



First Steering Committee Meeting of the National Policy Dialogue on Integrated Water Resources Management in Uzbekistan

27 September 2022

City Palace (Amir Temur Street 15), Tashkent, Uzbekistan

DRAFT AGENDA

Background and meeting objectives

For more than 10 years, UNECE and OECD, with funding from the European Union, have been supporting National Policy Dialogues (NPD) on integrated water resources management in 10 countries in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia.

In Central Asia, since 2016, the organization of NPD meetings in partner countries has been supported by the European Union funded project “European Union – Central Asia Water, Environment and Climate Change Cooperation (WECCOOP)”.

The NPD is a cross-sectoral platform where key stakeholders meet to discuss and further advance the water sector reform. NDPs are guided by a Steering Committee, which gather high level representatives of different sectors concerned by water policies.

According to the current national water and environment policy, intersectoral cooperation is placed as one of its tasks. Thus, a composition of the National Steering Committee for the National Policy Dialogue on the Integrated Water Resources Management was approved by the Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Uzbekistan on 16 June 2022, and the Ministry of Water Resources of Uzbekistan requested the UNECE to support organizing the dialogue.

The objectives of the first meeting of the NPD Steering Committee in Uzbekistan are as follows:

- launch the National Policy Dialogue on Integrated Water Resources Management in Uzbekistan and define its objectives and programme of work,
- discuss Uzbekistan’s achievements, challenges and priorities related to water policy, and how the NPD process can support progress on water policies and facilitate technical and financial support to the development of the water sector,
- agree on a way forward for NPD implementation.

The meeting languages are Russian and English, with simultaneous interpretation.

Chairs:

- *morning sessions – Mr. Akmal Mirzayev, Deputy Minister of Water Resources of the Republic of Uzbekistan*
- *afternoon sessions – Mr Bakhriyer Kamalov, Director of the Centre for Implementation of Foreign Investment Projects in Water, Head of the NPD Steering Committee*

09.00-09.30	Registration
09.30- 10.00	<p>Opening session</p> <p>Welcome remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Shavkat Khamraev, Minister of Water Resources of the Republic of Uzbekistan • Ms. Charlotte Adriaen, Ambassador of the European Union to the Republic of Uzbekistan • Mr. Dmitry Mariyasin, deputy Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) • Ms. Roli Asthana, United Nations Resident Coordinator in Uzbekistan • Mr. Konstantin Obolensky, Head of Mission, Swiss Embassy to Uzbekistan <p>Objectives of the meeting, overview of the agenda</p>
10.00 – 10.55	<p>Session 1: Introduction to the National Policy Dialogue</p> <p><i>The aim of the session is to introduce key notions of the NPD, provide examples of its benefits from other countries and to provide a picture of its future design in the Republic of Uzbekistan</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EUWI Initiative and National policy dialogues on IWRM in EECCA states - key objectives, directions of work, results, development of a dialogue in Uzbekistan – Ms. Tamara Kutonova, National Project Officer, UNECE and Mr Matthew Griffith, Senior Programme Manager, OECD (15 min) • NPD experience in Kazakhstan – Ms. Karlygash Taishieva, Chief Specialist of the Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources Republic of Kazakhstan (10 min) • NPD experience in Kyrgyzstan (online) – Mr. Erkin Orolbayev, UNECE Consultant (10 min) <p>Questions and answers (5 min)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of the NPD Steering Committee in the Republic of Uzbekistan: objectives, composition, TOR, and draft work plan – Ministry of Water Resources of Uzbekistan (10 min)
10.55-11.50	<p>Session 2: State of the water resources and sector priorities in the Republic of Uzbekistan</p> <p><i>The session aims at reviewing the state of water resources in the Republic of Uzbekistan, as well as of key achievements, challenges, and priorities in the water policy of the state</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water resources and water policy in the Republic of Uzbekistan – Ministry of Water Resources of the Republic of Uzbekistan (10 min) • Water quality and water management issues - State Committee for Ecology and Environment Protection of the Republic of Uzbekistan (10 min) • State of the underground waters and policy for its conservation and use - State Committee for Geology of the Republic of Uzbekistan (10 min) • Reactions on water sector implication for development by Ministry of Economic Development and Poverty Reduction and SDC (10 min) <p>Questions and answers, discussion (10 min)</p> <p>Summary by the chair</p>
11.50-12.20	Coffee break

