season	mcm	3,344	4,083	4,350
Accumulation (+), drawdown (-)	mcm	253	258	89
Water withdrawals from the Tuyamuyun reservoir	m ³ /s	239	255	291
Water withdrawals at Tuyamuyun-Samanbay reach	m ³ /s	316	510	706
Water losses at Tuyamuyun-Samanbay reach	m ³ /s	69	351	421
Water releases through Takhiatash	m ³ /s	71	390	1,028
Water withdrawals at Kelif-Samanbay reach	m ³ /s	1,432	1,800	2,132

Table 1.3

**Information
on water supply to the Aral Sea and Amudarya River delta for three 3 of the growing
season 2017**

Name	actual			Water supply		%% of fulfillment
	April	May	June	from 01.04.17 to 30.06.17		
				plan	actual	%%
From the Amudarya River, at Samanbay GS	161	884	2,660	770	3,705	481.2
Total water discharge from Kyzketken and Suenli canals system	20	34	25	0	79	
CDF	122	127	125	240	374	155.8
Total:	303	1,045	2,810	1,010	4,158	411.7
Cumulative	303	1,348	4,158			

Note: Data on water supply to Prearalie are agreed with the State Hydrometeorological Service (Hydromet) of the Republic of Uzbekistan

Table 1.4

**Actual operation regime of the Nurek reservoir
(April-September 2017)**

	unit	actual			forecast			Total
		IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	
Volume: beginning of the season	mcm	6,733	6,893	7,617	9,040	10,284	10,457	6,733
Inflow to the reservoir	m ³ /s	751	1,426	1,777	2,000	1,590	833	
	mcm	1,946	3,819	4,606	5,357	4,260	2,160	22,148
Water releases from the reservoir	m ³ /s	695	1,157	1,225	1,535	1,526	800	
	mcm	1,801	3,098	3,175	4,113	4,087	2,074	18,347
Volume: end of the season	mcm	6,893	7,617	9,040	10,284	10,457	10,543	10,543
Accumulation(+), drawdown(-)	mcm	160	724	1,423	1,244	173	86	3,810

**Actual operation regime of the Tuyamuyun reservoir
(April-September 2017)**

	unit	actual			forecast			Total
		IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	
Volume: beginning of the season	mcm	2,585	3,344	4,083	4,350	5,819	6,100	2,585
Inflow to the reservoir	m ³ /s	988	1,782	2,548	3,504	2,363	1,197	
	mcm	2,561	4,772	6,605	9,385	6,329	3,103	32,755
Water releases from the reservoir	m ³ /s	695	1,505	2,445	2,956	2,258	1,186	
	mcm	1,802	4,032	6,338	7,917	6,047	3,074	29,210
Volume: end of the season	mcm	3,344	4,083	4,350	5,819	6,100	6,130	6,130
Accumulation(+), drawdown(-)	mcm	759	739	267	1,469	281	30	3,545

II. Syrdarya River basin

According to the forecast by Hydromet, water content in the Syrdarya River basin was expected to be within norm for the growing season 2017: Naryn, Karadarya, rivers in the South of the Fergana Valley, Chirchik, and Akhangaran within 100-110% of the norm and rivers in the North of the Fergana Valley within 90-100% of the norm.

At the 70th meeting of ICWC, its members considered the forecast operation regime of the Naryn-Syrdarya reservoir cascade for the growing season 2017 and water withdrawal limits of the user states in the Syrdarya River basin.

Inflow to the upstream reservoirs

The normal inflow to the upstream reservoirs of the Naryn-Syrdarya cascade was 10,467 mcm during the period under report.

The forecast inflow was to be 12,483 mcm or 119% of the norm.

The actual inflow to the upstream reservoirs was 16,838 mcm or 135% of the forecast (Table 2.1).

Lateral inflow

The lateral inflow to the Syrdarya River up to the Shardara reservoir is 6,373 mcm of the norm.

According to the Hydromet's forecast, the lateral inflow was to be 6,766 mcm or 106% of the norm.

Actually, the inflow was 2,836 mcm more than the forecast and amounted to 9,602 mcm (Table 2.1).

Total inflow

The total inflow to the Syrdarya River was 16,840 mcm of the norm for the growing season.

According to the Hydromet's forecast, the inflow was to be 19,249 mcm or 114 % of the norm.

Actual inflow was 26,440 mcm or 137% of the norm (Table 2.1).

Table 2.1

Name	Volume, mcm from April 1 to June 30, 2017			actual/ forecast (%)	actual/ norm(%)	Actual from April 1 to June 30, 2016
	norm	forecast	actual			
Inflow to upstream reservoirs						
Toktogul	4,982	6,561	8,010	122	161	6,504
Andizhan	2,000	2,191	3,117	142	156	1,656
Charvak (4 rivers in total)	3,485	3,731	5,711	153	164	3,930
Total:	10,467	12,483	16,838	135	161	12,090
Lateral inflow						
Toktogul – Uchkurgan	815	856	1,524	178	187	1,221
Andizhan – Uchtepe	1,497	1,637	2,373	145	159	1,434
Uchkurgan, Uchtepe - Bakhri Tochik	1,786	1,845	2,759	150	154	2,161
Bakhri Tochik – Shardara	1,741	1,824	1,858	102	107	2,074
Gazalkent- Chinaz (excluding Ugam)	534	604	1,089	180	204	639
Total:	6,373	6,766	9,602	142	151	7,529
Overall:	16,840	19,249	26,440	137	157	19,619

Water releases from the reservoirs

According to the operation schedule of the Naryn-Syrdarya reservoir cascade, 13,953 mcm were to be released from April 1 to June 30, 2017.

Actually, 23,164 mcm were released; that is 9,211 mcm more than scheduled releases (Table 2.2).

Table 2.2

Reservoir	Releases, mcm from April 1 to June 30, 2017		Actual/ schedule (%)	Actual from April 1 to June 30, 2016
	According to operation schedule of NSRC	Actual		
Toktogul	2,301	2,299	99	1,668
Andizhan	1,966	2,400	122	1,105
Charvak (water releases from the Gazalkent HEPS)	2,359	4,303	182	2,783
Bakhri Tochik	3,741	6,683	179	3,228
Shardara	3,586	7,479	209	3,447
TOTAL:	13,953	23,164	166	12,231

Water storage in the reservoirs

By July 1, 2017, water storage in the reservoirs was 29,860 mcm or 4,390 mcm more than in 2016. In 2016, water storage was 25,470 mcm (Table 2.3).

Table 2.3

Name	Water storage in the reservoirs by July 1 (mcm)					Dead storage (mcm)
	including dead storage			excluding dead storage		
	2017	2016	%	2017	2016	
Tokrogul	18,510	13,818	134	13,010	8,318	5,500
Andizhan	1,797	1,656	109	1,647	1,506	150
Charvak	1,969	2,000	98	1,543	1,574	426
Bakhri Tochik	3,399	3,320	102	2,482	2,403	917
Shardara	4,185	4,676	89	3,665	4,156	520
Total	29,860	25,470	117	22,347	17,957	7,513

Water supply to states

From April 1 to June 30, 2017, water was supplied to the user states, taking into account submitted water requests.

Actually, the total water withdrawals of user states were 5,116 bcm (Table 2.4).

