

**UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

**REPORT OF THE REGIONAL MEETING FOR DAM SAFETY COOPERATION IN
CENTRAL ASIA
Kazakhstan, Almaty, March 1-2, 2017**

The present report is issued without any formal editing by the Department for the Environment of the Secretariat of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN ECE)

A. ORGANIZATION OF THE MEETING

1. A regional meeting on cooperation on dam safety in Central Asia was held in Almaty, Kazakhstan, March 1-2, 2017. United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) organized the meeting in cooperation with the Executive Board of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea (EB IFAS) in the Republic of Kazakhstan.

1. Objectives of the meeting

2. The meeting reviewed main results 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 hydrotechnical installations (HTI) at the national and regional levels. In addition, the purpose of this event was the exchange of relevant experiences among participants.

2. Participants

3. The meeting was attended by 14 participants from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Azerbaijan; five participants represented EB IFAS. Rostekhnadzor, UNDP, OSCE, the World Bank, the Regional Environmental Center for Central Asia, the Training Center for the Safety of Hydraulic Structures, the Center for Emergency Situations and Disaster Risk Reduction were also represented at the meeting. Together with the staff of the UNECE secretariat, consultants and representatives of other organizations, 40 people attended the meeting, the list of which is attached as Annex 1 to this report.

3. Opening of the meeting

4. The meeting was opened by Mr. Bolat Bekniyaz, Director of the Executive Directorate of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea in Kazakhstan. In his greeting, he noted the importance of ensuring the safety of hydraulic structures in Central Asia. Stressing the importance of the contribution of the project “Dam Safety in Central Asia: Capacity Building and Regional Cooperation”, he suggested using the potential of the project to create a permanent dialogue platform in this area in the region.

5. On behalf of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Mr. Zhikhanshy Makysh, Head of the State Control Department for the use and protection of the Water Fund of the Water Resources Committee of the Ministry of Agriculture, spoke. In his greeting, he noted the success of the project and, thanking the UNECE for its support, wished all the participants of the meeting fruitful work.

6. Mr. Bo Libert, UNECE Regional Adviser, briefly mentioned the results achieved in his welcome, thanked the national project coordinators and experts for their contribution to the project, and expressed gratitude to EB IFAS and OSCE for their cooperation. Noting the final stage of the project, he expressed the readiness of UNECE to support the continuation of the work on the safety of the HTI in Central Asia.

7. Mr. Rati Japaridze, Head of the Department of Economics and Environment of the OSCE Office in Astana, welcoming the participants of the meeting, noted that the activities to ensure the security of HTI in the region is one of the important areas of assistance from the OSCE program office.

4. Election of officers

8. Mr. Bolat Bekniyaz, Director of the Executive Directorate of EC IFAS in the Republic of Kazakhstan; Mr. Iskender Djoldoshaliyev, Head of the Technical Policy and Investments Department of the Water Management and Reclamation Department of Kyrgyzstan; Mr. Madamon Zamonzoda, Deputy Chairman of the State Security Supervision Service for Hydraulic Structures of the Ministry of Energy and Water Resources of Tajikistan; and Mr. Zafar Irisboev, Chief Specialist of the State Inspectorate for Control and Supervision over the Technical Condition and Safe Operation of Large and Highly Important Water

Facilities under the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan (Gosvodkhoznadzor), alternately chaired the sessions of the meeting.

5. Adoption of the agenda

9. The agenda of the meeting was approved as follows:
 1. Opening of the meeting.
 2. Election of officers and adoption of the agenda of the meeting.
 3. On the activities of the project “Dam Safety in Central Asia: Capacity Building and Regional Cooperation”.
 4. Overview of Dam Safety Management in Central Asia.
 5. Development of cooperation in Central Asia to ensure the safety of dams.
 6. International experience and prospects for supporting cooperation in the field of ensuring the safety of hydraulic structures in Central Asia by international organizations and financial institutions.
 7. On plans for further activities to ensure the safety of hydraulic structures in Central Asia.
 8. Development of recommendations of the meeting.
 9. Other matters.
 10. Closure of the meeting.

