

Date and Time: Saturday, October 14, 2023 7:45:00 PM EDT

Job Number: 208075449

Documents (100)

1. Islamic Emirate: No Water Agreement Exists With Neighbors Over Amu River

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

2. No water agreement exists with neighbors over Amu River: Kabul

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

3. Kyrgyzstan wants to resume co-op on resources use from Naryn River - President Japarov

Client/Matter: -None-



Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

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4. Kyrgyzstan wants to resume co-op on resources use from Naryn River - President Japarov

Client/Matter: -None-

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Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

5. Water Issue In Central Asia: Prerequisites For Emergence Of Conflicts – Analysis

Client/Matter: -None-

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6. Kyrgyzstan wants to resume co-op on resources use from Naryn River - President Japarov

Client/Matter: -None-

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7. Kyrgyzstan wants to resume co-op on resources use from Naryn River - President Japarov

Client/Matter: -None-

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8. Kyrgyzstan wants to resume co-op on resources use from Naryn River - President Japarov

Client/Matter: -None-

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Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

9. Kyrgyzstan Wants To Resume Co-Op On Resources Use From Naryn River - President Japarov

Client/Matter: -None-

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10. Kyrgyzstan wants to resume co-op on resources use from Naryn River - President Japarov

Client/Matter: -None-

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News -None-

11. Kyrgyzstan wants to resume co-op on resources use from Naryn River - President Japarov

Client/Matter: -None-

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12. Kyrgyzstan wants to resume co-op on resources use from Naryn River - President Japarov

Client/Matter: -None-

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13. Kyrgyzstan wants to resume co-op on resources use from Naryn River - President Japarov

Client/Matter: -None-

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Search Type: Terms and Connectors

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Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

14. Kyrgyzstan suggests creation of Central Asian energy-efficient and resource-saving technologies center in Bishkek

Client/Matter: -None-

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Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

15. 'A lot of work for diplomats' in Central Asia as the Taliban build huge canal

Client/Matter: -None-

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Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

16. The Qosh Tepeh Canal and Afghanistan 's Water Right in Amu Darya



Client/Matter: -None-

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17. Threat posed by Taliban's huge canal project to Central Asia farmland causing mounting anxiety

Client/Matter: -None-

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18. IFAS Summit: a new stage towards effective interaction between the countries of Central Asia

Client/Matter: -None-

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19. Threat posed by Taliban's huge canal project to Central Asia farmland causing mounting anxiety

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20. Central Asian river levels poised for dramatic plunge, forcing urgent measures

Client/Matter: -None-

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21. Kazakh President addresses Dushanbe summit

Client/Matter: -None-

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22. Central Asian river levels poised for dramatic plunge, forcing urgent measures

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

23. Central Asian river levels poised for dramatic plunge, forcing urgent measures

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

24. Central Asian river levels poised for dramatic plunge, forcing urgent measures

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

25. <u>President of Uzbekistan outlines prospects for cooperation within framework of International Fund for Saving</u> Aral Sea

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

26. <u>President of Uzbekistan outlines prospects for cooperation within framework of International Fund for Saving</u> Aral Sea

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR

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Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

27. China has won water dispute with Kazakhstan

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

28. China has won water dispute with Kazakhstan

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

29. National University of Uzbekistan Researchers Detail New Studies and Findings in the Area of Environment (Evaluation of the quality indicators of collector-drainage water for reusing purposes: a study from Sirdarya province, Uzbekistan)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

30. UN 2023 Water Conference: I am hopeful Great Salt Lake won't go the Aral Sea and Lake Urmia way, says Kevin Perry

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

31. China has won water dispute with Kazakhstan

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR

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Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

32. <u>President of Uzbekistan outlines the prospects for interaction within the framework of the International Fund</u> for Saving the Aral Sea

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

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Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

33. China has won water dispute with Kazakhstan

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

34. Sudochye declared a Wetland of International Importance

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

35. The President of Uzbekistan outlines the prospects for interaction within the framework of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

36. Water situation in Central Asia actualized the conclusion of the Turkmen-Uzbek Agreement on the Amu Darya River

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR

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Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

37. Afghanistan 's Water Demands: Its Impact On Central Asia - Analysis

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

38. Measures to prevent floods in settlements along the Syr Darya River

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

39. Kazakhstan , Kyrgyzstan , and Uzbekistan to Launch Hydroelectric Power Project

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

40. UNDP and partners held a workshop on water diplomacy in Lebap velayat

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

41. New Asia and Africa Study Results Reported from KIMEP University (Contestation and Collaboration for Water Resources: Comparing the Emerging Regional Water Governance of the Aral Sea, Irtysh River, and Mekong River)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR

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Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

42. Kyrgyzstan Turns to Chinese Companies For Major Hydropower Project

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

43. Experience of Central Asia in Transboundary Water Resources Management Reviewed in Washington

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

44. How to save the Aral Sea?

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

45. Turkmenistan: Press Release of the Conference on the Rational Use of Water Resources

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

46. <u>Uzbekistan about to develop a National Water Conservation Program</u>

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR

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Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

47. Closing Arguments: Water Wars, Election Sideshow

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

48. Turkmenistan: Press Release of the Conference on the Rational Use of Water Resources

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

49. Uzbekistan about to develop a National Water Conservation Program

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

50. Sustainable Water Supply for Central Asia

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

51. Uzbekistan about to develop a National Water Conservation Program

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

52. Uzbekistan About To Develop A National Water Conservation Program

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

53. <u>Projects and issues of rational use of water in the Aral Sea region were discussed with the heads of UN institutions</u>

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

54. Uzbekistan about to develop a National Water Conservation Program

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR

agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

55. Turkmenistan: Press Release of the Conference on the Rational Use of Water Resources

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

56. <u>Afghanistan from Negative Hydro-hegemonic role to positive hydro-hegemonic configuration in managing Shared Helmand River Basin</u>

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

57. BBCM Central Asia Watchlist for 22 June

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

58. Turkmenistan: Press Release of the Conference on the Rational Use of Water Resources

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

59. Kazakhstan ready to exert every effort to bring IFAS activity to a brand-new level - Tokayev

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR

boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

60. Kazakhstan moves to ease water conflict in Central Asia

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

61. Uzbekistan about to develop a National Water Conservation Program

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

62. Water issues discussed at regional level in Ashgabat

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

63. Water issues discussed at regional level in Ashgabat

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

64. World's Largest Lakes are Drying Up!

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold

water" OR "hot water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

65. Water sharing between Afghanistan and Pakistan

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

66. Uzbekistan about to develop a National Water Conservation Program

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

67. Transferring Abbay Across Basins - a Possibility or a Fantasy Project?

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

68. Uzbekistan about to develop a National Water Conservation Program

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

69. <u>UNDP enhances the capacity of decision-makers in Turkmenistan on water resources planning under changing climate</u>

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR

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Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

70. Kyrgyzstan invites neighbours to step up work on water use under the 1998 agreement

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

71. Water becoming critical resource for Central Asia

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

72. USAID helping Turkmenistan to manage its water resources

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR

groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "hot water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

73. Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan talk co-op in use of water resources of Amu Darya River

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

74. USAID helping Turkmenistan to manage its water resources

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

75. Why the courts could have the final say on the Great Salt Lake's future

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

76. USAID helping Turkmenistan to manage its water resources

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

77. USAID helping Turkmenistan to manage its water resources

Client/Matter: -None-

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Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

78. Water becoming critical resource for Central Asia

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

79. USAID helping Turkmenistan to manage its water resources

Client/Matter: -None-

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Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

80. USAID helping Turkmenistan to manage its water resources

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

81. USAID helping Turkmenistan to manage its water resources

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

82. USAID helping Turkmenistan to manage its water resources

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold

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Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

83. Water becoming critical resource for Central Asia

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

84. Water becoming critical resource for Central Asia

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

85. USAID helping Turkmenistan to manage its water resources

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: hlead(*water* OR river* OR lake OR dam OR stream OR tributary OR diversion OR irrigation OR pollution OR water quality OR flood! OR drought! OR channel OR canal OR hydroelect! OR reservoir OR groundwater OR aquifer OR drought OR recharge OR "water table" OR "bore hole") and hlead(treaty OR agree! OR negotiat! OR resolution OR commission OR secretariat OR joint management OR basin management OR peace OR accord OR "peace accord" OR settle! OR cooperat! OR collaborat! OR disput! OR conflict! OR disagree! OR sanction! OR war OR troops OR "letter of protest" OR hostility OR "shots fired" OR boycott OR protest! OR appeal OR intent OR reject OR threat! OR force OR coerce OR assault OR fight OR demand OR disapprove OR diploma! OR statement OR memorandum) and hlead(Aral OR Syr Daria OR Naryn OR Amu Daria OR Syr Darya OR Amu Darya OR Akhangaran OR Chirchik) and not hlead(ocean OR navigat! OR nuclear OR "water cannon" OR "light water reactor" OR "mineral water" OR "hold water" OR "cold water" OR "water canister" OR "water tight" OR " water down" OR "flood of refugees" OR Rivera OR Suez OR Panama OR oil OR drugs OR "three gorges" OR waterski OR watermelon OR dishwater OR waterproof OR "water resistant" OR "water bath")

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

86. USAID Tajikistan Launches a New Program to Strengthen Regional Water Cooperation in Central Asia

Client/Matter: -None-

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Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

90. Water and politics in Central Asia

Client/Matter: -None-

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Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

92. Water and politics in Central Asia

Client/Matter: -None-

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Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

96. USAID launches new regional water and environment activity in Uzbekistan

Client/Matter: -None-

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97. Turkmenistan learning from Japan 's experience in water purification technologies

Client/Matter: -None-

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Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

99. Turkmenistan, Afghanistan discuss use of transboundary rivers

Client/Matter: -None-

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Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-

100. Tribals stage mock 'doli' protest over various demands

Client/Matter: -None-

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Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type Narrowed by News -None-



Islamic Emirate: No Water Agreement Exists With Neighbors Over Amu River

TOLONews

September 21, 2023 Thursday

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Length: 285 words

Byline: Habib Rahman Qooyash

Body

The Islamic Emirate said that Afghanistan does not have an <u>agreement</u> with any country in the <u>Amu Darya River</u> basin, and that it is Afghanistan's right to use <u>water</u> resources.

Abdul Latif Mansour, the acting Minister of Energy and Water (MoEW), said the current Afghan government is prepared to discuss the Amu Darya water issue in order to resolve the worries of neighboring countries.

"Those who express their concerns should do so based on an agreement, but Afghanistan does not have any water-related treaties with anyone here, nor have we ever had any agreements or treaties in this area. In the event that the agreement is violated, we raise our concerns. In the current situation we have no arrangement with anyone in the Amu Darya basin," Mansour noted.

This comes as three days ago, the President of Uzbekistan, Shavkat Mirziyoyev, voiced concerns over the construction of the Qush Tepa canal, saying that its "commissioning" may fundamentally change the balance of water in Central Asia.

In the meantime, several economists and water management specialists stressed the need to build water dams and utilize water resources in various sections of the nation due to the current drought crisis.

"Afghanistan absolutely has the right to use the water of the Amu River. And this right has been given to Afghanistan by international conventions, and Afghanistan has between 27 and 30 percent of the water of the Amu river," said Najibullah Sadid, an expert in water management.

"We anticipated that there may be disputes in the area over water. Because we are the region's water supply and even if we do not consume that water, it is still seen as the water resource of other nations," said Sayed Masoud, an economist.

Load-Date: September 20, 2023



No water agreement exists with neighbors over Amu River: Kabul

Pakistan Observer September 21, 2023 Thursday

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Section: Vol. 34; No. 259

Length: 285 words

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Load-Date: September 21, 2023



Central Asia Economic Outlook (English) September 30, 2023 12:00 PM GMT +4

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Length: 277 words

Body

Kyrgyzstan wants to resume <u>cooperation</u> on the use of energy resources of the <u>Naryn River</u>, President of Kyrgyzstan Sadyr Japarov said at the 5th Consultative Meeting of the Heads of State of Central Asia in Dushanbe, Trend reports.

"I propose to begin work on resuming and improving cooperation within the framework of the 1998 Agreement on the use of water and energy resources of the Naryn-Syr Darya rivers between Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan, which provides for a balanced exchange of water and energy resources," he said.

Japarov emphasized that Kyrgyzstan is open and ready for constructive and mutually beneficial cooperation on the entire range of water and energy issues.

"I also propose to create a Regional Center for the implementation of energy-efficient and resource-saving technologies in the Central Asian region with headquarters in Bishkek, which would ensure the rational use of water and energy resources in our region as a whole.

Today in Kyrgyzstan we are changing our approach to water policy from user-based to environmental, the essence of which is to ensure the protection of the zone of formation of water resources, the safety of hydraulic structures and the formation of complete information about the ecological state in the upper reaches of rivers, as well as the creation of an economic mechanism for the preservation of a unified ecological system and sustainable development of the Kyrgyz Republic," Japarov said.

According to the president, at the international level, Kyrgyzstan is promoting initiatives aimed at sustainable mountain development, preservation of glaciers and areas of water resource formation.

Load-Date: October 14, 2023



Central Asia Economic Outlook (English)
September 15, 2023 12:00 PM GMT +4

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Length: 277 words

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Load-Date: October 2, 2023



Water Issue In Central Asia: Prerequisites For Emergence Of Conflicts – Analysis

Eurasia Review

August 28, 2023 Monday

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Length: 1781 words

Byline: Nurzhan Koshken

Body

A huge area of southern Kazakhstan depends on the transboundary <u>rivers</u> Chu and Talas originating in the Kyrgyz Republic, and <u>water</u> supply problems in this region are becoming increasingly complex. The operation and maintenance of <u>dams</u> and <u>reservoirs</u> that regulate the flow of these <u>rivers</u> are under Kyrgyz control. This gives the Kyrgyz Republic significant potential leverage over the downstream countries. The problem of transboundary <u>rivers</u> and equitable distribution of <u>water</u> resources in the Central Asian region is becoming more and more relevant every year and raises the objective concerns of the expert community about the risks of its <u>conflict</u> potential in the near future.

In addition, global climate warming, reduction of <u>water</u> resources, shortage of <u>water</u> for <u>irrigation</u> of agricultural lands, degradation of bio-ecosystems, as well as low <u>water</u> availability in the <u>river</u> basins of this region (Syrdarya <u>River</u>, <u>Aral</u> Sea, Shardara <u>Reservoir</u>, Chu-Talas Basin, Arnasay <u>Lake</u> System, etc.) should be taken into account. The shortage of <u>water</u> for <u>irrigation</u> in the south of Kazakhstan has caused a public outcry. Moreover, recently, Kazakh and Western media have started to spread information about the aggravation of the situation in the region in the future, up to the emergence of military <u>conflicts</u>. In their opinion, it is <u>water</u> that can become a ground for discord between the brotherly peoples of Central Asia.

Dushen Mamatkanov, a major Kyrgyz scientist in the field of engineering hydrology and hydropower and author of more than 200 scientific papers on transboundary rivers and water allocation in Central Asia, expressed his belief in his 2019 interview that water is a valuable resource that can be used as leverage if necessary. "Water is also a natural resource like gold, iron, oil, etc. Because water doesn't just flow like that. Costs are incurred, so water has a value. Water should be a commodity. Moreover, it is a strategic commodity and a political commodity. When necessary, we can put pressure on something else. But we can't push. These issues have to be dealt with. This is for the time being..."

He also argues that signing the international convention "Rational use and protection of transboundary rivers" was nonsense. "The so-called Helsinki Convention, which stipulates that "the use of transboundary natural resources should be carried out in such a way that the needs of the present generation are fully satisfied without prejudice to the needs of the future generation". What does it mean? I have water; I am the owner. We all signed this document, and as water becomes more common, everyone has the same rights. This is stupidity. Kyrgyzstan has not been developing, and we need to develop. To develop, we need additional water. And then there will be a scandal. A war will start. Wars mostly happen because of water".

Canadian researcher Robert M. Cutler notes in the Asia Times that Kyrgyzstan is trying to blackmail Kazakhstan with water to force it to participate in a dubious scheme to supply dual-use goods from China to Russia. According to him, Kyrgyzstan is using its control over water resources to try to force Kazakhstan to participate in the violation of sanctions against Russia. Official Astana, meanwhile, is concerned that the adoption of secondary sanctions will harm the country's economy and is doing everything possible to comply with international legal norms. The author emphasized that the Kazakh authorities are resisting the creation of such a route. Especially at the stage of implementation of the comprehensive reform plan of President K. Tokayev.

At present, in the water and energy sector, the relevance of rational use of transboundary river resources is becoming one of the priority topics for discussion in the Central Asian republics. For example, in Kyrgyzstan, with the assistance of China, the Chui-2 Bypass Canal project is planned to be implemented. The official version of the reason for the construction of this canal is to reduce water loss to 400 million cubic meters per year under the existing deficit of irrigation water in the Chui Valley and to increase water supply to the land. Tilek Toktogaziev, former head of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Kyrgyz Republic, believes that those 400 million cubic meters going into the ground in the Kyrgyz Republic will eventually come to the surface in the Republic of Kazakhstan. According to T. Toktogaziev, the construction of the Chui-2 bypass canal will help save water in the Kyrgyz Republic.

Meanwhile, Timur Yeleusizov, a Kazakh public figure and ecologist, is alarmed that the upstream countries violate the established water withdrawal limits and do not fulfill the agreements on ensuring water quality, which leads to a constant decrease in river water availability, pollution, and disruption of the ecosystems of river basins and reservoirs both in the border and central regions of the Republic of Kazakhstan. Besides, according to him, when the upstream countries actively build bypass canals to irrigate their fields, accordingly, the Aral Sea is underreceiving water. This will lead to a very large release of salt with a high content of toxic substances in the form of pesticides, herbicides, and bottom sediments, which will get into the atmosphere.

"The fact that the Kyrgyz Republic is damming the Chu and Talas rivers will also be a big problem for downstream countries. Because of the lack of water, biodiversity will be lost, and plants, fish, and other wildlife will disappear. Agriculture will suffer, which will undermine Kazakhstan's food security," the ecologist says.

Kyrgyz academician Dr. Mamatkanov claims that water in mountain rivers, on the contrary, is becoming more and more plentiful. The scientist argued his point of view primarily due to climate warming and the fact that water is not used, including due to the collapse of the USSR and the collapse of collective and state farms, which were the main consumers of this resource. According to him, under the USSR, one of the most acute problems was rice and cotton dependence. After World War II, the USSR's economic performance was poor, and in order not to buy these crops abroad, they decided to grow them at home. These industries were developed in Central Asia: in Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, and Turkmenistan. At the same time, water for irrigation is formed mainly in mountainous areas: in Tajikistan, 65 billion cubic meters, and in Kyrgyzstan, 50 billion cubic meters of water per year.

The opinion of European expert Stefanos Xenarios, a researcher in the field of natural resources management, environmental policy, and hydroeconomic modeling of water resources, coincides with the opinion of Mamatkanov, who also admits that due to glacier melting, the volume of water in rivers should become larger. He argues that climate change is the main factor. But with climate change, the amount of water does not decrease immediately. The problems start over time. After 10-15 years, the amount of water will start decreasing. This will affect agriculture. Especially in Uzbekistan, where more than 90% of the economy is connected with agriculture.

Answering the question, "Why then is the Kyrgyz Republic trying to block the rivers and prevent the flow of such a vital resource to the downstream countries?", the hydrologist explained that now neighboring states use water from transboundary rivers just as they did in Soviet times and do not pay compensation for it. The Kyrgyz Toktogul reservoir alone irrigates 1,300,000 hectares of farmland in Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan, he said. And to give those countries extra water for irrigation, the Kyrgyz flooded 28,000 hectares of their land that remained under the reservoir. This is a village, a district center, and an irrigated area; in addition, local residents were resettled. Now, these places do not provide agricultural products. He estimated that the Toktogul district is missing out on \$10 million a year in agricultural products, and Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan should compensate. "These countries give nothing in return. From Toktogul, the Kyrgyz use only 2% of the Naryn River. We are now a sovereign state. Water is our property and our wealth," the scientist asserts.

In general, it can be concluded that the upstream countries violate the established water withdrawal limits and do not observe agreements on water quality. This leads to a constant decrease in river water availability, pollution, and disruption of river basin ecosystems and reservoirs, both in the border and central regions of Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan. In parallel with these processes, the growth of tariffs for water supply is fixed. Together, these factors entail such irreversible consequences as depletion and pollution of water resources, reduction of fish stocks, decrease in productivity of pastures and irrigated lands, loss of biodiversity and bioresources, increase in desertification, and increase in financial costs of water supply.

At present, the solution to this problem requires a comprehensive approach, including, first of all, the introduction of fundamental changes in the negotiation process on transboundary water use, including constant information support and coverage of the current situation in the context of each country in the region. Taking into account the above-mentioned circumstances, the initiative to establish a working group and the Interstate Water and Energy Consortium of Central Asia, including improvement of the organizational structure and contractual and legal framework of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea (IFAS), becomes relevant.

Over the past few years, the geopolitical, economic, and environmental situation in the world has changed. Critical, radical judgments and egoistic ideas have become a relic of both the common Soviet past and the borderless "noughties," in which historical and good-neighborly relations were devalued in favor of a process of transition to wild capitalism—making money out of everything and everyone. The corresponding collateral damage of any process of change was the loss of the matrix of trust and mutual assistance with the crossing of "red lines", including the fine line between conscience and honor.

In order to prevent the water issue from turning into water discord, it is necessary to encourage the public in the region to search for a mutually beneficial solution to this problem. Careful use of water resources and reasonable water policy in upstream countries will allow to save the rivers of southern Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan from shoaling, control the consequences of the Aral Sea catastrophe, and reduce the stress load on farmers.

Load-Date: August 28, 2023



Regional Finance (English)
September 30, 2023 12:00 PM GMT +4

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Length: 277 words

Body

Kyrgyzstan wants to resume <u>cooperation</u> on the use of energy resources of the <u>Naryn River</u>, President of Kyrgyzstan Sadyr Japarov said at the 5th Consultative Meeting of the Heads of State of Central Asia in Dushanbe, Trend reports.

"I propose to begin work on resuming and improving cooperation within the framework of the 1998 Agreement on the use of water and energy resources of the Naryn-Syr Darya rivers between Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan, which provides for a balanced exchange of water and energy resources," he said.

Japarov emphasized that Kyrgyzstan is open and ready for constructive and mutually beneficial cooperation on the entire range of water and energy issues.

"I also propose to create a Regional Center for the implementation of energy-efficient and resource-saving technologies in the Central Asian region with headquarters in Bishkek, which would ensure the rational use of water and energy resources in our region as a whole.

Today in Kyrgyzstan we are changing our approach to water policy from user-based to environmental, the essence of which is to ensure the protection of the zone of formation of water resources, the safety of hydraulic structures and the formation of complete information about the ecological state in the upper reaches of rivers, as well as the creation of an economic mechanism for the preservation of a unified ecological system and sustainable development of the Kyrgyz Republic," Japarov said.

According to the president, at the international level, Kyrgyzstan is promoting initiatives aimed at sustainable mountain development, preservation of glaciers and areas of water resource formation.

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Trend Daily Economic News
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Section: KYRGYZSTAN

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Body

DUSHANBE, Tajikistan, September 15. Kyrgyzstan wants to resume <u>cooperation</u> on the use of energy resources of the <u>Naryn River</u>, President of Kyrgyzstan Sadyr Japarov said at the 5th Consultative Meeting of the Heads of State of Central Asia in Dushanbe, Trend reports.

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Load-Date: September 14, 2023



MENAFN - Business & Finance News (English)

September 14, 2023 Thursday

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Body

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DUSHANBE, Tajikistan, September 15. Kyrgyzstanwants to resume <u>cooperation</u> on the use of energy resources of theNaryn <u>River</u>, President of Kyrgyzstan Sadyr Japarov said at the 5thConsultative Meeting of the Heads of State of Central Asia inDushanbe, Trend reports."I propose to begin work on resuming and improving <u>cooperationwithin</u> the framework of the <u>Agreement</u> on the use of <u>water</u> andenergy resources of the <u>Naryn-Syr Darya River</u> between Kazakhstan,Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan of 1998, which provides for abalanced exchange of <u>water</u> and energy resources," he said.