Table 2.4

Water user state	Water withdrawals from April 1 to June 30, 2017 (mcm)		
	Limit	Actual	%%
Republic of Kazakhstan (Dustlik canal)	245	253	103
Kyrgyz Republic	102	77	75
Republic of Tajikistan	932	634	68
Republic of Uzbekistan	4,386	4,152	95
Total:	5,665	5,116	90

Inflows to the in-stream reservoirs, discharge into Arnasay, and water supply to the Aral Sea

Scheduled inflow to the Bakhri Tochik reservoir was to be 3,372 mcm from April 1 to June 30.

Actually, it was 6,843 mcm or 3,471 mcm more than the schedule (Table 2.5).

Scheduled inflow to the Shardara reservoir was to be 3,270 mcm.

Actually, it was 7,959 mcm or 4,689 mcm more than the schedule (Table 2.5).

According to the data of the Coordination Dispatch Center “Energy” and RSE KazHydroMet, 1,387 mcm was supplied to Arnasay for 3 months of the growing season 2017 (Table 2.5).

According to the South Kazakhstan office of RSE KazHydroMet, 1,348 mcm were released from the Shardara reservoir to the Arnasay depression for the same period.

Water released from the Shardara reservoir to the Arnasay depression was then discharged to Aydarkul Lake.

From April 1 to June 30, the inflow to the Aral Sea and Prearalie was to be 817 mcm.

According to the data of the Committee for Water Resources of the Ministry of Agriculture of Kazakhstan, the inflow at the Karateren GS was 2,681 mcm or 1,864 mcm more than the schedule (Table 2.5).

Water supply to the Aral Sea and Prearalie was more than the schedule because of higher precipitation and increased water releases from the Shardara reservoir.

Table 2.5

Name	Scheduled from April 1 to June 30, mcm	Actual from April 1 to June 30, mcm	actual/scheduled (%)	Actual from April 1 to June 30, 2016, mcm
Inflow to the Bakhri Tochik reservoir	3,372	6,843	203	3,497
Inflow to the Shardara reservoir	3,270	7,959	243	4,701
Discharge into Arnasay	0	1,387		22
Supply to the Aral Sea	817	2,681	328	464

Conclusions

To conclude, water content in the Syrdarya River basin was higher and amounted to 137% of the norm from April 1 to June 30, 2017.

High precipitation in spring resulted in increased inflow to the upstream reservoirs and lateral inflow.

For the past period of the growing season 2017, the inflow to the upstream reservoirs was as follows (Table 2.1):

- to Toktogul – 122 %,
- to Andizhan – 142 %,
- to Charvak – 153 % of the forecast.

In general, the lateral inflow to the Syrdarya River was 142% of the forecast.

The inflow to the in-stream reservoirs was as follows (Table 2.5):

- to Bakhri Tochik – 203 %,
- to Shardara – 243 % of the schedule.

By June 30, 2017, actual water releases from the reservoir were 166% more than the schedule and amounted to 23,164 mcm, which is 10,933 mcm more than in the same period in 2016 (water releases for 2016 were 12,231 mcm) (Table 2.2).

By July 1, 2017, the total water storage in reservoirs, due to high water content in the Syrdarya River basin, was 117% more than for the same period in 2016 (Table 2.3).

From April to June, water was supplied to the user states, taking into account submitted water requests. Actually, water withdrawals amounted to 90% of the limit for the past period (Table 2.4).

For the past period of the growing season, the following positive factors can be underlined:

- water supply by the Republic of Kazakhstan to the Aral Sea and Prearalie was 2,681 mcm given the schedule of 817 mcm;
- water released from the Shardara reservoir to the Arnasay depression in the amount of 1,387 mcm, with further discharge into Aydarkul Lake.
- from June 2017, the Republic of Uzbekistan began receiving 1,200 million KWh of electricity from the Kyrgyz Republic.

On June 16-30, 2017, Uzbekistan received 160 million KWh. This resulted in additional water releases from the Toktogul reservoir in the amount of 180 mcm.

Receiving electricity by the Republic of Uzbekistan will be beneficial to meet the needs of water user states in the upper and middle reaches of the Syrdarya River in the peak of the growing season 2017.

Now the Republic of Tajikistan tries as much as possible to maintain the maximum volume in the Bakhri Tochik reservoir.

In difficult hydrological conditions, the Republic of Tajikistan regularly supports water consumers in the middle reaches of the Syrdarya River in the peak of the growing season.

Table 2.6 shows the schedule-forecast of the Naryn-Syrdarya reservoir cascade considered at the 70th meeting of ICWC for the growing season 2017.

Table 2.7 shows operation schedule of the Naryn-Syrdarya reservoir cascade with actual data for April 1-June 30, 2017 and forecast data for July 1-September 30, 2017.

Table 2.6

		April	May	June	July	August	September	Total, mcm
Toktogul reservoir								
Inflow to the reservoir	m ³ /s	350.00	785.00	1,370.00	1,045.00	487.74	400.00	11,702.88
	mcm	907.20	2,102.54	3,551.04	2,798.93	1,306.37	1,036.80	
Volume: beginning of the season	mcm	12,777.00	12,773.92	14,256.95	17,027.12	19,011.60	19,498.32	19,454.52
End of the season	mcm	12,773.92	14,256.95	17,027.12	19,011.60	19,498.32	19,454.52	
Water releases from the reservoir	m ³ /s	350.00	230.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	410.00	4,970.59
	mcm	907.20	616.03	777.60	803.52	803.52	1,062.72	
Bakhri Tochik reservoir								
Inflow to the reservoir	m ³ /s	5,55.56	430.97	300.00	300.00	380.00	450.00	6,359.65
(Akdjar GS)	mcm	14,40.00	1,154.31	777.61	803.53	1,017.80	1,166.40	
CDF inflow	m ³ /s	29.26	29.26	21.59	19.15	14.16	16.10	341.12
	mcm	75.84	78.37	55.96	51.29	37.93	41.73	
Volume: beginning of the season	mcm	3,330.10	3,403.05	3,408.13	2,742.41	1,969.10	1,784.05	2,099.15
End of the season	mcm	3,403.05	3,408.13	2,742.41	1,969.10	1,784.05	2,099.15	
Water releases from the reservoir	m ³ /s	530.00	400.00	500.00	500.00	385.48	300.00	6,890.40
	mcm	1,373.76	1,071.36	1,296.00	1,339.20	1,032.48	777.60	
Water withdrawals from the reservoir (pumping station from Akdjar to the reservoir+ pumping station from the reservoir)	m ³ /s	17.67	37.33	51.43	52.87	41.77	26.53	601.37
	mcm	45.81	99.99	133.31	141.62	111.87	68.77	
Shardara reservoir								
Inflow to the reservoir	m ³ /s	576.88	412.90	257.89	256.93	174.81	390.87	5,439.16
	mcm	1,495.28	1,105.92	668.45	688.16	468.21	1,013.14	
Volume: beginning of the season	mcm	4,633.00	4,679.35	4,312.15	3,339.87	2,099.58	1,000.93	