10. The program of the Regional Meeting on Cooperation on Dam Safety in Central Asia is found in Annex 2.

B. SUMMARY OF THE DISCUSSIONS

11. Mr. Bo Libert, UNECE Regional Adviser, informed the meeting about the activities of the project “Dam Safety in Central Asia: Capacity Building and Regional Cooperation”, implemented as part of its third phase. He also outlined the UNECE Guidelines on Good Practice in Ensuring the Operational Safety of Tailing Dams.

12. Under the agenda item “Review of Dam Safety Management in Central Asia”, representatives from each country in the region: Mr. Marat Narbaev, Kazakhstan; Mr. Iskender Djoldoshaliyev, Kyrgyzstan; Mr. Madamon Zamonzoda, Tajikistan; Mr. Zafar Irisboev, Uzbekistan, reported on the work carried out in the field of dam safety in the countries of Central Asia during the implementation of the third phase of the project. They also identified priorities for each of the countries for further activities to ensure the safety of the HTI.

13. Mr. Madamon Zamonzoda shared his experience with the organization of the HTI Security Service in Tajikistan. Mr. Karimzhan Alibayev, Kazgiprovdokhoz, spoke about the development of dam safety declarations in the Republic of Kazakhstan. Mr. Oleg Makarov, Kyrgyzstan, reported on the pilot operation of the security monitoring system of the Orto-Tokoi HTI on the Chu River. Mr. Sagit Ibatullin, Kazakhstan, informed about the activities of the training center for the safety of the GTM in the city of Taraz. Mr. Almas Bazarbaev, Kazakhstan, reported on the results of the survey of the Talas hydroelectric complex, the Ters-Ashbylak and the Tasotkel reservoir.

14. Within the framework of the session on the development of regional cooperation, Mr. Shukhrat Talipov and Mr. Alexander Yurchenko presented the Model National Regulations on the Maintenance of the Cadastre of Hydraulic Structures in Central Asia developed under the project. A representative of Rostekhnadzor, Mr. Andrey Hnykin, spoke about the formation and maintenance of the Russian Register of Hydraulic Structures. Issues affecting modern methods and technologies of GTM security were highlighted in the message of Mr. Zafar Irisboev, Uzbekistan.

15. In the session, Mr. Rati Japaridze, OSCE; Mr. Shukhrat Talipov; Mr. Stanislav Kim and Mr. Roman Kusainov, UNDP; Mr. Marcus J. Wishart, World Bank, made presentations on the experience of international organizations in the field of security of the HTI in Central Asia. They informed the meeting about the activities of the projects of these organizations in promoting regional cooperation in the field of security of the HTI in the region.

16. During the session on international experience, Mr. Vladimir Shcherbina shared his experience in establishing a system for monitoring the safety of HTI in the Russian Federation; Mr. Sahib Hasanzade talked about the development of the HTI security system in Azerbaijan. He invited the project participants to consider the proposal of the Azerbaijani side on the status of participation in the project as an observer. Mr. Batyrkhan Uteпов informed about the tasks of the Center for Emergency Situations and Disaster Risk Reduction.

17. The final session of the meeting discussed the establishment of a permanent cooperation platform and further activities to ensure the safety of the GTM in Central Asia. Mr. Yuri Kozhanov informed about the prospects for the development of cooperation between Rostekhnadzor and the Central Asian countries in the field of HTI security. A representative of CAREC, Mr. Said Sharipov, outlined the foundations of the Concept for ensuring environmental safety of the operation of HTI in Central Asia. Mr. Erkin Orolbayev presented an overview of the UNECE project on developing cooperation in the field of security of the HTI in Central Asia and its main results. In conclusion, Mr. Marat Narbayev, the representative of Kazakhstan, proposed to create a permanent platform for cooperation in the field of security of HTI in Central Asia, using the accumulated potential of the project and the organizational capabilities of the EB IFAS in Kazakhstan.