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Load-Date: September 14, 2023



Trend News Agency - Central Asia (English)
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Section: KYRGYZSTAN

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Trend Business Review - Azerbaijan
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Section: KYRGYZSTAN

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Azerbaijan News Gazette September 15, 2023 Friday

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Body

15 Sep 2023 (Trend News Agency) Kyrgyzstan wants to resume <u>cooperation</u> on the use of energy resources of the <u>Naryn River</u>, President of Kyrgyzstan Sadyr Japarov said at the 5th Consultative Meeting of the Heads of State of Central Asia in Dushanbe, Trend reports.

'I propose to begin work on resuming and improving cooperation within the framework of the 1998 Agreement on the use of water and energy resources of the Naryn-Syr Darya rivers between Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan, which provides for a balanced exchange of water and energy resources,' he said.

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Load-Date: September 16, 2023



Trend Daily News (Azerbaijan)
September 15, 2023 Friday 1:20 AM GMT +4

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Section: KYRGYZSTAN

Length: 283 words

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Load-Date: September 14, 2023



Kyrgyzstan suggests creation of Central Asian energy-efficient and resource-saving technologies center in Bishkek

Central Asian News Service (English language)
September 15, 2023 Friday

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Length: 209 words

Body

AKIPRESS.COM - President Sadyr Japarov suggested to launch work on improvement and resumption of <u>cooperation</u> in the framework of the <u>agreement</u> on use of <u>water</u> and energy resources of the <u>Naryn</u>, Syrdarya <u>Rivers</u> between Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan of 1998, which foresees balanced exchange of <u>water</u> and energy resources.

"We are open and ready for an open, constructive, mutually beneficial cooperation in a broad range of hydropower issues. I suggest to set up a regional center for introduction of the energy-efficient and resource-saving technologies in Central Asia in Bishkek. This would allow to ensure reasonable use of water and energy resources in our region on the whole," President Sadyr Japarov said during the Central Asian Summit in Dushanbe on September 14.

The approach to water policy is changing in Kyrgyzstan from consumptive to nature-protective, President Japarov said. The essence of the policy is to ensure protection of water resources, safety of hydraulic structures, formation of complete information about ecological state in the upper reaches of rivers, as well as creation of an economic mechanism for preservation of a unified ecological system and sustainable development of the Kyrgyz Republic, he stressed.

Load-Date: September 15, 2023



'A lot of work for diplomats' in Central Asia as the Taliban build huge canal

Newstex Blogs The Third Pole

May 18, 2023 Thursday 4:10 AM EST

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Length: 2746 words

Byline: Bakyt Ibraimov, Fawad Ali

Body

May 18, 2023(The Third Pole: https://www.thethirdpole.net/en/ Delivered by Newstex)

For more than 50 years, Afghanistan has contemplated building an enormous <u>canal</u> that will divert the <u>waters</u> of the <u>Amu Darya River</u> and <u>irrigate</u> the country's dry northern plains.

In January this year, it became suddenly apparent that the project is well underway, with the release of a video[1] by the Taliban. Since then, the Qosh Tepa <u>canal</u>, which may divert up to a third[2] of the <u>Amu Darya</u>, has been the subject of international interest and concern[3].

'It is our own fault that we are not prepared for such a situation,' said Yusup Kamalov, an Uzbek ecologist who is chair of NGO the Union for the Defense of the Aral and Amu Darya.

Wider than the length of three Olympic swimming pools, already more than a third complete, and with 8.2 billion Afghan Afghanis (about USD 94 million) of public money spent on its first phase, the canal is intended to 'turn 550,000 hectares of barren land into much-needed farmlands' for growing wheat and vegetable oil, Zabihullah Mujahid, spokesperson for Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan, told The Third Pole.

The canal is being built at a desperate time for the people of Afghanistan. Fazlullah Akhtar, an expert on water management from Kabul, pointed out that the country is totally dependent on foreign aid, with local food production unable to feed the population. 'The current policies of the ruling regime have had disastrous impacts, with 20 million people acutely food-insecure, including six million on the brink of famine,' said Akhtar, who is now a senior researcher at the University of Bonn in Germany.

'On completion, [the canal] will provide jobs for around 250,000 Afghans in Jawzjan, Balkh and Faryab provinces,' added Haji Mukhtar, an ethnic Uzbek from Jawzjan province who was part of the team that worked on the Qosh Tepa canal under the former government. Without the monsoon, Afghanistan depends on snowmelt and rivers Unlike other South Asian countries, Afghanistan receives no water from the monsoons. Instead, it is dependent on sporadic rainfall and primarily snow and glacial melt to feed its rivers. Decades of war have led to a degraded hydrological management system[4], and in 2021 Afghanistan faced the worst drought[5] in decades due to low snowfall in the winter. Managing the water in the country's rivers is critical given the vast majority of Afghans are struggling with poverty, depend on agriculture and nine out of 10 people[6] do not have enough to eat.

However, the project risks destabilising relations with downstream Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan, given the aridification crisis in the basin[7] that long predates it. On 1 April a presidential decree[8] in Uzbekistan issued measures to increase water efficiency, citing forecasts that water resources in the basin will fall by 15-20%. The Qosh Tepa canal may divert up to a third of the Amu Darya's water Map: The Third Pole 'The Qosh Tepa canal has already begun to cause regional tensions,' said Eugene Simonov, international coordinator of the Rivers Without

Borders environmental coalition. This view was shared by multiple experts in Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan who spoke with The Third Pole.

At the same time, Simonov asserted, Afghanistan is not included in regional water agreements yet has a right to the Amu Darya's resources -a view stressed by other experts and Taliban spokespeople. Dropping water and rising tensions Speaking at a roundtable in late April[9], Anatoly Sorokin of the Scientific-Information Center of the Interstate Commission for Water Coordination (ICWC) of Central Asia, said that the combined impact of low water levels and the Qosh Tepa canal could reduce the Amu Darya's flow by 50%. What is the Interstate Coordination Water Commission? The ICWC is a framework for collaborative regional water management created under the 1992 Almaty Agreement. Itmanages[10]water allocations and dispute resolution mechanisms.

The Almaty Agreement, signed by Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, regulates water allocations between the countries. Itlargely upheld[11]water quotas under the Soviet Union, despite changes to national boundaries.

Vadim Sokolov, from regional institution the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea, told The Third Pole that 'any impact in the transboundary basin, which leads to changes in the structure of the water balance, definitely creates problems, including an increase in regional tensions'. Scientists have said[2] that the canal could mean Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan have up to 15% less of the Amu Darya's water to use for irrigation.

The pressures created by the canal will compound the impacts of climate change that are already affecting the region, stressed Kamalov, who is also a member of the public council of non-profit international organisation the Regional Environmental Centre of Central Asia (CAREC). 'The presidents of Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan have previously talked about losing 30% of the glaciers in their countries,' he pointed out.

Furthermore, the extraction of more water from the river means that 'it will become fundamentally impossible to restore aquatic ecosystems in the Aral Sea region' Simonov anticipated, warning that the critically endangered false shovelnose sturgeon, also called the Amu Darya sturgeon, will die out completely. The survival of fish in the lower reaches and the wetlands of the Amu Darya and Prearalie floodplains are also at risk, he said. The Amu Darya riverbed in Uzbekistan, in 2012 (Image: United Nations Development Programme / Flickr[12] / CC BY-NC-SA 2.0[13])Worries of widespread salinisation due to Qosh Tepa canal While significant, the withdrawal of water from the Amu Darya is 'not the most important, acute and potentially dangerous problem for the entire region', a Turkmen geographer and ecologist said, speaking to The Third Pole on condition of anonymity.

Sayed Waliullah Aqili, former director of the Groundwater Department in Kabul, told The Third Pole: 'The canal will have significant socio-economic and environmental impacts for the provinces and indirectly for the country that will also help recharge groundwater table in the irrigated area.'

However, the Turkmen expert said he feared that the canal will lead to widespread salinisation, both in Afghanistan and across the region -a concern shared by Sokolov and Kamalov.

'The canal almost at right angles crosses or skirts foothill plains, river deltas, which have their own established hydrological and hydrodynamic regime,' he said. This, he explained, will disturb the current drainage of groundwater into the Amu Darya, resulting in a rise in the groundwater level and salinisation of agricultural land.

'Part of the lands will not only be salinised, but also [seasonally] waterlogged, which will also take them out of agricultural turnover,' said the geographer, who has studied similar impacts around the Karakum Canal[14] in Turkmenistan. While this could be prevented by measures such as waterproofing the canal, he said 'such ideas for the Qosh Tepa canal are not even discussed'.

This could have repercussions beyond Afghanistan. In arid Central Asia, the adoption of large-scale irrigated agriculture since the 1960s has resulted in salts accumulating[15] in the soil. These must be constantly removed in drainage water if farming is to remain possible. Humanitarian assistance in December 2021 in Mazar-i-Sharif, the capital of Balkh province, Afghanistan (Image: Alamy) Salts will have to be continuously drained off the land in northern Afghanistan the Taliban intend to use for crops, the Turkmen expert added. The only place for this drainage water to go, he said, is the Amu Darya.

'Highly saline drainage water will flow into the river, complicating the already difficult - in some places disastrous - environmental situation in the middle course of the Amu Darya and especially in its lower reaches,' said the geographer. He added that the combination of the water deficit and increased salt content will complicate farming downstream of the canal, posing risks to public health and potentially necessitating the resettlement of populations in the most affected areas. The need for a diplomatic solution On 22 March 2023, a delegation from Uzbekistan visited Kabul. After this meeting, the Islamic Emirate stated[16] that Uzbekistan was ready to cooperate in completing the Qosh Tepa canal project.

However, Uzbekistan has not yet publicly commented on the Qosh Tepa canal, aside from a statement[17] by the Uzbek Ministry of Foreign Affairs that during the dialogue 'special attention was paid to cooperation in the water and energy sectors'.

Speaking to The Third Pole in late March after the visit, Zabihullah Mujahid, spokesperson for the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan, said that every state has a share of the Amu Darya's water, and all of them have been using this except Afghanistan.

Ikramuddin Kamil, head of the transboundary rivers division at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Kabul, said that with its current infrastructure, Afghanistan can divert 5-6 billion cubic metres of water -which he said is less than 2% of the river's total flow. As a result, Kamil says, 'neighbouring countries in the past did not feel a sense of competition to reach an agreement with us'.

The Qosh Tepa canal will divert much more than this, at an expected 10 billion cubic metres.

'We will utilise our share and we want to devise a mechanism that is acceptable to and beneficial for all stakeholders in the region and not affect downstream users,' said Mujahid.

'Uzbekistan's recent request for talks is a positive step towards promoting regional cooperation in sustainable water management,' said Kamil. We have no guarantees as to what will happen after the Qosh Tepa canal is completedUzbek official Speaking on condition of anonymity, an Uzbek official told The Third Pole in April that the country's authorities are trying to resolve the situation peacefully.

'Negotiations with the Afghan side are held on a regular basis, but in a closed mode so as not to disturb society. Their government is behaving quite adequately to our proposals. But, unfortunately, we have no guarantees as to what will happen after the Qosh Tepa canal is completed,' he said.

To avoid conflicts in the future, the Uzbek official said they believe Afghanistan should join international agreements, and conclude bilateral and multilateral agreements on water use in the Amu Darya basin

Kamalov, from the Defense of the Aral and Amu Darya, adds that as well as Uzbek diplomats and specialists meeting with the Taliban, 'Turkmenistan should play a key role in this issue. After all, 70% of the Amu Darya flows through Turkmenistan.' Who can claim the Amu Darya's waters? Commentators attribute[18] much of the current difficulty to the lack of agreements signed by Central Asian countries and Afghanistan on use and allocation of the Amu Darya's waters.

The Almaty Agreement, signed by Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan in 1992, regulates the allocation of water between the countries. Itlargely upholds[11]water quotas set under the Soviet Union, despite changes to national boundaries.

'Afghanistan contributes 12% of the Amu Darya's total flow but is excluded from the Almaty Agreement,' water management expert Fazlullah Akhtar told The Third Pole. Without Afghanistan's inclusion, the entire regional water management regime is incomplete, said Kamil.

Simonov, of International Rivers, said he believes that Afghanistan was 'wrongfully excluded from cooperation within the framework of the Interstate Commission for Water Coordination (ICWC) and now it has taken this skeleton out of the closet'. All of the Amu Darya's waters that could be safely used have already been disposed of twice and three times by Afghanistan's neighboursEugene Simonov, Rivers Without Borders 'At the same time,' he added 'it is important to emphasise that as a country in the Amu Darya basin, Afghanistan has a full right to use waters of the Amu Darya and Panj. The issue is that all volumes of the Amu Darya's waters that could be safely used have already been disposed of twice and three times by its neighbours.'

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs' Kamil asserted that customary international law will apply to Afghanistan. For example, he said, the UN Convention on the Law of Non-Navigational Uses of International Water Courses[19] favours early developers, yet doesn't deprive late developers of their rights.

Afghanistan is also not a signatory to the 1992 UN Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes. Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan have ratified the Convention, however. Yusup Kamalov said this means that the treaty 'can already serve as a basis for interaction'.

Simonov agreed: 'Often even the countries that have not signed [the Convention] still use the cooperation mechanisms described in it. But I am afraid it alone is not enough.'

'We need to conclude other treaties, both bilateral and multilateral,' Kamalov continued. 'There is a lot of work for diplomats here. I hope the Center for Preventive Diplomacy in Ashgabat [Turkmenistan's capital] will make its contribution to solving this problem.' Salt deposits in the Karakum desert, Turkmenistan, where experts say the Karakum Canal has resulted in land being salinised and seasonally waterlogged, making agriculture impossible(Image: Alamy) Simonov said that Afghanistan needs to be 'urgently included' in the system of

arrangements for the management and protection of shared river basins. 'The question is whether this is politically possible and whether the Taliban government will want it.'

In his comments in late April, the ICWC's Anatoly Sorokin stated that[9] it is necessary to involve Afghanistan in the commission's work, initially as an observer, and thereby transfer to the country some of the responsibility for the future of the basin and the Aral Sea. A plea to conserve the Amu Darya's resources Ecologists and campaigners The Third Pole spoke with were keen to stress the importance of reducing water use across the basin in the wider context of the Qosh Tepa canal. Yusup Kamalov urged for canals to be made watertight, drip irrigation introduced, forests to be planted alongside rivers, and drought-resistant varieties of crop to be grown.

Simonov called for an assessment of the combined impact of multiple 'wasteful' reservoirs, hydropower projects and canals in the basin, which he said could lead to a 'large-scale socio-ecological catastrophe in the lower reaches of the Amu Darya'.

'All basin countries should be ready to revise their development plans,' he said, as 'long-term cooperation in the field of 'water resources development' is possible only with all possible conservation of these resources and environmentally responsible planning.'

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Load-Date: May 18, 2023



The Qosh Tepeh Canal and Afghanistan's Water Right in Amu Darya

Newstex Blogs Opinio Juris

May 4, 2023 Thursday 8:35 AM EST

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Byline: Ikramuddin Kamil

Body

May 04, 2023(Opinio Juris: http://opiniojuris.org/ Delivered by Newstex)

[Ikramuddin Kamil holds an LL.M and MPhil in International Law from South Asian University. He currently serves as an Assistant Professor at Bakhtar University.]

Uzbekistan has recently requested to hold talks[1] with Afghanistan about managing the use of the <u>Amu Darya</u> and, in particular, it proposed technical assistance for the construction of the Qosh Tepeh <u>Canal[2]</u>. Uzbekistan, though, did not <u>protest</u> against the construction of the <u>Canal</u>; however, it implicitly stated that the current design of <u>Canal</u> would nevertheless harm its established and legally protected use.

On March 30, 2022, Mulla Abdul Ghani Baradar, the Deputy Prime Minister of the current Afghan government, inaugurated[3] the Qush Tepeh Canal. The canal spans a length of 285 kilometers and has a width of 152 meters and a depth of 8.5 meters. The canal's construction, which is expected to be completed in three phases over five years, will allow Afghanistan to divert up to 650 cubic meters of water per second from the Amu Darya, a river shared with Central Asia. Currently, 72 percent of the first phase, which covers a distance of 108 kilometers, has been completed. While this project has significant implications for Afghanistan's water supply and irrigation, it may also affect neighboring countries that rely on the Amu Darya.

As Afghanistan seeks to expand its water infrastructure with the construction of the Qosh Tepeh Canal, questions arise over the country's right to develop such projects under international law. The right to develop water resources over a shared river is a complex issue that involves balancing the needs of developing countries with the interests of upstream and downstream States, as well as the protection of the environment. This article examines Afghanistan's legal rights and obligations under international law as a late developer in constructing the canal.

Afghanistan and the Amu Darya Water Management: From Exclusion to Inclusion

Amu Darya's water allocation for agriculture is a legacy of the Soviet Union. The former USSR allocated the river's water among the four Central Asian Republics (CARs), namely Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, and the Kyrgyz Republic, through Protocol 566[4]. Protocol 566 presumed that Afghanistan would divert 2.1 cubic kilometers of water from the Amu Darya Basin. After their independence in 1991, the CARs agreed to retain the allocation quotas in the Almaty Agreement[5]. Afghanistan, on the other hand, was excluded from regional water-sharing treaties and water management mechanisms.

Afghanistan was excluded from regional water-sharing agreements and organizations due to various reasons[6]. The World Bank report[7] indicates that Afghanistan can only divert 5 to 6 cubic kilometers amount of water, less than 2%, and this would take two decades to achieve. Thus the neighboring countries in the past did not feel a sense of competition to reach an agreement with Afghanistan. Moreover, decades of instability and weak governance in Afghanistan contributed to the exclusion. Additionally, stakeholders in the Amu Darya basin held

different values and interests, with separate laws defining water as a national wealth and not a public or common good. The member States of the Almaty Agreement decided on issues through consensus and did not want to alter their existing institutional framework by including Afghanistan.

The construction of the Qosh Tepeh Canal has transformed the equation in the Amu Darya basin. The canal, originally planned in the 1970s, provided Afghanistan with the means to divert a significant amount of water from the Amu Darya. Therefore, downstream countries like Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan have proposed technical negotiations with Afghanistan over the use of the Amu Darya. This could potentially lead to Afghanistan's inclusion in regional water-sharing agreements or the creation of a new legal framework. Despite past resistance from Central Asian countries, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan's willingness to engage in talks is a positive step towards promoting regional cooperation in sustainable water management.

Qosh Tepeh Canal and International Law

Afghanistan has never been party to any agreement that governs the allocation of Amu Darya. In the absence of any treaty, the principles of customary international law to which Afghanistan is not a persistent objector will apply to Qosh Tepeh Canal. The doctrine of 'equitable and reasonable utilization' is the general rule of law[8] for the determination of the rights and obligations of states in the field of international watercourse law. This principle requires watercourse states to utilize international water in an equitable and reasonable manner and to participate in the use, development, and protection of an international watercourse in an equitable and reasonable manner. The 'no-harm rule' requires states not to cause significant harm to other states. More precisely, riparian countries (both upstream and downstream) should not use a shared watercourse in way that cause damage and undesirable impact to co-riparian countries.

The principle of equitable and reasonable utilization gives all riparian states an equal right to utilize a shared watercourse in an equitable manner, which means that not all new uses by late developers necessarily violate the no-harm rule. Essentially, under this principle, each riparian State has a right to an equitable and reasonable share of shared watercourse. Therefore, Afghanistan as an upstream State in the Amu Darya basin may initiate new uses of shared water resources, such as building dams, canals or diverting water for agricultural purposes, as long as it is consistent with the principle of equitable and reasonable utilization, even if the result of such uses cause harm to downstream State(s).

Now the question is that, is only the upstream riparian State(s) harm their downstream counterparts, as it is often assumed. Thus, based on this assumption, the obligation not to cause harm is a one-way obligation. It is indeed true that an upstream State(s) may cause harm to downstream State(s) through various ways, such as pollution, building a dam or a canal that diverts the water of the shared river and which adversely affects the flow of the river or by leaving insufficient water for the ecology of the river. Similarly, (as discussed here)[9], the no-harm rule, on its face, seems to impose most of the obligations on the upstream state and gives most rights to the downstream riparian State(s). However, the idea that only the upstream State(s) can cause harm, is a misconception[10]. Downstream riparian State(s) can also harm upstream State(s) by foreclosing future uses through their prior or past uses and claiming rights to such water. The Blue Nile Basin case[11] better exemplifies it, where Egypt and Sudan consistently argue in favor of their historical rights and strongly protest against the construction of the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD) by upstream Ethiopia. The downstream Egypt and Sudan arguments essentially foreclose the present and future use of upstream Ethiopia. Though, in the case of Qosh Tepeh Canal, the CARs do not deny Afghanistan's right to an equitable and reasonable share in the river, however, to what extent Afghanistan can divert water from the Amu Darya could become a leading cause of tension between Afghanistan and CARs.

To summarize, the construction of the Qosh Tepeh canal is not a new water use but rather a restoration of Afghanistan's previous level of water use and implementing its decades old plans. The canal, which was originally planned in the 1970s, aims to restore Afghanistan's equitable share in the Amu Darya and address the decreasing use of transboundary waters over the past few decades. By doing so, Afghanistan is not initiating a new use of water but rather fulfilling its historical water usage and management plans. In addition, the customary international law principles apply both to Afghanistan and CARs. CARs use of Amu Darya should also be equitable and reasonable and should not to cause harm to Afghanistan. The CARs are also bound to notify Afghanistan of planned measures over the shared river, which they have failed to do in the case of Amu Darya. Finally, a strict application of the no-harm rule can lead to a situation where every new activity regarding the use of water by a later developing upstream state, (such as Afghanistan) will be considered a violation of the no-harm rule as it interferes

The Qosh Tepeh Canal and Afghanistan 's Water Right in Amu Darya

with established uses of the downstream state and causes harm. Such astrict interpretation[9]is neither supported by state practice nor by case law.

http://opiniojuris.org/2023/05/04/the-gosh-tepeh-canal-and-afghanistans-water-right-in-amu-darya/#

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Load-Date: May 4, 2023



Threat posed by Taliban's huge canal project to Central Asia farmland causing mounting anxiety

Intellinews - Asia Today May 20, 2023 Saturday

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Length: 699 words

Body

Anxiety is quietly mounting among Taliban-ruled Afghanistan's Central Asian neighbours at the large-scale damage that could be wrought to farmland by the Qosh Tepa <u>canal</u> project that will divert <u>waters</u> of the <u>Amu Darya</u> border <u>river</u>.

Once fully constructed and put into operation by the Taliban to <u>irrigate</u> Afghanistan's dry northern plains, the enormous *canal* risks destabilising relations between Kabul and downstream Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan.

"The Qosh Tepa canal has already begun to cause regional tensions," Eugene Simonov, international coordinator of the Rivers Without Boundaries environmental coalition, told The Third Pole. The publication said it found that this view was shared by multiple experts in Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan that it spoke with.

Simonov, however, was also reported as pointing out that, though Afghanistan-beset by severe economic and humanitarian crises since the US and its allies pulled out of the country in August 2021-is not included in regional water agreements, it has a right to a share of Amu Darya resources.

The Qosh Tepa project has been under discussion in Afghanistan since at least the 1970s, but the commencement of it by the Taliban (who released a video, above, about the construction) appears to have almost come out of the blue for officials in Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan and also Tajikistan, the Central Asian neighbour least affected by the canal given its route.

The Qosh Tepa canal, say experts, might divert up to a third of the Amu Darya. It is thus becoming the subject of rising international interest and concern.

"It is our own fault that we are not prepared for such a situation," Yusup Kamalov, an Uzbek ecologist who is chair of NGO the Union for the Defense of the Aral and Amu Darya, told The Third Pole-a multilingual platform dedicated to promoting information and discussion about the Himalayan watershed and the rivers that originate there.

Speaking on condition of anonymity, an unnamed official in Uzbekistan told the platform in April that the country's authorities were trying to resolve the Qosh Tepa situation peacefully.

Threat posed by Taliban's huge canal project to Central Asia farmland causing mounting anxiety

"Negotiations with the Afghan side are held on a regular basis, but in a closed mode so as not to disturb society. Their government is behaving quite adequately to our proposals. But, unfortunately, we have no guarantees as to what will happen after the Qosh Tepa canal is completed," he was quoted as saying.

To avoid future conflicts, said the official, Afghanistan should join international agreements and conclude bilateral and multilateral transboundary agreements on water use in the Amu Darya basin.

The first phase of building the canal, wider than the length of three Olympic swimming pools, has already cost 8.2bn Afghan Afghanis (about \$94mn) of public money, with the Taliban aiming to "turn 550,000 hectares of barren land into much-needed farmlands" for growing wheat and vegetable oil.