		April	May	June	July	August	September	Total, mcm
End of the season	mcm	4,679.35	4,312.15	3,339.87	2,099.58	1,000.93	1,127.60	
Water releases from the reservoir	m ³ /s	500.00	400.00	470.00	550.00	470.00	300.00	
	mcm	1,296.00	1,071.36	1,218.24	1,473.12	1,258.85	777.60	7,095.17
Water releases to Kzylkum canal	m ³ /s	20.00	100.00	110.00	110.00	90.00	25.00	
	mcm	51.84	267.84	285.12	294.62	241.06	64.80	1,205.28
Discharge into the Arnasay depression	m ³ /s	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
	mcm	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Supply to the Aral Sea	m ³ /s	175.50	93.90	42.70	44.70	44.30	118.70	
	mcm	454.90	251.50	110.68	119.72	118.65	307.67	1,363.12
Charvak reservoir								
Inflow to the reservoir	m ³ /s	278.53	497.33	647.15	483.89	270.07	163.02	
(4 rivers in total)	mcm	721.95	1,332.05	1,677.41	1,296.05	723.36	422.55	6,173.37
Volume: beginning of the season	mcm	564.00	767.03	1,293.95	1,931.46	1,991.16	1,852.60	
End of the season	mcm	767.03	1,293.95	1,931.46	1,991.16	1,852.60	1,753.38	
Water releases from the reservoir	m ³ /s	200.00	300.00	400.00	460.00	320.00	200.00	
(water releases from the Gazalkent HEPS)	mcm	518.40	803.52	1,036.80	1,232.06	857.09	518.40	4,966.28
Andizhan reservoir								
Inflow to the reservoir	m ³ /s	200.00	305.71	329.52	215.56	103.60	74.60	
	mcm	518.40	818.81	854.12	577.36	277.48	193.36	3,239.53
Volume: beginning of the season	mcm	1,099.60	1,228.27	1,594.00	1,787.48	1,424.66	1,029.81	
End of the season	mcm	1,228.27	1,594.00	1,787.48	1,424.66	1,029.81	1,039.09	
Water releases from the reservoir	m ³ /s	150.00	250.00	350.00	350.00	250.00	70.00	
	mcm	388.80	669.60	907.20	937.44	669.60	181.44	3,754.08

Таблица 2.7

Operation schedule of the Naryn-Syrdarya reservoir cascade from April 1, 2017 to September 30, 2017

		April, actual	May, actual	June, actual	July	August	September	Total, mcm
Toktogul reservoir								
Inflow to the reservoir	m ³ /s	505	1,244	1,300	1,045	488	400	13,152
	mcm	1,309	3,332	3,369	2,799	1,306	1,037	
Volume: beginning of the season	mcm	12,777	13,257	16,047	18,510	19,500	19,500	19,456
End of the season	mcm	13,257	16,047	18,510	19,500	19,500	19,456	
Water releases from the reservoir	m ³ /s	323	212	344	671	482	410	6,450
	mcm	838	569	892	1,798	1,290	1,063	
Bakhri Tochik reservoir								
Inflow to the reservoir	m ³ /s	1,068	876	667	700	508	510	11,402
(Akdjar GS)	mcm	2,769	2,346	1,729	1,874	1,362	1,323	
Volume: beginning of the season	mcm	3,330	3,443	3,472	3,399	3,026	2,557	2,640
End of the season	mcm	3,443	3,472	3,399	3,026	2,557	2,640	
Water releases from the reservoir	m ³ /s	1,031	857	661	750	620	450	11,519
	mcm	2,673	2,296	1,714	2,009	1,661	1,166	
Shardara reservoir								
Inflow to the reservoir	m ³ /s	1,345	983	710	439	347	541	11,466
	mcm	3,486	2,633	1,840	1,176	929	1,402	
Volume: beginning of the season	mcm	4,633	4,853	4,560	4,185	2,897	1,777	1,774
End of the season	mcm	4,853	4,560	4,185	2,897	1,777	1,774	
Water releases from the reservoir	m ³ /s	1,175	946	734	750	650	500	12,525
	mcm	3,044	2,534	1,901	2,009	1,741	1,296	
Water releases to Kzylkum canal	m ³ /s	82	50	45	110	90	25	

		April, actual	May, actual	June, actual	July	August	September	Total, mcm
Discharge into the Arnasay depression	mcm	211	133	117	295	241	65	1,061
	m ³ /s	121	311	93	0	0	0	
	mcm	314	833	240	0	0	0	1,387
Supply to the Aral Sea	m ³ /s	394	363	265	251	253	199	
	mcm	1,022	973	686	673	678	515	4,548
Charvak reservoir								
Inflow to the reservoir (4 rivers in total)	m ³ /s	477	868	829	484	270	163	
	mcm	1,237	2,325	2,149	1,296	723	423	8,153
Volume: beginning of the season	mcm	564	982	1,672	1,969	1,878	1,740	
End of the season	mcm	982	1,672	1,969	1,878	1,740	1,641	
Water releases from the reservoir (water releases from the Gazalkent HEPS)	m ³ /s	332	587	722	516	320	200	
	mcm	861	1,572	1,870	1,382	857	518	7,061
Andizhan reservoir								
Inflow to the reservoir	m ³ /s	312	497	377	216	104	75	
	mcm	808	1,332	977	577	277	193	4,166
Volume: beginning of the season	mcm	1,100	1,460	1,746	1,797	1,434	1,039	
End of the season	mcm	1,460	1,746	1,797	1,434	1,039	1,049	
Water releases from the reservoir	m ³ /s	170	386	357	350	250	70	
	mcm	440	1,034	926	937	670	181	4,188

EVENTS ORGANIZED UNDER THE UNECE CONVENTION ON THE PROTECTION AND USE OF TRANSBOUNDARY WATERCOURSES AND INTERNATIONAL LAKES

On July 4-6, 2017, three events were organized in Geneva under the UNECE Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention):

- Workshop on progress on transboundary water cooperation: from getting cooperation started to its long-term sustainability (4.07.2017)
- 12th meeting of the Working Group on Integrated Water Resource Management under the Water Convention (5-6.07.2017)
- Discussing establishment of the International Water Assessment Center in Kazakhstan (5.07.2017) with a small number of participants from Central Asia

Representatives of Central Asia included Mr.M.Zhakenov (Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan), Mr. K.D.Tashtanaliev (Department of Water Resources and Land Reclamation of the Kyrgyz Republic), Mr.D.Kholmatov (Ministry of Energy and Water Resources of the Republic of Tajikistan), Mr.V.Akhmadjonov (Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources of the Republic of Uzbekistan), and Ms. D.R.Ziganshina (SIC ICWC).

1. Workshop on progress on transboundary water cooperation: from getting cooperation started to its long-term sustainability

On July 4, 2017, workshop on progress on transboundary water cooperation: from getting cooperation started to its long-term sustainability was held in Geneva. The workshop targeted governmental representatives responsible for transboundary water cooperation, as well as those working on the establishment of new agreements and institutions for transboundary water cooperation.

The workshop was opened by Ms. Olga Algayerova, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), as well as by other co-organizers, such as the Ministry of Interior of Hungary, Ministry of Environment of Lithuania, Geneva Water Hub, International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO), and International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River.

Session 1 “Getting cooperation started”, chaired by François Münger (Geneva Water Hub), was aimed to discuss which actors, tools, and circumstances could help to initiate transboundary water cooperation and how to formalize cooperation by negotiating agreements or arrangements.

Mr. Oleksandr Bon, *Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Ukraine*, spoke on preparation and ratification of the Dniester Treaty between the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine. In the course of workshop, the ceremony was held dedicated to the commencement of the Treaty. The future plans of the parties include the establishment of a bilateral commission. Mr. Sylvester Matem, *Ministry of Water and Irrigation of Tanzania*, informed on recent progress on transboundary water cooperation between Tanzania and its neighboring countries and especially focused on the role development partners played in this process. Mr. Mohammad Alatrash, *Ministry of Water and Irrigation of Jordan*, made presentation on the 2015 Jordan – Saudi Arabia Agreement for the Management and Utilization of the Groundwater in the Al-Sag /Al-Disi Layer. Mr. Eugène Munyakayanza, Kivu and Ruzizi River Basin Authority, informed about the Convention and establishment of the ABAKIR Commission for Kivu Lake and Ruzizi River in 2014.

