

**THE UNITED NATIONS  
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

**REPORT ON THE REGIONAL MEETING ON COOPERATION ON DAM SAFETY IN CENTRAL  
ASIA**

**Almaty, Kazakhstan, May 30-31, 2018**

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This report was issued without the official editing by the Department on Environment of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE).

## **A. ORGANIZATION OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING**

1. The regional meeting on cooperation on dam safety in Central Asia was held in Almaty, Kazakhstan, from 30 to 31 May 2018. The meeting was organized by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) in cooperation with the Executive Board of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea (EB IFAS) in the Republic of Kazakhstan within the framework of the UNECE project *Capacity Building for Cooperation on Dam Safety in Central Asia*.

### **1. The objectives of the meeting**

2. The meeting reviewed the main outcomes of the activities on dam safety in Central Asia and discussed proposals on priority areas for further development of cooperation to ensure the safety of hydraulic structures at the national and regional levels. In addition, this event aimed to exchange relevant experiences among participants.

### **2. Participants**

3. 17 participants from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan attended the meeting; IFAS was represented by 6 participants. Rostekhnadzor, UNDP, OSCE, World Bank, Regional Environmental Center for Central Asia, Training Center for Safety of Hydraulic Structures were also represented at the meeting. Along with consultants and representatives of other organizations, 35 people participated in the meeting, the list of participants is found in Annex 1 to this report.

### **3. The opening of the meeting**

4. Mr Bolat Bekniyaz, Director of the Executive Directorate of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea in Kazakhstan opened the meeting. He noted the importance of ensuring the safety of hydraulic structures in Central Asia. Stressing the importance of contributing to the project *Capacity building for cooperation on dam safety in Central Asia*, he suggested using the potential of the project to create and maintain a permanent platform for dialogue in this area in the region.

5. On behalf of the UNECE, in his welcome speech, Mr Bo Libert mentioned the results of the previous phases of the project and expressed the hope that the next stage of the work on the safety of the hydraulic structures in Central Asia would be equally fruitful.

6. Mr Serik Bekmaganbetov, the representative from the Republic of Kazakhstan in the Executive Committee of IFAS, made a speech on behalf of the Republic of Kazakhstan. In his greeting, he noted the importance of cooperation in the region in the field of dam safety and wished all the participants fruitful work.

### **4. Chairmanship at sessions**

7. Mr. Bolat Bekniyaz, Director of the Executive Board of IFAS in the Republic of Kazakhstan; Mr. Iskender Djoldoshaliyev, Head of the Technical Policy and Investments Subdepartment of the Water Management and Reclamation Department of Kyrgyzstan; Mr. Jamshed Bobozoda, Senior Specialist of the Infrastructure Development Department of the Presidential Administration of Tajikistan; and Mr. Halnepes Kuliev, Head of the Secretariat of the Executive Committee of IFAS, alternately chaired the sessions of the meeting.

### **5. Adoption of the agenda**

8. The following agenda of the meeting was approved:

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. Adoption of the agenda of the meeting.
3. Review of activities on ensuring dam safety in Central Asian countries.

4. Development of cooperation in Central Asia to ensure the safety of dams.
  5. International experience and prospects for supporting cooperation to ensure safety of hydraulic structures in Central Asia by international organizations and financial institutions.
  6. Plans for further activities to ensure the safety of hydraulic structures in Central Asia.
  7. Elaboration of recommendations from the meeting.
  8. Other issues.
  9. Closure of the meeting.
9. The program of the Regional Meeting on Cooperation on Dam Safety in Central Asia is attached in Annex 2.