In making diplomatic approaches to Afghanistan-a country totally dependent on foreign aid, with local food output greatly inadequate for feeding the population-Central Asian officials will need to call for more attention to the aridification crisis that has long troubled the Amu Darya basin.

Experts are also concerned that the extraction of more water from the river will mean the restoration of aquatic ecosystems in the Aral Sea region will become impossible, with the critically endangered false shovelnose sturgeon, also called the Amu Darya sturgeon, likely to die out completely and other fish species imperilled.

The operation of the canal could lead to widespread salinisation of agricultural land both in Afghanistan and across the region due to the disruption of the drainage of groundwater into the Amu Darya, according to experts spoken to by The Third Pole. Similar difficulties have been observed around the Karakum Canal in Turkmenistan.

As bilateral and multilateral attempts to negotiate with the Taliban on the Qosh Tepa canal pick up, it seems that all the Amu Darya basin countries should be ready to revise their water resource development plans and step up water conservation efforts such as by introducing water-saving technologies like drip irrigation.

Load-Date: May 22, 2023



IFAS Summit: a new stage towards effective interaction between the countries of Central Asia

UzDaily (English)

September 15, 2023 Friday 5:30 PM GMT

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Dateline: Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com)

Body

Holding the next summit of the International Fund for Saving the <u>Aral</u> Sea (IFAS) on 15 September in Dushanbe, after a 5-year break, became an important event not only on a regional, but also on an international scale. The results of the meeting of the Council of Heads of State-founders of IFAS attract close attention of expert and analytical circles, as it is related to global <u>water</u> and environmental problems. It can be stated that this event will undoubtedly give a new impetus to the further deepening of regional <u>cooperation</u> in the field of efficient use of <u>water</u> and energy resources and environmental protection, as well as solving environmental and socio-economic problems in Central Asia. According to the Head of our state, today the Fund has turned into a unique platform for regional <u>cooperation</u> in the <u>water</u> and environmental sphere.

The role of such important structures of the Fund as the Interstate Coordination Water Commission and the two basin associations operating under it - Amudarya and Syrdarya - was noted. Thanks to the efforts of these bodies, the conflict-free distribution of water resources from interstate sources, the operability of all interstate canals and structures, as well as scientific and information support for the decision-making process are ensured. It was emphasized that the role of IFAS increases even more in the context of the emergence of new challenges and threats due to global climate change. First of all, this is intensive melting of glaciers, drought, soil degradation, increased incidence of natural disasters and abnormal weather events. In his speech at the summit, the President of Uzbekistan noted the importance of further improving the legal framework and modernizing the institutional mechanisms of the Fund. In this regard, the Head of our state drew attention to the need to carry out an inventory and review of key documents and agreements, including the Regulations on the Fund, which was adopted more than 20 years ago. The President of Uzbekistan emphasized that the Fund's main documents should be based on generally recognized international norms, principles and mutual obligations. Improving the organizational structure and legal framework of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea is currently one of the most pressing issues on the way to a new stage of development of the Fund, in which all members of the Organization are interested. It was also stated that Uzbekistan stands for a radical improvement in the activities of IFAS structures, in the form of expanding their competencies and strengthening human and technical potential. The President drew the attention of partner countries to the importance of increasing the efficiency of project implementation within the framework of the Action Program to assist the countries of the Aral Sea basin. In this context, he proposed developing

appropriate "road maps" providing for the implementation of regional projects with the definition of specific volumes and sources of financing, as well as agreed schedules for their implementation. At the same time, the need to strengthen systemic interaction on issues of attracting investments, technologies and technical assistance to promote priority regional projects was noted. It was proposed to convene a special regional conference, within the framework of which issues of accelerating the implementation of joint projects with the involvement of foreign partners, leading international institutions and donor organizations will be considered. The working bodies of the Fund, with the participation of international consultants, have been tasked with developing long-term Development Plans for the Amudarya and SyrDarya basins. In this context, the importance of modeling various scenarios for the development of the situation in the basins of these rivers is indicated. The development and implementation of basin plans will create the opportunity for water management organizations to conduct a comprehensive analysis and assessment of the existing water management situation, and plan water use for the basin for the short-term and long-term. Basin planning takes into account possible trends in economic development, demographic forecasts, increasing signs of the impact of climate change and other factors influencing the development of basins. The head of Uzbekistan in his speech placed special emphasis on the need to organize work with youth at the regional level in matters of creating a culture of respect for water and other natural resources, supporting youth initiatives and start-ups through the adoption of a special program. The President of Uzbekistan specifically focused on issues of close cooperation in the field of preventing further degradation of ecosystems, primarily in the Aral Sea region. In our country, significant work has already been done in this regard. As is known, in a relatively short period of time, forest planting was carried out on an area of 1.7 million hectares on the dried seabed; in the next two years, it is planned to create protective green belts on another 400 thousand hectares. In order to mitigate the consequences of the environmental disaster and preserve biodiversity in the Aral Sea region, natural parks, reserves and state reserves were created on an area of more than 3.5 million hectares. It is noteworthy that today the area of protected natural areas in the Aral Sea region is 4.6 million hectares. At the summit, the focus was also on strengthening comprehensive cooperation in the water and energy sector. The need to strengthen cooperation in the field of water conservation was emphasized. Overall, the summit was truly historic. This is primarily due to the fact that the Heads of the founding states of the Fund agreed to comprehensively intensify its activities for the benefit of the future of the peoples of Central Asia. Acting Head of Department N. Khasanov

Load-Date: October 12, 2023



Threat posed by Taliban's huge canal project to Central Asia farmland causing mounting anxiety

Intellinews - Tajikistan Today May 20, 2023 Saturday

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Body

Anxiety is quietly mounting among Taliban-ruled Afghanistan's Central Asian neighbours at the large-scale damage that could be wrought to farmland by the Qosh Tepa <u>canal</u> project that will divert <u>waters</u> of the <u>Amu Darya</u> border <u>river</u>.

Once fully constructed and put into operation by the Taliban to <u>irrigate</u> Afghanistan's dry northern plains, the enormous *canal* risks destabilising relations between Kabul and downstream Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan.

"The Qosh Tepa canal has already begun to cause regional tensions," Eugene Simonov, international coordinator of the Rivers Without Boundaries environmental coalition, <u>told</u> The Third Pole. The publication said it found that this view was shared by multiple experts in Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan that it spoke with.

Simonov, however, was also reported as pointing out that, though Afghanistan-beset by severe economic and humanitarian crises since the US and its allies pulled out of the country in August 2021-is not included in regional water agreements, it has a right to a share of Amu Darya resources.

The Qosh Tepa project has been under discussion in Afghanistan since at least the 1970s, but the commencement of it by the Taliban (who released a <u>video</u>, above, about the construction) appears to have almost come out of the blue for officials in Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan and also Tajikistan, the Central Asian neighbour least affected by the canal given its route.

The Qosh Tepa canal, say experts, might divert <u>up to a third</u> of the Amu Darya. It is thus becoming the subject of rising international interest and <u>concern</u>.

"It is our own fault that we are not prepared for such a situation," Yusup Kamalov, an Uzbek ecologist who is chair of NGO the Union for the Defense of the Aral and Amu Darya, told The Third Pole-a multilingual platform dedicated to promoting information and discussion about the Himalayan watershed and the rivers that originate there.

Speaking on condition of anonymity, an unnamed official in Uzbekistan told the platform in April that the country's authorities were trying to resolve the Qosh Tepa situation peacefully.

Threat posed by Taliban's huge canal project to Central Asia farmland causing mounting anxiety

"Negotiations with the Afghan side are held on a regular basis, but in a closed mode so as not to disturb society. Their government is behaving quite adequately to our proposals. But, unfortunately, we have no guarantees as to what will happen after the Qosh Tepa canal is completed," he was quoted as saying.

To avoid future conflicts, said the official, Afghanistan should join international agreements and conclude bilateral and multilateral transboundary agreements on water use in the Amu Darya basin.

The first phase of building the canal, wider than the length of three Olympic swimming pools, has already cost 8.2bn Afghan Afghanis (about \$94mn) of public money, with the Taliban aiming to "turn 550,000 hectares of barren land into much-needed farmlands" for growing wheat and vegetable oil.

In making diplomatic approaches to Afghanistan-a country totally dependent on foreign aid, with local food output greatly inadequate for feeding the population-Central Asian officials will need to call for more attention to the aridification crisis that has long troubled the Amu Darya <u>basin</u>.

Experts are also concerned that the extraction of more water from the river will mean the restoration of aquatic ecosystems in the Aral Sea region will become impossible, with the critically endangered false shovelnose sturgeon, also called the Amu Darya sturgeon, likely to die out completely and other fish species imperilled.

The operation of the canal could lead to widespread salinisation of agricultural land both in Afghanistan and across the region due to the disruption of the drainage of groundwater into the Amu Darya, according to experts spoken to by The Third Pole. Similar difficulties have been observed around the *Karakum Canal* in Turkmenistan.

As bilateral and multilateral attempts to negotiate with the Taliban on the Qosh Tepa canal pick up, it seems that all the Amu Darya basin countries should be ready to revise their water resource development plans and step up water conservation efforts such as by introducing water-saving technologies like drip irrigation.

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CEE Energy NewsWatch Today

April 5, 2023 Wednesday

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FROM EMERGING MARKETS DIRECT

Length: 648 words

Body

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This article first appeared on Eurasianet here.

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Kazakh President addresses Dushanbe summit

Kazakhstan Newsline (English) September 18, 2023 Monday

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Section: Article of the Day; Pg. 10

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Body

Kazakh President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev reaffirmed the country's readiness to make every effort to strengthen the work of the International Fund for Saving the <u>Aral</u> Sea (IFAS) during a Sept. 15 meeting of the Council of Heads of the IFAS Founding States in Dushanbe (Tajikistan).

Tokayev said this year marks 30 years since the creation of the fund, emphasizing that IFAS has become the most important institution for regional <u>cooperation</u> in matters of joint use of transboundary <u>water</u> resources, solving environmental and socio-economic problems in the *Aral* Sea basin.

"It is difficult to overestimate the role of the fund in ensuring security, stability and sustainable development of Central Asia. Moreover, IFAS is one of the few successful mechanisms of regional cooperation that demonstrates the region's ability to act independently and autonomously in the international arena," he said.

Addressing the environmental challenges, Tokayev said that global climate change, including low water and lack of irrigation water, poses threats to the security of Central Asia.

According to international experts, temperatures in the region are rising much faster than the global average. This leads to a reduction in the area of glaciers, the main source of water in the Aral Sea basin. Its volume has decreased by 30% over the past 50 years. Analysts estimate that by 2050, droughts in Central Asia may cause damage of 1.3% of gross domestic product (GDP) per year, which will lead to climate migration of nearly 5 million people.

"We also face problems of inefficient use of water and ignorance of environmental harm. The degree of flow regulation of the region's two main rivers - the Syr Darya and Amu Darya - is extremely high. More than 80 reservoirs have been built in their basins, the total volume of which reaches almost 65 cubic kilometers," said Tokayev.

While developing water policy, Tokayev emphasized that countries should proceed from the fact that water is a limited natural resource, which affects the well-being and sustainable development of the entire region.

The President focused on prioritizing water conservation through the introduction of digital technologies for regional cooperation.

Kazakh President addresses Dushanbe summit

"In my recent state-of-the-nation address, I focused on water issues. Following my directives, Kazakhstan established the Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation, which will closely deal with pressing issues in this sector. We look forward to constructive interaction with all our neighboring states," Tokayev said, sharing his vision for the fund's development.

First, Tokayev called for the completion of the process of improving the organizational structure and legal framework of IFAS, proposing to expand the powers and responsibilities of the board and the executive committee of the fund. He also initiated the transformation of the Interstate Commission for Water Coordination of Central Asia into the Interstate Commission for Water and Energy to enhance the effectiveness of IFAS.

"The second important task includes the creation of a long-term and sustainable regional cooperation mechanism for the effective use of water and energy resources in Central Asia, taking into account the interests of all countries in the region in irrigation, hydropower and ecology. The International Water and Energy Consortium could solve this task," Tokayev said.

The President proposed to develop a work plan for the implementation of a unified automated system for accounting, monitoring, management and distribution of water resources in the Aral Sea basin.

"The implementation of this initiative will ensure transparency of water use in the region and will contribute to strengthening dialogue and friendship between the countries of Central Asia," the President said.

Another important initiative became the creation of a project office for Central Asian countries on climate issues. This step will ensure effective measures to adapt to climate change and mitigate its consequences.

"We positively assess Bishkek's participation in the activities of the working group to improve the fund. We hope that the Kyrgyz Republic will resume its full membership in IFAS. In the future, we will be glad to see the fraternal country chair the fund," he said.

Tokayev underlined that close cooperation, mutually beneficial partnership and respect for each other's interests can ensure stable development, security and economic self-sufficiency of the region.

"I am confident that our meeting will allow us to make timely and consolidated decisions that will strengthen regional cooperation in the water sector," he said, proposing to hold the next summit in Kazakhstan in 2026, combining it with the Regional Climate Summit under the auspices of the United Nations.

President of Tajikistan Emomali Rahmon, President of Turkmenistan Serdar Berdymukhamedov, President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev, and First Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Kyrgyz Republic Adylbek Kasymaliyev also spoke at the meeting.

By Dana Omirgazy for the Astana Times.

Link to Image

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Intellinews - Tajikistan Today

April 5, 2023 Wednesday

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Length: 645 words

Body

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This article first appeared on Eurasianet *here*.

Load-Date: April 6, 2023



Kazakhstan & Central Asia Today

April 5, 2023 Wednesday

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Length: 648 words

Body

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This article first appeared on Eurasianet here.

Load-Date: April 5, 2023



Kazakhstan & Central Asia This Week
April 5, 2023

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This article first appeared on Eurasianet here.

Load-Date: April 7, 2023



<u>President of Uzbekistan outlines prospects for cooperation within</u> framework of International Fund for Saving Aral Sea

Uzbekistan Newsline (English) September 19, 2023 Tuesday

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Section: Article of the Day; Pg. 10

Length: 1385 words

Body

On September 15, the President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev, at the invitation of the President of Tajikistan Emomali Rahmon, took part in the regular meeting of the Council of Heads of Founding States of the International Fund for Saving the *Aral* Sea.

The event, chaired by the Tajik side, was attended by the President of Kazakhstan Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, the President of Turkmenistan Serdar Berdimuhamedov, as well as the First Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers of Kyrgyzstan Adylbek Kasymaliev and the special representative of the UN Secretary-General the head of the UN Regional Centre for Preventive *Diplomacy* for Central Asia Kakha Imnadze.

In accordance with the agenda, the results of Tajikistan's chairmanship of IFAS in 2020-2023 were summed up, views were exchanged on current issues of improving the environmental, <u>water</u> management and socio-economic situation in the <u>Aral</u> Sea basin, and prospects for further expansion of mutually beneficial <u>cooperation</u> within the Fund were discussed.

The President of Uzbekistan, in his speech, especially noted the successful holding of the International <u>Water</u> Conference, co-chaired by the President of Tajikistan at the headquarters of the United Nations. As a result of this historic event, it was possible to attract the attention of the entire international community to vital issues and problems in the field of <u>water</u>.

The head of our state analysed the role and significance of this structure over the 30 years that have passed since its founding in addressing issues of countering environmental challenges, developing coordinated approaches to the implementation of joint programs and projects in the Aral Sea basin.

"The International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea is, first of all, a unique experience of multilateral cooperation between the countries of Central Asia in solving one of the most pressing problems on a global scale," noted the President of Uzbekistan.

In the context of the emergence of new challenges and threats due to global climate change, it was emphasised that the demand for such regional cooperation is even greater. The problem of water shortage in Central Asia has become acute and irreversible and will only get worse.

President of Uzbekistan outlines prospects for cooperation within framework of International Fund for Saving Aral Sea

The leader of Uzbekistan, noting the importance of the tasks of legal and institutional support for the effectiveness of multilateral partnerships, outlined a number of practical proposals for further interaction in the water and environmental sphere.

As part of the work to further improve the legal framework and modernise the institutional mechanisms of the Fund, it was proposed to conduct an inventory and revise the main documents and agreements, analyse the current structure and prepare proposals to improve the coordination and effectiveness of the work of the Fund's organisations, develop "Rules and Procedures" that clearly regulate issues of cooperation and activities of the Foundation.

"It is important that the process of development and reform of the Fund takes place on the basis of the principle of intersectorality an integrated approach water-energy-food, taking into account modern environmental challenges," the President of Uzbekistan especially emphasised.

Expressing concern about the progress of the implementation of the Fourth Action Program to assist the countries of the Aral Sea basin, which is implemented mainly through national plans, the President of Uzbekistan proposed to entrust the Fund's Board with its critical review and preparation of road maps for the implementation of each regional project, identifying the volumes and sources of financing, as well as agreed schedules for their implementation.

The need to strengthen systemic interaction on issues of attracting investments, technologies and technical assistance to promote priority regional projects was also noted.

In this regard, it was proposed that each country undertake obligations to attract external assistance to regional projects, defining specific targets, and, with the coordination of the presiding party, develop mechanisms for attracting and distributing investments and technical assistance.

In addition, it was proposed to convene a special regional conference in order to accelerate the implementation of joint projects with the involvement of foreign partners, leading international institutions and donor organisations.

The head of Uzbekistan emphasised that in order to promote a coordinated policy on integrated management of water and energy resources in the region, it is advisable, with the participation of international consultants, to develop long-term Development Plans for the Amu Darya and Syr-Darya basins.

"Particular attention should be paid to organising work with youth at the regional level in matters of creating a culture of respect for water and other natural resources, supporting youth initiatives

and start-ups by adopting a special program. We count on the close involvement of the Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy in the consideration of these issues," noted the President of Uzbekistan.

Separately focusing on issues of cooperation in preventing further degradation of ecosystems, primarily in the Aral Sea region, the President of our country noted that large-scale work is currently being carried out in Uzbekistan to improve the environmental and social situation in the Aral Sea region.

"In the last few years, forest plantings have been carried out on an area of 1.7 million hectares on the dry bottom of the Aral Sea. In the next two years, it is planned to create protective green belts on another 400 thousand hectares. To mitigate the consequences of the Aral disaster, as well as to preserve biodiversity in the Aral region, natural parks, reserves and state reserves were created on an area of more than 3.5 million hectares," said Shavkat Mirziyoyev.

In addition, comprehensive measures to improve water use efficiency are presented. Over the past 7 years, watersaving technologies have been introduced on an area of more than 1 million hectares, which is about a quarter of all irrigated land in the country. President of Uzbekistan outlines prospects for cooperation within framework of International Fund for Saving

Aral Sea

Partners were invited to strengthen cooperation in the field of water conservation, identifying it as one of the priorities of the Fund. In order to comprehensively consider all these issues, establish a Regional Platform for regular meetings of the Ministers of Water Resources, Energy, Environment and Economy.

The President of Uzbekistan also shared his vision regarding the construction of the Kushtepa canal. It was noted that a new participant in the water use process has appeared in the region, and therefore it was proposed to form a joint working group to study all aspects of the construction of the canal and its impact on the water regime of the Amu Darya River with the involvement of research institutes of our countries, as well as to consider the issue of involving representatives of Afghanistan in the regional dialogue on the sharing of water resources.

At the end of his speech, Shavkat Mirziyoyev expressed his conviction that the implementation of the initiatives put forward and documents adopted at the meeting will increase efficiency and expand mutually beneficial cooperation within the Fund for the benefit of our peoples and the prosperity of the entire Central Asian region.

The heads of Tajikistan, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and a member of the Government of Kyrgyzstan also spoke at the meeting, and a message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations was read out.

Following the event, the heads of the IFAS founding states signed the following documents:

Dushanbe statement by the heads of state of the founders of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea;

Decision of the Council of Heads of State-founders of IFAS on the results of the chairmanship of Tajikistan in the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea;

Decision of the Council of Heads of State-founders of IFAS on the election of the President of Kazakhstan Kassym-Jomart Tokayev as President of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea for 2024-2026;

Decision of the Council of Heads of State-founders of IFAS on activities to improve the organisational structure and legal framework of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea.

The chairmanship of IFAS for 2024-2026 passed to Kazakhstan.

Reported by the *Uzbekistan Daily*.

Load-Date: October 4, 2023



<u>President of Uzbekistan outlines prospects for cooperation within</u> framework of International Fund for Saving Aral Sea

Uzbekistan Newsline (English) September 18, 2023 Monday

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Section: Uzbekistan General; Pg. 15

Length: 1385 words

Body

On September 15, the President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev, at the invitation of the President of Tajikistan Emomali Rahmon, took part in the regular meeting of the Council of Heads of Founding States of the International Fund for Saving the *Aral* Sea.

The event, chaired by the Tajik side, was attended by the President of Kazakhstan Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, the President of Turkmenistan Serdar Berdimuhamedov, as well as the First Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers of Kyrgyzstan Adylbek Kasymaliev and the special representative of the UN Secretary-General the head of the UN Regional Centre for Preventive *Diplomacy* for Central Asia Kakha Imnadze.

In accordance with the agenda, the results of Tajikistan's chairmanship of IFAS in 2020-2023 were summed up, views were exchanged on current issues of improving the environmental, <u>water</u> management and socio-economic situation in the <u>Aral</u> Sea basin, and prospects for further expansion of mutually beneficial <u>cooperation</u> within the Fund were discussed.

The President of Uzbekistan, in his speech, especially noted the successful holding of the International <u>Water</u> Conference, co-chaired by the President of Tajikistan at the headquarters of the United Nations. As a result of this historic event, it was possible to attract the attention of the entire international community to vital issues and problems in the field of <u>water</u>.

The head of our state analysed the role and significance of this structure over the 30 years that have passed since its founding in addressing issues of countering environmental challenges, developing coordinated approaches to the implementation of joint programs and projects in the Aral Sea basin.

"The International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea is, first of all, a unique experience of multilateral cooperation between the countries of Central Asia in solving one of the most pressing problems on a global scale," noted the President of Uzbekistan.

In the context of the emergence of new challenges and threats due to global climate change, it was emphasised that the demand for such regional cooperation is even greater. The problem of water shortage in Central Asia has become acute and irreversible and will only get worse.

President of Uzbekistan outlines prospects for cooperation within framework of International Fund for Saving Aral Sea

The leader of Uzbekistan, noting the importance of the tasks of legal and institutional support for the effectiveness of multilateral partnerships, outlined a number of practical proposals for further interaction in the water and environmental sphere.

As part of the work to further improve the legal framework and modernise the institutional mechanisms of the Fund, it was proposed to conduct an inventory and revise the main documents and agreements, analyse the current structure and prepare proposals to improve the coordination and effectiveness of the work of the Fund's organisations, develop "Rules and Procedures" that clearly regulate issues of cooperation and activities of the Foundation.

"It is important that the process of development and reform of the Fund takes place on the basis of the principle of intersectorality an integrated approach water-energy-food, taking into account modern environmental challenges," the President of Uzbekistan especially emphasised.

Expressing concern about the progress of the implementation of the Fourth Action Program to assist the countries of the Aral Sea basin, which is implemented mainly through national plans, the President of Uzbekistan proposed to entrust the Fund's Board with its critical review and preparation of road maps for the implementation of each regional project, identifying the volumes and sources of financing, as well as agreed schedules for their implementation.

The need to strengthen systemic interaction on issues of attracting investments, technologies and technical assistance to promote priority regional projects was also noted.

In this regard, it was proposed that each country undertake obligations to attract external assistance to regional projects, defining specific targets, and, with the coordination of the presiding party, develop mechanisms for attracting and distributing investments and technical assistance.

In addition, it was proposed to convene a special regional conference in order to accelerate the implementation of joint projects with the involvement of foreign partners, leading international institutions and donor organisations.

The head of Uzbekistan emphasised that in order to promote a coordinated policy on integrated management of water and energy resources in the region, it is advisable, with the participation of international consultants, to develop long-term Development Plans for the Amu Darya and Syr-Darya basins.

"Particular attention should be paid to organising work with youth at the regional level in matters of creating a culture of respect for water and other natural resources, supporting youth initiatives

and start-ups by adopting a special program. We count on the close involvement of the Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy in the consideration of these issues," noted the President of Uzbekistan.

