

## **NATIONAL POLICY DIALOGUE ON INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT IN TAJIKISTAN**

### **Meeting of the Working Group for the Revision of the Water Sector Reform Strategy**

Friday, 24 February 2012  
Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources  
Dushanbe, Tajikistan

#### **FINAL MINUTES**

##### **1. Opening of the meeting**

Greetings of Mr. Sulton Rakhimov, Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources, and of Ms. Gulnara Roll, UNECE

The wish that the Water Sector Reform Strategy is adopted by the end of the year was expressed. The agenda was presented and adopted.

##### **2. The National Policy Dialogues series and the progress achieved in Tajikistan**

Presentation by Ms. Gulnara Roll and Mr. Jon Church, UNECE

The National Policy Dialogues (NPD) are carried out in more than ten countries and have proven to be successful in supporting interministerial working groups (WG) for the implementation of Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM). Examples of results achieved in other countries were presented. In Tajikistan, the NPD managed to draft legislation, produce a draft stakeholder mapping report and a roadmap and contribute to the drafting of a Water Sector Reform Strategy. By June, the WG will finalize the mapping report, the roadmap and its comments to the Strategy. It will also prepare the third meeting of the Steering Committee and discuss future plans.

A general discussion followed. It was suggested that groundwater is also featured in the draft Strategy. A comparison with other countries may also be beneficial. The Strategy should contain main, general guidelines: minor, specific issues might be better addressed by a Working Group on Legal Issues for the drafting of a new Water Code. It was clarified that the Working Group will report to the Steering Committee, which should in turn report to the Water and Energy Council. Particular attention should be given to the functional roles of the ministries and to the need for a smooth transition. It was also pointed out that responsibilities for a key instrument such as the water cadastre must be clarified. It is essential that it is rebuilt and maintained in a regular and efficient manner. It must also be accessible and sufficient resources must be allocated for this purpose.

*See the annexed document 2-1*



### **3. Contractual framework, presentation of the individual Terms of Reference and discussion of the work plan**

Moderation by Mr. Bahrom Gafarov, DEPAS

Individual Terms of Reference were presented to the experts and discussed. The experts were requested to please provide their email addresses, CVs and bank details to the project manager. Expectations and timing were also presented. The following arrangements were proposed:

- The revised version of the Strategy will be circulated in Russian by 1 March 2012;
- Each expert will review the Strategy, individually or in small subgroups;
- Each expert will produce specific comments by 30 March 2012 based on the template in annex;
- All comments will be collected in a single document by the national coordinator by 6 April 2012;
- This document will be discussed and finalized at the next meeting of the WG on 15 April 2012;
- The comments will then be submitted to the main authors of the Strategy for consideration.

Each expert fully understood the individual Terms of Reference, approved the proposed arrangements and agreed to abide by them in full.

*See the annexed documents 3-1 – 3-2*

### **4. Latest version of the “Stakeholder Mapping Report”, discussion and finalization**

Presentation by Mr. Anvar Kamolidinov, Tajik Branch of SIC ICWC

The latest version of the mapping report, its specific objective and main findings was presented. The discussion that followed regarded the need to include the percentage of water usage by different sectors and the source of some data. It was also wished for the report to feature more analysis of trends. It was suggested to change wording from “risk adaptation” to “risk prevention”. At the end of the consultation, the participants in the meeting had no objection to the finalization of the updated report and thanked the authors for their excellent work.

