

TRANSLATION

Original: RUSSIAN

UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

THE INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR SAVING THE ARAL SEA

**REPORT OF THE NATIONAL MEETING FOR DAM SAFETY COOPERATION
IN CENTRAL ASIA**

Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, 14 November 2008

A. ORGANIZATION OF THE MEETING

1. The National Meeting for Dam Safety in Central Asia took place in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, on 14 November 2008. The Meeting was organized by the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) together with Design-construction and technological institute (PKTI) “Vodavtomatika & metrology” of the Department of Water Resources of the Ministry of agriculture, water resources and processing industry.

2. The Meeting was held within the framework of Phase II of the Project “Dam Safety in Central Asia: Capacity Building and Regional Cooperation” implemented by UNECE. The project is implemented under the supervision of the Project Working Group for Rational Use of Energy and Water Resources in Central Asia within the framework of the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia (SPECA) and under the UNECE Convention on Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes. It is aimed to improve national legislation and state regulation in the field of dam safety in member states and to strengthen the regional cooperation in this field. The project is implemented in the context of the Programme on improvement of environmental and socio-economic situation in Aral Sea Basin for the period from 2003 to 2010 (ASBP-2) executed by the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea (IFAS). The project is also a part of the “Environment and Security” Initiative (ENVSEC) and is financed by the Government of Finland with partial financial support provided by the Government of Russian Federation.

1. Objectives of the Meeting

3. Sharing of opinions with regard to possible improvement of the national legislation and the national normative and technical basis on hydraulic structures safety was an immediate objective of the meeting. In addition, discussion on the participation of Kyrgyzstan in the development of an agreement on regional cooperation on the safety of hydraulic structures, as well as cooperation in the harmonization of the legislative base and approximation of technical normative documentation in this field were also the objectives of this event.

2. Participants

4. 20 representatives of the agencies responsible for state regulation to ensure safety of dams and other hydraulic engineering structures, and representatives of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Emergency Situations and other organizations took part in the Meeting: In total 24 persons included in the list of Appendix 1 to this Report together with the representatives of the UNECE Secretariat and consultants took part in the Meeting.

3. Opening of the Meeting

5. The Meeting was opened by Mr. Murat Juraev, Member of Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic - Jogorku Kenesh. He warmly welcomed the participants and emphasized the relevance of the meeting’s tasks from the perspective of achieving harmonized legislative fundamentals in Central Asian countries in the field of ensuring safety of hydraulic structures. He underlined that it was especially important to ensure safety of those hydraulic structures that were located at transboundary rivers connecting the Central Asian countries, since emergencies here might cause severe transboundary consequences not only for the economic development, but also for human live and health.

6. The participants of the Meeting were also welcomed by Mr. Esen Jusumatov, First Deputy of the Director General of the Department of Water Resources. He expressed his satisfaction with the results of several years of fruitful cooperation between his organization and UNECE in implementing the regional project for dam safety. He emphasized that this project was carried out for the benefit of all countries in the region and that it conformed to the ASBP-2 program.

7. Mr. Bo Libert, the Regional Adviser of the Environment, Housing and Land Management Division of UNECE noted that Kyrgyz representatives from JSC “Electrical stations”, the Department

of Water Resources along with other ministries and agencies took active part in the implementation of the first phase of the “Dam Safety in Central Asia: Capacity Building and Regional Cooperation” project. They significantly contributed both to the development of the two main documents that concluded the first phase of the project, i.e. the Model National Law on the Safety of Hydraulic Structures and Draft Regional Agreement on cooperation in this area, and to the preparation of a UNECE publication dedicated to the conclusions of this phase. In summary he thanked the Department of Water Resources and its structural subdivisions for cooperation in organizing the Meeting and expressed his confidence that the representatives of Kyrgyzstan will continue their active participation in the implementation of Phase II of the project.

4. Approval of the Agenda

8. Mr. Bo Libert, UNECE Secretariat, outlined the objectives of the Meeting. Then he presented the agenda and the work programme of the Meeting.

9. The following agenda of the Meeting was approved:

1. Opening of the Meeting.
2. Approval of the agenda of the Meeting.
3. On the results of Phase I of the Project “Dam Safety in Central Asia: Capacity Building and Regional Cooperation” and the substance of Phase II of this Project.
4. Normative and legal basics and organization forms of state regulation in the field of hydraulic structures safety in Kyrgyzstan and their potential improvement.
5. On the development of the Regional Cooperation Agreement in the Field of Hydraulic Structures Safety and proposals on how to organize discussions of this issue at the regional level.
6. On cooperation in terms of harmonization of legislative framework and technical normative documents approximation in the field of safety of hydraulic structures in the countries of Central Asia.
7. On the project work plan for 2009.
8. Consideration and approval of decisions, development of recommendations and preparation of the Meeting report.
9. Other matters.
10. Closing of the Meeting.