Separately focusing on issues of cooperation in preventing further degradation of ecosystems, primarily in the Aral Sea region, the President of our country noted that large-scale work is currently being carried out in Uzbekistan to improve the environmental and social situation in the Aral Sea region.

"In the last few years, forest plantings have been carried out on an area of 1.7 million hectares on the dry bottom of the Aral Sea. In the next two years, it is planned to create protective green belts on another 400 thousand hectares. To mitigate the consequences of the Aral disaster, as well as to preserve biodiversity in the Aral region, natural parks, reserves and state reserves were created on an area of more than 3.5 million hectares," said Shavkat Mirziyoyev.

In addition, comprehensive measures to improve water use efficiency are presented. Over the past 7 years, watersaving technologies have been introduced on an area of more than 1 million hectares, which is about a quarter of all irrigated land in the country. President of Uzbekistan outlines prospects for cooperation within framework of International Fund for Saving

Aral Sea

Partners were invited to strengthen cooperation in the field of water conservation, identifying it as one of the priorities of the Fund. In order to comprehensively consider all these issues, establish a Regional Platform for regular meetings of the Ministers of Water Resources, Energy, Environment and Economy.

The President of Uzbekistan also shared his vision regarding the construction of the Kushtepa canal. It was noted that a new participant in the water use process has appeared in the region, and therefore it was proposed to form a joint working group to study all aspects of the construction of the canal and its impact on the water regime of the Amu Darya River with the involvement of research institutes of our countries, as well as to consider the issue of involving representatives of Afghanistan in the regional dialogue on the sharing of water resources.

At the end of his speech, Shavkat Mirziyoyev expressed his conviction that the implementation of the initiatives put forward and documents adopted at the meeting will increase efficiency and expand mutually beneficial cooperation within the Fund for the benefit of our peoples and the prosperity of the entire Central Asian region.

The heads of Tajikistan, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and a member of the Government of Kyrgyzstan also spoke at the meeting, and a message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations was read out.

Following the event, the heads of the IFAS founding states signed the following documents:

Dushanbe statement by the heads of state of the founders of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea;

Decision of the Council of Heads of State-founders of IFAS on the results of the chairmanship of Tajikistan in the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea;

Decision of the Council of Heads of State-founders of IFAS on the election of the President of Kazakhstan Kassym-Jomart Tokayev as President of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea for 2024-2026;

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Load-Date: October 4, 2023



Intellinews - Asia Today

December 8, 2022 Thursday

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Length: 740 words

Body

Kazakhstan has given up trying to stop China from using so much water upstream on transboundary rivers.

That is among the conclusions of a recent paper placing Sino-Kazakh <u>water disputes</u> within the wider context of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), China's global infrastructure spending spree. Clearly, given the power asymmetry, China has an upper hand in the relationship.

Two major <u>rivers</u> flow from Chinese Xinjiang into Kazakhstan: The Ili, in the south, feeds the country's largest <u>lake</u>, Balkhash; the Irtysh runs through Kazakhstan's northern industrial heartland before continuing into Siberia. China uses up to half the <u>water</u> in each, a source of perennial frustration among Kazakhs who fear that Balkhash could go the way of the disappeared <u>Aral</u> Sea.

Kazakhstan has failed for decades to force binding limits on upstream withdrawals, while China has refused to sign the United Nations Watercourse Convention.

But lately Astana says little about the problem in public, careful not to anger Beijing. When President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev in October described his concern over the shrinking Balkhash, for example, he studiously avoided mentioning China.

This, say the paper's authors - of the University of Oxford and Al-Farabi Kazakh National University in Almaty - is evidence of what some political theorists call a "sanctioned discourse": The way Tokayev is holding his tongue may seem irrational to Kazakh interests, but he is subordinating an emotive issue to areas he feels are of greater importance to bilateral cooperation.

Over the last decade or more, and especially since Chinese leader Xi Jinping unveiled the BRI in 2013, Kazakh officials have only spoken positively in public about water negotiations with China, acceding to China's "hydrohegemony," the authors argue in their review of research and media in Kazakh, Chinese, Russian and English: "Kazakhstan approaches these transboundary negotiations from a position of pragmatism, with an acceptance that they are unlikely to lead to a change in water allocation but will also not jeopardize wider economic and political relations with China."

Kazakhstan likes to call itself the "buckle" on the Belt and Road, and hosts dozens of Chinese projects worth billions of dollars. China is its largest trading partner. Astana has even written the BRI into its own Nurly Zhol

national development plan. And there are other benefits to keeping tight with Beijing: As Russian public figures were threatening Kazakhstan this year, Xi flew in and offered his support for the country's territorial integrity.

Water negotiations are not entirely zero-sum. The two sides share some interests in ensuring water in the rivers is used economically. Before the pandemic, Chinese food imports from Kazakhstan were rising. On November 29, the prime ministers discussed increasing Kazakh agricultural exports to China.

Transport infrastructure that China is building as part of the BRI could help Kazakh farmers ship higher-value perishables to market faster, offering an incentive to abandon low-value water-intensive crops such as animal fodder and begin growing higher-value fruits and vegetables. Chinese investments in Kazakhstan "could increase efficiency and improve water security for Kazakhstan, placing less pressure on its transboundary water resources," the researchers write.

They also find that some local grumbling about China's water use ignores domestic waste. Kazakhstan taps both rivers to channel water through leaky, ageing canal networks. A lack of regulation has led polluters to harm fisheries and farms. When Tokayev mentioned the shrinking Balkhash, he pointed specifically to outdated infrastructure something the Kazakhs can address, unlike China's water withdrawals, when seeking Chinese aid.

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"The continued opacity and securitized nature of the actual negotiations and infrastructural development upstream in Xinjiang continues to place limits on the conclusions that can be drawn from studies on this topic," the Oxford and Al-Farabi team writes.

For Beijing, that's a feature, not a bug, of its water ties with neighbours. Perhaps, with time, Kazakhstan's public silence about its environmental needs will become standard practice on the BRI.

This article was originally published on Eurasianet here.

Load-Date: December 9, 2022



Kazakhstan & Central Asia Today

December 8, 2022 Thursday

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Length: 740 words

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Load-Date: December 9, 2022



National University of Uzbekistan Researchers Detail New Studies and Findings in the Area of Environment (Evaluation of the quality indicators of collector-drainage water for reusing purposes: a study from Sirdarya province, Uzbekistan)

Ecology Daily News May 5, 2023 Friday

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Section: ENVIRONMENT

Length: 424 words

Body

2023 MAY 05 (NewsRx) -- By a News Reporter-Staff News Editor at Ecology Daily News -- A new study on environment is now available. According to news reporting originating from National University of Uzbekistan by NewsRx correspondents, research stated, "Currently, in the countries of the <u>Aral</u> Sea basin, due to the negative effects of climate change and the unreasonable use of <u>water</u> resources, the reduction and <u>pollution</u> of existing <u>water</u> resources, the increase in <u>demand</u> for <u>water</u> and its protection are required."

Our news editors obtained a quote from the research from National University of Uzbekistan: "Due to the increase in the amount of mineralization due to the discharge of the mineralized collector-drainage waters formed in the irrigated areas to the rivers, their use is limited due to the pollution of the upper and lower streams of the river basins. Researches revealed that the mineralization of Central Mirzachol drainage water has increased by 3.5 times, the total hardness has increased by 4 times, the amount of cation and anion and heavy metals is also high. It was found that the quality of the water of the Central Mirzachol drainage is the worst, and the water of the Boyovut well has a relatively good quality indicator."

According to the news editors, the research concluded: "As a result of the discharge of collector-drainage waters to the Syr Darya River, the main water source of the province, the total hardness of the river reaches 2.0 times, the mineralization is 1.2 times, the amount of cations potassium, sodium, calcium and magnesium, the amount of sulfates and chlorides from anions, heavy metals: manganese, caused the amount of zinc, tin, copper to exceed the permitted standards."

For more information on this research see: Evaluation of the quality indicators of collector-drainage water for reusing purposes: a study from Sirdarya province, Uzbekistan. E3S Web of Conferences, 2023,381():01017. (E3S Web of Conferences - http://www.e3s-conferences.org/). The publisher for E3S Web of Conferences is EDP Sciences.

A free version of this journal article is available at https://doi.org/10.1051/e3sconf/202338101017.

Our news journalists report that additional information may be obtained by contacting Kulmatov Rashid, National University Uzbekistan named after Mirzo Ulugbek.

National University of Uzbekistan Researchers Detail New Studies and Findings in the Area of Environment (Evaluation of the quality indicators of collector-drai....

Keywords for this news article include: National University of Uzbekistan, Environment, Water Resources. Our reports deliver fact-based news of research and discoveries from around the world. Copyright 2023, NewsRx LLC

Load-Date: May 5, 2023



UN 2023 Water Conference: I am hopeful Great Salt Lake won't go the Aral Sea and Lake Urmia way, says Kevin Perry

Down To Earth

March 24, 2023 Friday

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Length: 1041 words

Dateline: India

Body

India, March 24 -- Down To Earth speaks to Kevin Perry from the University of Utah on the Great Salt <u>Lake</u> in the American West

The Great Salt <u>Lake</u> near Salt <u>lake</u> City in Utah, United States. Photo: iStock

The United Nations is holding a global <u>water</u> conference in New York City from March 22-24, 2023. Delegates are currently debating with, talking and listening to each other so that they can decide on concerted action to achieve internationally <u>agreed water</u>-related goals and targets.

Ironically though, the host of the conference, the United States has been witnessing an ecological disaster that now seems to be irreversible. The Great Salt Lake, in the US state of Utah, is the largest saltwater lake in the western hemisphere.

But recent media reports have highlighted the impact of extreme weather as well as anthropogenic effects on the waterbody.

Down To Earth spoke to Kevin Perry, professor of atmospheric sciences at the Department of Atmospheric Sciences, University of Utah. An expert on the waterbody, he spoke about a number of issues concerning it - its current status; similarities and differences between it and the American West's other big ecological disaster of the Colorado river; drought in the region; and finally, the very survival of the Great Salt Lake. Edited excerpts:

Rajat Ghai: For the benefit of our readers, can you explain what has happened at the Lake so far?

Kevin Perry: Great Salt Lake (GSL) is a terminal basin lake that has shrunk dramatically in the last 35 years due to a combination of climate change, drought, and unsustainable water diversion from tributary streams.

The lake elevation has decreased by 17 feet and the surface area of GSL has decreased by more than half, exposing more than 800 square miles of the lakebed to the atmosphere.

Strong winds occasionally generate dust plumes from the exposed lakebed which move into the surrounding communities where more than 2.5 million people reside.

In addition to air quality concerns, the shrinking lake has led to a loss of recreation (all boat marinas are now closed), threats to industry (ski industry, mineral extraction industry), and is on the verge of total ecosystem collapse due to rising salinity levels.

UN 2023 Water Conference: I am hopeful Great Salt Lake won't go the Aral Sea and Lake Urmia way, says Kevin Perry

RG: What is the current situation at the lake, given that the American West has received rain and snow this winter due to atmospheric rivers?

KP: Utah has received record snow amounts in the mountains this year and the lake has already risen by 2 feet. The lake will likely rise by an additional two or three feet when the mountain snow melts.

The lake typically loses 2.5 feet of water during the summer due to evaporation. Thus, the net result of the record-breaking snow year is likely to be an increase of 2 to 2.5 feet.

While this is great and will help avoid the ecosystem collapse by reducing the salinity of the lake it cannot make up for over 20 years of water deficits. In fact, the lake has shrunk by 5 feet in the last 4 years so a 2.5 foot gain won't even bring the lake back up to where it was 5 years ago.

What it does is buy us a year or two to implement conservation measures to reduce our overall water usage.

RG: What similarities do you see between the Great Salt Lake and the Colorado River in terms of hydrological disaster?

KP: Unfortunately, the GSL and Colorado River problems are completely different. The shrinkage of the GSL is primarily caused by excessive water diversion. We simply divert 30 per cent excess water from the streams.

Climate change and drought contribute to the shrinkage as well but 2/3 of the water loss is due to decisions we have made on how we use the water.

The situation on the Colorado River is largely being driven by climate change and drought. Computer models indicate that the availability of water in the Colarado River watershed will decrease by 10-15 per cent per decade as the climate warms.

Thus, all of the water users in the desert southwest will need to plan for less water availability in the future. Those same computer models predict a slight increase in precipitation for the GSL watershed. However, any slight increases in precipitation are likely to be compensated for by increases in evaporation.

RG: Is continuous drought now a reality that cannot change in the American West?

KP: The western US is currently in the worst megadrought in the last 2000 years. Megadroughts are periods of more than 20 years with substantially lower-than-normal precipitation.

Tree rings indicate that megadroughts are a naturally-occuring phenomenon in the western US and typically occur once every couple hundred years. This just happens to be the first megadrought since pioneers moved into Utah in the mid 1800s. Megadroughts can last anywhere from 20 to 75 years.

Thus, we are likely to remain in a megadrought for at least another decade (and possibly longer). Once the megadrought ends, precipitation is likely to return to the long-term averages.

However, climate models indicate that we are likely to see more interannual variability and an overall drying trend for most of the west.

RG: Do you see the Great Salt lake becoming the next Aral Sea or Lake Urmia? Or is there still time to save it?

KP: The people of Utah have let their leaders know that saving GSL is a priority. Failure to save the lake will lead to significant economic losses and threats to human health.

The leaders of the state have listened and are committed to making the changes necessary to save the lake. Almost all of the water in the tributary streams originates as snow in the mountains of Utah and the streams primarily stay within the state.

Page 3 of 3

UN 2023 Water Conference: I am hopeful Great Salt Lake won't go the Aral Sea and Lake Urmia way, says Kevin Perry

Thus, our leaders have control over the entire watershed. As a result, I am optomistic that we can learn from the history of other shrinking lakes around the world and avoid the same fate.

It will, however, take decades for the lake to fully recover (especially if we remain in a megadrought for an extended period of time).

Read more:

- * Sea that isn't
- * Aral Sea: living sample of a human-made catastrophe

United States utah waterbody restoration University of Utah Water World

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Load-Date: March 25, 2023



Kazakhstan & Central Asia This Week

December 8, 2022

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Length: 740 words

Body

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This article was originally published on Eurasianet here.

Load-Date: December 9, 2022



<u>President of Uzbekistan outlines the prospects for interaction within the</u> framework of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea

UzDaily (English)

September 15, 2023 Friday 2:55 PM GMT

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Length: 1364 words

Dateline: Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com)

Body

On 15 September, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev, at the invitation of the President of the Republic of Tajikistan Emomali Rahmon, took part in the meeting of the Council of Heads of the Founding States of the International Fund for Saving the *Aral* Sea. The event, chaired by the Tajik side, was attended by the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, the President of Turkmenistan Serdar Berdimuhamedov, as well as the First Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Kyrgyz Republic Adylbek Kasymaliev and the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General – Head of the United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive *Diplomacy* for Central Asia, Kaha Imnadze. By the agenda, the results of Tajikistan's presidency of IFAS in 2020-2023 were summed up. Views were exchanged on the current issues of improving the environmental, *water* management, and socio-economic situation in the *Aral* Sea basin. Prospects for further enhancing mutually beneficial interaction within the Fund were discussed.

In his address, the President of Uzbekistan pointed out that the activities as part of the Global Water Conference, under the co-presidency of distinguished Emomali Sharipovich, were successfully held at the UN headquarters. This historic event has attracted the entire international community's attention to vital issues and problems in Central Asia's water sector. The Head of state analyzed the role and significance of this structure over the 30 years since its founding in addressing issues of countering environmental challenges and developing coordinated approaches to implementing joint programs and projects in the Aral Sea basin. "The International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea is, above all, a unique experience of multilateral cooperation of the countries of Central Asia in addressing one of the most pressing problems on a global scale", the President of Uzbekistan noted. The role and significance of such a structure increase even more in the context of the emergence of new challenges and threats due to global climate change. The water shortage problem in Central Asia has become acute and irreversible and will only worsen. The Leader of Uzbekistan, noting the importance of the tasks of legal and institutional support for the effectiveness of multilateral partnerships, made several practical proposals for further interaction in the water and environmental sphere. As part of the work to further improve the legal framework and modernize the institutional mechanisms of the Fund, it was proposed to conduct an inventory and revise the primary documents and agreements, analyze the current structure, and prepare proposals to improve the coordination and effectiveness of the work of the Fund's organizations, develop "Rules and Procedures" that regulate issues of

cooperation and activities of the Fund. "The Fund's development and reform process must be held based on crosssectoral principle - an integrated approach "water - energy - food", accounting for modern environmental challenges", President Shavkat Mirziyoyev emphasized. Concerning the progress of the fourth Action program to assist the countries of the Aral Sea basin, which is mainly carried out in line with national plans, the President of Uzbekistan proposed instructing the Fund's Board to critically review the current Program, providing for the preparation of "road maps" for the implementation of each regional project, identifying the volumes and sources of financing, as well as agreed schedules for their implementation. The need was noted for strengthening systemic engagement on the issues of attracting investments, technologies, and technical assistance to advance priority regional projects. In this regard, each country was proposed to take on a responsibility to attract external assistance into regional projects by defining specific targets and under the coordination of the presiding party, to develop mechanisms for attracting and distributing investments and technical assistance. It was also proposed to convene a special regional conference to accelerate the implementation of joint projects with the involvement of foreign partners, leading international institutions, and donor organizations. The Leader of Uzbekistan emphasized that to promote a coordinated policy on integrated management of water and energy resources in the region, it is advisable, with the participation of international consultants, to develop long-term Development Plans for the Amudarya and Syrdarya basins. "Particular attention should be paid to working with the youth at the regional level to raise their awareness of the need for reasonable use of water and other natural resources, supporting youth initiatives and start-ups by adopting a special program. We count on close engagement with the Regional Center for Preventive Diplomacy in addressing these issues", the President of Uzbekistan noted. Dwelling on the issues of cooperation in preventing further degradation of ecosystems, primarily in the Aral Sea region, the President of Uzbekistan noted that currently, Uzbekistan is carrying out large-scale work to improve the environmental and social situation in the Aral Sea region. "In the last few years, forest plantings have been carried out on the dried up seabed of the Aral on an area of 1.7 million hectares. We intend to create protective green screens on another 400 thousand hectares in the next two years. To mitigate the consequences of the Aral Sea disaster and conserve biodiversity in the Aral Sea region, natural parks and reserves and state reserves were created over an area of more than 3.5 million hectares", Shavkat Mirziyoyev said. In addition, Uzbekistan is implementing full-scale measures to improve water use efficiency. Over the last 7 years, water-saving technologies have been introduced in more than 1 million hectares, about a quarter of all irrigated land in the country. Partners were invited to strengthen cooperation in water conservation, identifying it as one of the priorities of the Fund. To comprehensively consider all these issues, establish a Regional Platform for regular meetings of the Ministers of Water Resources, Energy, Environment, and Economy. The President of Uzbekistan also shared his vision regarding constructing the Kushtepa Canal. It was noted that a new stakeholder in the water use process has appeared in the region, in connection with which it was proposed to set up a joint working group to study all aspects of the construction of the Kushtepa Canal and its impact on the water regime of the Amudarya with the involvement of research institutes of our countries, as well as to consider the issue of involving representatives of Afghanistan in the regional dialogue on the sharing of water resources. In conclusion, the President of Uzbekistan expressed his conviction that implementing the initiatives put forward and the documents adopted will increase the efficiency and expand mutually beneficial cooperation within the Fund to benefit our people and the prosperity of the entire Central Asian region. The heads of Tajikistan, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, and a member of the Government of Kyrgyzstan also addressed the meeting, and a message from the United Nations Secretary-General was read out. Following the event, the heads of the IFAS Founding States signed the following documents: - Dushanbe Statement by the heads of state of the founders of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea; - Decision of the Council of Heads of the IFAS Founding States on the results of the chairmanship of the Republic of Tajikistan in the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea; - Decision of the Council of Heads of IFAS Founding States on the election of the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan Kassym-Jomart Tokayev as President of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea for 2024-2026; - Decision of the Council of Heads of IFAS Founding States on activities to improve the organizational structure and legal framework of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea. The IFAS chairmanship for 2024-2026 passed to the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Load-Date: October 12, 2023

President of Uzbekistan outlines the prospects for interaction within the framework of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea



CEE Energy NewsWatch Today
December 8, 2022 Thursday

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Length: 740 words

Body

Kazakhstan has given up trying to stop China from using so much water upstream on transboundary rivers.

That is among the conclusions of a recent paper placing Sino-Kazakh <u>water disputes</u> within the wider context of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), China's global infrastructure spending spree. Clearly, given the power asymmetry, China has an upper hand in the relationship.

Two major <u>rivers</u> flow from Chinese Xinjiang into Kazakhstan: The Ili, in the south, feeds the country's largest <u>lake</u>, Balkhash; the Irtysh runs through Kazakhstan's northern industrial heartland before continuing into Siberia. China uses up to half the <u>water</u> in each, a source of perennial frustration among Kazakhs who fear that Balkhash could go the way of the disappeared <u>Aral</u> Sea.

Kazakhstan has failed for decades to force binding limits on upstream withdrawals, while China has refused to sign the United Nations Watercourse Convention.

But lately Astana says little about the problem in public, careful not to anger Beijing. When President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev in October described his concern over the shrinking Balkhash, for example, he studiously avoided mentioning China.

This, say the paper's authors - of the University of Oxford and Al-Farabi Kazakh National University in Almaty - is evidence of what some political theorists call a "sanctioned discourse": The way Tokayev is holding his tongue may seem irrational to Kazakh interests, but he is subordinating an emotive issue to areas he feels are of greater importance to bilateral cooperation.

Over the last decade or more, and especially since Chinese leader Xi Jinping unveiled the BRI in 2013, Kazakh officials have only spoken positively in public about water negotiations with China, acceding to China's "hydrohegemony," the authors argue in their review of research and media in Kazakh, Chinese, Russian and English: "Kazakhstan approaches these transboundary negotiations from a position of pragmatism, with an acceptance that they are unlikely to lead to a change in water allocation but will also not jeopardize wider economic and political relations with China."

Kazakhstan likes to call itself the "buckle" on the Belt and Road, and hosts dozens of Chinese projects worth billions of dollars. China is its largest trading partner. Astana has even written the BRI into its own Nurly Zhol

national development plan. And there are other benefits to keeping tight with Beijing: As Russian public figures were threatening Kazakhstan this year, Xi flew in and offered his support for the country's territorial integrity.

Water negotiations are not entirely zero-sum. The two sides share some interests in ensuring water in the rivers is used economically. Before the pandemic, Chinese food imports from Kazakhstan were rising. On November 29, the prime ministers discussed increasing Kazakh agricultural exports to China.

Transport infrastructure that China is building as part of the BRI could help Kazakh farmers ship higher-value perishables to market faster, offering an incentive to abandon low-value water-intensive crops such as animal fodder and begin growing higher-value fruits and vegetables. Chinese investments in Kazakhstan "could increase efficiency and improve water security for Kazakhstan, placing less pressure on its transboundary water resources," the researchers write.

They also find that some local grumbling about China's water use ignores domestic waste. Kazakhstan taps both rivers to channel water through leaky, ageing canal networks. A lack of regulation has led polluters to harm fisheries and farms. When Tokayev mentioned the shrinking Balkhash, he pointed specifically to outdated infrastructure something the Kazakhs can address, unlike China's water withdrawals, when seeking Chinese aid.

Ultimately, however, we don't know much about the water negotiations. Little leaks out, including hydrological data from either side.

"The continued opacity and securitized nature of the actual negotiations and infrastructural development upstream in Xinjiang continues to place limits on the conclusions that can be drawn from studies on this topic," the Oxford and Al-Farabi team writes.

For Beijing, that's a feature, not a bug, of its water ties with neighbours. Perhaps, with time, Kazakhstan's public silence about its environmental needs will become standard practice on the BRI.

This article was originally published on Eurasianet here.

Load-Date: December 9, 2022



Sudochye declared a Wetland of International Importance

Uzbekistan National News Agency (UzA)
October 12, 2023 Thursday

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Length: 233 words

Body

It notes that Sudochye was once a bay of the <u>Aral</u> Sea, the fourth-largest <u>lake</u> in the world, around 1960. It became separate as the Sea's <u>water</u> level decreased; the <u>water</u> level of the Site is maintained by the Amudarya <u>River</u> and <u>irrigation canals</u>. It is also noted that the biodiversity is similar to that of the southern part of the <u>Aral</u> Sea and features dense reedbeds, shrubs, salt marshes, and saxaul (Haloxylon ammodendron) plantations. Some nationally <u>threatened</u> animals are found, such as the Asiatic caracal (Caracal caracal schmitzi), goitered gazelle (Gazella subgutturosa), and bulatmai barbel (Luciobarbus capito).