18. In considering the list of areas for further cooperation on the security of the GTM in Central Asia, the countries expressed their wishes for the priorities of individual areas and submitted written proposals, which are summarized in Annex 3 to this report.

C. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

19. The meeting adopted the following decisions and recommendations on the agenda items:

1. To take note of the reviews of dam safety activities in the countries of Central Asia submitted by the national coordinators. Request the UNECE to initiate the preparation of a project proposal for continuing the work on the priority areas of dam safety specified in the reports and presented in Annex 3.
2. To note the importance of the activity of the training center for the safety of hydraulic structures in Taraz, Kazakhstan, in the field of professional development of specialists in this field. To recommend this center to involve more actively representatives of the countries of the region to subsequent training events.
3. To express gratitude to the developers of the Model National Regulations on the Cadastre of Hydraulic Structures in the countries of Central Asia. The project national coordinators should submit their comments on the latest version of this document within ten days for further development.
4. To note the significant role of UNDP, OSCE, the World Bank, CAREC, the Center for Emergency Situations and Disaster Risk Reduction in ensuring the safety of the HTI in Central Asia.
5. To express gratitude to the representatives of the Russian Federation and Azerbaijan for their active participation in the work of the meeting. To express special gratitude to the representatives of Rostekhnadzor for active assistance in the implementation of the project and the presented

opportunity to study the experience of the Russian Federation in ensuring the safe operation of the HTI by specialists from Central Asian countries.

6. To welcome the initiative of the Executive Board of IFAS in Kazakhstan to create a permanent meeting on the basis of the project and using the potential of its participants as a platform for cooperation in the field of security of the HTI in Central Asia.
7. To recommend that the meeting participants, if possible, promote the dissemination of information about the project and the methodological materials developed within it.
8. To express gratitude to EB IFAS in the Republic of Kazakhstan for the good organization of the meeting.

СПИСОК УЧАСТНИКОВ

**Региональное совещание по сотрудничеству по безопасности плотин в Центральной Азии
1-2 марта 2017 года, Алматы, Казахстан**

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS
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March 1-2, 2017, Almaty, Kazakhstan**

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Regional meeting on cooperation**On Dam Safety in Central Asia**

The third phase of the project “Dam Safety in Central Asia:
Capacity-building and regional cooperation”

March 1-2, 2017, Almaty, Kazakhstan¹

Hotel “Kazzhol”, Almaty, Gogol Street 127/1

PLAN

March 1, Wednesday	
9.00-9.30	Registration of participants
9.30-9.50	Opening of the meeting. <i>Chairman - Mr. Bolat Bekniyaz, Kazakhstan</i> Greeting on behalf of the Republic of Kazakhstan - <i>Mr. Makysh Jihanshy</i> Greeting on behalf of UNECE - <i>Mr. Bo Libert</i> Greeting on behalf of the OSCE - <i>Mr. Rati Japaridze</i>
09.50-10.00	Adoption of the agenda and election of the officers of the meeting Presentation of participants and program of the meeting
10.00-10.15	On realization of the project “Dam Safety in Central Asia: Capacity Building and Regional Cooperation” <i>Mr. Bo Libert, UNECE Regional Adviser</i>
10.15-10.30	Guidelines of the UNECE and good practices for ensuring operational safety of tailing dumps <i>Mr. Bu Libert, UNECE Regional Adviser</i>
10.30-11.00	Coffee break
11.00-12.30	Overview of current activities for ensuring safety of dams in Central Asian countries <i>Chairman - Mr. Iskender Djoldoshaliev, Kyrgyzstan</i> — <i>Mr. Marat Narbayev, Kazakhstan;</i> — <i>Mr. Iskender Djoldoshaliyev, Kyrgyzstan;</i>

¹ The meeting is held by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) in cooperation with the Executive Directorate of IFAS in the Republic of Kazakhstan