<p>12.20 – 13.35</p>	<p>Session 3: Water-related sectoral developments in the Republic of Uzbekistan <i>During this session representatives of the key water-dependent sectors will present sectoral achievements, challenges, priorities and suggestions for the intersectoral dialogue. Climate change will be considered a cross-cutting issue. The session will be followed by a questions-and-answers session, the discussion, as well as interventions from the international organizations.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Uzbekistan (10 min) • Uzbekhydropower (10 min) • State Geocadastré (10 min) • Upcoming IKI project overview – Mr. Takayoshi Kato, Policy Analyst in OECD (5 min) • Reactions from Ministry of Finances of the Republic of Uzbekistan, UNDP, ADB (10 min) <p>Questions and answers, discussion (25 min)</p> <p>Summary by the chair</p>
<p>13.35 – 14.35</p>	<p>Lunch</p>
<p>14.35-15.35</p>	<p>Session 4: Water, sanitation and health <i>During the session representatives of sectors responsible for water supply, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) will present achievements, challenges, priorities and suggestions for the intersectoral dialogue. The presentations will be followed by a questions-and-answers session, a discussion, and interventions by international organizations.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water and sanitation strategy in the health authorities, incl. activities under the Protocol on Water and Health – Ministry of Health and State Sanitary-Epidemiological Service of the Republic of Uzbekistan (10 min) • Development of the water supply and wastewater facilities - Ministry of Housing and Communal Services of the Republic of Uzbekistan (10 min) • Tools developed under the Protocol on Water and Health, which could support Uzbekistan – Ms. Nataliya Nikiforova (online) and Mr. Alexander Belokurov, National Project Officers, UNECE (5 min) • Reactions by international organizations - WHO, UNICEF, AFD (15 min) <p>Questions and answers, discussion (20 min)</p> <p>Summary by the chair (5 min)</p>
<p>15.35 – 16.35</p>	<p>Session 5: Regional and bilateral cooperation on transboundary waters <i>The session aims at highlighting successes and challenges of transboundary cooperation, to identify priorities for its further successful development</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Water Resources of the Republic of Uzbekistan (10 min) • Regional EU-funded projects on water and environment (online) – Mr. Johannes Baur, Head of Cooperation, EU Delegation to Kazakhstan (10 min) • IFAS Agency for Implementation of the Aral Sea basin and GEF projects - Mr. Vadim Sokolov (10 min) • SIC ICWC - Ms. Dinara Ziganshina, (5 min) • Long-term support of the Swiss Government on water diplomacy and IWRM – Ms. Lisa Gampp, Regional • Green Central Asia project - Ms. Caroline Milow, GIZ Programme Manager (5 min) • Water Convention support to transboundary cooperation (5 min) – Mr. Alexander Belokurov, National Project Officers in the UNECE <p>Questions and answers, discussion (15 min)</p>

	Summary by the chair
16.35 – 17.05	Coffee break
17.05 - 17.30	Concluding session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion of the NPD work plan for short-term perspective (2023-2024) • Adoption of the resolution of the NPD Steering Committee • AOB - Closing the meeting - Mr. Akmal Mirzayev, Deputy Minister of Water Resources of the Republic of Uzbekistan

Online participation in the event will be available upon prior agreement with the organizers following the link in Zoom:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82251537953?pwd=c2RBeVZjRXRaWmprcVJDdEg5L1UyQT09>

Conference ID: 822 5153 7953

Access Code: 6482