



***Windows of opportunities –
Steps to resolve the water crisis
in Central Asia***

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Nothing has changed.....

- **The Aral Sea continues to disappear**
- **Irrigation and energy sectors develop independently**
- **Cooperation and trust between countries is lacking**

But is there a window of opportunity?

- Recurrent crises elicit a readiness to find common ground**
- Climate change is a serious common “enemy”**
- Reform of regional cooperation, Kazakh chairmanship of EC-IFAS**
- Increasing importance of international water law**

...The UNECE Water Convention a tool for long-term cooperation, but is it interpreted correctly....



Steps towards a better future

- **Flexibility and accommodation at the political level**
- **Regional cooperation structure strengthened**
- **Normative framework (UNECE Water Convention) used as a guide for the development**
- **Engagement of donors and the international community – long-term and coordinated**