	<p>— <i>Mr. Madamon Zamonzoda, Tajikistan;</i> — <i>Mr. Zafor Irisboev, Uzbekistan</i></p>
12.30-13.00	Discussion
13.00-14.00	Lunch
	<p>Cooperation in Central Asia to ensure the safety of dams <i>Chairman - Mr. Madamon Zamonzoda, Tajikistan</i></p>
14.00-14.10	<p>Introductory information <i>Mr. Bo Libert, UNECE</i></p>
14.10-14.30	<p>The experience of the organization of the GTM Security Service in Tajikistan <i>Mr. Madamon Zamonzoda, Tajikistan</i></p>
14.30-14.50	<p>Development of dam safety declarations of the Republic of Kazakhstan <i>Mr. Karimzhan Alibayev, Kazgiprovodkhoz</i></p>
14.50-15.10	<p>Experimental operation of the security monitoring system of the Orto-Tokau GTM on the Chu River <i>Mr. Oleg Makarov, Kyrgyzstan</i></p>
15.10-15.30	<p>About the activities of the training center for the safety of the GTM <i>Mr. Sagit Ibatullin, Kazakhstan</i></p>
15.30-16.00	Coffee break
16.00-16.20	<p>Survey of the Talas hydroelectric complex, the Ters-Aschibulak and the Tasotkel reservoir <i>Mr. Almas Bazarbayev, Kazakhstan</i></p>
16.20-16.40	<p>Model national Regulation on the Cadastre of hydraulic structures in the countries of Central Asia <i>Mr. Shukhrat Talipov; Mr. Alexander Yurchenko, consultants</i></p>
16.40-17.00	<p>Formation and maintenance of the Russian Register of Hydraulic Structures <i>Mr. Andrey Hnykin, Rostekhnadzor</i></p>
17.00-17.15	<p>Modern methods and technologies to ensure the safety of the GTM <i>Mr. Zafar Irisboev, Uzbekistan</i></p>
17.15-18.00	Discussion
March 2, Thursday	
	International experience and prospects for supporting cooperation in the field

	<p>of ensuring the safety of hydraulic structures in Central Asia by international organizations <i>Chairman - Mr. Zafar Irisboev, Uzbekistan</i></p>
9.30- 9.50	<p>Support to the OSCE of the cooperation of the countries of Central Asia in the field of dam safety <i>Mr. Rati Japaridze, OSCE</i></p>
9.50- 10.00	<p>Support for cooperation in the field of GTM security in the region in the framework of ASBP-3 <i>Mr. Shukhrat Talipov</i></p>
10.00- 10.15	<p>Dam safety as part of disaster risk management <i>Mr. Stanislav Kim; Mr. Roman Kusainov, UNDP</i></p>
10.15-10.30	<p>Global Assessment of the Legal Institutional Framework for Dam Safety <i>Mr. Marcus Wischart, Representative of the World Bank</i></p>
10.30-11.00	<p>Coffee break</p>
11.00-11.15	<p>The experience of creating systems for monitoring the safety of hydraulic structures and the prospects for their use at facilities in Central Asia <i>Mr. Vladimir Scherbina, Russia</i></p>
11.15-11.30	<p>Development of the Dam Safety Management System in Azerbaijan <i>Mr. Sahib Hasanzade, Azerbaijan</i></p>
11.30-11.45	<p>The tasks of the Center for Emergency Situations and Disaster Risk Reduction. <i>Mr. Batyrkhan Utepov</i></p>
	<p>On the establishment of a permanent platform for cooperation and further activities to ensure the safety of hydraulic structures in Central Asia <i>Moderator: Mr. Bo Libert, UNECE</i></p>
11.45 -12. 00	<p>On the prospects for development of cooperation between Rostekhnadzor and Central Asian countries in the field of security of the GTM <i>Mr. Yuri Kozhanov, Rostekhnadzor</i></p>
12.00 -12.20	<p>The concept of ensuring environmental safety of the operation of hydraulic structures in Central Asia <i>Mr. Said Sharipov, REC Central Asia</i></p>
12.20 -12.30	<p>Review of the chronology of the UNECE project on development of cooperation in the field of safety of hydraulic structures in Central Asia <i>Mr. Erkin Orolbaev, Consultant</i></p>
12.30 -12.40	<p>On the establishment of a permanent platform for cooperation in the field of security GTM in Central Asia</p>