Mukthar Zhakenov, *Ministry of Agriculture of Kazakhstan*, informed about the transboundary water cooperation between Kazakhstan and China. He mentioned the positive dynamics in the development of this interaction. Thus, Kazakh and Chinese parties actively participated in and equally financed the construction of the “Dostyk” hydraulic structure on the Khorog River. The structure was designed by Kazakhstan and constructed by Chinese companies. The future plans include the construction of sill dam on the same river with equal financing, construction and operation of joint hydraulic structures, and drawing of an agreement on water allocation.

Then experts discussed negotiating frameworks for cooperation. Particularly, they discussed the starting off transboundary water cooperation between Colombia and Peru, development of the directive for the management of shared water resources in Western Africa by ECOWAS, and progress in negotiating a bilateral Kura agreement between Georgia and Azerbaijan.

Session 2 “Operationalizing and Sustaining Cooperation” focused on how to sustain and strengthen transboundary water cooperation by progressively developing and revising legal and institutional frameworks.

Peter Kovacs, Ministry of Interior of Hungary, spoke about negotiations of a revised transboundary water cooperation agreement between Hungary and Serbia. The first bilateral meeting was held on May 3-5, 2015 in Mohacs, which was followed by written consultations.

Sibylle Vermont, Federal Office for the Environment of Switzerland, and Yves Gouisset, Regional Directorate for the Environment Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes, France, made presentation on *Transboundary water cooperation between France and Switzerland on the Rhone River*. Despite various approaches to water management (strongly decentralized administration in Switzerland and centralized administration in France), the countries apply the Helsinki Convention and jointly address one of the important issues – climate change. Before starting negotiations, the countries established two working groups to examine the state of affairs. The Technical Working Group is responsible for the inventory of existing organizations and mechanisms for cooperation on all key areas, such as qualitative use, drinking water,

sediments, floods, wastewater, navigation, and fisheries. Institutional Working Group is responsible for the establishment of a Joint Body under the Helsinki Convention, which should supplement but not substitute existing bodies. The main objective is to anticipate and not only response to negative situations and phenomena, particularly, climate change impacts. The negotiations have not started yet; authorities are negotiating both within the country and between the countries.

Naruepon Sukumasavin, Director of Administration Division of the Mekong River Commission, reported on the institutional reform of the Mekong River Commission. Until 2015, the Commission Administration was funded by member-countries, and implementation of the projects was funded by donors (>US \$323 million). In 2011-2015, program was funded by different donors (\$106 million), with almost 200 staff/consultants (mix of riparian and international staff/consultants). Member countries contributed about US \$9 million. The New Strategic Plan 2016-2020 suggests US \$65 million; member countries will contribute at least 20% of budget, with further increase of contribution by 100% by 2030. The new MRC Secretariat staff will be represented only by all riparian countries (64 full-time employees). The speaker mentioned high efficiency of the new Commission, particularly, the recent Prior Consultation (PC) process for the proposed hydropower project.

2. 12th meeting of the Working Group on Integrated Water Resource Management under the Water Convention (5-6.07.2017)

The agenda of the 12th meeting of the Working Group on Integrated Water Resource Management was rather heavy. In the first day of the meeting, the Working Group was informed about the progress achieved in different projects supporting implementation of the Convention in countries of Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia carried out with the support of the ECE Regional Adviser on Environment. Ms. Sarangoo Radnaaragchaa was appointed as a new ECE Regional Adviser instead of Mr. Bo Libert. The new Adviser will focus on the strategic level and Sustainable Development Goals. In her presentation, Ms. Radnaaragchaa informed about ongoing projects in Central Asia, including cooperation project between Afghanistan and Tajikistan, projects on water quality and dam safety. She mentioned that the continuation of funding of three projects by the Russian Direct Investment Fund (RDIF) was approved (project of the Network of Basin Organizations of EECCA, on dam safety, and on cooperation between Afghanistan and Tajikistan).

The representative of MAWR of Uzbekistan (V.Akhmadjonov) briefly informed about existing difficulties and achievements in water management in the Amudarya and Syrdarya Rivers basins. At the state level, the work is done to adapt to decreased water withdrawals. To compare, 25 years ago those were 64 bcm given the population of 21 million people and now are 51 bcm given the population of 32 million people in Uzbekistan. At the regional level, organizations were developed; they operate rather successfully. He mentioned that the new foreign policy of the

President was focused on improving relations with neighbor states. In early 2017, the United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia shared draft conventions for the Amudarya and Syrdarya River basins. In the course of his visit, the UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres mentioned that these draft conventions might boost discussions. It is in our common interests to adopt these conventions.

Mr. Daler Kholmatov, representative of the Ministry of Energy and Water Resources of Tajikistan, informed on development of cooperation with Afghanistan. Particularly, he told that parties work on improvement of monitoring system and provision of timely hydrological information under the bilateral agreement on sustainable development and water resource management. Five meetings were held to discuss mechanisms under the hydrological monitoring and joint planning.

Ms. Dinara Ziganshina, Implementation Committee member, spoke about the outcomes of the 8th meeting of the Implementation Committee organized in Haparanda, Sweden on May 23-24, 2017. She also shared the future plans of the Committee which will focus on analysis of national reports on implementation of the Convention.

Then the Group discussed reporting under the Convention and on SDG indicator 6.5.2

Reporting on SDG indicator 6.5.2 caused intense debates. Many countries expressed concern about existing formulation for the indicator. The representative of Turkey said that selection of the “existing cooperation system” as a criterion, which consists of four compulsory components (availability of an institute, agreement, information exchange, and basin plan), will lead to undervaluation of other significant forms of cooperation. Representatives of Chad and Guinea were of the same opinion. The representative of Columbia noticed the lack of information needed to fill in a reporting template. Representatives of developed countries also spoke on the lack of information. For instance, representatives of Switzerland and Germany could not present needed information on groundwater because of its lack. Anyway, they assured that they would collect the missing information and present it until the end of the year.

As of July 5, 2017, 33 of 40 Parties to the Convention presented their reports on implementation of the Convention. Many countries wished to share their experience in filling in reporting templates. In general, the experience was positive. However, Luxemburg was skeptical about introducing reporting procedure under the Convention but was satisfied with its results. The representative of country told that unofficial meetings were organized with neighboring countries; this work was useful, and it allowed analyzing national activities and transboundary situation. The representative of Germany told that work carried out showed that in practice things were even better than envisaged by agreements. It shows that many agreements need to be updated. The representative of Switzerland proposed to develop online system for reporting in the future.

The representative of Uzbekistan also mentioned that huge work was done. It revealed that a better coordination is needed between agencies to quickly collect data.

There is lack of reliable data on the region. National mechanism for reporting needs to be developed; regional organizations and riparian countries may be involved in this process.

Some countries asked the Secretariat to assist in preparing national reports in the future, but the funds of the Secretariat are restricted for this work.

