



**RIVER BASIN COMMISSIONS AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS FOR
TRANSBOUNDARY WATER COOPERATION**
Hotel Alatau, Almaty, 23-25 October 2007

WORKSHOP PROGRAMME

Day 1, Tuesday 23 October

Registration and coffee: 10.30-11.00

Session 1, 11.00-12.30

Introduction

Moderated by Amirkhan Kenshimov, Deputy Chairman of the Committee for Water Resources, Republic of Kazakhstan

- Opening (20 minutes)
 - Mr. Amirkhan Kenshimov Deputy Chairman of the Committee for Water Resources, Republic of Kazakhstan
 - Xu Haoliang ,UNDP and representative of OSCE
- Introduction to the Workshop objectives and programme (10 minutes)
Bo Libert, Regional Advisor, UNECE
- Joint bodies according to the 1992 UNECE Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (20 minutes)
Francesca Bernardini, Secretary to the Water Convention, UNECE

12.30-13.30 Lunch

Session 2, 13.30-17.30: Coffee break 15.00-15.30

Transboundary water cooperation in Central Asia

(This session is focused on the region and its transboundary water issues – not only institutional issues.)

Moderated by Kurbangeldy Ballyev, Turkmenistan.

- Management of transboundary waters, the perspective of Kazakhstan (20 minutes)
Amirkhan Kenshimov, Kazakhstan.
- The International Fund for Saving of the Aral Sea (10 minutes)
Mavlon Kazakov, EC-IFAS, Tajikistan

- ICWC – achievements and challenges for the future (20 minutes)
Viktor Dukhovny, Director, SIC-ICWC
- Competition for water use: hydropower versus irrigation (15 minutes)
Aleksei Zyrianov, Deputy Director JSC “Electricity Stations”, Erkin Orolbayev, Consultant, Kyrgyzstan
- Chu-Talas cooperation (15 minutes)
Baratali Koshmatov, General Director, Water Department of the Kyrgyz Republic
- Ili and the Balkhash lake – objectives and framework for cooperation (15 minutes),
Iskander Mirkhashimov, Project Leader, Kazakhstan
- Water quality and transboundary water cooperation
Aleksander Nikolayenko, Project Leader, UNDP, Kazakhstan,
- Discussion (focused on the main problems: hydro-irrigation competition, ecosystem protection, water quality, floods)

Evening 18.30: Reception and tour around the city of Almaty

Day 2, Wednesday 24 October

Session 3, 09.00-12.30, Coffee break 10.30-11.00:

Joint bodies for transboundary water cooperation: Case studies

(After an introduction of the background paper, this session gives examples/case studies of experiences and challenges in EECCA and elsewhere with regard to joint bodies and other institutions in transboundary water cooperation.)

Moderated by Natalya Zakorchevnyia, State Water Committee, Ukraine

- Institutions for transboundary water cooperation – introduction of the background paper (20 minutes)
Iulia Trombitcaia, Consultant
- Romanian bilateral water cooperation (20 minutes)
Ana Drapa, Ministry of Environment and Water, Romania
- Sava River Commission (20 minutes)
Dragan Zeljko, Deputy Secretary for River Basin Management and Water Planning in the Secretariat of the Sava Commission
- International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (20 minutes)
Dumitru Drumea, Moldova
- The International Commission for the Protection of the Mosel and the Saar (20 minutes)
Jean-Marie Ries, Water Management Administration of Luxemburg
- Kura-Aras – From informal to formal cooperation (20 minutes)
Malkhaz Adeishvili, Project Leader, UNDP-GEF, Georgia
- Discussion

12.30-13.30 Lunch

Session 4, 13.30-17.30, Coffee break 15.00-16.30:

Key challenges for joint bodies

Moderated by Bo Libert and Iulia Trombitcaia

(This session is built around interventions and discussions on nine selected themes)

- Mechanisms of institutional arrangements (plenipotentiaries and commissions): advantages, disadvantages and specifics of the organisational structure
- Scope of cooperation (bilateral, multilateral/basin wide, from single-purpose to multipurpose) and consequences on composition and national inter-agency coordination
- Legal, administrative and financing aspects (rules of procedure and other regulations, financing of the joint bodies)
- Coordination functions (collection, processing and exchange of data and information, research and studies, formulation and harmonization of policies and regulations, training)
- Executive functions and enforcement (joint monitoring and assessment of the resources, checking compliance with provisions of the existing agreements, development and execution of regulations such as water apportionment schedules and pollution prevention rules, management of international projects, early warning systems for emergency situations (floods, drought, pollution accidents))
- Environmental impact assessment and dispute settlement
- Public participation and Stakeholder/NGO Forums – mechanisms and impact on decision making process
- Cooperation with other joint bodies and in particular regional seas commissions
- From informal to formal cooperation

It is expected that the development of the background paper will yield important themes for discussion. Tasks will be given beforehand to participants to make short prepared statements/interventions. Rapporteurs are nominated for each of four geographic areas Caucasus (Zurab Jincharadze, Georgia), Central Asia (Gulnar Daniyarova, Kazakhstan), Eastern Europe-EU¹ (Mikhail Kalinin, Belarus), Eastern Europe²(Victor Buzhak, Moldova), with the task to extract conclusions for each of the four geographic areas.

Day 3, Thursday 25 October

Session 5, 09.00-10.00

Group Discussions

(On the basis of a draft prepared by the rapporteurs the groups will agree on specific conclusions and recommendations for each geographic area/river basins to be presented to the plenary in the following session)

¹ Bug, Nemunas, Daugava

² Dniester, Samur

Coffee break 10.00-10.15

Session 6, 10.15-11.15

Institutions for transboundary water management in the EECCA Region: prospects and challenges

(Presentation by the conclusions of the group discussions by the Rapporteurs.)

Moderated by Rafiq Verdiyev, Project Coordinator, Azerbaijan

- Report of the Rapporteurs (4 times 10 minutes).
- Final statement by Iulia Trombitcaia - river-basin specific and general EECCA conclusions.

Session 7, 11.15-11.45:

Workshop conclusion

Moderated by Sergey Belyayev, Head of Department, Russian Institute on the Complex Use and Protection of Water Resources, Russia

- Workshop evaluation
- Next stop Water and Health: Introduction to the next joint CWC Workshop (Summer 2008)
- Follow-up (UNDP, OSCE, UNECE, ENVSEC, others)

(The UNDP-CoP Meeting will start after a lunch picnic at 14.00)