

**Protocol of the first meeting of the Steering Committee
of the National Policy Dialogue in the Republic of Kazakhstan**

21 June 2013

Astana

Representatives of Governmental agencies of the Republic of Kazakhstan, scientific community, NGOs, international and donor organizations, as well as representatives of private sector took part in the first meeting of the Steering Committee of the National Policy Dialogue (NPD).

The list of participants is attached (Annex 1).

Welcoming remarks to the participants were provided by: Vice-Minister of Environmental Protection of the Republic of Kazakhstan Mr. Yerlan Nysanbayev, Head of Operations, the EU Delegation to Kazakhstan Mr. Rene Mally, NPD Regional Coordinator at UNECE Mr. Peep Mardiste, Senior Project Manager of the OECD Environment Directorate Mr. Alexander Martoussevitch.

Participants adopted the agenda of the meeting (Annex 2).

The Steering Committee of the National Policy Dialogue in the Republic of Kazakhstan decided:

1. To take notice of the information about:
 - the UNECE / WHO-Europe Protocol on Water and Health to the UNECE Convention of the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention);
 - the proposal by OECD for the project “Sustainable models of operation and financing of water supply and sanitation systems in villages and small towns”;
 - cooperation between Kazakhstan and its neighboring countries in the field of transboundary waters;
 - projects of OSCE, GIZ and OECD in water sector of Kazakhstan.
2. To approve the Terms of Reference for the UNECE project “Organization of work under the theme of Water and Health”, based on recommendations received from the interested Governmental institutions, from organisations and from the participants of the first NPD Steering Committee meeting.
3. To recommend to the Ministry of Environmental Protection and to the Committee for State Sanitary Epidemiological Surveillance of the Ministry of Health to approach UNECE according to the established procedures in order to get support for the process of studying the legal, institutional and financial implications of potentially becoming a Party to the UNECE / WHO-Europe Protocol on Water and Health.
4. To approve the Terms of Reference for the OECD project “Sustainable models of operation and financing of water supply and sanitation systems in villages and small towns”, based on recommendations received from the interested Governmental institutions, from organisations and from the participants of the first NPD Steering Committee meeting and to recommend that the Ministry of Environmental Protection

will jointly with the Ministry of Regional Development and the Ministry of Agriculture approaches OECD according to the established procedures with request to finance the implementation of the project.

5. To recommend to the Water Recourses Committee of the Ministry of Environmental Protection to discuss the possibility of conducting joint studies on strategy for adaptation to impacts of climate change in the basin of transboundary Ural river with their colleagues from the Russian Federation and in case of agreement to approach the UNECE according to the established procedures in order to get support for implementation of studies.
6. To develop the workplan of the National Policy Dialogue for 2014-2015 in cooperation with UNECE and OECD and present it for discussion at the second meeting of the Steering Committee.
7. To recommend to the Water Recourses Committee of the Ministry of Environmental Protection to organize in 4th quarter of 2013 a preparatory working meeting in order to discuss the preliminary results of implementation of the decisions taken, the draft workplan for 2014-2015 and the draft agenda of the second Steering Committee meeting.
8. To conduct the second meeting of the Steering Committee of the National Policy Dialogue in first half of 2014.

Chairman, Vice-Minister of Environmental Protection	/Signature/	Y. Nysanbayev
Secretary	/Signature/	M. Zhakenov