The next item of the agenda was discussion of a concept for a third comprehensive assessment of transboundary waters. In the preliminary proposal on the scope, content, and process for the third assessment of transboundary waters elaborated by Finland in cooperation with Secretariat, the following key proposals are mentioned:

- A participatory assessment, based on countries' data, information and joint assessment, of 15-20 surface water basins (or sub-basins) and/or aquifers around the world which represent a diversity of transboundary water management challenges, climatic zones and institutional settings.
- Invite both Parties and non-Parties to the Convention to submit calls for basin assessment. For a basin or sub-basin to be included in the Assessment, all riparian countries need to express an interest and support the exercise.
- Basic information with a consistent approach will be gathered and presented for all the basins. In addition, the assessments of the different transboundary basins will have a selected thematic focus jointly decided by the riparian countries. The proposed themes include: 1) Climate change, hydrological extremes and resilience; 2) Intersectoral issues/energy and/or agriculture; 3) Water quality (wastewater, diffuse pollution, mining or others); 4) Ecosystems and their services. This will allow deepening the analysis on topics of common interest.

The participants were proposed to submit their remarks and proposals to the concept of assessment, as well as propose preliminary basins for inclusion into the Third Assessment.

The second day of meeting addressed item 6 of the Agenda "The global Convention — promotion and partnerships".

The Working Group was informed about the outcomes of the fourth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Water and Health (Geneva, 14-16 November 2016) and its Program of work for 2017-2019. The representative of Tajikistan (D.Kholmatov) told that the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution on the "International Decade for Action, 'Water for Sustainable Development', 2018-2028" upon the initiative of Tajikistan. He called everyone to actively work to achieve objectives of the decade.

Much time was given to the countries from outside the ECE region, which presented their efforts towards acceding to the Water Convention. After conducting awareness-raising seminar in some African countries, many countries of the region expressed interest in acceding to this tool. It is expected that Chad will accede very

soon. The countries of Latin America also showed their interest (Peru and Columbia).

The Working Group was presented a revised Strategy for the implementation of the Convention at the global level. It was elaborated by the Bureau with the support of the Secretariat. The participants were asked to submit their remarks and comments to this document by September 15. Then the draft strategy will be revised again at the next meeting of the Working Group on IWRM in May 2017 and submitted at the meeting of Parties in October 2018.

The 7th item of the agenda was “Identifying, assessing and communicating the benefits of transboundary water cooperation”. The Working Group was informed about activities on implementation of the Policy Guide Note on the Benefits of Transboundary Water Cooperation: Identification, Assessment and Communication. In addition, preliminary results of assessing benefits of transboundary water cooperation were presented. These assessments were carried out in the Okavango River basin (shared between Angola, Botswana, and Namibia) and Sio-Malaba-Malakisi River basin located in IGAD (Intergovernmental Authority for Development) region that comprises the countries of Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, and Uganda. The participants were asked to submit their proposals to assess benefits in other potential basins to the Secretariat. The Working Group will review further applications expressing interest in implementation of the Policy Guide Note and discuss future work in this area, including organization of the global working meeting in 2018.

The eighth item of the agenda covered water-food-energy-ecosystems nexus in transboundary basins. The Working Group was informed about methodology for nexus assessment, which was developed in 2013-2015. Particularly, such assessment has been completed for the Drina River and is under way for aquifers in the North-West of Sahara.

For autumn 2017, a global workshop on water allocation in transboundary context will be organized (Geneva, 17-18 October 2017). To have information for organization of the workshop, the Working Group members were asked to share best practices of their countries or region on water allocation in transboundary basins, as well as possible scope and objectives of the working meeting by August 31.

Under the item “European Union Water Initiative and National Policy Dialogues”, the participants were informed about the outcomes of reforming legislation, developing new strategic documents, and promoting transboundary cooperation. The Working Group was also informed about changes in National Policy Dialogues on IWRM (supported by UNECE), water and sanitation (supported by OECD), and the outcomes of the first regional meeting of the Steering Committee for the Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia under the European Union Water Initiative (Brussels, 15-16 May 2017).

There are some uncertainties related to continuation of work on the National Dialogues in Central Asia. However, the Central Asian states show interest, and efforts will be taken to ensure stability of funding. There is a positive feedback on work in the format “Eastern Europe-Caucasus-Central Asia”. The lessons learned over the past period are:

- Property and ownership of national partners to the process and its outcomes are key factors;
- Coordination is needed not only between donors but also other processes;
- NRPD may facilitate the promotion of reforms, but follow-up work and support of international organizations are important;
- Stability and sustainability of actions and commitments are factors of success;
- Capacity and staff turnover in government agencies create challenges.

The next item was “Adapting to climate change in transboundary basins”. The Working Group was informed about the outcomes of training on preparing financially acceptable projects to finance climate change adaptation in transboundary basins (Dakar, 21-23 June 2017), about global workshop on climate change adaptation with special focus on water deficit and drought management (Geneva, December 11-12, 2017), and joint activities under the Water Convention and Protocol on Water and Health.

The Working Group was informed about preparation of guidance on river basin management and transboundary water cooperation “Words into Action”, which aims to support implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030.

INBO General Secretary Jean-Francois Donzier made a presentation on establishment of the Global Alliances on Water and Climate (GAWaC). He informed about established incubator of projects on water and climate, where developers may present their projects and funding organizations search for interest project proposals. The participants were called to take part in activities scheduled later this year:

- 15th “EUROPE-INBO 2017” International Conference: for the Implementation of the European Water Directives, Dublin, 20-23 September, 2017
- International Summit on "Water and Climate: Meeting of the Great Rivers of the World", Rome, 23-25 October, 2017

Mr. K.Tashtanaliev (Kyrgyz Republic) spoke about climate change impact on water resources, as well as about related ongoing projects.

When discussing the item “Water and industrial accidents”, the Working Group reviewed progress on the 2017-2018 Work plan of the Joint Ad Hoc Expert Group on Water and Industrial Accidents.

Under the item “International Water Assessment Center”, Kazakhstan informed about signing the “Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe on hosting the International Water Assessment Centre in Kazakhstan” and completing all necessary administrative procedures for its establishment.

The Secretariat informed the Working Group on the contributions and expenditures related to the implementation of the program of work for the Convention

for the period 2016–2018. There was a positive trend in increasing contributions from EU on National Policy Dialogues for the Eastern Europe and Caucasus, and they reduce for other countries. The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and MFA of Finland abolished targeted contributions providing more flexibility to the Secretariat in allocating funds while implementing the program of work. Nowadays only 13 out of 41 countries are donors of the Convention. Hence, it would be desirable that other countries also considered the possibility of contributions under the Convention, perhaps even by allocating their experts.

V.Akhmadjonov, MAWR of Uzbekistan, came forward with proposals to be considered in the work of Convention's bodies:

- To focus activities under the Convention on the non-Parties to the Convention;
- To focus on countries and regions with conflict potential where promotion of objectives and principles of the Convention is of prime importance;
- The Secretariat is not sufficiently involved in cooperation with the regional and international organizations in Central Asia to promote regional dialogue. For instance, the Secretariat could joint UNRCCA in working on draft conventions on the Amudarya and Syrdarya Rivers. It is desirable that the Secretariat works with regional organizations closely.

3. Discussing establishment of the International Water Assessment Center in Kazakhstan (5.07.2017)

Upon the invitation of the Kazakh party, the participants from Central Asia discussed establishment of the International Water Assessment Center. The Memorandum of Understanding on its establishment has already been signed between UNECE and Kazakhstan. Mr. Mukhtar Zhaakenov, Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan, shortly reported on objectives and tasks of the Center. Competence of the International Water Assessment Center, prepared by Kazakhstan with support of the Secretariat, was also presented.