	<i>Mr. Marat Narbaev, IFAS in Kazakhstan</i>
12.40 -13.10	Discussion on further activities to ensure the safety of hydraulic structures in Central Asia
	Elaboration of the recommendations of the meeting
13.10 -13.30	Review and approval of decisions, recommendations and report of the meeting Closure of the meeting.
13.30-14.30	Lunch
14.30-18.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Consultations between delegations</i> • <i>Meetings with representatives of donor organizations</i>

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Summary of proposals on priority areas for further cooperation to ensure the safety of hydraulic structures in Central Asia

(Compiled on the basis of written proposals of participants and discussions during the meeting)

I. Development of interstate cooperation on dam safety

- Holding annual regional meetings aimed at exchanging information and developing interstate cooperation.
- Continuation of activities to harmonize the regulatory framework in the field of sustainability and security of the HTI.
- Improvement of model regulatory and technical acts in the field of sustainability and safety of hydraulic structures:
 - National guidelines for the design, construction and operation of hydraulic structures (SNiP, RD, etc.);
 - Guidelines for the conservation and elimination of hydraulic structures;
 - Guidelines for assessing the seismic risk of the GTM;
 - Unified methodology for assessing the sustainability and safety of the GTM;
 - Modern methods of multifactor evaluation of stability and safety of hydraulic structures, as well as criteria for their determination of this state;
 - Methodology for making decisions on the possibility of further operation of the GTM by forecasting the residual and designated resource of the structure and equipment located on the structures and others.
- Creation and support of an interstate law-making group from the number of national coordinators appointed by the governments of the countries of Central Asia, as well as their experts in the field of the environment, social, economic and technical spheres and representatives of organizations working directly with the community, etc.
- Creation of regional and national databases in the field of HTI security.

II. Improvement of national capacity in development and implementation of legal, organizational and technical foundations for dam safety

- Support of national organizational structures of state supervision bodies for safety and diagnostics of work on assessing the reliability of the technical condition of the HTI.
- Support for the improvement of national regulations on the safety of the HTI.
- Training to ensure the safety of hydraulic structures:
 - Organization of regional and national training (office and field) seminars, special training courses to assist in the training of national staff;
 - Support to relevant national organizations and universities in the creation of national training bases for training and retraining of specialists in educational institutions and

production, including logistics, the development of training programs, methodological and teaching aids;

- Preparation of special publications and information materials on the sustainability and safety of the gas transportation system in order to be acquainted with the best practices of countries with advanced technology in this field;
- Development of a glossary of terms in the field of sustainability and safety of hydraulic structures in the national languages of Central Asian countries, as well as in Russian and English;
- Training in the wide introduction of modern geology information technologies (for increasing the experience of using modern information technologies in cadastres/the HTI registry);
- Development of computer-simulated scenarios of HTI accidents allowing to visually study changes in design parameters and operating conditions affecting the stability and safety of hydraulic structures, through the interpretation and comparison of simulation results with the actual behavior of the object under study, and analyze and select actions that ensure the reliability of the technical condition, Stability and safety of HTI;
- Organization of study tours to countries with modern technologies to ensure the stability and safety of the HTI.

III. Improving the experience of safe maintenance of individual dams and cross-border cooperation

- Implementation of modern automated monitoring systems for reliability of technical condition and warning systems in emergencies at pilot sites.
- Conducting joint surveys of HTI on cross-border facilities by the relevant supervisory authorities of neighboring countries.