10. The Programme of the National Meeting for Dam Safety Cooperation in Central Asia is presented in Appendix 2.

B. SUMMARY OF THE DISCUSSIONS

11. On item 3 of the agenda Mr. Yuri Steklov, consultant, reported on the outcomes of the implementation of Phase I of the Project “Dam Safety in Central Asia: Capacity Building and Regional Cooperation” for the period from 2004 through 2006. He pointed out with satisfaction that Phase I of the project was completed with a publication (UNECE Water Series No 5, 2007). This publication includes the documents developed during the first phase and reviews Central-Asian water management infrastructure, including a list of large dams of the region and a description of existing legal and institutional framework for the safety of hydraulic structures’ management in Central-Asian countries, including Kyrgyzstan.

12. Mr. Y. N. Steklov outlined the tasks of the participating countries during the implementation of Phase II of the project in 2008-2010. He informed the participants on the progress of project

implementation in 2008, and in particular on the implementation of the recommendations of the Regional meeting on dam safety cooperation in Central Asia held in Tashkent on 12-13 March 2008 that was the start of the implementation of the Second Phase of the Project. He noted that future cooperation of the Central Asian countries should be aimed at improvement and approximation of the national normative and legal frameworks on hydraulic structures safety, at updating qualification of the personnel of organizations responsible for the safety of hydraulic structures and the preparation of an agreement for regional cooperation on the safety of hydraulic structures.

13. On item 4 of the agenda Mr. A. G. Zyryanov, representative of HSC “Electrical Stations” and Mr. I. A. Joldoshev, representative of the Department of Water Resources reminded that Water Code of the country envisaged the establishment of the State Water Administration, the competence of which would include activities to achieve safety of dams and other hydraulic structures. A Dam Safety Committee would directly deal with state regulation; the Committee would submit recommendations based on the results of the inspections conducted to the State Water Administration to enable relevant measures to be taken to eliminate revealed drawbacks. Preparations for the implementation of Water Code provisions on the reform of water sector management in the country were made within the framework of a World Bank project on water management improvement in Kyrgyzstan. Mr. K. L. Valentini, the project representative, made a proposal to unite the efforts of the World Bank project and UNECE dam safety project in terms of preparing Statutes for the national Dam Safety Committee. The participants of the Meeting expressed their support to this proposal and recommended to establish an expert working group for this purpose chaired by the management of the Department of Water Resources.

14. Mr. Y. N. Steklov informed the participants of the Meeting on the activity conducted to elaborate a draft regional cooperation agreement and submitted a version of the agreement dated October 10 2008. During the discussion on item 5 of the agenda, Mr. Zyryanov A. G. expressed the view that a regional cooperation agreement on hydraulic structures safety should be preceded by an agreement on rational use of water-energy resources. He also proposed to replace certain articles of draft agreement and introduce amendments into some other articles. The participants of the meeting were informed that MFA and JSC “Electrical Stations” assigned their representatives to the regional working group on the elaboration of a cooperation agreement on the safety of hydraulic structures.

15. On item 6 of the agenda Mr. D. B. Radkevich, consultant, outlined the concept of establishing an agreed system of normative legal and normative technical documents regulating dam safety and safety of other hydraulic structures in the Central Asian countries. To achieve this objective it was proposed to use the experience of the Russian Federation in state regulation of dam safety and safety of other hydraulic structures. Mr. O. S. Makarov, the director of PKTI “Vodavtomatika & metrology”, made a presentation on the results of a review of normative and legal and technical base with regard to safety of hydraulic structures safety in the Central Asian countries. The issue of the applicability of certain normative and technical documents, in particular, the declaration on the safety of hydraulic structures was raised during the discussion. It was proposed to consider an opportunity to stage-by-stage application of the requirements of the declaration on safety of hydraulic structures for the most important hydraulic structures and to find additional funding to perform these works.

16. Support was expressed at the meeting for arranging regional training courses and Kyrgyz representatives expressed a readiness to participate in training programs aimed at updating qualification of specialists in the field of hydraulic structures safety.

B. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

17. The participants of the Meeting made the following decisions and recommendations on the discussed items of the agenda:

a. To note the constructive participation of the representatives of Kyrgyzstan in the Regional UN Project “Dam Safety in Central Asia: Capacity Building and Regional Cooperation”.

b. To fully approve the proposal on coordination and cooperation between UNECE project “Dam Safety in Central Asia: Capacity Building and Regional Cooperation” and the World Bank project on the improvement of water management in Kyrgyzstan in terms of supporting the establishment of the national Dam Safety Committee and to establish an expert working group with this purpose acting with the support of the projects.

c. In order to speed up the establishment of the normative and legal base to enable safety of water management infrastructure, the expert working group should prepare a draft Governmental Regulation of the Kyrgyz Republic “On the provision of dam safety” that would envisage establishment of the national Dam Safety Committee and should elaborate a draft law using the model national law on the safety of hydraulic structures.

d. To take note of the assignment of representatives of authorized public agencies of Kyrgyzstan and the national energy company to the working group to elaborate a regional cooperation agreement on the safety of hydraulic structures and that Kyrgyzstan will continue to participate in the work on this document.

e. To approve the participation of Kyrgyz representatives in the work of regional working group on the approximation of normative technical documentation in the field of the safety of hydraulic structures.

f. To support the proposal to arrange regional training courses to improve the qualification of personnel responsible for safety of hydraulic structures within the framework of the UNECE project with the participation of Kyrgyz representatives.

g. To explore ways to annually arrange national meetings on the safety of hydraulic structures with the support of UNECE and with the participation of all stakeholders.

18. Participants of the meeting expressed their gratitude to PKTI «Vodavtomatika & metrology” for well organized national meeting.

СПИСОК УЧАСТНИКОВ

Национальное совещание по сотрудничеству по безопасности плотин в Центральной Азии
14 ноября 2008 года, Бишкек, Кыргызстан

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS
The National Meeting on the Cooperation in Dam Safety in Central Asia
Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, November 14, 2008

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1.	Джураев Мурат Каттабекович Депутат Жогорку Кенеша - Парламента Кыргызстана	Murat Djuraev Member of Zhogorku Kenesh – Parliament of Kyrgyzstan	Tel: (996 312)
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23.	Бу Либерт Региональный советник Отдел по окружающей среде, жилищному вопросу и землепользованию Европейская Экономическая Комиссия ООН	Bo Libert Regional Adviser Environment, Housing and Land Management Division United Nations Economic Commission for Europe	Tel. (+4122) 917 23 96 Fax. (+4122) 917 06 21 mob. (+4179) 444 6026/4180 Bo.libert@unece.org
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PROGRAM

*The meeting took place in conference hall of Sayakat hotel
Located at Bishkek, Toktonalieva str., 8a.*

- 09:30 - 10:00 Registration of the participants.
- 10:00 – 10:20 **Opening of the Meeting**
Welcome speech on behalf of Jogorku Kenesh – the Parliament of Kyrgyzstan
Mr. M. K. Juraev, Member of Parliament
Welcome speech on behalf of the Department of Water Resources
Mr. E. J. Jusumatov, the first deputy Director General
Welcome speech from UNECE
Mr. Bo Libert, Regional Adviser of UNECE
- 10:20 - 10:30 **Approval of the Agenda**
- Presentation of the Meeting Programme:**
Mr. Bo Libert, Regional Adviser of UNECE
- 10:30 - 10:45 **On the results of implementation of the Project “Dam Safety in Central Asia: Capacity Building and Regional Cooperation” and on its further implementation**
Mr. Yuri Steklov, Consultant
- 10:45 - 11:15 Coffee break
- 11:15 - 12:00 **Normative-legal framework and organizational forms for the state regulation in the field of hydraulic structures safety in Kyrgyzstan and their possible improvement**
Mr. Alexis Zyryanov and Mr. Iskander Joldoshaliev, Kyrgyzstan;
Representatives of stakeholder ministries and agencies,
Mr. Bo Libert, Regional Adviser of UNECE
Discussion
- 12:00 - 13:00 **On the development of the Regional Agreement on Cooperation in the Field of Safety of Hydraulic Structures**
Mr. Yuri Steklov, Consultant
MFA, MJ, DWR of MAWR&PI and other stakeholder ministries’ and agencies’ representatives
Discussion
- 13:00-14:00 Lunch
- 14:00-14:50 **On cooperation in harmonizing the legal framework and technical normative documents in the field of dam safety in the countries of Central Asia**
Mr. Yuri Steklov, Consultant
Mr. Yuri Zyryanov and Mr. Oleg Makarov, Kyrgyzstan
Mr. Dmitriy Radkevich, Consultant
Representatives of stakeholder ministries and agencies
Discussion

- 14:50-15:00 **On project work plan for 2009**
Mr. Bo Libert, Regional Adviser of UNECE
Discussion
- 15:00-15:30 Coffee break
- 15:30-16:00 **Consideration and approval of decisions, recommendations, and report of the Meeting.**