National and international tourists visit to explore the Site's historical connection to the Aral Sea and observe the remnants of the settlement of Urga. Local communities use it for fishing and harvesting reeds for livestock fodder and building materials. Extreme weather conditions such as drought are among the major threats facing the Site.

According to the Ministry of Ecology, Environmental Protection and Climate Change of the Republic of Uzbekistan, in May this year, Sudoche became the 4th site in Uzbekistan included in the Wetland of International Importance list.

Previously, such objects as Dengizkul Lake (in 2001), the Aydar-Arnasay system of lakes (in 2008), Tudakul Lake, and Kuymazor Reservoir (in 2020) were included in the Ramsar list.

Nazokat Usmanova, UzA

Load-Date: October 12, 2023



The President of Uzbekistan outlines the prospects for interaction within the framework of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea

Uzbekistan National News Agency (UzA)
September 15, 2023 Friday

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Length: 1312 words

Body

The event, chaired by the Tajik side, was attended by the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, the President of Turkmenistan Serdar Berdimuhamedov, as well as the First Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Kyrgyz Republic Adylbek Kasymaliev and the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General – Head of the United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive <u>Diplomacy</u> for Central Asia, Kaha Imnadze.

By the agenda, the results of Tajikistan's presidency of IFAS in 2020-2023 were summed up. Views were exchanged on the current issues of improving the environmental, <u>water</u> management, and socio-economic situation in the <u>Aral</u> Sea basin. Prospects for further enhancing mutually beneficial interaction within the Fund were discussed.

In his address, the President of Uzbekistan pointed out that the activities as part of the Global <u>Water</u> Conference, under the co-presidency of distinguished Emomali Sharipovich, were successfully held at the UN headquarters. This historic event has attracted the entire international community's attention to vital issues and problems in Central Asia's <u>water</u> sector.

The Head of state analyzed the role and significance of this structure over the 30 years since its founding in addressing issues of countering environmental challenges and developing coordinated approaches to implementing joint programs and projects in the Aral Sea basin.

"The International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea is, above all, a unique experience of multilateral cooperation of the countries of Central Asia in addressing one of the most pressing problems on a global scale", the President of Uzbekistan noted.

The role and significance of such a structure increase even more in the context of the emergence of new challenges and threats due to global climate change. The water shortage problem in Central Asia has become acute and irreversible and will only worsen.

The Leader of Uzbekistan, noting the importance of the tasks of legal and institutional support for the effectiveness of multilateral partnerships, made several practical proposals for further interaction in the water and environmental sphere.

The President of Uzbekistan outlines the prospects for interaction within the framework of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea

As part of the work to further improve the legal framework and modernize the institutional mechanisms of the Fund, it was proposed to conduct an inventory and revise the primary documents and agreements, analyze the current structure, and prepare proposals to improve the coordination and effectiveness of the work of the Fund's organizations, develop "Rules and Procedures" that regulate issues of cooperation and activities of the Fund.

"The Fund's development and reform process must be held based on cross-sectoral principle – an integrated approach "water – energy – food", accounting for modern environmental challenges", President Shavkat Mirziyoyev emphasized.

Concerning the progress of the fourth Action program to assist the countries of the Aral Sea basin, which is mainly carried out in line with national plans, the President of Uzbekistan proposed instructing the Fund's Board to critically review the current Program, providing for the preparation of "road maps" for the implementation of each regional project, identifying the volumes and sources of financing, as well as agreed schedules for their implementation.

The need was noted for strengthening systemic engagement on the issues of attracting investments, technologies, and technical assistance to advance priority regional projects.

In this regard, each country was proposed to take on a responsibility to attract external assistance into regional projects by defining specific targets and under the coordination of the presiding party, to develop mechanisms for attracting and distributing investments and technical assistance.

It was also proposed to convene a special regional conference to accelerate the implementation of joint projects with the involvement of foreign partners, leading international institutions, and donor organizations.

The Leader of Uzbekistan emphasized that to promote a coordinated policy on integrated management of water and energy resources in the region, it is advisable, with the participation of international consultants, to develop long-term Development Plans for the Amudarya and Syrdarya basins.

"Particular attention should be paid to working with the youth at the regional level to raise their awareness of the need for reasonable use of water and other natural resources, supporting youth initiatives and start-ups by adopting a special program. We count on close engagement with the Regional Center for Preventive Diplomacy in addressing these issues", the President of Uzbekistan noted.

Dwelling on the issues of cooperation in preventing further degradation of ecosystems, primarily in the Aral Sea region, the President of Uzbekistan noted that currently, Uzbekistan is carrying out large-scale work to improve the environmental and social situation in the Aral Sea region.

"In the last few years, forest plantings have been carried out on the dried up seabed of the Aral on an area of 1.7 million hectares. We intend to create protective green screens on another 400 thousand hectares in the next two years. To mitigate the consequences of the Aral Sea disaster and conserve biodiversity in the Aral Sea region, natural parks and reserves and state reserves were created over an area of more than 3.5 million hectares", Shavkat Mirziyoyev said.

In addition, Uzbekistan is implementing full-scale measures to improve water use efficiency. Over the last 7 years, water-saving technologies have been introduced in more than 1 million hectares, about a quarter of all irrigated land in the country.

Partners were invited to strengthen cooperation in water conservation, identifying it as one of the priorities of the Fund. To comprehensively consider all these issues, establish a Regional Platform for regular meetings of the Ministers of Water Resources, Energy, Environment, and Economy.

The President of Uzbekistan also shared his vision regarding constructing the Kushtepa Canal. It was noted that a new stakeholder in the water use process has appeared in the region, in connection with which it was proposed to set up a joint working group to study all aspects of the construction of the Kushtepa Canal and its impact on the

Page 3 of 3

The President of Uzbekistan outlines the prospects for interaction within the framework of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea

water regime of the Amudarya with the involvement of research institutes of our countries, as well as to consider the issue of involving representatives of Afghanistan in the regional dialogue on the sharing of water resources.

In conclusion, the President of Uzbekistan expressed his conviction that implementing the initiatives put forward and the documents adopted will increase the efficiency and expand mutually beneficial cooperation within the Fund to benefit our people and the prosperity of the entire Central Asian region.

The heads of Tajikistan, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, and a member of the Government of Kyrgyzstan also addressed the meeting, and a message from the United Nations Secretary-General was read out.

Following the event, the heads of the IFAS Founding States signed the following documents:

- Dushanbe Statement by the heads of state of the founders of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea;
- Decision of the Council of Heads of the IFAS Founding States on the results of the chairmanship of the Republic of Tajikistan in the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea;
- Decision of the Council of Heads of IFAS Founding States on the election of the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan Kassym-Jomart Tokayev as President of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea for 2024-2026;
- Decision of the Council of Heads of IFAS Founding States on activities to improve the organizational structure and legal framework of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea.

The IFAS chairmanship for 2024-2026 passed to the Republic of Kazakhstan.

UzA

Load-Date: September 15, 2023



Water situation in Central Asia actualized the conclusion of the Turkmen-Uzbek Agreement on the Amu Darya River

News Central Asia August 5, 2022 Friday

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Length: 609 words

Body

Following the Turkmen-Uzbek summit talks hosted by Tashkent in July 2022, a landmark <u>agreement</u> was signed on the management, protection and rational use of <u>water</u> resources of the <u>Amu Darya River</u>.

The State Committee of Water Resources of Turkmenistan told about the background of the conclusion of this agreement in a comment for the newspaper "Neutral Turkmenistan".

According to experts, the document was the result of the work of the Intergovernmental Commission on Water Management Issues and will ensure more rational exploitation of the Amu Darya, which is the main irrigation artery of Central Asia.

As known, a joint Turkmen-Uzbek Intergovernmental Commission on Water management issues was established in May 2021. On 9 September 2021, the first meeting of a group was held in Tashkent, the second one was hosted by Dashoguz on 1 July 2022.

It should be recalled about the activities of the Interstate Coordinating Water Management Commission as part of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea, where Turkmenistan actively participates. This format meets twice a year and resolves water allocation issues for each agricultural growing season.

The work of the Intergovernmental Turkmen-Uzbek Commission on Water Management Issues will complement and strengthen the practical solutions of the ICWC. Its activities are conducted in a more analytical, research, management and coordination manner.

During the second session of the intergovernmental commission, many possibilities were discussed on improvement of the operation of the Turkmen-Uzbek section of the Amu Darya. The sides talked about hydraulic facilities, in particular, the Tuyamuyun (Duemuyun in Turkmen) interstate water-engineering complex, which includes four interconnected reservoirs and a number of channels on the lower Amu Darya River bordering Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. They discussed the problem of siltation of its inlet and outlet parts, material and technical costs for repair and reconstruction.

Water situation in Central Asia actualized the conclusion of the Turkmen-Uzbek Agreement on the Amu Darya River

What was considered for future implementation? Shore protection, cleaning, riverbed straightening works. Attention was focused on the introduction of methods and technologies of modern water accounting, the use of advanced devices. In general, the two countries intend to replicate the use of digital technologies to all water resources in the Central Asian region.

The main thing for the two countries remains the rational, efficient use of the waters of the Amu Darya, the flow rate of which fluctuates according to observations of recent years. At the same time, the agricultural sector of the two countries, leaders in cotton production, directly depends on the fullness, sufficiency, and power of the river.

Many thousands of hectares of farmland on both sides of the Turkmen-Uzbek border also require water.

In order to assess the current state of the waters, an analysis of the flow rate of the Amu Darya over the past decades, an inventory of the state of hydraulic structures is conducted. These aspects and much more formed the basis for a new bilateral water agreement, which has already been recognized as a fresh step for regional water use.

According to analyses, the runoff of the Amu Darya and Syr Darya, and in general, waters in Central Asia has declined over the past half century, which has become a reason to think about ensuring the stable development of the food and energy sectors that need water and this requires urgent joint measures.

This situation determined the need to develop and sign an agreement on the management, protection and rational use of water resources of the Amu Darya River between Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. ///nCa, 5 August 2022

Load-Date: August 6, 2022



<u> Afghanistan's Water Demands: Its Impact On Central Asia – Analysis</u>

Eurasia Review

April 26, 2023 Wednesday

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Length: 1746 words **Byline:** James Durso

Body

April has been a signal time for Afghanistan.

First, the foreign ministers of China, Russia, Pakistan, and Iran met in Samarkand, Uzbekistan about alleviating Afghanistan's economic crisis. Then, the Taliban government announced the Chinese mining company Gochin would invest up to \$10 billion USD to mine the country's lithium reserves, and would assist developing other infrastructure, e.g., building a second tunnel at the Salang Pass. Last, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty reported the progress of the Qosh Tepa <u>Irrigation Canal</u>, a 285-kilometer <u>canal</u> that is projected to <u>irrigate</u> 550,000 hectares of land by diverting 25% of the flow of the <u>Amu Darya River</u> to Afghanistan.

A meeting of bigwigs always makes the front page, and lithium is the current thing, but the Qosh Tepa **Canal** is the most important story of the three as it will impact regional stability, and not necessarily positively.

<u>Irrigating</u> northern Afghanistan has been a priority for Kabul since Afghanistan's first president, Mohammad Daud Khan, planned the <u>canal</u> in the 1970s. The <u>Amu Darya</u>, which is Afghanistan's border with Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, and Turkmenistan, originates in the Hindu Kush and Wakhan in the Pamir Highlands of Afghanistan, and flows 2,540 kilometers to the **Aral** Sea, which is situated between Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan.

The canal was promoted by the U.S. during the 2001-2021 occupation, and in 2018 the U.S. Agency for International Development announced a feasibility study for the canal, but the U.S. and its allies evacuated the country before the study was complete. (Though it would be good to know if U.S. officials understood the regional impact or were only focused on the effects within Afghanistan's borders.)

After the U.S./NATO evacuation, the Taliban took up the project in March 2022 and have completed about 100 kilometers of the canal. The Taliban government claims the completed canal will benefit farmers, many of them their Pashtun supporters who will migrate to the area, which is mostly inhabited by ethnic Uzbeks and Tajiks.

The Taliban seek self-sufficiency in food, but it remains to be seen if the newly-irrigated land, which is in the most fertile part of the country and now produces barley, corn, cotton, wheat, and rice, will instead be put to use growing opium poppy. Balkh province, which will be served by the canal, is a leading opium poppy cultivating province according to the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime and had a 109% increase in hectares under cultivation from 2021 to 2022.

Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan have addressed their concerns about the canal to the Taliban, and haven't publicly commented on the negotiations, but the Taliban claimed Tashkent's envoy said Uzbekistan was "ready to work with the Islamic emirate (the Taliban-ruled Afghanistan) through technical teams in order to maximize the benefits of the Qosh Tepa canal project."

Uzbekistan's concern is the continued viability of the cotton industry, a major employer, and the impact on water-stressed Karakalpakstan, an autonomous republic of Uzbekistan. Karakalpakstan was the scene of disturbances in July 2022 when the government announced a constitutional amendment that would eliminate Karakalpakstan's autonomy. The change was withdrawn after unrest that saw 18 killed and hundreds wounded.

The existing agreement on sharing Amu Darya water is the 1996 Almaty Agreement signed by the Central Asian republics, but not Afghanistan. The Agreement retains the water allocation quotas established by the Soviet government, and Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, and Kyrgyzstan consume more than 80% of the river's water.

The republics have established organizations and institutions to manage the Amu Darya, but, again, Afghanistan is not part of the processes. The Taliban say they will responsibly use the water to the benefit of all, though they probably privately feel that the other states got the advantage of 100% of the water for several decades and now it is Afghanistan's turn to take its overdue share.

What can the Central Asian republics do?

Not a lot, as Afghanistan is the head of the watercourse, though inviting Kabul formal participation in a water sharing agreement will give the Taliban what it most craves - legitimacy. According to the Food and Agriculture Organization, Central Asia has a high level of water stressand the World Bank reports, "many as 22 million people in Central Asia - nearly one-third of the region's population - lack access to safe water."

If the Taliban decline to negotiate or do so in bad faith, some options are to stop (or renegotiate) selling electricity to Afghanistan which imports 80% of its power from Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, and Iran; route surface freight traffic via Iran and the International North-South Transport Corridor which will allow connections to Russia, the Caspian region, the markets of the southern Persian Gulf, and India; and step up counter-narcotics activity and cooperation among the republics and with Europe, Russia, the U.S., Iran, China, and Pakistan.

At the same time, the republics can signal they are being reasonable by offering rhetorical support for the stalled Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) natural gas pipelinewhile they go slow on the China- Kyrgyzstan-Uzbekistan (CKU) rail line that will connect China to Pakistan's Gwadar Port via Afghanistan, part of China's \$54 billion USD China-Pakistan Economic Corridor. The CKU is part of the Trans-Afghan railway project which reflected Uzbekistan's previous prioritization of access to Pakistan's seaports, though it would also eventually connect to Iran's rail network and seaports of Bandar Abbas and Chabahar.

In March, the foreign minister of Uzbekistan met Iran's ministers of Foreign Affairs, and Industry, Mines and Trade, and the parties announced efforts to double trade turnover to \$1 billion, and to foster business links and people-to-people ties. The ministerial meetings were the follow-on to the September 2022 sit-down between Uzbek president Shavkat Mirziyoyev and Iranian president Ebrahim Raisi where they concluded 17 agreements in areas such as energy, transport, and agriculture, and discussed how to double trade from the current \$500 million annually.

Despite their previous interest in the Afghanistan-Pakistan route, the Uzbeks may have concluded that option is "too hard" for the foreseeable future, and dealing with Iran will secure access to the INSTC, to Bandar Abbas port for trade with Persian Gulf markets, and Chabahar Port for exports and imports from India, the rest of Asia, and

points beyond. And Iran promises a more predictable environment as it has a professional civil service and active private sector and is free of Islamic State attacks.

Turkmenistan's trade with Iran is also increasing and in 2022 the two countries established a joint trade center to increase economic activity, though closer ties may be damaged by the recent establishment of an Israeli embassy in Ashgabat.

If the Taliban senses a lack of cooperation from the Uzbekistan or Turkmenistan in response to damage caused by reduced water flow, they may respond by organizing, or at least not stopping, cross-border attacks, such as the April 2022 rocket attack on the airfield at Termez, Uzbekistan that was claimed by the Islamic State Khorasan Province (IS-K).

That tactic may backfire as the republics can then publicly ask the Taliban how they are letting rogue bands, or, worse, the Islamic State run free? Is Kabul complicit or does its writ stop at the boundary of Kabul municipality?

In early 2022, Analyst Bruce Pannier concluded, "The Taliban are losing control in northern Afghanistan to the Islamic State."

If so, the irrigation project and movement of Pashtun farmers into northern Afghanistan may be the Taliban's way to counter IS-K by seeding the area with their supporters, though it will also give IS-K a fat target - the canal - to attack.

And the movement of Pashtun farmers into a largely Uzbek and Tajik area will be stressful enough, but if their arrival is accompanied by IS-K attacks, the stage will be set for inter-communal strife. If the Taliban intercede on the side of fellow Pashtuns, they may give neighboring countries the opportunity to insert themselves and liken the Pashtun settlers to Israeli settlers on the West Bank.

And the Washington Post recently reported on leaked Pentagon intelligence findings from early 2023 that concluded "the country [Afghanistan] has become a significant coordination site for the Islamic State as the terrorist group plans attacks across Europe and Asia, and conducts "aspirational plotting" against the United States."

Public disclosure of the American's evidence that the Taliban are unwilling or unable to control their turf may spur them to act against IS-K in order to gain cooperation from the neighbors, though they will probably demand material support to do so.

If the Taliban are unwilling or unable to clean house, a "soft embargo," the stick, with an invitation to join in a water sharing agreement, the carrot, may in time encourage them to limit their predations to their fellow Afghans and allow the countries of the region to work together on ways to integrate Afghanistan into an organized, cooperative regional framework.

The Taliban likely feel the wind is at their back after securing China's \$10 billion USD agreement for lithium, but insecurity, specifically a Taliban attack that killed eight guards, is why China's \$3 billion USD offer for the Aynak Copper Mine stalled for years before finally resuming production in December 2021.

Kabul may feel there is no urgency to conclude a water deal with the Central Asian republics while it create facts on the ground, but Afghanistan also has water disputes with Iran and Pakistan so coordinated action by they and the Central Asian republics on water or narcotics trafficking will establish both the spirit and mechanisms of regional cooperation and show the Taliban the disadvantaged of being the odd man out.

In the 2010's, the American administration was bullish on the New Silk Road as a way to integrate Afghanistan into Central Asia, but today there is an alternative road - Iran - which isn't ideal in some ways but will get the job done.

The Taliban have one chance to get it right and if the Chinese, who have a higher risk tolerance than many Western investors, retire, Afghanistan may once again be a blank spot on the map

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Measures to prevent floods in settlements along the Syr Darya River

Kazakhstan Government News

April 7, 2022 Thursday 5:16 PM EST

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SeeNews

Length: 293 words

Byline: SeeNews

Body

It is expected that in the coming days, abundant <u>water</u> will pass along the <u>Syr Darya River</u>, coming from above.

In this regard, Deputy Akim of the region Bakhyt Zhakhanov, head of the regional department of natural resources and environmental management Bauyrzhan Shamenov, head of the regional mobilization department Musa Kaldarbekov and akim of the <u>Aral</u> region Serik Sermagambetov together with other specialists visited the <u>river</u> <u>canal</u> in the area of the "Amanotkel" <u>settlement</u>.

We examined the current state of the Aspay water pipeline, worked out work to strengthen weaknesses along the Syr Darya River and canals to prevent floods. Water passes through Aspay at a normal level to the bottom of the river. In addition, they sailed on a motorboat to the Burmakulak Canal, where they looked at the water level on the dam. Then, together with the responsible specialists, the issues of safe passage of water into the Aral Sea, ways of water intake into near-Earth channels were discussed.

Currently, water in the amount of 200-220 cubic meters per second is supplied to the territory of the district. It is expected that in the coming days the volume of water will increase even more.

Accordingly, in order to safely pass abundant water, specialists daily monitor its level and carry out appropriate work.

* * * * *

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Load-Date: April 7, 2022



Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Uzbekistan to Launch Hydroelectric Power Project

Eurasia Diary (Backu, Azerbaijian) February 3, 2023 Friday

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Length: 308 words

Body

Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Uzbekistan <u>agreed</u> on Jan. 6 to build the Kambar-Ata-1 <u>hydroelectric</u> power plant (HPP) on the <u>Naryn River</u> in Kyrgyzstan to generate electricity to Central Asian countries and ensure the region's sustainable <u>water</u> supply, reported the Kazakh Energy Ministry press service.

The construction costs of the Kambar-Ata-1 HPP, set to become the largest in Kyrgyzstan, will be divided equally among three countries, according to the ministry.

Kazakhstan joined the project as part of the agreement reached during the official visit of President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev to Kyrgyzstan in May 2022.

'The main goal of Kazakhstan's participation should be sustainable water supply management of the Syrdarya River,' reads the official response to Kazinform from the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources.

The power plant project is expected to gradually shift Kyrgyzstan's Toktogul hydroelectric power plant's operating mode from a power-generating mode to an irrigation mode in the summers, leading to the growth in water consumption in neighbouring Kazakhstan's southern regions during the planting season.

At the moment, three countries are in the negotiation process of signing an intergovernmental agreement on project implementation. The cost of HPP construction and the immediate technical solutions have yet to be determined.

'The project is planned to be conducted in line with the standards of international project financing to attract the required amount of capital investments. Furthermore, Kazakhstan has no plans to provide state guarantees,' reads the official commentary.

The parties are working on signing an intergovernmental agreement to define the conditions for the implementation of the project. In terms of public discussion and approval, the requirements of the legislation on international treaties will be observed.

Load-Date: February 4, 2023



UNDP and partners held a workshop on water diplomacy in Lebap velayat

News Central Asia

April 26, 2023 Wednesday

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Length: 630 words

Body

Turkmenabat, 25 April 2023: The UNDP in Turkmenistan held a National workshop on <u>Water Diplomacy</u> within the Project "Conservation and Sustainable Management of Land Resources and High Nature Value Ecosystems in the <u>Aral</u> Sea Basin for Multiple Benefits", funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and implemented by UNDP and the Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection of Turkmenistan.

The event was aimed at discussing the experience of development of transboundary water cooperation between Turkmenistan and the countries of the Aral Sea basin and informing interested stakeholders about the ongoing activities of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea (IFAS).

"Water is a key and strategic resource for the country. Taking into account the transboundary nature of water sources and the shortage of water resources in Central Asia, it is necessary to deepen cooperation between the countries of the region within the framework of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea (IFAS)," - said Ms. Narine Sahakyan, UNDP Resident Representative in Turkmenistan opening the workshop in Turkmenabat. "Within the framework of the new Aral Sea project, UNDP, together with other partners, supports the development of regional cooperation in the field of water diplomacy for sustainable management of water resources in Central Asia."

The seminar brought together representatives of ministries and entities of Turkmenistan, as well as non-governmental and regional organizations involved in the process of cooperation between Central Asian countries on water and environmental issues, including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection, the State Committee for Water Resources, the Khyakimliks of Lebap and Dashoguz velayats, the Turkmen State Pedagogical Institute named after Seyitnazar Seydi, the Dashoguz branch of the Executive Committee of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea (IFAS) and the non-profit organization "Ynanch-Vepa".

During the seminar, the participants shared their experience in the development of transboundary water cooperation between Turkmenistan and other countries of the Aral Sea basin, including the current state of the IFAS reform and also discussed the impact of climate change on the water resources of the region, gender and youth aspects of water diplomacy, issues of integrated use of water resources on the example of Dashoguz velayat and the north of Lebap velayat, affected by the Aral crisis, as well as learned about the strategy of interaction with partners, stakeholders and beneficiaries within the framework of the project.

