

**MINUTES OF 50TH MEETING OF THE INTERSTATE COMMISSION
FOR WATER COORDINATION (ICWC) OF THE REPUBLIC OF
KAZAKHSTAN, THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC, THE REPUBLIC OF
TAJIKISTAN, TURKMENISTAN AND THE REPUBLIC OF
UZBEKISTAN**

May 29, 2008

City of Bishkek

Attendants:

ICWC members:

Ryabtsev Anatoly Dmitriyevich	Chairman of Committee for Water Resources, Ministry of Agriculture, Republic of Kazakhstan
Yokubzod Saidi	Minster of Water Resources and Land Reclamation, Republic of Tajikistan
Akmamedov Miratgeldi	Minister of Water Resources, Turkmenistan
Khamrayev Shavkat Rakhimovich	Deputy Minster, Head of Central Water Administration at the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources, Republic of Uzbekistan

ICWC Executive agencies:

Dukhovny Viktor Abramovich	Director, SIC ICWC, Professor, Honorable ICWC member
Khudaiberganov Yuldash Hudaiberganovich	Head of BWO "Amudarya"
Khamidov Makhmud Khamidovich	Head of BWO "Syrdarya"
Makarov Oleg Stepanovich	Head of ICWC Metrological Center
Negmatov Gairat Abdusattarovich	Head of ICWC Secretariat

Invited:

Matsunami Katsuji	Director of ADB Department
Bekniyazov Murat	Head of Water Resources Committee at the Ministry of Agriculture, Kazakhstan
Kichibayev Araridin Niyzamovich	Chairman of ULC "Kyrgyzsuudolbor"

Diykanov Baysuubek Tinchbekovich	Head of Kirovsk Reservoir Administration
Isabekov Tilek Asanakunovich	Head of Chu-Talas Commission Secretariat
Mamataliyev Nurgazy Patiydinovich	Director, Kyrgyz branch of SIC ICWC
Pulatov Yarash Ergashevich	Director General of GU «TajikNIIGim»
Khanmedov Guvanch	Head of department, Ministry of Water Resources, Turkmenistan
Saparov Usman Bayramklichevich	Deputy Director of “Turkmensuvilimtaslama” Institute
Kuchkarov Sharifjon Zikrillayevich	Head of department, Ministry of Water Resources and Agriculture, Republic of Uzbekistan
Sheraliyev Nurmuhammad Ismanovich	Director assistant, Central Water Administration at the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources, Republic of Uzbekistan
Beglov Ferdinand Fatihovich	Head of department SIC ICWC
Chairman:	Koshmatov Baratali Turanovich-ICWC member, Director General of Water Resources Department at the Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources and Processing Industry, Kyrgyz Republic

Agenda:

1. Adoption of water withdrawal limits along Amudarya and Syrdarya for growing season 2008 and approval of forecasting operation of the cascade of reservoirs (responsible BWO «Amudarya” and BWO ”Syrdarya”).
2. Adoption of ADB RETA 6163 project documents.
3. Consideration and adoption of draft “ICWC Principles”, ”Rotation of ICWC agencies and their managers” and Agreement ”About strengthening organizational structure of management, protection and development of water resources in interstate sources in the Aral Sea basin”.
4. Experience of Chu- Talas joint commission.
5. Venue and agenda of the next 51st ICWC meeting.

Additional Issues for Consideration:

1. Discussion of ADB RETA 6163 project results and a new draft program for 2008-2010 (included at a request of ABR regional office).
2. Development of the regional training network for high and middle level staff in water, energy and environmental organizations in the Aral Sea basin countries on the base of TC ICWC (included at a request of SIC ICWC).

The members of the Interstate Commission for Water Coordination (ICWC) having agreed on the agenda, having heard the reports and exchanged the opinions had decided on the following:

First item:

1. Take into account the water situation in the growing season as informed by BWO “Amudarya” and BWO “Syrdarya”.
2. Taking into account critical water situation resulting from water shortage, ICWC members think that it is necessary to meet with energy supply agencies of Central Asian countries as soon as possible for taking measures.
3. Agree on preliminary reduction in water withdrawal limits for the remaining growing season 2008 by 10% for BWO Amudarya objects and by 25% for BWO Syrdarya objects.

Second item:

1. Consider completed activities of the work group concerning development of «Rules for implementation of procedural obligations and recommendations for the improvement of Syrdarya river basin water and energy resources management and regulation rules». Submit the draft «Rules...» to the ministries (departments) of Central Asian countries for approval by July 1, 2008.
2. Consider task concerning more precise definition of water losses in the the middle and lower reaches of Amudarya completed. Approve analytical report. Take values given in the report into account in the future work on Amudarya river management. Change the name of work «Recommendations for setting of norms for channel losses in the middle and lower reaches of Amudarya». Request project ADB RETA 6163 to prepare cycle of annual observations for determining losses under the follow-up activities.
3. Approve developed methodology for elaboration and accommodation of detailed methodological recommendations for accounting basin-wide costs, data collection and assessing actual damage from water use regimes.

4. Finalize inventory of interstate objects in the basins of Amudarya and Syrdarya rivers.

Third item:

1. Consider draft «Principles of ICWC» as agreed-upon.
2. Members of ICWC should make their proposals concerning points 3.2. and 4.5 of the draft «Regulations for rotation of executive agencies and their managers» in a month, and afterwards submit for an approval together with «Principles of ICWC» and an Agreement on «Institutional improvement of executive agencies for management, protection and development of water resources in interstate sources in the Aral Sea basin».

Fourth item:

1. Approve experience of the joint commission for Chu-Talas.

Fifth item:

1. Next 51st ICWC meeting is to be held in Kazakhstan in September 2008.
2. Approve the agenda of the next 51st ICWC meeting.

Agenda

1. Measures taken for growing season and additional measures for its completion (responsible BWO « Amudarya » and BWO «Syrdarya»).
2. Progress in the implementation of SCADA systems on the transboundary water objects.
3. Development of national information systems and their linkage with NGMS.
4. Consideration and approval of draft «Principles of ICWC», «Regulations for rotation of executive agencies and their managers» and an Agreement on «Institutional improvement of executive agencies for management, protection and development of water resources in interstate sources in the Aral Sea basin».
5. Venue and agenda of the next 52nd ICWC meeting.

For the Republic of Kazakhstan

A. Ryabtsev

For the Kyrgyz Republic

B. Koshmatov

For the Republic of Tajikistan

S. Yokubzod

For the Turkmenistan

M. Akmamedov

For the Republic of Uzbekistan

Sh. Khamrayev