## **B. SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS**

10. Mr Bo Libert, the UNECE consultant, informed the participants of the meeting about the results of the project *Dam Safety in Central Asia: Capacity Building and Regional Cooperation*, implemented within the framework of its third phase and the independent evaluation of these results.
11. As per agenda item *Review of Dam Safety Management in Central Asia*, representatives of the countries of the region: Mr. Marat Narbaev, Kazakhstan; Mr. Iskender Djoldoshaliev, Kyrgyzstan; Mr. Jamshed Bobozoda, Tajikistan; Mr. Zafar Irisboev, Uzbekistan, reported on the work carried out in the field of dam safety in the countries of Central Asia. They also identified priority areas for each of the countries in the future activities to ensure the safety of hydraulic structures.
12. Mr Ramazan Jampiisov, the UNDP representative in Kazakhstan, briefed the participants on the implementation of pilot projects on managing hydraulic structures in the Aktyubinsk oblast. Mr Tursun Ibraev, Kazakhstan, informed about the activities of the training centre for the safety of hydraulic structures in the city of Taraz.
13. During the session on the development of regional cooperation Mr Shukhrat Talipov and Mr Alexander Yurchenko, consultants presented their draft report: *Methodology for Conservation and Liquidation of Hydraulic Structures* developed within the framework of the project.
14. Mr Khalnepez Kuliev, representative of the secretariat of EC IFAS, Ms Bahriniso Narzullayeva, OSCE; Ms Manon Kassara, World Bank; Ms Assel Amit, CAREC made presentations on the support of cooperation in the field of ensuring the safety of hydraulic structures in Central Asia by international and regional organizations;
15. During the session reviewing international experience, Mr Vladimir Pimenov, representative of Rostekhnadzor, spoke about improving the supervision of the safety of hydraulic structures in the Russian Federation; Mr Vladimir Shcherbina shared his experience on the establishment of a system for monitoring the safety of hydraulic structures in Russia. The outcomes of the International Conference on Improving the Reliability and Safety of Hydraulic Structures in Tashkent in May 2018 were presented by Mr Masharif Bakiyev, Uzbekistan.
16. Ms Zhamilya Kachkynova, the representative of the Kyrgyz Eco-Technical Inspectorate and Mr Bakhtiyor Rakhimov, a staff member of the State Security Supervision Service for Hydraulic Structures in Tajikistan, reported on the activities of specialized organizations in the field of the provision of the safety for hydraulic structures in their countries.

17. The final session of the meeting discussed the main directions for further cooperation on ensuring the safety of hydraulic structures in Central Asia.

### **C. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

18. The meeting participants made the following decisions and recommendations on the agenda items:

1. To take note of the reviews on dam safety activities in Central Asian countries submitted by the national project coordinators. To recommend to national coordinators to provide a better coverage of the projects implemented by international organizations in the field of the safety of hydraulic structures at the national and regional levels in their subsequent reviews.

2. To approve of the activities of the Training Center for the Safety of Hydraulic Structures in Taraz, Kazakhstan, on improving the skills of specialists in this field. To recommend for the program of the subsequent courses to cover in more detail the safety issues of low-pressure hydraulic structures. To recommend interested ministries and departments of Kazakhstan to consider the possibility of budget financing of the Center.

3. To take note of the submitted draft of the Methodology for the Conservation and Liquidation of Hydraulic Structures. The national coordinators of the project are to submit their comments on the latest version of this document within ten days for further development.

4. To take note of the significant role of UNDP, OSCE, World Bank, CAREC, in ensuring the safety of hydraulic structures in Central Asia, to recommend improving coordination, using the capacities of national coordinators and project management.

5. To express gratitude to the representatives of the Russian Federation for their active participation in the meeting. To express special gratitude to representatives of Rostekhnadzor for active assistance in the implementation of the project and the presented opportunity for specialists from Central Asian countries to study the experience of the Russian Federation in ensuring the safe operation of hydraulic structures .

6. To suggest to EC IFAS to use the expert potential of the project participants in developing the ASBP-4. In addition, meeting participants discussed the issue of institutionalizing a regional group to better coordinate national and regional level activities on dams' safety.

7. To recommend to provide for the organization of a technical excursion to one of the nearby hydraulic structures in the program of the next regional meeting.

8. To express gratitude to EB IFAS in the Republic of Kazakhstan for the good organization of the meeting.

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**  
**Regional Meeting on Cooperation on Dam Safety in Central Asia**  
**May 30-31, 2018, Almaty, Kazakhstan**

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**Regional meeting on cooperation on dam safety in Central Asia  
May 30-31<sup>st</sup>, 2018, Almaty, Kazakhstan**

