

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR 59TH MEETING OF THE INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR WATER COORDINATION (ICWC) OF THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN, KYRGYZ REPUBLIC, REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN, TURKMENISTAN, AND REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

26 April 2012

Ashgabat city

In attendance were:

ABISHEV,
Islam Almakhanovich

UZAKBAEV,
Chyngysbek Makeshovich

BOBOKALONOV,
Rakhmat

KHAMRAEV,
Shavkat Rakhimovich

ICWC members:

Chair of the Committee of Water Resources under the
Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of
Kazakhstan

First Deputy Director General of the Water Resources
and Land Reclamation Department of the Ministry of
Water Resources and Land Reclamation of the
Kyrgyz Republic

Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources
of the Republic of Tajikistan

Deputy Minister, Head of the Chief Department of
Water Resources of the Ministry of Agriculture and
Water Resources of the Republic of Uzbekistan

From executive bodies of ICWC:

DUKHOVNY,
Victor Abramovich

Director of SIC ICWC, Professor, Honorary Member
of ICWC

KADYRNIYAZOV, Burkitbay
Tadjiniyazovich

Director of BWO "Amudarya"

KHAMIDOV,
Makhmud Khamidovich

Director of BWO "Syrdarya"

MUKHITDINOV,
Khayrullo Ergashevich

Head of ICWC Secretariat

Invitees:

ABDURAKHIM, Ashur	Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Tajikistan in Turkmenistan
NURMAGANBETOV, Demesin Sheralievich	Deputy Chairman of the Executive Committee of International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea
KIPSHAKBAEV, Nariman Kipshakbaevich	Director of the Kazakhstan Office of SIC ICWC, Honorary Member of ICWC
ZHIENBAEV, Musilim Rysmakhanovich	Chief Expert of the Committee of Water Resources under the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan
NURSADYKOV, Darkhan Kuanyshevich	First Secretary of the Pan-Asia Cooperation Department
SEYESENOV, Sembay Baymenovich	Director of the South-Kazakhstan Branch of the Republic State Enterprise “Kazvodkhoz” under the Committee of Water Resources of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan
KARLIHKANOV, Adilkhan Karlihkhanovich	Head of the Aral-Syrdarya Basin Inspectorate
SOROKIN, Denis Anatolyievich	Head of the Regional Information Center of SIC ICWC
KUCHKAROV, Sharifjan Zikrillaevich	Head of the Water Resources Balance and Water-Saving Technologies Development Administration of the Republic of Uzbekistan
KHANMEDOV, Guvanch	Head of the Production Department of the Ministry of Water Resources of Turkmenistan
DUSIMOV, Abdumajid Abdurashitovich	Consul of the Embassy of the Republic of Uzbekistan in Turkmenistan
Chairperson:	TAGANOV Seyitmurad Eyemberdievich, Minister of Water Resources of Turkmenistan

Agenda

1. Results of the non-vegetation period 2011-2012; measures taken to route flood water; Amudarya and Syrdarya rivers limits and regimes fixed for the vegetation period 2012.
2. Progress of the works within the Regional Project “Integrated Water Resources Management in the Fergana Valley” (SIC ICWC) (responsible organizations: SIC ICWC, Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources of the Republic of

Uzbekistan, State Committee of Water Resources and Land Reclamation of the Kyrgyz Republic, and Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources of the Republic of Tajikistan).

3. Progress of the works within the Regional Project “Canal Automation in the Fergana Valley” (SIC ICWC) (responsible organizations: SIC ICWC and BWO “Syrdarya”).
4. Information of the Organizing Committee concerning the preparation for the anniversary International Scientific and Research Conference “Twenty Years of Cooperation in Joint Transboundary Water Resources Management in Central Asia: Methodology, Results, and Outlooks”.
5. Consideration of the improved version of the Concept for Developing Information Exchange and Relationship Mechanism Among its Participants in Central Asia;
6. Agenda and venue for the next 60th meeting of ICWC.

Decisions with regard to the first item:

1. Take into consideration the information provided by the BWOs “Amudarya” and “Syrdarya” about the results of the non-vegetation period, progress of water supply to the riparian countries of the Amudarya and Syrdarya river basins, and measures taken to route flood water during the non-vegetation period 2011-2012.
2. Approve the limits on water withdrawal in the Amudarya and Syrdarya river basins (Annex 1) for the vegetation period 2012;
3. The operation modes of the Naryn-Syrdarya multi-reservoir system and Amudarya river basin shall be considered during a joint meeting of the representatives of the energy sector and water sector of Central Asia countries allowing for compliance with approved limits. If this meeting fails to take place or the operation modes cannot be agreed upon, the decision taken in Item 2 with regard to the limits for the Amudarya and Syrdarya river basins shall be invalid.