*See the annexed document 4-1*

### **5. The work ahead with the “Water Sector Reform Strategy” and roundtable discussion**

Moderation by Mr. Anvar Kamolidinov, Tajik Branch of SIC ICWC

The progress achieved and the work ahead with the strategy was briefly recalled. Each member was then invited to make preliminary observations about the revision of the Strategy. Participants agreed that this is an important document that must have a very long term perspective and take into consideration the present situation. The need to keep the legal work in mind was also highlighted. They also expressed the need to harmonize comments across sectors and to work with senior management and other experts about specific issues. More attention should be given to fishery and tourism more information should be provided, including training opportunities. There is good potential for development of these subsectors. There should also be at least a whole paragraph

about hydrogeology. The coordinator invited the experts to be as precise as possible in their proposals

*See the annexed documents 5-1 – 5-3*

## **6. Outcomes of the consultation on the “Water Sector Reform Strategy” and of the meeting**

Summary by Mr. Anvar Kamolidinov, Tajik Branch of SIC ICWC

A synthesis of the outcomes of the consultation on the strategy and of the main conclusions of the meeting was then provided:

- The updated version of mapping report was presented and finalized – if possible, it will be further updated;
- The work ahead with the strategy was discussed and agreed upon;
- The individual Terms of Reference were presented to the group, discussed and agreed upon;
- The next meeting of the WG will take place on 15 April 2012.

It was also proposed to discuss a proposal for a public-private partnership (PPP) in the tourism sector and preferential taxation for tourism at the next meeting. The establishment of the Mirob would offer new opportunities. As this is a specific issue, it was proposed to consult over email with select experts.

## **7. Closing of the meeting**

Salutations of Mr. Anvar Kamolidinov, Tajik Branch of SIC ICWC, on behalf of Mr. Sulton Rakhimov, Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources

*The draft minutes were prepared by Mr. Jon Church, UNECE Liaison Officer in Tajikistan. They were translated into Russian by DEPAS and circulated electronically among all the participants for comments. The final minutes were discussed and formally adopted by the meeting of the Working Group, held on 13 April 2012 (Decision 2-1).*

## LIST OF ANNEXES

- 1-1 Draft agenda
- 2-1 Presentation on “National Policy Dialogues and the Progress Achieved in Tajikistan”
- 3-1 Proposed terms of reference for each member of the Working Group
- 3-2 Template for comments to the “Water Sector Reform Strategy”
- 4-1 Final version of the “Stakeholder Mapping Report”
- 5-1 Draft version of the “Water Sector Reform Strategy”
- 5-2 Papers on outstanding issues for the draft strategy
- 5-3 Technical contributions received on the strategy

## LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Name	Function	Organization	Role	Presence
Mr. Sulton Rakhimov	First Deputy Minister	Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources	Chairman	Yes
Mr. Anvar Kamolidinov	Senior Research Fellow	Tajik Branch of SIC ICWC	Coordinator	Yes
Mr. Khairullo Ibodzoda	Head of the Department of Ecology and Emergency Situations	Executive Office of the President	Expert on climate change	Yes
Mr. S.D. Murodov	Chief Specialist, Department of Crop	Ministry of Agriculture	Expert on fish farming	Yes
Mr. Anvar Homidov	Head of Hydrometeorology	State Committee for Environmental Protection	Expert on the environment	Yes
Ms. L. Mansurshoeva	Deputy Head of the Department for Population and Land Protection	State Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defense	Expert on emergency preparedness and disaster management	Yes
Mr. O.H. Arifov	Head of the Department of Hydraulic Engineering	"Barki Tojik"	Expert in hydropower	Yes
Mr. A.G. Makhmadaliyev	Deputy Chief	State General Directorate of Geology	Expert on groundwater	Yes
Mr. M.Z. Gafurov	Deputy Director General	State Unitary Enterprise "Housing and Utilities"	Expert in drinking water	Yes
Mr. D. Habibov	Chairman	Association for the Development of Tourism and Industry	Expert on recreation and tourism development	Yes
Mr. Bahrom Gafarov	Director	DEPAS	Project manager	Yes
Ms. Gulnara Roll	Environmental Officer	UNECE	Presenter	Yes
Mr. Jon Church	Liaison Officer	UNECE	Presenter	Yes
Mr. Anatoliy Kholmatov	Project Manager	UNDP Tajikistan	Observer	Yes