**

The \$4.6 million project "Conservation and Sustainable Management of Land Resources and Natural Ecosystems in the Aral Sea Basin", funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), aims to promote a land degradation neutrality and initial investments in participatory, integrated land use planning to restore and improve the use of land and water resources, taking into account key biodiversity habitats to secure critical ecosystem services. In addition, the project will address the drivers of biodiversity degradation, to strengthen the protection of globally important biodiversity, habitats, and species, through the expansion of the protected area system and strengthening of their management effectiveness. As result, the project will increase the resilience of the local population and preserve globally significant ecosystems in the zone of influence of the Aral Sea crisis in the Lebap and Dashoguz pilot velayats. The project will also support international knowledge sharing and engagement of Turkmenistan in the Aral Sea Basin management to ensure wider synergies and regional cooperation.///UNDP Turkmenistan, 25 April 2023

Load-Date: April 26, 2023



New Asia and Africa Study Results Reported from KIMEP University (Contestation and Collaboration for Water Resources: Comparing the Emerging Regional Water Governance of the Aral Sea, Irtysh River, and Mekong River)

Politics, Law & Government Daily September 21, 2022 Wednesday

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Section: GLOBAL VIEWS - ASIA AND AFRICA

Length: 447 words

Body

2022 SEP 21 (NewsRx) -- By a News Reporter-Staff News Editor at Politics, Law & Government Daily -- Current study results on Global Views - Asia and Africa have been published. According to news originating from Alma Ata, Kazakhstan, by NewsRx correspondents, research stated, "This paper enquires into how effectively 'regional transboundary <u>water</u> governance' functions in resolving ecological problems associated with shared <u>water</u> resources."

Our news journalists obtained a quote from the research from KIMEP University, "It compares three cases in Asiathe Irtysh River, Aral Sea, and Mekong River basin. Previous scholarly work on the hydro-politics of these three cases within social science disciplines, especially political science and international relations, focuses heavily on the dimension of 'hegemonic power disparity between state actors' (from the weaker parties' points of view) and/or the 'economic or strategic benefits of development either defending or criticizing' (from the more powerful-often the polluters'-point of view)."

According to the news editors, the research concluded: "To contribute to existing research, this paper intends to enlarge the analytical scope and use the formation of regional environmental governance to grasp a broader picture of the complexity and interconnectivity of ecological issues, regional history, and politics."

This research has been peer-reviewed.

For more information on this research see: Contestation and Collaboration for Water Resources: Comparing the Emerging Regional Water Governance of the Aral Sea, Irtysh River, and Mekong River. Journal of Asian and African Studies, 2021;56(6):1121-1143. Journal of Asian and African Studies can be contacted at: Sage Publications Inc, 2455 Teller Rd, Thousand Oaks, CA 91320, USA. (Sage Publications - www.sagepub.com/; Journal of Asian and African Studies - jas.sagepub.com)

The news correspondents report that additional information may be obtained from JeongWon Bourdais Park, KIMEP University, Dept Int Relat & Reg Studies, Alma Ata, Kazakhstan. Additional authors for this research include Aigul Adibayeva and Danial Saari.

New Asia and Africa Study Results Reported from KIMEP University (Contestation and Collaboration for Water Resources: Comparing the Emerging Regional Water Gove....

The direct object identifier (DOI) for that additional information is: https://doi.org/10.1177/0021909620957689. This DOI is a link to an online electronic document that is either free or for purchase, and can be your direct source for a journal article and its citation.

Keywords for this news article include: Alma Ata, Kazakhstan, Asia, Asia and Africa, Global Views, Ecology, Politics, Water Resources, KIMEP University.

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Load-Date: September 21, 2022



Kyrgyzstan Turns to Chinese Companies For Major Hydropower Project

Utilities Monitor Worldwide August 2, 2023 Wednesday

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Length: 1219 words

Body

Long-reliant on hydropower to keep its power grid up and running, Kyrgyzstan is grappling with nationwide electricity shortages so severe that the government declared a three-year energy emergency that took effect on August 1.

In seeking to build its power-generating capacity, Kyrgyz authorities also want to push forward with long-held plans for a series of new hydropower plants (HPP) along the <u>Naryn River</u>, with Bishkek signing a <u>memorandum</u> of understanding and an investment <u>agreement</u> with a consortium of Chinese companies on July 27.

Few details were revealed about the newly inked Kazarman project, which will consist of a cascade of multiple HPPs in succession in the country's Jalalabad Province, but according to an announcement by the Kyrgyz cabinet of ministers, it's tentatively estimated to cost between \$2.4 billion-\$3 billion, making it one of the country's most ambitious hydropower ventures.

"The investment <u>agreement</u> is the largest in the history of Kyrgyzstan. Under the control of the head of state, <u>negotiations</u> are under way on a dozen other projects of the same scale," Akylbek Japarov, the chairman of the Kyrgyz cabinet of ministers, said at the July 27 signing ceremony in Kyrgyzstan.

PowerChina Northwest Engineering Corporation, Green Gold Energy, and China Railway 20 Bureau Group Corporation are the Chinese companies in the HPP consortium and all have extensive experience on large-scale infrastructure projects inside China and globally.

While the companies have yet to comment on the Kazarman project, the China Railway 20 Bureau Group -- a subsidiary of the state-owned China Railway Construction Corporation, one of the world's largest construction companies -- has focused on Central Asia in recent years, mainly on clean-energy and power-generation projects.

In addition to the Kazarman plan, the company also signed a deal with Kyrgyzstan at the China-Central Asia summit in Xi'an in May to buy and invest in a solar-power project in Issyk-Kul -- one of the region's largest lakes -- in eastern Kyrgyzstan.

Kyrgyzstan Turns to Chinese Companies For Major Hydropower Project

"Once operational, the annual electricity generation will account for about 17 percent of Kyrgyzstan's total electricity production," Song Rongjun, China Railway 20 Bureau Group's president for Asia and Oceania, told the state-run China Daily newspaper in June.

Searching For Energy Security

Together, the new projects could be a much-needed step forward to improve Kyrgyzstan's energy security.

Construction for the solar project at Issyk-Kul is set to start in 2024 and expected to be done in 2025. The Kazarman project, meanwhile, has a much longer timeline, with Kyrgyz officials saying they plan to break ground in 2024 and that it will be put into operation on the Naryn River by 2030. The Energy Ministry said a feasibility study will begin on September 1 and be completed in December 2024.

Kyrgyzstan already has some HPPs along the Naryn River and some plans to build others are decades old. Those plans have new momentum as policymakers are increasingly looking to harness the hydropower potential of the river, which flows westward and eventually joins with the Syr Darya, one of Central Asia's two main water arteries.

"In the coming years we will not only make up for our deficit in electricity production but will confidently reach levels that will allow us to earn hundreds of millions of dollars a year by exporting electricity," Japarov said while announcing the deal.

Studies over the years by entities like the United Nations, World Bank, International Monetary Fund, and Asian Development Bank have projected that proper development of the area could provide a major source of export revenue for Kyrgyzstan, which could then sell extra electricity to its neighbors in Central and South Asia as well as China.

But the large sums needed to finance such a venture -- combined with a history of poor government planning and financial scandals surrounding infrastructure deals -- have prevented large-scale projects like Kazarman from getting off the ground.

Since discussion about the Kazarman cascade of HPPs first began in 2013, several notable investors from multiple countries -- such as Turkey and Kazakhstan -- have been linked to it, as have several Chinese firms. But as seen by the current announcement with the Chinese consortium, Kyrgyzstan's eastern neighbor is increasingly willing to provide the financing needed for large-scale projects.

As former Energy Minister Doskul Bekmurzaev -- who was removed from office after an abuse-of-power scandal last year -- told Interfax in an August 2022 interview, Kyrgyzstan's long-term strategy is to increase its power-generation abilities in order to gain a surplus that can be sold next-door in the Chinese market.

He added that selling to China would provide diversity to protect against price fluctuations and help pay off the debts it has incurred in building the HPPs in Kyrgyzstan.

Lingering Questions

While the July deal on the Kazarman project is a major step forward for Kyrgyzstan as it grapples with energy shortages and rising demand, Myrzatai Sultanaliev, senior fellow at the Kyrgyz Research and Development Center of Energy, told RFE/RL's Kyrgyz Service that the project would be a big help toward staving off future energy crises.

But he notes there are still lingering questions about the July agreement. "We don't know under what conditions this agreement was reached," Sultanaliev said. "It's also not clear whether this was a full agreement or just a memorandum of intent to build. We've had cases like this before where investment agreements are signed but they remain only on paper and never reach the next stage."

Bishkek-based energy expert Batyrkul Baetov says there is little doubt the project would be a major contributor toward reversing the current energy emergency in the country, but he also harbors doubts about it coming to

Kyrgyzstan Turns to Chinese Companies For Major Hydropower Project

fruition. "Kyrgyzstan is dependent on foreign investors and foreign policy will play a large role in whether the contract is concluded properly and if the correct labor agreement is reached," he told RFE/RL.

Should Kyrgyzstan's ambitious hydropower strategy be realized it could also further accentuate Central Asia's tense water politics, which are forecast to get more fraught amid projections for increasingly arid weather due to climate change.

Land and resources play prominently in Kyrgyz politics. Most recently, the transfer of a water reservoir to Uzbekistan last year led to a crackdown on activists and media in Kyrgyzstan who opposed the deal.

With growing shortages of water and electricity that are expected to expand in the future, some experts have warned that upstream governments like Kyrgyzstan could be pushed to limit the flow to their downstream neighbors, likely sparking larger political standoffs in the process.

In the meantime, the country is still dealing with growing power shortages.

In 2022, Kyrgyzstan produced 13.85 billion kilowatt-hours (kWh) of electricity, but consumption reached 15.9 billion kWh, with imports making up for the shortage.

Consumption is expected to reach 17 billion kWh in 2023 and electricity production -- which is highly dependent on hydropower -- is only projected to hit 15 billion kWh due to lower-than-normal water flows into the Toktogul Reservoir, which is crucial for Kyrgyzstan's power generation needs.

Load-Date: August 2, 2023



Experience of Central Asia in Transboundary Water Resources Management Reviewed in Washington

Azerbaijan News Gazette
July 17, 2023 Monday

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Length: 252 words

Body

17 Jul 2023 (National information agency of Tajikistan) The experience of Central Asia in the management of transboundary <u>water</u> resources through the basin organization - the International Fund for Saving the <u>Aral</u> Sea (IFAS) was reviewed during the Global Forum 'Transboundary <u>Water Cooperation</u> for Climate and Development' in Washington.

According to the IFAS Executive Committee, the Forum was organized by the World Bank's Global Water Resources Practice at the World Bank headquarters in Washington and was held from July 11 through July 12.

The purpose of the event was to identify ways of transboundary water resources management to address joint development priorities and ensure regional and global public goods.

In his speech, the Chairman of the IFAS Executive Committee Sulton Rahimzoda noted the importance of basin organizations in solving cross-border issues and the problems that IFAS and the countries of the region faced in solving issues of transboundary water cooperation.

He stressed the useful techniques used to improve cross-border management, which can also contribute to the economic development of our region.

The forum provided the participants with an opportunity to discuss and identify new opportunities for deepening cooperation in the field of transboundary water resources, to think about how the international community can better respond to problems related to transboundary waters through its programs, including the World Bank's Global Mechanism for Transboundary Water Cooperation.

Load-Date: July 19, 2023



How to save the Aral Sea?

News Central Asia

August 3, 2022 Wednesday

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Length: 809 words

Body

Prof. Dr. Abdulvahap Kara

President of the Republic of Kazakhstan Kassym-Jomart Tokayev at the4th consultative meeting of the heads of Central Asian statesstressed the need to take decisive measures for the effective use of the <u>water</u> resources of the <u>Aral</u> Sea basin. As known, this meeting took place in the city of Cholpon-Ata, Kyrgyzstan, on 21 July 2022, and it was attended by President of Kyrgyzstan Sadyr Zhaparov, President of Tajikistan Emomali Rahmon, President of Turkmenistan Serdar Berdimuhamedov and President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev.

In his speech at the meeting, the President of Kazakhstan stated the need to take concrete measures to ensure the efficient use of <u>water</u> resources in the <u>Aral</u> Sea basin against the background of current climate problems, increasing the need for <u>water</u> and energy resources. He also called on his counterparts to intensify <u>cooperation</u> between the countries within the framework of the International Fund for Saving the <u>Aral</u> Sea.

Nowadays, when the global climate change caused problems are acute, the discussion of the Aral topic at the 4th consultative meeting of the heads of Central Asian states was also relevant.

Unfortunately, the ecological catastrophe of the drying up of the Aral Sea, which the Central Asian countries inherited from the Soviet Union since the 1960s, continues to this day. Many other factors have a negative impact on the health and well-being of people in the region, including those related to desertification, changes in river cycles and global climate change.

Although the Aral Sea problem is located on the territory of Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan, it causes environmental damage to other countries of the region and even remote corners of the world. For this reason, neighboring countries, as well as the United Nations, conduct various studies on the improvement of the reservoir. International experts note the need for a constant open dialogue between the countries of the basin, the search for mutually acceptable solutions, mutual consideration of interests, and urge neighbors in the region to take joint action on the environmental problem of the Aral Sea.

The regional countries have set up two organizations to promote dialogue. One of them is the Central Asian Interstate Coordinating Water Management Commission (ICWC), established in 1992. This group celebrated its 30th anniversary at a meeting held in Turkestan, Kazakhstan, on 26 April 2022.

How to save the Aral Sea?

Secondly, in 1993 Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan jointly established the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea (IFAS). In March next year, the 30th anniversary of this Fund, which serves as a platform to solve common water management, environmental and socio-economic problems, will also be celebrated.

However, it is not without incidents from time to time. For example, Kyrgyzstan has decided to "freeze" its participation in the work of IFAS since 2016. However, it is pleasing that recently the "ice" has begun to melt. Since last year, official representatives of relevant ministries and departments of the Kyrgyz Republic have been actively participating in the activities of the Working Group on Improving the Organizational Structure and Regulatory Framework of IFAS and present official positions and recommendations of the country. It would be useful to move forward and have Bishkek take the next chairmanship of the Fund and coordinate the transformation process.

Another problem that environmentalists focus on for the Central Asian region is violations of international water law. All Central Asian countries have agreed to abide by the approved plans and established principles of water distribution, which more or less maintain the water balance of rivers and lakes. Despite this, some countries of the Syr Darya River basin continue to build new hydroelectric power plants independently without coordination.

This has a negative impact on efforts to save the Aral Sea. Because the water in the Northern Aral or the Small Aral comes only from the Syr Darya.

In addition, natural or man-made pollution, destruction or accidents at reservoirs in the upper and middle reaches of the Syr Darya directly affect the lower reaches. This creates an imminent threat of flooding or destruction for settlements and agricultural land in these areas.

In conclusion, it can be said that preventing major environmental problems and other disasters related to the Aral Sea is linked to the close cooperation of the countries of the region in this regard. Solving this problem requires coordination of joint actions and strict adherence to the strategic plans. Of course, this is the most necessary thing to save the Aral Sea. The fact that this issue was raised during the 4th Consultative Meeting of the Heads of Central Asian States is encouraging. /// Önce Vatan Gazetesi, July 29, 2022.

Load-Date: August 3, 2022



<u>Turkmenistan: Press Release of the Conference on the Rational Use of</u> Water Resources

TendersInfo

June 23, 2023 Friday

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Length: 450 words

Body

On June 20, 2023, the international conference Financial and investment support of <u>water</u> resources rational use measures was held in Ashgabat in a hybrid mode.

The forum was attended by the Deputy Heads of the relevant departments of Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, the UN Resident Coordinator in Turkmenistan, the Director of the Austrian Multi-Country Office, the UN Office for Project Services, the Coordinator of the UNECE national <u>water</u> dialogues, the Chairman of the Executive Committee of the International Fund for Saving the <u>Aral</u> Sea, the Director of Scientific - Information Center of the Interstate <u>Commission</u> for <u>Water</u> Coordination, Executive Director of the Regional Environmental Center for Central Asia, Director of the Scientific Information Center of the Interstate <u>Commission</u> for Sustainable Development, representatives of the German Agency for International <u>Cooperation</u> (GIZ), scientists and experts in the field of <u>water</u> resources and climate change.

Within the framework of the conference, the participants of the event exchanged views on the problems of rational use of water resources, including the issues of financing the water sector of Central Asia for the purpose of efficient water use in the context of climate change, investment support for coordinating interaction on water and energy in the region, as well as environmental, social and economic aspects of integrated water resources management.

Special attention was paid to the issues of regional cooperation for the implementation of the ESCAP resolution "Consideration of the conditions for the creation of a special United Nations program for the Aral Sea basin", as well as the interaction of countries in the field of cooperation on adaptation to climate change in Central Asia, including the preparation of a joint strategy on water resources management taking into account climatic factors.

The introduction of methods for the rational use of water resources and a comprehensive analysis to determine their correct application in order to meet the growing demand for water resources, especially in the face of climate change, is one of the urgent problems for the Central Asian region. In this context, the current conference was the first step towards the possibility of establishing an exchange of experience and knowledge on a regional basis, and

Turkmenistan: Press Release of the Conference on the Rational Use of Water Resources

served as a platform for the development of common opinions on a wide range of issues of financing activities aimed at rational water use.

As a result of the discussions, the possibilities of financing targeted projects and programs in the field of efficient water use were considered.

Based on the results of the conference, the Final Communiqu was adopted.

Load-Date: June 24, 2023



Uzbekistan about to develop a National Water Conservation Program

Trend News Agency - Central Asia (English)
September 15, 2023 Friday 6:00 PM GMT +4

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Section: UZBEKISTAN

Length: 372 words

Body

TASHKENT, Uzbekistan, September 15. Uzbekistan expressed its readiness to develop a National <u>Water</u> Conservation Program as part of the Development Strategy being implemented in Uzbekistan, Trend reports.

The <u>statement</u> was made by President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev at a meeting of the Council of Heads of the Founder States of the International Fund for Saving the <u>Aral</u> Sea in Tajikistan's Dushanbe on September 15. The president noted that the International Fund for Saving the <u>Aral</u> Sea is, first of all, a unique experience of the multilateral <u>cooperation</u> of the Central Asian countries in solving one of the most acute problems on a global scale.

"I would like to note that large-scale work is currently being carried out in Uzbekistan to improve the environmental and social situation in the Aral Sea region. Based on the resolution of the United Nations General Assembly on the declaration of the Aral Sea region as a zone of environmental innovations and technologies, an Action Plan and a Program of measures for sustainable socio-economic development, employment, and improving the standard of living of the population are being implemented," the president elaborated.

The President of Uzbekistan called upon other Central Asian countries to strengthen cooperation in the field of water conservation by identifying it as one of the priorities of the fund's activities.

In the last few years, forest plantations have been carried out on the dried-up bottom of the Aral Sea on an area of 1.7 million hectares. It is planned to create protective green lanes on another 400,000 hectares in the next two years. Natural parks, nature reserves, and state reserves were created on an area of more than 3.5 million hectares to mitigate the consequences of the Aral Sea disaster as well as preserve biodiversity in the region. As of today, the total area of protected natural territories in the Aral Sea region amounts to 4.6 million hectares.

In addition, Uzbekistan is implementing full-scale measures to improve the efficiency of water use in the country. Over the past 7 years, water-saving technologies have been implemented on an area of more than 1 million hectares, which is about a quarter of all irrigated land in the country.

Load-Date: September 15, 2023



Closing Arguments: Water Wars, Election Sideshow

Energy Compass May 7, 2021

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Section: FEATURE STORIES

Length: 982 words

Body

Central Asia-Mideast: Water Wars

A <u>dispute</u> over the fair and equitable distribution of <u>water</u> has led to an outbreak of <u>fighting</u> between Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan that has left at least 40 people dead, more than 150 injured, and displaced tens of thousands from their homes. While the instant trigger to the late April <u>conflict</u> was the attempt by Tajikistan to install a surveillance camera to monitor <u>water</u> distribution along the <u>Naryn River</u>, the flare-up over access to diminishing <u>water</u> resources is a sign of the wider <u>water wars</u> to come. The ongoing crisis between Egypt and Ethiopia over the Nile <u>River</u>, and a developing crisis between Turkey, Syria and Iraq over the <u>waters</u> of the Euphrates <u>River</u>, underscore the role <u>water</u> plays in defining geopolitical tension.

Both Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan use the water resources of the Naryn River to operate hydroelectric plants that serve as their primary source of electricity, and to irrigate crops. Exacerbating the situation is the fact that more than two-thirds of the meandering 1,000 mile border that separates Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan is disputed. Issues that were not a factor during Soviet times, such as water allocation and pastoral access, are now front and center as farmers and herdsmen vie to retain access to water and land. Steps to resolve the border dispute may add clarity in terms of property rights, but the issue over water access will continue to drive the crisis.

The Tajikistan-Kyrgyzstan conflict is just one aspect of the Naryn River water dispute. Down river, both Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan depend on the waters of the Naryn, which feed into the Syr-Darya River, for irrigating cotton fields essential to their respective economies. Any new construction of hydroelectric power plants or diversion of water for agricultural use farther upstream will deprive both Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan of what they believe to be their fair share of the Syr-Darya water resource.

The crisis of the distribution and usage of Central Asian water resources is echoed in the Middle East. Drought conditions in Turkey have led to accusations that Ankara is hoarding water to meet its hydroelectric and agricultural needs, severely reducing downstream flows into both Syria and Iraq. Syrian Kurds are accusing the Turks of deliberately cutting off water as a means of political leverage, while Turkish authorities likewise claim Kurds are exploiting the shortage for their own political purposes. Political crossfire aside, the severe water shortage in downstream communities has disrupted access to drinking water and water for agriculture during the critical planting season. While the water crisis in the region has not yet triggered violence, its potential to do so is real --especially if the water shortage continues unabated and the livelihood, and lives, of millions of Syrians and Iraqis are placed at risk.

Syria: Elections No End to Crisis

Closing Arguments: Water Wars, Election Sideshow

No surprise outcome awaits Syria's presidential election on May 26. President Bashar al-Assad is widely expected to extend his tenure in office by another seven years to 2028. The question is to what extent al-Assad's victory will close the door on any chance of a political reconciliation with the Syrian opposition, and guarantee that the US and EU's economic sanctions on Syria will remain in place, hampering any effort at post-conflict reconstruction. The May 26 poll has already been condemned by the Turkish-backed Syrian opposition as a farce, while US Ambassador to the UN Linda Thomas-Greenfield said in March that elections "will not legitimize the Assad regime."

While the concept of a political solution had dominated the language of diplomacy since the start of the Syrian crisis in 2011, the reality is that the military solution was the go-to option for all parties involved. The name of the game was regime change, and the Syrian government was in a fight for its very existence against an opposition that was for the most part armed, trained, and funded by foreign powers. Only the military intervention on the part of Russia in 2015 prevented the collapse and defeat of the Syrian government. The Russians, aided by contingents from Hezbollah and Iran, were able to reverse the tide of battle, so much so that the continued survival of the al-Assad government is no longer in doubt.

But because so much emphasis had been placed on the notion of a post-al-Assad reality, UN-sponsored Geneva peace talks never were able to gain any serious traction, predicated as they were on the removal of the Syrian president from the political scene. Likewise, the Russian-sponsored Astana process, which was founded on the continued political viability of al-Assad, was never fully embraced by the anti-al-Assad coalition. And while all parties agreed that elections were the ideal vehicle for achieving a stable post-conflict government for Syria, the military defeat of the anti-al-Assad movement stripped it of any domestic political viability.

Syria's political future will be defined by a government led by al-Assad as the opposition fades. However, this will not guarantee a peaceful and prosperous future for the Syrian people. Instead, Syria will remain at the center of a geopolitical maelstrom, where outside powers use their presence on Syrian soil as a means of achieving regional influence. Israel will push back on Iran's military presence in Syria, and Turkey will pursue an Ottoman revival in Aleppo while seeking to undermine Kurds in Syria's northeast. As for the great powers, Russia will use Syria as its gateway to the Mediterranean, while the US leverages the Kurds as a vehicle for force projection in the region. In short, the Syrian conflict has entered a new phase, where regime change has been replaced by military posturing, with neighboring and extra-regional actors all seeking to impose their will on a country whose government is no longer in doubt.

Load-Date: June 8, 2021



<u>Turkmenistan : Press Release of the Conference on the Rational Use of</u> Water Resources

Mena Report

June 23, 2023 Friday

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Length: 450 words

Body

On June 20, 2023, the international conference Financial and investment support of <u>water</u> resources rational use measures was held in Ashgabat in a hybrid mode.

