

MINUTES OF THE 70TH MEETING OF THE INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR WATER COORDINATION (ICWC) OF THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN, KYRGYZ REPUBLIC, REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN, TURKMENISTAN AND REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

April 11-12, 2017

Tashkent, Uzbekistan

Chairman:

Khamraev Shavkat
Rakhimovich

Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Water Resources of the Republic of Uzbekistan (MAWR RUz), Head of Central Water Administration

ICWC members:

Nysanbayev Yerlan
Nuralievich

Vice Minister of Agriculture, Republic of Kazakhstan

Rakhimzoda Sulton
Nurmakhmadpur

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

Baydjanov Guyzgeldy

Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Water Resources, Turkmenistan

ICWC executive bodies:

Dukhovniy Viktor
Abramovich

Director, Scientific Information Center (SIC) of ICWC

Ziganshina Dinara
Ravilyevna

Deputy Director, Scientific Information Center of ICWC

Babadjanova Malika
Pulatovna

Head, ICWC Secretariat

Kholkhuzhaev Odil
Akhmedovich

Head, BWO Syrdarya

Makhramov Makhmud Yakhshibaevich	Head, BWO Amudarya
Invited:	
Kipshakbaev Nariman Kipshakbaevich	Director of Kazakh branch of SIC ICWC
Kenshimov Amirkhan Kadyrbekovich	Deputy Director, Executive Direction of IFAS in the Republic of Kazakhstan
Zhienbaev Musilim Rysmakhanovich	Head of Transboundary Rivers Division of Water and Biological Resources Department, Ministry of Agriculture, Republic of Kazakhstan
Khasanov Khomidjon Usmanovich	Deputy Director, Agency for Land Reclamation and Irrigation at the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan
Paschyev Yanov Durdyevich	Head of Water Use Administration, Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources, Turkmenistan
Kuchkarov Sharifjon Zikrillayevich	Head, Water Balance and Advanced Water Saving Technologies Division, MAWR of the Republic of Uzbekistan
Beglov Iskander Ferdinandovich	Head, Information Division of SIC ICWC

Agenda of the 70th ICWC Meeting

1. The results of the non-growing season 2016-2017 in the Syrdarya and Amudarya River basins;
2. Consideration and approval of the water withdrawal limits and operation regimes of reservoir cascade for the growing season 2017 in the Syrdarya and Amudarya River basins;
3. Preliminary activities to celebrate the 25th anniversary of ICWC;
4. Progress on the “Implementation Plan on strengthening ICWC activities in key directions”;
5. Agenda and venue of the next 71st ICWC meeting.

Decision on the first item:

1. Take into account the reports by BWO Amudarya and BWO Syrdarya on the results of the non-growing season 2016-2017 in the Syrdarya and Amudarya River basins.

Decisions on the second item:

1. Approve the forecast country water withdrawal limits and forecast operation regime of reservoir cascade for the growing season 2017 in the Amudarya River basin (Annex 1).

2. Entrust BWO Amudarya in coordination with Turkmen and Uzbek parties to control water releases from the Tuyamuyun reservoir based on the actual water content in the Amudarya River during the growing season 2017.

3. Kazakh and Uzbek parties have proposed an option of the forecast country water withdrawal limits and forecast operation regime of reservoir cascade for the growing season 2017 in the Syrdarya River basin (Annex 2).

4. Tajik party has proposed its own option of the operation regime for the Bakhri Tochik reservoir (Annex 3).

5. The parties have agreed to finalize acceptable operation regime of the Bakhri Tochik reservoir for the growing season 2017 through consultations on a routine basis.

6. Entrust BWO Syrdarya to ensure the work of its representatives in the Republic of Tajikistan to maintain water accounting along the North Fergana Canal and Big Fergana Canal and present information for each ten-day to the concerned parties.

7. Entrust BWO Syrdarya to coordinate, on a routine basis, with the Kyrgyz party the proposed country water withdrawal limits and forecast operation regime of the reservoir cascades for the growing season 2017 in the Syrdarya River basin.

Decisions on the third item:

1. Take the “Program of celebration events dedicated to the 25th Anniversary of the Interstate Commission for Water Coordination in Central Asia” as a basis and start its implementation;

2. The parties have agreed upon the Uzbek side’s proposal to hold the final ICWC Conference in Tashkent in November 2017;

3. Entrust SIC and Secretariat of ICWC to address on behalf of ICWC to donors to attract funds for commemorative activities; and

4. Entrust SIC and Secretariat of ICWC to monthly inform ICWC members on preparatory activities.

Decisions on the fourth item:

1. Until the end of April 2017, the parties should appoint their representatives for regional working groups on four main directions of the “Implementation Plan on strengthening ICWC activities in key directions”.

2. Take into account that Tajik party temporarily refrains from participating in the Plan implementation.

3. Approve activity plan of the working groups for 2017 and the following schedule of their meetings:

- meeting of the Working Group on Water Conservation to be held on June 5, 2017 under the Central Asian International Ecological Forum in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan;
- meeting of the Working Group on Improvement of Water Accounting Quality and Accuracy to be held on July 19-20, 2017 under EXPO-2017 in Astana, Republic of Kazakhstan; and
- meeting of the Working Groups on Building Capacity of Regional and National Organizations and Implementation of IWRM and Adaptation to Climate Change to be held in September 2017 in Tashkent, Republic of Uzbekistan.

4. Entrust SIC ICWC to appeal to GIZ and CAREC with the request to fund meetings and preparation of reports of four regional groups, as previously agreed.

Decisions on the fifth item:

1. Approve date and venue of the next 71st ICWC meeting on a routine basis.

2. The following agenda should be proposed for the meeting:

1) Implementation of water withdrawal limits and operation regime of the reservoir cascade for the growing season 2017 in the Syrdarya and Amudarya River basins;

2) Progress on commemorative activities for the 25th anniversary of ICWC; and

3) Agenda and venue of the next 72nd ICWC meeting.

Republic of Kazakhstan

Y.N.Nysanbayev

Kyrgyz Republic

Republic of Tajikistan

S.N.Rakhimzoda

Turkmenistan

G.Baydjanov

Republic of Uzbekistan

Sh.R.Khamraev