Decisions with regard to the second item:

1. Approve the outputs of the IWRM-FV Project obtained within the intermediate (fifth) phase (01.03.2011–29.02.2012). Note that the Visions of IWRM Development Based on the Project Experience for the three countries (Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan) worked out by the National Groups by using the results of the Hydrographic Study show that the developed and implemented IWRM approaches provide a reasonable basis for further improvement of water resources management. Recommend using those when carrying out IWRM projects in these countries.
2. The scientific basis, methodological materials, guidelines, as well as the capacity of the teams of regional and national executors, developed in the course of the work, allow extensively elaborating the IWRM principles over a large territory of Central Asia.

3. When fulfilling the Aral Sea Basin Program 3, the scope of IRWM principles implementation should be expanded in all countries of Central Asia.
4. ICWC members express profound gratitude to the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) for its financial and technical support to the project and hope for wider cooperation with ICWC organizations in the implementation of new projects planned by SDC under the new strategy of Switzerland in the water sector of Central Asia.

Decisions with regard to the third item:

1. The “Canal Automation in the Fergana Valley” Project (Phases 1-2) has been completely accomplished. After being put into service, the systems of automation and monitoring of the BWO “Syrdarya” facilities and pilot canals (AAC, SFC, KBC) operate well, performing all the functions specified in ToR and, accordingly, the accuracy of the measurement of water level, flow, and mineralization has been improved as well as the quality of voice communication and data transmission from the BWO “Syrdarya” facilities and pilot canals (AAC, SFC, KBC) has been enhanced.
2. Approve the project proposal on the “Canal Automation in the Fergana Valley” Project Phase 3 in the main. Identify the facilities located in the Tajikistan area as the objects of the national project of Tajikistan.
3. Hold the ICWC Secretariat and SIC ICWC liable for asking the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation to accelerate the financing of the “Canal Automation in the Fergana Valley” Project Phase 3 and arranging signing of contracts on behalf of ICWC taking into account the proposals given by the Tajikistan party.

Decisions with regard to the fourth item:

1. Approve the draft program of the Central Asian International Scientific and Research Conference “Twenty Years of Cooperation in Joint Transboundary Water Resources Management in Central Asia: Methodology, Results, and Outlooks” submitted to ICWC members for consideration, taking into account the comments and additions made (Appendix 2).
2. Charge SIC ICWC with:
 - distribution of the first notification in accordance with the program;
 - organization of the collection of papers and reports with subsequent publication of the Jubilee Collection.
3. Set the date of the Conference for the second half of September 2012 in Almaty.
4. Charge the Organizing Committee with the definition of the Conference venue.
5. Estimated number of participants is about 200 persons, including up to 20 persons from each participant country.

6. Request the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, UNDP, GIZ, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, and other donors to provide financial assistance for the organization of the Conference.
7. ICWC members shall submit preliminary lists of participants before May 15.

Decisions with regard to the fifth item:

The issue related to the consideration of the improved version of the Concept for Developing Information Exchange and Relationship Mechanism Among its Participants in Central Asia shall be carried over to the next meeting of ICWC.

Decisions with regard to the sixth item:

1. The next 60th anniversary meeting in the Almaty city shall be held in the second half of September 2012;
2. Adopt the agenda for the next 60th meeting of ICWC.

Agenda

1. Results of the vegetation irrigation carried out in 2012; operation mode of the multi-reservoir system and limits for the non-vegetation period 2012-2013 in the Amudarya and Syrdarya river basins (responsible organizations: BWO “Amudarya” and BWO “Syrdarya”).
2. Consideration of the improved version of the Concept for Developing Information Exchange and Relationship Mechanism Among its Participants in Central Asia.
3. Agenda and venue for the next 61st meeting of ICWC.

From the Republic of Kazakhstan:

Abishev, I.A.

From the Kyrgyz Republic:

Uzakbaev, Ch.M.

From the Republic of Tajikistan:

Bobokalonov, R.

From Turkmenistan:

Taganov, S.E.

From the Republic of Uzbekistan:

Khamraev, Sh.R.