The forum was attended by the Deputy Heads of the relevant departments of Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, the UN Resident Coordinator in Turkmenistan, the Director of the Austrian Multi-Country Office, the UN Office for Project Services, the Coordinator of the UNECE national <u>water</u> dialogues, the Chairman of the Executive Committee of the International Fund for Saving the <u>Aral</u> Sea, the Director of Scientific - Information Center of the Interstate <u>Commission</u> for <u>Water</u> Coordination, Executive Director of the Regional Environmental Center for Central Asia, Director of the Scientific Information Center of the Interstate <u>Commission</u> for Sustainable Development, representatives of the German Agency for International <u>Cooperation</u> (GIZ), scientists and experts in the field of <u>water</u> resources and climate change.

Within the framework of the conference, the participants of the event exchanged views on the problems of rational use of water resources, including the issues of financing the water sector of Central Asia for the purpose of efficient water use in the context of climate change, investment support for coordinating interaction on water and energy in the region, as well as environmental, social and economic aspects of integrated water resources management.

Special attention was paid to the issues of regional cooperation for the implementation of the ESCAP resolution "Consideration of the conditions for the creation of a special United Nations program for the Aral Sea basin", as well as the interaction of countries in the field of cooperation on adaptation to climate change in Central Asia, including the preparation of a joint strategy on water resources management taking into account climatic factors.

The introduction of methods for the rational use of water resources and a comprehensive analysis to determine their correct application in order to meet the growing demand for water resources, especially in the face of climate change, is one of the urgent problems for the Central Asian region. In this context, the current conference was the first step towards the possibility of establishing an exchange of experience and knowledge on a regional basis, and served as a platform for the development of common opinions on a wide range of issues of financing activities aimed at rational water use.

As a result of the discussions, the possibilities of financing targeted projects and programs in the field of efficient water use were considered.

Based on the results of the conference, the Final Communiqu was adopted.

Turkmenistan: Press Release of the Conference on the Rational Use of Water Resources

Load-Date: June 23, 2023



Uzbekistan about to develop a National Water Conservation Program

Regional Finance (English)

September 30, 2023 12:00 PM GMT +4

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Length: 366 words

Body

Uzbekistan expressed its readiness to develop a National <u>Water</u> Conservation Program as part of the Development Strategy being implemented in Uzbekistan, <u>Trend</u> reports.

The <u>statement</u> was made by President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev at a meeting of the Council of Heads of the Founder States of the International Fund for Saving the <u>Aral</u> Sea in Tajikistan's Dushanbe on September 15. The president noted that the International Fund for Saving the <u>Aral</u> Sea is, first of all, a unique experience of the multilateral <u>cooperation</u> of the Central Asian countries in solving one of the most acute problems on a global scale.

"I would like to note that large-scale work is currently being carried out in Uzbekistan to improve the environmental and social situation in the Aral Sea region. Based on the resolution of the United Nations General Assembly on the declaration of the Aral Sea region as a zone of environmental innovations and technologies, an Action Plan and a Program of measures for sustainable socio-economic development, employment, and improving the standard of living of the population are being implemented," the president elaborated.

The President of Uzbekistan called upon other Central Asian countries to strengthen cooperation in the field of water conservation by identifying it as one of the priorities of the fund's activities.

In the last few years, forest plantations have been carried out on the dried-up bottom of the Aral Sea on an area of 1.7 million hectares. It is planned to create protective green lanes on another 400,000 hectares in the next two years. Natural parks, nature reserves, and state reserves were created on an area of more than 3.5 million hectares to mitigate the consequences of the Aral Sea disaster as well as preserve biodiversity in the region. As of today, the total area of protected natural territories in the Aral Sea region amounts to 4.6 million hectares.

In addition, Uzbekistan is implementing full-scale measures to improve the efficiency of water use in the country. Over the past 7 years, water-saving technologies have been implemented on an area of more than 1 million hectares, which is about a quarter of all irrigated land in the country.

Load-Date: October 14, 2023



Sustainable Water Supply for Central Asia

News Central Asia September 3, 2021 Friday

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Length: 843 words

Body

Kazakhstan is taking all necessary measures to organize sustainable <u>water</u> supply in the <u>Aral</u>-Syrdarya basin. The choice of the optimal <u>water</u> strategy in the transboundary basin of the <u>Syr Darya</u> should be linked to the adoption of interstate <u>agreements</u> and mechanisms for the integrated management of <u>water</u> resources in the transboundary basin of the <u>Aral</u> Sea.

"For a fair regulation of <u>water</u> allocation in Central Asia, it is important to implement the initiatives of Elbasy Nursultan Nazarbayev, voiced at the summit of the heads of the founding states of IFAS (August 24, 2018 in the city of Turkmenbashi) on improving the organizational structure and legal framework of IFAS, automation of management systems, distribution, accounting and monitoring of <u>water</u> resources in the <u>Aral</u> Sea basin, "says Natalya Chemaeva, representative of the <u>Lake</u> Baikal environmental fund.

During the "round table" on the topic: "Problems of distribution of water resources of the Syrdarya river in Central Asia", held on the platform for discussions on water resources WaterCafè-Central Asia (Delft, Netherlands), options for resolving water supply issues in the region were discussed.

It should be noted that the creation of this group on Facebook is an initiative of the youth of Central Asia – those who work, study, create and act so that our future is not clouded by problems related to water. In general, the platform has become a continuation of the initiative of representatives of the non-governmental organization "World Youth Parliament for Water" (WYPW) to resolve water problems in the region as soon as possible.

The new WaterCafé platform aims to support a group of young water workers from Central Asia and Afghanistan in obtaining and exchanging information on water policy in the region.

First of all, it should be noted that the Action Plan towards sustainable provision of Kazakhstan with water resources was set by the First President – Elbasy Nursultan Nazarbayev in the Strategy "Kazakhstan-2050".

The leader of the nation very clearly outlined the main stages of practical action: by 2040 to solve the issues of irrigation of lands in agriculture, and by 2050 – to close the problems of water supply in all spheres of life.

New technologies will more than double the productivity of water use.

Sustainable Water Supply for Central Asia

Currently, in the transboundary Aral-Syrdarya basin, Kazakhstan is considering the possibility of implementing a fundamentally new scheme of independent cascade regulation of river flow in the Kazakh part of the basin.

The new scheme presupposes an independent solution by Kazakhstan of two interrelated problems: ensuring socio-economic and environmental security exposed to floods in winter, and sustainable water supply to the population and agriculture during critical periods of low water.

A fundamental solution to these problems in the context of a change in the design irrigation regime of the Naryn-Syrdarya cascade of reservoirs can be a deep regulation of the river flow within the Kazakh part of the basin by creating additional regulating tanks. The creation of seasonal regulating tanks can ensure the transition of the Shardara reservoir to a more efficient long-term regulation of river flow.

The need for sustainable water supply to the natural and economic system of the Aral-Syrdarya basin was emphasized by the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan Kassym-Jomart Tokayev.

"The Central Asian states continue to adhere to strategies to minimize dependence on their neighbors. And even a significant improvement in the political atmosphere in the region cannot yet affect the development of the situation. The upstream countries are aimed at achieving energy self-sufficiency, and the downstream countries are aimed at creating "balancing" reservoirs in order to reduce dependence on the discharge regime of dams upstream," says Zarina Ruzmatova, lead project manager of the international organization "Natural Water Retention Measures", which aims to build capacity for better water resources management.

According to the said organization, Kazakhstan annually experiences a shortage of water in the Aral basin during the growing season. One-time interstate agreements on additional water discharges do not solve this problem, but only postpone it to the next year, since the worked hydraulic structures in the upper reaches of the Syr Darya river basin will accumulate water in the non-growing season 2021-2022, ensuring its releases at the minimum threshold and in the next year, there will be another shortage of water.

The participants of the "round table" expressed their gratitude to the WaterCafè administration and supported the idea of organizing such events on a regular basis to exchange expert opinions and bring to the public and political circles the problematic aspects of the water industry in the Central Asian region.

In general, it is gratifying to observe that the youth of the countries of the region are concerned about such global problems and offer their own options for solving difficult issues. /// Avesta.Tj, 20 August 2021

Load-Date: September 4, 2021



Uzbekistan about to develop a National Water Conservation Program

Central Asia Economic Outlook (English)
September 30, 2023 12:00 PM GMT +4

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Length: 366 words

Body

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"I would like to note that large-scale work is currently being carried out in Uzbekistan to improve the environmental and social situation in the Aral Sea region. Based on the resolution of the United Nations General Assembly on the declaration of the Aral Sea region as a zone of environmental innovations and technologies, an Action Plan and a Program of measures for sustainable socio-economic development, employment, and improving the standard of living of the population are being implemented," the president elaborated.

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In addition, Uzbekistan is implementing full-scale measures to improve the efficiency of water use in the country. Over the past 7 years, water-saving technologies have been implemented on an area of more than 1 million hectares, which is about a quarter of all irrigated land in the country.

Load-Date: October 14, 2023



Uzbekistan About To Develop A National Water Conservation Program

MENAFN - Business & Finance News (English)

September 15, 2023 Friday

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Length: 378 words

Body

Link to Image

Link to Story

TASHKENT, Uzbekistan, September 15. Uzbekistanexpressed its readiness to develop a National <u>Water</u> ConservationProgram as part of the Development Strategy being implemented inUzbekistan, Trend reports. The <u>statement</u> was made by President of Uzbekistan ShavkatMirziyoyev at a meeting of the Council of Heads of the FounderStates of the International Fund for Saving the <u>Aral</u> Sea inTajikistan's Dushanbe on September 15. The president noted that theInternational Fund for Saving the <u>Aral</u> Sea is, first of all, aunique experience of the multilateral <u>cooperation</u> of the CentralAsian countries in solving one of the most acute problems on aglobal scale.

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Uzbekistan About To Develop A National Water Conservation Program

MENAFN15092023000187011040ID1107077274

Load-Date: September 15, 2023



<u>Projects and issues of rational use of water in the Aral Sea region were</u> discussed with the heads of UN institutions

UzDaily (English)

July 20, 2023 Thursday 6:40 PM GMT

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Length: 313 words

Dateline: Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com)

Body

Meetings of the delegation headed by the Minister of Economy and Finance of the Republic of Uzbekistan Sherzod Kudbiev with partners continued in New York. Members of the delegation met with the heads of the institutions of the organization in the framework of the high-level political forum of the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). With the Executive Secretary of the UN Economic <u>Commission</u> for Europe (ECE) Olga Algaerova, issues of <u>cooperation</u> with the EEC on the rational use of <u>water</u> resources in the Central Asian region, the use of modern technologies in its monitoring were discussed. The head of the EEC noted that at present, within the framework of the UN, there are instruments aimed at solving the <u>water</u> problem, and they have passed a 30-year test.

As a result of the meeting, an agreement was reached on the implementation of new public-private partnership projects in the field of rational use of water resources. At a meeting with Assistant Administrator of the UN Development Program - Director of the Regional Bureau for Europe and the CIS Ivana Zivkovic, the importance of developing proposals to increase the number of technical and financial projects aimed at combating climate change, improving the social protection of the indigenous population in the Aral Sea region was noted. In addition, an agreement was reached on cooperation with UNDP in the issuance of 2 bonds for the sustainable development of Uzbekistan. On 12 June, a meeting was held between the Minister of Economy and Finance of the Republic of Uzbekistan Sherzod Kudbiev and a delegation of UNDP officials headed by Ivana Zivkovic, who visited our country. It reviewed ongoing work to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, poverty reduction and rural development, the Initiative Budget project and its importance in encouraging people to be active, social and environmental.

Load-Date: August 15, 2023



Uzbekistan about to develop a National Water Conservation Program

Trend Daily News (Azerbaijan)

September 15, 2023 Friday 6:20 PM GMT +4

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Section: UZBEKISTAN

Length: 372 words

Body

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Load-Date: September 15, 2023



<u>Turkmenistan : Press Release of the Conference on the Rational Use of</u> Water Resources

Mena Report

June 27, 2023 Tuesday

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Length: 450 words

Body

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Within the framework of the conference, the participants of the event exchanged views on the problems of rational use of water resources, including the issues of financing the water sector of Central Asia for the purpose of efficient water use in the context of climate change, investment support for coordinating interaction on water and energy in the region, as well as environmental, social and economic aspects of integrated water resources management.

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Based on the results of the conference, the Final Communiqu was adopted.

Turkmenistan: Press Release of the Conference on the Rational Use of Water Resources

Load-Date: June 27, 2023



<u>Afghanistan from Negative Hydro-hegemonic role to positive hydro-hegemonic configuration in managing Shared Helmand River Basin</u>

Global English (Middle East and North Africa Financial Network)

April 25, 2020 Saturday

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Length: 1260 words

Body

Link to Image

Link to Story

By NAJIBULLAH LOODIN The neighboring countries except China are highly dependent on <u>water</u> resources which originates in the high mountains of Afghanistan (Shroder & Ahmadzai, 2016). According to Thomas and Varzi (2015), ninety percent of the surface <u>water</u> flowing through Afghanistan is transboundary <u>water</u>. Four out of five major <u>river</u> basins in Afghanistan (Helmand, Harirud-Murghab, <u>Amu Darya</u>, and Kabul-Indus) are shared with neighboring countries. With the length of approximately 1300 kilometers, Helmand <u>River</u> Basin, which constitutes more than 40% of the surface <u>water</u>, is shared between Iran and Afghanistan (Shroder & Ahamdzai, 2016; Aman, 2016). <u>Dispute</u> over <u>water</u> allocation between Iran and Afghanistan dates back to the 1870s, when Afghanistan was ruled by the British Empire. A British officer drew the Afghan-Iran border line along the main <u>channel</u> of Helmand <u>River</u>. In 1939, the king of Iran, Reza Shah Pahlavi, and Zahir Shah, the king of Afghanistan signed an <u>agreement</u> on sharing the Helmand <u>River</u>'s <u>water</u>, but it was not ratified by Afghan government.

A decade later, in 1948, with the mediation of USA a trilateral committee was formed to assess the water rights of the two riparian countries of Helmand River Basin. On February, 1951, the Helmand River Delta Commission (HRDC) presented its findings. According to the commission, Iran's water right from Helmand River Basin was amounted to be 22 cubic meters per second (Aman, 2016; Thomas & Varzi, 2015; Report of the Helmand River Delta Commission [RHRDC], 1951). However, the report of HRDC was rejected by Iran and instead asked for more water share from Helmand River Basin. Afghanistan, on the other side, suggested to provide extra 4 cubic meters of water per second to Iran provided that Iran allows Afghanistan to get access to the Bandar Abbas and Chabahar ports. In 1973, the transboundary water sharing agreement was signed by the Prime Minister of Afghanistan, Mohammad Musa Shafiq and his counterpart, Mir Abbas Hoveida, the Prime Minister of Iran (Aman, 2016; Goes et al., 2015; Shroder & Ahmadzai, 2016; Thomas & Varzi, 2015). The forty-year devastating civil war (1979 onward) has destroyed the water infrastructures in Afghanistan. Shroder and Ahmadzai (2016) contend that during forty years of war and instability, Afghanistan has lost tremendous opportunities whilst its neighboring countries took advantages from Afghanistan's long term instability by constructing hydro-power dams and irrigation structures. None of the neighboring countries consulted with Afghanistan regarding the construction of water infrastructural

projects within their countries. After the invasion of Afghanistan by US-led NATO forces late 2001, the Afghan government restructured its political presence in both regional and international arenas. As a 'late developer' the government of Afghanistan- Hamid Karzai (2001-2014), and Ashraf Ghani (2014-Present) - is committed to building up twenty one dams across the country (Aman, 2016). The purpose of constructing dams across the country is to irrigate agricultural lands, generate hydro-electricity and to control massive flooding. Constructing dams in the upstream state will severely affect the water availability in the downstream state. Meanwhile, the government of Afghanistan started the 'third phase' of Kamal Khan Dam on the lower Helmand River in Nimroz province. Afghan economic analysts believe that the completion of Kamal Khan Dam will play a significant role in the drought-struck southwest of the country (Tolo News, May 30, 2018). The construction of Kamal Khan Dam has been criticized by the Iranian officials. For example, in October 2015, Mohammad Jawad Zarif, the Foreign Minister of Islamic Republic of Iran, stated that Kamal Khan Dam will intensely affect Iran's water share (26 cubic meters per second). However, Zarif's statement was rejected by officials in Ministry of Energy and Water of Afghanistan. Basir Azimi, spokesman to the Ministry of Energy and Water of Afghanistan contends that the completion of the 'third phase' of the Kamal Khan Dam will solve Afghan-Iran water dispute. He further added that the completion of Kamal Khan Dam will be a win-win game where Iran will gain its water sharing rights and Afghanistan will manage its water resources (cited in Aman, 2016). Thomas and Varzi (2015) found out that the ongoing dam construction projects in the upstream of Helmand River Basin has deteriorated the ecosystem of the hamouns (lakes) within Afghanistan and Iran. Currently there are three Hamouns within Helmand River Basin. Hamoun-e- Puzak located within Afghanistan territory where Hamoun-e Saberi and Hamoun-e- Hirmand are situated in the downstream Iran. The destructive floods in 1989 and 1993 and the climate change induced drought in 2000 and 2005 have turned the hamouns into deserts. For nearly 55% of the rural population in Seistan-Baluchistan Province of Iran who deeply rely on agriculture, wetlands (hamouns) were the main source of freshwater for their livelihood (Shirdeli, 2014). The disappearance of hamouns has created unemployment forcing people to leave 124 villages in Seistan Baluchistan province (Thomas & Varzi, 2015). On the other side, the military presence of US-led NATO forces in Afghanistan along with the constraints in foreign policy of Iran has pushed Afghanistan to unilaterally maintain control over water by constructing Kajaki, Kamal Khan and Bakhshabad Dams in the upstream of Helmand River Basin. Iranian officials continuously blame Afghan government for politicizing water resources while the Afghan officials rejecting that (Aman, 2016). Thomas and Warner (2015) argue that, as an upstream state, Afghanistan plays a hydro-hegemonic role in both Helmand and Harirud-Murghab River Basins. They argue that Afghanistan plays a negative/dominative hydro-hegemonic role by taking control over water in the upstream of Helmand River Basin resulting in not allocating Iran's water share (see also, Zeitoun & Warner, 2006). On the other hand, according to Shroder and Ahmadzai (2016), the government of Afghanistan has banned any ministry to discuss over transboundary water management. Discussion on transboundary water of Afghanistan can be held upon approval by the National Security Council which is chaired by the president of Afghanistan. Lack of capacity building in hydro-cognizant, high regional asymmetrical power relations, distrust and lack of political will have prevented the Afghan government from discussing transboundary water management with tis neighboring states. In a highly politicized river basin where Iran threatens to expel more than three million refugees from Iran while, as a counteraction, the Afghan government uses water as a tool to pressures Iran to treat Afghans in humanistic way, both of the countries should work on strategies to de-escalate the tension between riparian states through the lens of social-constructivism. The author of this paper believes that developing regional cooperative mechanisms for mitigation of transboundary water conflict in Helmand River Basin is only possible through engaging all stakeholders specifically the public. To sum up, 'strengthening policy and regulation, supporting long-term national and regional programs, evaluating basin-wide development alternatives and broadening areas of interaction and joint interest' will help strengthen the transboundary water cooperation between Iran and Afghanistan. MENAFN2504202001690000ID1100082282

Load-Date: April 26, 2020



BBCM Central Asia Watchlist for 22 June

BBC Monitoring Central Asia Unit Supplied by BBC Worldwide Monitoring June 22, 2023 Thursday

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Length: 662 words

Body

Stories being covered today by Monitoring from Central Asian broadcast, press and social media sources.

Uzbekistan 'to help' Taliban on controversial *canal* project

Uzbek Minister of <u>Water</u> Resources Shavkat Hamroyev has said Tashkent will help the Taliban implement a controversial <u>canal</u> project in the north of Afghanistan, privately-owned news website Gazeta.uz reported last night. This was the first comment by an Uzbek official on the Qosh Tepa <u>canal</u> project that the Taliban began to build in March 2022 and is supposed to divert <u>water</u> from the <u>Amu Darya River</u>. There have been concerns that the completion of the project will leave southern Uzbek regions without <u>irrigation</u> <u>water</u> and could lead to increase in cross-border violence.

According to Hamroyev, this is one of the issues that concern Uzbek President Shavkat Mirziyoyev most. The Uzbek government understands Afghanistan's right to use "a certain amount of <u>water</u>" and is in talks with Kabul to define that amount and make it "a <u>canal</u> of friendship, not <u>war</u>", the Uzbek minister was quoted as saying. He added that the issue fell out of the jurisdiction of the UN <u>Water</u> Convention and could be <u>settled</u> through bilateral <u>agreements</u>. He also defended the Uzbek government's "friendly dialogue" with the Taliban as "the most correct and effective way".

Kazakhstan confirms hosting final round of Syria talks

The Kazakh Foreign Ministry yesterday confirmed that Kazakhstan will no longer host peace talks on Syria, saying that the Astana format had "fully" achieved its goals, including "the creation of de-escalation zones, an end to bloodshed between the conflicting sides and a reduction in human casualties". Citing Syria's improving relations with other countries in the Middle East and Turkey, the Kazakh ministry added: "In this context, Syria's gradual emergence from isolation in the region could well be formulated as a sign that the Astana peace process has honourably fulfilled its task."

BBCM Central Asia Watchlist for 22 June

The Russian president's special envoy on Syria, Alexander Lavrentyev, however, said the Astana format of the talks would continue outside Kazakhstan.

Kazakh, Uzbek gas supplies to China drop amid domestic demand

Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan significantly reduced natural gas supplies to China in the first five months of 2023 amid rising domestic demand, Moscow-based news website Fergana.agency reported yesterday."Uzbek gas exports to China fell by 60.71% to \$118.63 million, and Kazakh gas exports fell by 25.4% to \$300.13 million," the report said, citing China's customs service. It noted that the reduction in gas supplies was given only in monetary terms, without specifying the physical volume.

Uzbekistan has sharply reduced its gas sales abroad in recent years due to increased domestic demand and was now increasing its gas imports to make up the shortfall. On 16 June it signed a two-year contract with Gazprom to import 2.8 billion cubic metres of gas a year, the report said. Kazakhstan has also cut exports for a similar reason. Gas consumption is expected to grow by 7% a year as many parts of the country instal gas facilities, and large industrial plants also prefer gas to coal as part of efforts to reduce carbon dioxide emissions, it added.

Russia's anti-war music band to perform in Kazakhstan

Bi-2, a popular Russian music band known for its strong anti-war stance, has been given the go-ahead to perform a charity concert in Kazakhstan's eastern town of Semey, which was recently under a state of emergency over massive wildfires, media reports said. The local authorities had initially planned to postpone the event due to the deaths of 15 forestry workers in the fires but changed their decision after public outcry. Meanwhile, a concert of Russian singer Grigory Leps, who openly supports the invasion of Ukraine, was cancelled due to "strong negative reaction" in Kazakhstan.

For more, see Briefing: Anti-war Russian band's concert given go-ahead in Kazakhstan

Source: Central Asian media 22 Jun 23

Load-Date: June 22, 2023



<u>Turkmenistan: Press Release of the Conference on the Rational Use of</u> Water Resources

TendersInfo

June 27, 2023 Tuesday

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Length: 450 words

Body

On June 20, 2023, the international conference Financial and investment support of <u>water</u> resources rational use measures was held in Ashgabat in a hybrid mode.

The forum was attended by the Deputy Heads of the relevant departments of Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, the UN Resident Coordinator in Turkmenistan, the Director of the Austrian Multi-Country Office, the UN Office for Project Services, the Coordinator of the UNECE national <u>water</u> dialogues, the Chairman of the Executive Committee of the International Fund for Saving the <u>Aral</u> Sea, the Director of Scientific - Information Center of the Interstate <u>Commission</u> for <u>Water</u> Coordination, Executive Director of the Regional Environmental Center for Central Asia, Director of the Scientific Information Center of the Interstate <u>Commission</u> for Sustainable Development, representatives of the German Agency for International <u>Cooperation</u> (GIZ), scientists and experts in the field of <u>water</u> resources and climate change.

Within the framework of the conference, the participants of the event exchanged views on the problems of rational use of water resources, including the issues of financing the water sector of Central Asia for the purpose of efficient water use in the context of climate change, investment support for coordinating interaction on water and energy in the region, as well as environmental, social and economic aspects of integrated water resources management.

