

**CHAPTER III.**  
**RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF CITIZENS AND PUBLIC ASSOCIATIONS IN**  
**THE SPHERE OF NATURE PROTECTION**

**Article 9. Rights and obligations of citizens in the sphere of nature protection**

1. Citizens of Turkmenistan, foreign citizens and persons without citizenship have a right to a favourable environment, to defend it from the negative impact of economic and other activities.

2. Citizens have the right:

- 1) to use natural resources according to established procedure, to participate in nature protection and environmental rehabilitation activities;
- 2) to create public associations undertaking activities in the area of nature protection;
- 3) to address complaints, communications and proposals on environmental matters to public authorities, and also to apply to judicial bodies to ensure the defence of impaired environmental rights;
- 4) to receive full, reliable information about the state of the environment in the places where they live;
- 5) to take part in assemblies, meetings and demonstrations, referendums on nature protection issues;
- 6) to put forward proposals about the conduct of public environmental review and to participate in it under the procedure laid down by the legislation of Turkmenistan;
- 7) to bring administrative or court proceedings seeking to overturn decisions on the siting, construction, reconstruction and putting into operation of enterprises, facilities and other environmentally hazardous installations, as well as decisions to restrict, suspend or terminate an economic or other activity of legal and natural persons having an adverse effect on the environment and human health;
- 8) to raise questions about making guilty parties – officials, citizens and legal entities – accountable, to file actions for compensation for damage caused to their health and property as a consequence of violation of the environmental legislation of Turkmenistan;
- 9) to exercise other rights provided for by the legislation of Turkmenistan.

3. Citizens are obliged:

- 1) to preserve nature, to treat the environment and natural wealth with care;
- 2) to observe the requirements of the nature protection legislation of Turkmenistan;
- 3) to fulfil other obligations provided for by the legislation of Turkmenistan.