The participants also recommended conducting mapping of existing regional and international organizations engaged in transboundary water cooperation in order to specify a particular role the newly established Center will play. It was also recommended sending official notification on establishment of the Center.

MEETING OF ICWC WORKING GROUP ON INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

On September 4, 2017, the meeting of the Working Group (WG) on Implementation of Integrated Water Resource Management and Adaptation to Climate Change was held in Tashkent. The event was organized within the framework of the meeting of regional organizations held by CAREC and SIC ICWC.

The meeting was organized in two parts.

The first part of the meeting was combined with the session “IWRM implementation in the Central Asian countries: lessons learnt, challenges, and future plans” of the 5th meeting of regional organizations involved in sustainable development and water management in Central Asia.

In addition to the Group members from Uzbekistan (Mr.D.Paluanov) and Kazakhstan (Mr. D.G.Sagadiev), a representative of the National Water Partnership from Tajikistan (Mr.Ya.E.Pulatov) shared his country’s experience in IWRM. Mr. N.N.Mirzaev (SIC ICWC) made a presentation on the “Regional review of IWRM implementation in Central Asia.” Moreover, CAREC presented information on IWRM implementation along small transboundary rivers in Central Asia (Mrs. A.Inozemtseva).

Then a narrow-format meeting was held with Messrs. Sagadiev D.G. (Ministry of Agriculture of Kazakhstan), Paluanov D. (Scientific Research Institute of Irrigation and Water Problems), Dukhovniy V.A. (SIC ICWC), Mirzaev N.N. (SIC ICWC), and Ms. Ziganshina D.R. (SIC ICWC).

They discussed progress on Activity plan 2017 and the structure of national and regional reports that would be submitted at the Anniversary Conference of ICWC in November 2017. They also discussed WG activities to be fulfilled until the end of 2017 and preliminary Activity plan 2018. As a result of the meeting, it was agreed that:

1. National reports would include three key questions:
 - (1) Progress with IWRM implementation at country level?
 - (2) What problems occur when implementing IWRM?
 - (3) What steps should be taken for successful implementation of IWRM as a tool of green growth and adaptation to climate change in short-, mid-, and long-term?

It is advisable to find answers to these questions from the perspective of:

a. IWRM principles:

- Public participation (WCA Councils, Basin Council, National Council, etc.)
- Hydrographic boundary approach (Union (Federation) of water users, Basin Union (Administration), ...),
- Use of all types of water and consideration of all water users,
- Considering environmental needs,
- Transition to water demand management (water saving, ...),
- Gender equality, ...;
- Information support;
- Economic and financial stability in management.

b. IWRM tools: legal, technical, institutional, and financial;

c. Hierarchical levels of water management: national, basin, system (irrigation system level), and local (WCA, water user).

It is also needed to show the situation with national IWRM plans and the role of IWRM in adaptation to climate change.

2. Working group members would submit the first version of the reports to SIC ICWC by October 25, 2017
3. SIC ICWC (Mr.N.N.Mirzaev) would consider reports and present a regional report "Regional review of IWRM implementation in Central Asia" for consideration to the working group members by the Anniversary Conference of ICWC in Tashkent in November 2017
4. Underline the work undertaken by SIC ICWC and CAREC on development of the interactive map on the use of water, land, and energy resources, and environmental protection
5. SIC ICWC would inform WG member from Turkmenistan and ICWC members on the results of the meeting.

WG members expressed gratitude to Uzbekistan, SIC ICWC, and CAREC for their support in organization of the meeting in Tashkent.

More detailed information about objectives and tasks of the ICWC Working Groups established to work on the "Implementation Plan on strengthening ICWC activities in key directions" is available on http://icwc-aral.uz/work_plan_ru.htm (in Russian only)

MEETING OF ICWC WORKING GROUP ON BUILDING CAPACITY OF REGIONAL AND NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

On September 5, 2017, the first meeting of the Working Group on Building Capacity of Regional and National Organizations was held in Tashkent.

The event was financed by the CAREC project “Promoting dialogue for conflict prevention related to environment, water nexus issues in Central Asia: Central Asia Water-Nexus Cooperation” (CAWECOOP) supported by EU.

The meeting was aimed at:

1. Discussing experience in building capacity of experts in the Central Asian countries;
2. Considering preliminary results of inventory of already implemented projects on building capacity of water staff and the existing training centers for water sector professional development in the Central Asian countries;
3. Discussing a format and content of national reports on capacity building and identifying the content of the regional report;
4. Discussing organizational matters of WG activity.

The meeting of WG was organized in two parts.

The first part of the meeting was combined with the session “Building capacity and water sector professional development in the Central Asian countries” of the 5th meeting of the regional organizations involved in sustainable development and water management in Central Asia.

In addition to the group members from Uzbekistan (Mr. Ishpulatov Z.) and Kazakhstan (Mr. N.K. Kipshakbaev), Mrs. Musabaeva K. (National Water Partnership of the Kyrgyz Republic) and Prof. Pulatov Ya.E. (National Water Partnership of Tajikistan) presented their reports.

Mr. N.K.Kipshakbev highlighted the issues of regional water cooperation (RWC) in general and in historical context and the role of water sector professional development in RWC, as well as of international projects. Particularly, he underlined that the tasks and aims of international projects contradict each other and do not respond to the interests of beneficiaries.

As to national context, he focused on the role of basin councils at the basin inspections in terms of making decisions related to water resource management within the territory of inspections.

Mrs. K.Musabaeva reported on water education in the Kyrgyz Republic. This process is considered as an integral part of the nationwide system of training, retraining, and professional development. She underlined the contribution of donors to the development of the system, as well as of international projects in capacity building.

Mr.Ya.E.Pulatov presented information on water education in Tajikistan, its role in the Water Sector Development Strategy in Tajikistan and other documents.

Mr.Z.Ishpulatov reported on capacity building under the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Particularly, he underlined that the system of water sector professional development which existed until 1990s has been preserved, developed and improved on the basis of education legislation.

The representatives of regional organizations made presentations on capacity building under ICWC umbrella (Mr.Rysbekov Yu.Kh., SIC ICWC), the results of the project “Building capacity in the water sector in the Central Asian countries” implemented by CAREC and SIC ICWC (Mrs. Ziganshina D.R., SIC ICWC), and on country needs in capacity building identified in CAREC projects (Mrs. Inozemtseva A., CAREC).

Then a narrow-format meeting was held with the participation of WG members and SIC ICWC only:

1. Kipshakbaev N.K. – Kazakh branch of SIC ICWC
2. Ishpulatov Z. – Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources of Uzbekistan
3. Dukhovniy V.A. – SIC ICWC Director
4. Rysbekov Yu.Kh – WG coordinator, SIC ICWC
5. Ziganshina D.R. – SIC ICWC Deputy Director

The participants discussed progress on Activity plan 2017. Prof. Kipshakbaev N.K. proposed the Group to deal not only with professional development.

The participants discussed the format and content of national and regional reports that would be presented at the Anniversary Conference of ICWC in Tashkent in November 2017. They also discussed activities to be fulfilled until the end of 2017 and preliminary Activity plan 2018.

As a result of the meeting, it was agreed that:

1. By September 25, 2017, SIC ICWC (Rysbekov Yu.Kh.) would submit to WG members the structure of national reports and key issues to be included.
2. Based on this structure, WG members would submit the first drafts of national reports to SIC ICWC for consideration by October 20, 2017.