**PROGRAM**

<b>Wednesday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018</b>	
9.00 – 9.30	Registration of the participants
<b>Opening of the meeting</b> <i>Chairman – Mr Bolat Bekniyaz, ED IFAS in the Republic of Kazakhstan</i>	
9.30 – 9.50	Greeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Mr Bo Libert, UNECE</i></li> <li>• <i>Mr Serik Bekmaganbetov, member of the Executive Committee of IFAS in the Republic of Kazakhstan</i></li> </ul>
09.50 – 10.00	<b>Approval of the agenda and election of officers of the meeting</b> Presentation of the participants and program of the meeting
10.00-10.20	Briefing
10.20-10.40	Information on the outcomes and assessment of the activities of the third phase of the project <i>Safety of Dams in Central Asia: Creation of the Potential and Regional Cooperation.</i> <i>Mr Bo Libert, UNECE consultant</i>
10.40-11.00	Discussion
11.00-11.30	Coffee Break
<b>Review of activities on ensuring dam safety in Central Asian countries</b> <i>Chairman – Mr Iskender Djoldoshaliyev, Kyrgyzstan</i>	
11.30-12.30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– <i>Mr. Marat Narbayev, Kazakhstan;</i></li> <li>– <i>Mr. Iskender Djoldoshaliyev, Kyrgyzstan;</i></li> <li>– <i>Mr. Jamshed Bobozoda, Tajikistan;</i></li> <li>– <i>Mr. Zafar Irisboyev, Uzbekistan.</i></li> </ul>
12.30- 13.00	Discussion
13.00-14.00	Lunch
<b>Development of cooperation in Central Asia to ensure damsafety</b> <i>Chairman – Mr Jamshed Bobozoda, Tajikistan</i>	
14.00 – 14.10	Briefing <i>Chairman - Mr Bo Libert, UNECE consultant</i>
14.10 – 14.30	Pilot projects on hydraulic structures management in Aktyubinsk oblast. <i>Mr Ramazan Zhampiisov, UNECE in Kazakhstan</i>
14.30 – 15.00	On the activities of the training centre for hydraulic structures safety.

	<i>Mr Tursun Ibrayev, Kazakhstan.</i>
15.00-15.30	Discussion
15.30-16.00	Coffee break
16.00-17.00	Development of the technique for conservation and liquidation of hydraulic structures. <i>Mr Shukhrat Talipov, Uzbekistan, Mr Alexander Yurchenko, consultant.</i>
17.00-18.00	Discussion
<b>Thursday, May 31<sup>st</sup> 2018</b>	
<b>International experience and prospects for supporting cooperation to ensure safety of hydraulic structures in Central Asia by international organizations and financial institutions.</b> <i>Chairman – Mr Halnepes Kuliev, EC IFAS secretariat</i>	
9.30 – 9.40	Briefing. <i>Mr Bo Libert, UNECE consultant</i>
9.40 – 9.50	About the activities of ED ISAF to support cooperation of Central Asian countries in ensuring dam safety. <i>Mr Halnepes Kuliev, ED IFAS secretariat</i>
9.50 – 10.15	About the improvement of supervision over the safety of hydraulic structures in Russia and cooperation of Rostekhnadzor with Central Asian countries on hydraulic structures safety. <i>Mr Vladimir Pimenov, Rostekhnadzor.</i>
10.15-10.30	OSCE support of cooperation of Central Asian countries in the area of ensuring dam safety. <i>Ms Bakhriniso Narzullayeva, OSCE</i>
10.30-11.00	Coffee break
11.00 -11.20	Support of water cooperation in the region from the World Bank. <i>Ms Manon Kassara, World Bank.</i>
11.20 -11.40	Creation of new modern information diagnostic system for controlling the state of hydraulic structures. <i>Mr. Vladimir Scherbina, consultant</i>
11.40 -11.50	Outcomes of the International Conference on improving reliability and safety of hydraulic structures in Tashkent in May 2018. <i>Mr Masharaf Bakiyev, Uzbekistan.</i>
11.50 -12.10	The role of CAREC in the promotion of water cooperation in Central Asia. <i>Ms Assel Amit, CAREC</i>
12.10 -12.20	The activity of Ecotechinspection of Kyrgyzstan in ensuring the safety of hydraulic structures. <i>Ms Jamilya Kachkynova, Kyrgyzstan.</i>
12.20 -12.30	About the activities of the Service on state supervision of hydrotechnical facilities in Tajikistan. <i>Mr Bakhtiyor Rakhimov, Tajikistan.</i>
12.30 -13.15	<b>Plans for further activities to ensure the safety of hydraulic structures in Central Asia.</b> <i>Moderator: Mr. Bo Libert, UNECE consultant</i>
<b>Elaboration of recommendations from the meeting</b>	

13.15 -13.30	Review and approval of decisions, recommendations and the report of the meeting. Closure of the meeting.
13.30-14.30	Lunch
14.30-17.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Consultations among delegations</i></li><li>• <i>Meetings with representatives of donor organizations</i></li></ul>