3. By October 15, 2017, SIC ICWC (Rysbekov Yu.Kh.) would submit the structure of the regional report to WG members for their consideration, taking into account proposals submitted during the meeting.
4. SIC ICWC (Rysbekov Yu.Kh.) would prepare the summary regional report on “Building capacity of water experts in Central Asia: achievements and future tasks” by the Anniversary Conference of ICWC in Tashkent in November 2017.
5. Cooperation of SIC ICWC and CAREC on developing the interactive map of training centers dealing with building capacity of water experts in the Central Asian countries should be underlined.
6. The proposal by Kazakhstan to consider in the Work plan 2018 the needs for building capacity of ICWC regional and national organizations in a wider aspect not only through professional development should be taken into account.
7. SIC ICWC would inform WG member from Turkmenistan and ICWC members on the results of the meeting.

WG members expressed gratitude to Uzbekistan, SIC ICWC, and CAREC for their support in organization of the meeting in Tashkent.

More detailed information about objectives and tasks of the ICWC Working Groups established to work on the "Implementation Plan on strengthening ICWC activities in key directions" is available on http://icwc-aral.uz/work_plan_ru.htm (in Russian only)

MEETING OF ICWC WORKING GROUP ON IMPROVEMENT OF WATER ACCOUNTING QUALITY AND ACCURACY

On September 7, 2017, the first meeting of the Working Group on Improvement of Water Accounting Quality and Accuracy was held in Almaty. The Group was established by the decision of the Interstate Commission for Water Coordination in Central Asia (ICWC) within the framework of the “Implementation Plan on strengthening ICWC activities in key directions” approved in 2014.

The event was financed by the CAREC project “Promoting dialogue for conflict prevention related to environment, water nexus issues in Central Asia: Central Asia Water-Nexus Cooperation” with the support of EU.

Working Group members at the meeting:

1. Imasheva G.S. – Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan
2. Kuchkarov Sh. – Head of the Administration for Water Balance and Water Conservation Technology Development of the Republic of Uzbekistan
3. Masumov R. – Working Group coordinator (SIC ICWC)
4. Nazariy L. – leading engineer-technician, Water Allocation and Balance Division, BWO Syrdarya
5. Saparbaev M. – Deputy head of BWO Amudarya

The meeting was aimed at:

1. Sharing experience in water accounting in the Central Asian countries and BWOs.
2. Discussing drafts of national and regional reports on water accounting and recommendations for its improvement.
3. Identifying basic directions for further activity of WG.

Mrs. D.R.Ziganshina (SIC ICWC) opened the meeting and informed on the mandate and tasks of WG. The participants got acquainted with Activity plan 2017 of WG approved by ICWC, based on which the agenda of the first meeting was defined. They approved the proposed agenda.

In his opening speech *Prof. V.A.Dukhovniy* underlined the analysis of water losses in the Amudarya River showing that they increased twice. In 1990, water losses were estimated at 4.8 km³; today they amount to 10 km³. The situation in the Syrdarya River also changed in the last three years, with water losses recorded in places where they did not occur before. The reasons may be evaporation, seepage, and process losses. At the same time, he underlined that three-time measurements often do not record fluctuations of water discharge up to 180 m³ that occur in-between

measurements due to releases of water from upper reservoirs operating in energy regime (for instance Uchkurgan hydroscheme along the Naryn River). Wider public involvement in water accounting, implementation of SCADA system, and adoption of irrigation water fees on volumetric basis are needed.

Mrs. Imasheva spoke on water accounting in Kazakhstan. Particularly, she mentioned that Kazakhstan relied on the program of reconstruction of irrigation systems. So far, annual reports are prepared in TP-2 format.

In Kazakhstan, scientific and production center “Su-Metrologiya” is responsible for certification and verification of gauging stations at the national level. Since October 2015, “Su-Metrologiya” acts as Metrological Service of “KazVodKhoz” at the Ministry of Agriculture of Kazakhstan and delivers services to water agencies and enterprises. Director of “Su-Metrologiya” *Mr. S.B.Seysenov* informed on work carried out by the organization and existing problems.

“Su-Metrologiya” is funded through contracts with water agencies. In total, the database of the organization contains information on 2,735 hydraulic structures, including 747 canals, of which 635 are registered. He also informed that recently many canals have been silted, covered with plants, and their performance has significantly deteriorated. Today no activities are carried out to improve their performance. The due time for certification of interstate gauging stations has already expired. The Coordination Metrological Center of the Interstate Commission for Water Coordination in Central Asia (CMC ICWC), located in Bishkek and responsible for this process, needs to be involved to certify and verify these gauging stations.

“Su-Metrologiya” supervises over the time of verification of gauging stations along the main and inter-farm canals, as well as controls water use based on approved limits. Because of low salaries, there is fluctuation of personnel. 20% of staff does not have higher education. There are also problems with maintenance of equipment.

Mr. Sh.Kuchkarov spoke on water accounting in Uzbekistan. Particularly, he mentioned that the Central Water Administration (CWA) carried out inventory of gauging stations; relevant database is being formed. Position of hydrometer expert is reinstated in each district. To certify gauging stations, training courses were organized with support of SIC ICWC trainers and the Agency for Standardization, Metrology and Certification of *Uzbekistan*. At the end of the training, certificates were given to hydrometer experts to conduct certification and verification of gauging stations. Similarly, UNDP allocated funds to train verification officers. Discussions are under way to reinstate the Basic Metrological Service (BMS), probably on the basis of the Scientific Research Institute of Irrigation and Water Problems (SRIIWP). It will be responsible for certification and verification of gauging stations at the inter-farm and interstate levels. Director of “Su-Metrologiya” asked about regulatory and methodological literature on construction and verification of gauging stations. *Mr.Kuchkarov* answered that this kind of literature is prepared in Uzbek language.

Mr. M.Saparbaev informed about water accounting at BWO Amudarya. Particularly, he told that many gauging stations installed along the earthen channel were silted; repair and restoration activities were not organized. It is needed to recover

their initial design profiles and pave slopes and canal bottoms with concrete. Gauging stations of “fixed channel” type need to be verified annually. Moreover, CMC ICWC should be involved in this activity. Now 187 gauging stations are installed on 430 hydraulic structures. In the Turkmen part, no balance gauging station is installed. There are no qualified hydrometer experts to continuously account water discharge. Due to siltation in canals, their discharge characteristics have error of 7-10% and more.

Mr. L.Nazariy informed on water accounting at BWO Syrdarya. Particularly, he told that BWO was responsible for management of water resources, operation of hydraulic structures, ensuing limits of water supply to water user states in Central Asia, as well as bypass of water to the downstream of the Syrdarya River to ensure water to Prearalie and the Aral Sea. Totally, more than 200 hydraulic structures are on the balance of BWO Syrdarya, including 21 large gauging stations, head water intakes and interstate canals located along the Naryn, Karadarya, Syrdarya, and Chirchik Rivers, as well as Uchkurgan, Kuyganyar, and Upper Chirchik gauging stations, transboundary canals of interstate importance, such as Big Fergana Canal, North Fergana Canal, Dustlik Canal, Big Keles main canal, and Khanym and Zakh canals.

BWO Syrdarya is responsible for accounting water withdrawal from rivers and canals on 445 points, of which 187 are gauging stations, including those of HydroMetServices and water agencies. BWO Syrdarya maintains information exchange with HydroMetServices, CDC “Energy”, territorial administrations, ministries, committees, and other agencies in the Syrdarya River basin.

In the 2000s, hydraulic structures were automated along the Syrdarya River. Here are main outputs of these measures:

- Technical condition of some BWO’s structures was improved.
- Modern systems of automation, dispatch, and monitoring were implemented.
- Technological level of management was improved at three dams and two canals.
- Measurement accuracy was improved – error was reduced from 5-10% to 2-3%.
- Information support was increased by collecting, storing, and processing continuously measurements of water level and discharge.
- Increased stability of water supply.
- Continuous measurement and registration of water quality parameters.
- Remote detection and timely correction of the troubles with hydraulic structures;
- Material and technical resources of BWOs were partially improved.
- Professional development of water experts was carried out; and
- Increased trust of consumers to BWOs.

BWO Syrdarya presented its needs in further capacity building, which would be

detailed in the regional report.

In conclusion, SIC ICWC expert on water accounting *Mr. R.Masumov* described technical details of SCADA automation system, principles of its operation, and required preparatory activities. Among foreign facilities for monitoring water level and discharge, he mentioned modern discharge meters which measure local velocity (Doppler Effect) with simultaneous measurement of water level (supersonic echo sounder). He presented technical parameters of discharge meters from South Korea. They are designed to measure water discharge in canals with both concrete and earthen channels with unstable cross section. He told on monitoring of water-related situation in South Korea, where all information on air temperature, humidity and surface water and groundwater is automatically sent through independent weather stations (600 pieces) to the unified dispatching desk serving to collect information and support decision making. He added that Korean autonomous units were installed at the head gauging station of the Tashkent main canal and at water offtake from the Tuyamuyun reservoir.

During *discussions*, the importance to supervise water accounting by water users and communities was underlined. The participants highlighted the importance to resume automation process in the Syrdarya River basin, including downstream of Shardara, as well as to attract donors' attention to the Amudarya River basin. They also discussed the need to share experiences and practices on water accounting at the national level. The positive experience of Kazakhstan was mentioned, where a specialized metrological service is operating.

As a result of the meeting, it was agreed that:

1. WG members would submit national reports on water accounting in their countries and recommendations for its improvement by October 1, 2017.
2. Based on these reports, WG coordinator Mr. R.Masumov would prepare summary report by October 15, 2017 to present to ICWC members and Anniversary Conference of ICWC in November 2017 in Tashkent.
3. To improve water accounting quality and accuracy, donors need to be involved to automate and implement SCADA system on the Syrdarya and Amudarya Rivers.
4. SIC ICWC would inform WG member from Turkmenistan and ICWC members on the results of the meeting.

The participants expressed their gratitude to the Executive Administration of IFAS in Kazakhstan and CAREC for their support in organization of the WG meeting within the framework of the International Scientific-Practical Conference "Transboundary Cooperation in Central Asia – Sustainability and Prosperity in the Region".

More detailed information about objectives and tasks of the ICWC Working Groups established to work on the "Implementation Plan on strengthening ICWC

activities in key directions" is available on http://icwc-aral.uz/work_plan_ru.htm (in Russian only)

INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC-PRACTICAL CONFERENCE “TRANSBOUNDARY COOPERATION IN CENTRAL ASIA - A WAY TO SAFETY, STABILITY, AND PROSPERITY IN THE REGION”

International Scientific-Practical Conference “Transboundary Cooperation in Central Asia - a way to Safety, Stability, and Prosperity in the region” was held on September 7, 2017 in Almaty. It was dedicated to the 25th Anniversary of the Interstate Commission for Water Coordination in Central Asia and was held as a preparatory process to the 8th World Water Forum (March 2018, Brazil).

The Conference was jointly organized by the Executive Administration of IFAS for Kazakhstan and the Kazakh National Agrarian University (KazNAU) with the support of the Institute of Geography at the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan, National Water Partnership of Kazakhstan, OSCE Program Office in Astana, CAREC, and Kazakh branch of SIC ICWC. The Conference was held at KazNAU.

The rector of KazNAU Mr. T.I.Espolov and deputies of the Kazakh Parliament Mrs. G.A.Baymakhanova and Mrs. I.V.Smirnova made their speeches at the plenary session. SIC ICWC Director Prof. V. A. Dukhovniy and the Director of the Kazakh branch of SIC ICWC Mr.N.K.Kipshakbaev reported on the 25th Anniversary of ICWC and transboundary water cooperation in Central Asia. They highlighted progress achieved and problems to be resolved to improve cooperation. CAREC Executive Director Mr. I.Kh.Abdullaev spoke on capabilities in strengthening water cooperation in the region and underlined that economic expenditures were estimated at US\$ 4.5 billion due to the lack of cooperation.

Mr. M.R.Zhienbaev, Head of Transboundary Rivers Division at the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan, spoke about international water cooperation of Kazakhstan with neighboring countries. Mr.S.Akhmedov spoke about the *International Water Resources Assessment Center* established in Astana. Director of the Executive Administration of IFAS for Kazakhstan Mr. B.K.Bekniyaz highlighted the results of the International Aral Forum for Sustainable Development - “Aral 2017”. Mr. K.U.Alibaev informed about aims, tasks, and basic results of the Project “Regulation of the Syrdarya River channel and preservation of the Northern Aral Sea”.

The Head of the Administration for Water Balance and Water Conservation Technology Development of the Republic of Uzbekistan Mr. Sh.Kuchkarov spoke about practical measures of the country to support and develop bi- and multilateral water cooperation. He also underlined national measures implemented under the “Comprehensive program on mitigation of consequences of the Aral Sea catastrophe, restoration and socio-economic development in Prearalie for the period of 2015-2018”. Head of the GROHE Representative Office in Kazakhstan Mr. S.Tsink presented

advanced resource-saving technologies of the company, which is a leading manufacturer of sanitary fittings.

Development partners – representatives of GIZ, OSCE, ADB, and World Bank – informed on their activity and ongoing projects. Particularly, ADB Country Director for Kazakhstan Mr. Giovanni Kapannelli spoke about two projects to be implemented in the nearest time. The first project “Strengthening Water Security in the Aral Sea Basin” focuses on Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan. Under the second project, the establishment of the Almaty Knowledge Hub on Integrated Water Resource Management is planned at KazNAU.

Under the Conference, the Executive Administration of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea for Kazakhstan awarded honorable badges to the experts who made significant contribution to the water sector and international cooperation:

Dukhovniy V.A. — for long-term contribution to the development of interstate water relations in the Aral Sea basin

Ryabtsev A.D. — for contribution to the water sector and restoration of the Northern Aral Sea in time of his service as a Chairman of the Committee for Water Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Kenshimov A.K. — for long-time contribution to the of water sector and interstate water relations in time of his service as a Deputy Chairman of the Committee for Water Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan and in the Executive Administration of IFAS for Kazakhstan

Ospanov M.O. — for contribution to the implementation of ASBP-2, ASBP-3, and restoration of the Northern Aral Sea in time of his service as a Chairman of the Executive Administration of IFAS (2009-2016)

Smailov S.S. — for contribution to the restoration of the Northern Aral Sea as the Head of the group involved in the implementation of the Project “Regulation of the Syrdarya River channel and preservation of the Northern Aral Sea”

As part of the Conference, a festive evening was held to congratulate Mr.A.K.Kenshimov, the long-service water professional, with his 70th anniversary. The representatives of water organizations, as well as invitees from regional and international organizations congratulated him and wished further success and long life.

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