Special attention was paid to the issues of regional cooperation for the implementation of the ESCAP resolution "Consideration of the conditions for the creation of a special United Nations program for the Aral Sea basin", as well as the interaction of countries in the field of cooperation on adaptation to climate change in Central Asia, including the preparation of a joint strategy on water resources management taking into account climatic factors.

The introduction of methods for the rational use of water resources and a comprehensive analysis to determine their correct application in order to meet the growing demand for water resources, especially in the face of climate change, is one of the urgent problems for the Central Asian region. In this context, the current conference was the first step towards the possibility of establishing an exchange of experience and knowledge on a regional basis, and

Turkmenistan: Press Release of the Conference on the Rational Use of Water Resources

served as a platform for the development of common opinions on a wide range of issues of financing activities aimed at rational water use.

As a result of the discussions, the possibilities of financing targeted projects and programs in the field of efficient water use were considered.

Based on the results of the conference, the Final Communiqu was adopted.

Load-Date: June 28, 2023



Kazakhstan ready to exert every effort to bring IFAS activity to a brand-new level - Tokayev

Kazakhstan Government News September 15, 2023 Friday 5:08 PM EST

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SeeNews

Length: 339 words **Byline:** SeeNews

Body

Sep 15, 2023

Active engagement of all founding members of the International Fund for Saving the <u>Aral</u> Sea will promote successful <u>settlement</u> of <u>water</u> problems and further deepening of the regional integration. President of Kazakhstan Kassym-Jomart Tokayev said it taking the floor at the meeting of the Council of the Heads of State founders of the IFAS held in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, Kazinform reports via Akorda.

«Today's summit proves that close cooperation, mutually beneficial partnership and respect for each other's interests can ensure stable development, security, economic self-sufficiency of our region. I am confident that our meeting will enable us to take timely and consolidated decisions which will promote further strengthening of the regional cooperation in water sphere,» said Kassym-Jomart Tokayev.

The Kazakh leader proposed to hold the next highest-level meeting in Kazakhstan in 2026 combining it with the Regional Climate Summit under the UN auspices initiated by him.

«I would like to confirm Kazakhstan's readiness to exert every effort to bring the IFAS activity to a brand-new level. I am sure that active engagement of all founding members of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea will promote successful settlement of water problems and further deepening of the regional integration,» the President concluded.

President of Tajikistan Emomali Rahmon, President of Turkmenistan Serdar Berdimuhamedov, President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev, and First Deputy Chairman of the Kyrgyz Cabinet of Ministers Adylbek Kasymaliyev took part in the meeting.

* * * * *

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Load-Date: September 15, 2023



Kazakhstan moves to ease water conflict in Central Asia

Kazakhstan Newsline (English) September 3, 2021 Friday

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Section: Kazakhstan General; Pg. 15

Length: 1107 words

Body

An early August meeting of Central Asian heads of state in <u>Turkmenistan</u> addressed issues such as the COVID-19 pandemic and regional consequences of renewed Taliban control of Afghanistan. Additionally, there was one interesting proposal that is quite relevant to the challenges that the region faces today: Kazakhstani President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev proposed the creation of a vice ministerial-level working group and a regional consortium with the goal of promoting regional **cooperation** to protect precious **water** resources.

Central Asia has a complicated relationship with <u>water</u> - a legacy of the Soviet Union, which <u>constructed dams and altered the flow of rivers</u> to develop massive <u>irrigation</u> projects; for example, to grow <u>cotton fields</u>, a <u>critical crop in Uzbekistan</u>. The end result has been widespread desertification and a catastrophic hit to the <u>waters</u> of the <u>Aral</u> Sea. Three decades after gaining independence from the Soviet Union, <u>water</u> continues to heavily influence regional geopolitics among the five Central Asian nations. The famous "<u>water wars</u>" between upstream (Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan) and downstream (Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan) nations have been well analyzed in the past couple of decades (for example, see a <u>2012 report from the International Crisis Group</u>), so we will not provide an in-depth historical analysis of the situation.

Nevertheless, it is worth noting that water has truly, and unfortunately, become a catalyst for conflict. This was clearly demonstrated this past April/May, when a clash occurred between Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan <u>over a water intake station</u> on the Kyrgyz-Tajik border near Kok-Tash in Batken province. Dozens were killed over this precious commodity. The situation will not improve anytime soon due to the effects of climate change, which is worsening summers and causing severe droughts; and the lack of a unified, common Central Asia water policy.

This is where Kazakhstan comes in. The country has worked hard in recent years to protect its environment, including salvaging what is left of the Aral Sea, which is shared between Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan. The Kazakhstani government is also interested in protecting its ecosystem to develop eco-tourism. (I discussed these issues in a May 2021 report titled "*The United States, Kazakhstan, and Environmental Cooperation*," published by George Washington University's Central Asia Program). Looking forward, the country plans to rely on technology and "digitize 119 waterways [totaling] about 3,000 km;" in order to "save up to two billion cubic meters of water," *President Tokayev said during his speech*. In other words, the proposals that the Kazakhstani leader made do not occur a vacuum, they are an expansion of water policies that Nur-Sultan is also carrying out domestically.

Kazakhstan moves to ease water conflict in Central Asia

Specifically, during the 6 August summit, President Tokayev proposed the creation of a special working group of Central Asian vice ministers to discuss water issues. "This group can develop mutually beneficial solutions, taking into account the needs of all sectors of the economy," the head of state explained. Similarly, he suggested the creating of an International Water and Energy Consortium in Central Asia. This proposed consortium would "coordinate the interests of all countries in the region in the field[s] of hydropower, irrigation and ecology."

Moreover, the head of state suggested the improvement of "the organizational structure and legal framework" of the *International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea (IFAS)*. The Fund has a very diverse mission. According to its website, the Fund's main objective "is to finance and credit joint practical measures, programs and projects for saving the Aral Sea, ecological rehabilitation of the Aral Sea surroundings and Aral Sea Basin as a whole, taking into account the interests of all states in the region." In a geopolitically complex area like Central Asia, this is no easy task.

Finally, President Tokayev suggested the revitalization of the <u>agreement on the use of water and energy resources of the Syrdarya River</u>, adopted in 1998. This document "focuses on the use of water and energy resources of the Naryn River below Toktogul Reservoir, and was... adopted by the governments of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan. An amendment to include Tajikistan was adopted on 19 June 1998," explains a 2013 <u>essay</u> on the Isfara River (which crosses three Central Asian states).

It is an open question if the five Central Asian governments can finally and successfully cooperate in water conservation projects. All five nations have other pressing priorities, like the rise of the Taliban in Afghanistan, its effects on regional security, and the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. With that said, the effects of climate change can no longer be ignored and it is commendable that President Tokayev has put forth initiatives to deal with water issues in the region, a concern that will only worsen in the coming years and decades if innovative and drastic solutions are not implemented. Sadly, recent clashes between security forces and civilians demonstrate that strong cooperation remains distant.

Moreover, sharing water resources among the five states may have extra-regional consequences. One example is widespread concern that <u>Kazakhstan's Lake Balkhash</u> may become the next Aral Sea, as the Ili River, a river which flows from China into the lake, is being diverted to help irrigation projects in Chinese territory. If five Central Asian states can figure out how to effectively share water, so can Nur-Sultan and Beijing.

Water conservation is a sensitive and complex issue in Central Asia, and the situation will only become more problematic due to the devastating effects of climate change. Hence, it is not beyond the realm of possibility that we may see new clashes between the upstream and downstream countries in the near future, particularly if droughts become more persistent and destructive. Cooperation is the key to achieve non-violent solutions.

Therefore, the proposals presented by President Tokayev at the August summit of Central Asian heads of state become all the more important and relevant as they are innovative policy suggestions that could achieve the desired results. "Water should not divide Central Asian countries, but unite them," said the Kazakhstani head of state. While this sounds like a typical cliché, it is also true. Central Asian governments should not fight over who controls water, but jointly figure out how to effectively share and distribute this liquid commodity to fulfill the needs of their citizens.

By Wilder Alejandro Sanchez for the Geopolitical Monitor.

Load-Date: September 7, 2021



Uzbekistan about to develop a National Water Conservation Program

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Section: UZBEKISTAN

Length: 372 words

Body

TASHKENT, Uzbekistan, September 15. Uzbekistan expressed its readiness to develop a National <u>Water</u> Conservation Program as part of the Development Strategy being implemented in Uzbekistan, <u>Trend</u> reports.

The <u>statement</u> was made by President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev at a meeting of the Council of Heads of the Founder States of the International Fund for Saving the <u>Aral</u> Sea in Tajikistan's Dushanbe on September 15. The president noted that the International Fund for Saving the <u>Aral</u> Sea is, first of all, a unique experience of the multilateral **cooperation** of the Central Asian countries in solving one of the most acute problems on a global scale.

"I would like to note that large-scale work is currently being carried out in Uzbekistan to improve the environmental and social situation in the Aral Sea region. Based on the resolution of the United Nations General Assembly on the declaration of the Aral Sea region as a zone of environmental innovations and technologies, an Action Plan and a Program of measures for sustainable socio-economic development, employment, and improving the standard of living of the population are being implemented," the president elaborated.

The President of Uzbekistan called upon other Central Asian countries to strengthen cooperation in the field of water conservation by identifying it as one of the priorities of the fund's activities.

In the last few years, forest plantations have been carried out on the dried-up bottom of the Aral Sea on an area of 1.7 million hectares. It is planned to create protective green lanes on another 400,000 hectares in the next two years. Natural parks, nature reserves, and state reserves were created on an area of more than 3.5 million hectares to mitigate the consequences of the Aral Sea disaster as well as preserve biodiversity in the region. As of today, the total area of protected natural territories in the Aral Sea region amounts to 4.6 million hectares.

In addition, Uzbekistan is implementing full-scale measures to improve the efficiency of water use in the country. Over the past 7 years, water-saving technologies have been implemented on an area of more than 1 million hectares, which is about a quarter of all irrigated land in the country.

Load-Date: September 15, 2023



Water issues discussed at regional level in Ashgabat

Global English (Middle East and North Africa Financial Network)

June 6, 2019 Thursday

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Length: 361 words

Body

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ByTrend An international conference on the topic 'The role of water diplomacy in achieving sustainable development in Central Asia was held in the Turkmen capital of Ashgabat, Trend reports referring to the Turkmen Foreign Ministry. The event was attended by representatives of the UN, as well as of various industries from Central Asian countries. The main reports were presented by the Minister of Agriculture and Environmental Protection of Turkmenistan Magtymguly Bayramdurdyev and the Head of the UN Regional Center for Preventive *Diplomacy* for Central Asia (UNRCCA, headquartered in Ashgabat) Natalia Gherman. Speakers noted the importance of water management at the regional and global levels, the report says. The importance of establishing cooperation between the UN and the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea (IFAS) was particularly emphasized. Potential challenges to the environmental protection process and opportunities for improving cooperation to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals were also considered during the conference. In Central Asia, rivers are the main source of water resources used for agriculture and industry, the production of electricity, and the supply of drinking water to the population, and almost all of them are transboundary. The Interstate Commission for Water Coordination was established within the framework of the IFAS, which deals with determining water withdrawal limits in the basins of the largest rivers of the region, taking into account and protecting water resources, and controlling their rational use. Turkmenistan borders Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Iran and Afghanistan and uses water resources coming in accordance with agreed quotas from four trans-boundary rivers, namely the Amu Darya, Tejen, Atrek and Murgab *rivers*.

Turkmenistan is affected by the problem of the ecology of the Aral Sea, which is most noticeable in the country's northern Dashoguz Region, where problems have arisen with the provision of drinking water, the fight against salinization of cultivation lands, land desertification.---Follow us on Twitter @AzerNewsAz

• #TURKMENISTAN

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Load-Date: July 27, 2019



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Global English (Middle East and North Africa Financial Network)

June 6, 2019 Thursday

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Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, June 6By Huseyn Hasanov - Trend:An international conference on the topic 'The role of water diplomacy in achieving sustainable development in Central Asia' was held in the Turkmen capital of Ashgabat, Trendreports referring to the Turkmen Foreign Ministry. The event was attended by representatives of the UN, as well as of various industries from Central Asian countries. The main reports were presented by the Minister of Agriculture and Environmental Protection of Turkmenistan Magtymguly Bayramdurdyev and the Head of the UN Regional Center for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia (UNRCCA, headquartered in Ashgabat) Natalia Gherman. Speakers noted the importance of water management at the regional and global levels, the report says. The importance of establishing cooperation between the UN and the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea (IFAS) was particularly emphasized. Potential challenges to the environmental protection process and opportunities for improving cooperation to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals were also considered during the conference. In Central Asia, rivers are the main source of water resources used for agriculture and industry, the production of electricity, and the supply of drinking water to the population, and almost all of them are transboundary. The Interstate Commission for Water Coordination was established within the framework of the IFAS, which deals with determining water withdrawal limits in the basins of the largest rivers of the region, taking into account and protecting water resources, and controlling their rational use. Turkmenistan borders Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Iran and Afghanistan and uses water resources coming in accordance with agreed quotas from four trans-boundary *rivers*, namely the *Amu Darya*, Tejen, Atrek and Murgab *rivers*.

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World's Largest Lakes are Drying Up!

The Hoard Planet May 21, 2023

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Length: 660 words **Byline:** Chetan Raj

Body

The world's largest <u>lakes</u>, often considered symbols of abundance and vitality, are facing a significant <u>threat</u>. Startling research reveals that more than half of these magnificent bodies of <u>water</u> are drying up at an alarming rate.

This concerning trend not only poses environmental challenges but also has severe implications for local ecosystems and human communities that depend on these freshwater resources.

A comprehensive study on the world's largest <u>lakes</u> conducted by a team of scientists from various institutions across the globe since 1992 examined nearly 2000 freshwater bodies and the state of 45 of the world's largest *lakes*, including the *Aral* Sea, *Lake* Chad, and the Great Salt *Lake*.

The findings were nothing short of alarming. Out of the 45 lakes studied, 24 are experiencing significant water loss, equating to more than 50% of the world's largest lakes in a state of decline, the researchers reported in the May 19 Science.

The causes of this drying phenomenon are complex and multifaceted. Climate change is undoubtedly playing a significant role. Rising global temperatures are leading to increased evaporation rates and altering precipitation patterns, resulting in reduced inflows to these lakes.

Additionally, human activities, such as excessive water extraction for agriculture and industry, are exacerbating the problem. Pollution and the introduction of invasive species also contribute to the degradation of these aquatic ecosystems.

"About one-quarter of the Earth's population lives in these basins with lake water losses," said surface hydrologist Fangfang Yao of the University of Virginia in Charlottesville.

The consequences of this drying trend of the world's largest lakes are far-reaching. The loss of water in these lakes negatively impacts both the biodiversity and the local communities that depend on them.

World's Largest Lakes are Drying Up!

Lake ecosystems are intricately connected, and the decline of one lake can have a cascading effect on the entire surrounding region. Declining water levels threaten the survival of numerous plant and animal species, disrupt delicate food chains, and lead to the loss of vital habitats.

Moreover, the drying of these world's largest lakes poses significant challenges for human populations. Many communities rely on these lakes as a source of fresh water for drinking, agriculture, and livelihoods. As the lakes shrink, water scarcity becomes a pressing issue, leading to conflicts over resources and potential mass migrations of people seeking alternative sources of water.

Addressing this global issue requires urgent action on multiple fronts. Efforts to combat climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions are crucial to mitigate the drying of these lakes.

Additionally, sustainable water management practices, such as efficient irrigation techniques and responsible water extraction policies, must be implemented to ensure the long-term viability of these precious freshwater resources.

International collaboration is also essential to tackle the problem of the world's largest lakes collectively. Sharing knowledge, best practices and technology can help communities facing similar challenges to find sustainable solutions.

Supporting local initiatives for conservation and restoration, along with raising awareness about the importance of these lakes, can garner public support and foster a sense of urgency.

In conclusion, the drying of more than half of the world's largest lakes is a stark reminder of the environmental and societal challenges we face. Climate change, coupled with human activities, is causing significant water loss in these vital ecosystems.

The consequences are far-reaching, impacting biodiversity, local communities, and the availability of freshwater resources. Urgent action, including addressing climate change, implementing sustainable water management practices, and fostering international collaboration, is crucial to safeguard these invaluable natural treasures for future generations.

Load-Date: June 26, 2023



Water sharing between Afghanistan and Pakistan

The Express Tribune

December 29, 2019 Sunday

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Length: 663 words

Byline: Rustam Shah Mohmand

Body

Pakistan has become a <u>water</u>-stressed country. Rapid increase in population, urbanisation, climate change, lack of conservation strategies, and industrialisation - all have taken a toll.

While <u>agreement</u> over <u>water</u> sharing was reached with India in 1960, there is no apparent urge to arrive at some understanding with Afghanistan over sharing Kabul <u>River</u>'s <u>water</u>. This is unfortunate given Pakistan will soon have to confront an extreme fresh <u>water</u> shortage in the wake of the expanding population and storage <u>reservoirs</u> being planned to be constructed upstream in Afghanistan, on the Kabul *River* and its *tributaries*.

Afghanistan has five <u>river</u> basins. The <u>Amu Darya</u> is shared with Central Asian countries, mainly Uzbekistan and Tajikistan; Murghab with Turkmenistan; Harirud with Iran and Turkmenistan; Helmand with Iran; and Kabul with Pakistan.

Despite these rivers originating mostly in Afghanistan, the country loses more than 75% of its water to neighbouring countries - a perpetual dilemma for the landlocked country.

On the other hand, all its neighbours except Tajikistan suffer from water scarcity that is worsening each passing year. Before the water shortage assumes critical proportions and causes tensions in relations with neighbouring countries, the issue must be addressed to determine the shares of the riparian countries.

All concerned countries should take urgent steps like controlling seepage, water wastage, afforestation, dealing with effects of climate change, sharing data and adopting coordinated strategies to confront water scarcity.

Pakistan's predicament is that it relies heavily on rivers originating in the Himalayas in IOK, and on the Kabul River entering from Afghanistan.

The Kabul River enters Pakistan from the northwestern border area and after being joined by smaller rivers, drains into the Indus River and into the Arabian Sea. It provides a quarter of Afghanistan's fresh water supply and about 19.25 billion cubic metres of water to Pakistan annually. But the Chitral River also provides about eight million acrefeet (MAF) to the Kabul River. Afghanistan irrigates 12,000 acres with water from the Kabul River. The river basin covers 53,000 square kilometres (sq-km) within Afghanistan and 14,000 sq km within Pakistan.

But this picture is about to change.

Afghanistan is planning to build 13 dams, and reservoirs upstream on Kabul River. Upon completion there would be a drastic reduction in water flow into Pakistan, and would create a serious food and security crisis in northwest Pakistan as millions in Peshawar valley depend for their sustenance on water provided by Kabul River.

Water sharing between Afghanistan and Pakistan

Other than dam construction, urbanisation, climate change, deforestation, less rainfall and lack of conservation also negatively affect the water supply for irrigation, sanitation and drinking in Peshawar valley.

Before matters worsen the management of river waters and of Kabul River water must receive immediate attention. The problem of determining the rights of upstream and downstream riparian countries is just one dimension of the looming threat of water scarcity.

The issue of dwindling water flows can only be addressed by Pakistan and Afghanistan jointly working together on exchange of data, technology, undertaking joint schemes ensuring benefits for both users, sharing power generated by dams constructed upstream, conservation measures, dealing with growing urbanisation, minimising risks posed by climate change, etc.

The solution to this issue lies in cooperation not confrontation. Water sharing issues should be addressed keeping in view millions of lives in both countries. Only in a spirit of cooperation, compassion, brotherhood and large-heartedness can such issues be resolved in the larger interests of the people. Many international agencies including the World Bank would be willing to lend expertise and resources to secure the maximum benefits for millions and save the environment in the face of the looming climate change disaster.

Load-Date: December 30, 2019



Uzbekistan about to develop a National Water Conservation Program

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September 15, 2023 Friday 6:00 PM GMT +4

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Section: UZBEKISTAN

Length: 372 words

Body

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Transferring Abbay Across Basins - a Possibility or a Fantasy Project?

The Ethiopian Herald March 23, 2021

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Length: 925 words

Byline: Samuel Tefera Alemu (Ph.d)

Body

lam not proposing this out of impulse and no reason. Scientific studies justify the role of interbasin <u>water</u> transfer as a sound <u>water</u> management strategy.

It facilitates socioeconomic development by supplying <u>water</u> in <u>water</u> deficient areas. Such developments mainly target achieving economic gains from improved <u>irrigation</u> based agricultural production and generation of <u>hydroelectric</u> power.

Globally there are notable projects including the Colorado Big Thompson project on Colorado <u>river</u>; the <u>Aral</u> seas basin project; the Tagus-Segura-Ebro basins project in Spain; China's South-to-North transfer on Yangtze, Yellow and Hanjiang <u>rivers</u>; and the Sao Francisco interlinking project in Brazil that uplifted countries involved in the project and promoted equitable and fair utilization of <u>water</u> resources in a <u>cooperative</u> manner.

Many countries transformed their economies and ensured food security mainly through revolutionizing their agricultural sector by expanding irrigation schemes to where available land is through inter basin and interstate water transfers.

Interbasin transfers in Iraq, Australia, India, the United States, Canda, China and Israel contributed immensely to sustained developments in the countries. The hydroelectric power development in Canada and the green agricultural revolution in India are good examples worth mentioning.

In Africa, most interbasin transfers help supply drinking water to big cities. In Morocco the Oum Er-Rbia River supplies Casablanca with water. Similarly, the tributaries of Ichkeul lake in Tunisia ensure supply of water in Tunis while Lesotho highlands transboundary water project supplies water to Gauteng in South.

Egypt, through much criticised projects, on its part has for long been diverting water of the Nile to develop huge tracts of land for commercial agriculture.

These politically motivated projects are largely owned and operated by private and state companies of Gulf countries to grow water consuming food and forage crops.

Contrary to the initial project objectives to meet food security demands of citizens, the projects export the crops along with free of fee virtual water to the Middle East States.

The Toshka (the New Valley) project in western part of Egypt, for instance, pumps out water from lake Nasser to irrigate the sandy desert plains of the Sahara Desert.

Transferring Abbay Across Basins - a Possibility or a Fantasy Project?

The project aimed at settling nearly a quarter of the then population of Egypt and curb unemployment through agricultural industrialization. It, however, failed to meet its intended target mainly due to underground aquifers presence, high levels of salinity and challenges from clay soils affecting the operation of farm machinery in the fields.

Inter basin and interstate transfer of water ensures equality of right over access to water and appropriate distribution of water among the states involved in the basin.

So why can't we imagine interbasin transfer of water in Ethiopia? Out of the twelve major river basins in Ethiopia, the highest potential exists in the west where Abbay, Tekeze and Baro basins are and potentially irrigable land to the east.

An interbasin transfer into the rift valley system, therefore, would make great economic sense for a country whose lowlands are often vulnerable to recurrent droughts and devastating floods.

In this regard, the Baro Akobo basin's estimated potential of about 23 BCM can supply water to the Awash basin that has little over 4.5 BCM. Adeba et al (2016) in their study suggested a potential transfer of 116 MCM of water per year from Baro Akobo to the Awash basin.

This will drive agro processing industries in the Awash valley and encourage pastoral and agro pastoral communities' investment in livestock trading.

Environmentally and economically feasible interbasin transfers between the two river basins will help avoid flood disasters and when the topographic conditions of the transfer routes allow, possibilities of producing hydroelectric power along the route will contribute to increased economic activities through uninterrupted and reliable energy supply to livestock-based industries.

This creates opportunities to address scarcity of water and thereby increase agricultural and agro pastoral land productivity in the Central Rift Valley plains including attracting commercial agricultural investments and associated employment opportunities in the fisheries sector.

Considerations into interbasin transfer of River Abbay and other major rivers should be integrated into the future of water project planning in Ethiopia.

The GERD and similar other upcoming projects shall be linked with irrigation projects alongside the purpose of generation of power for Ethiopia to leapfrog and lift its people and the people in the basin out of poverty. The question whether an interbasin transfer of Abbay River is a possibility or a fantasy project shall be left for time to answer.

The completion of the GERD should herald the beginning of fantasizing grand interbasin projects that create cross regional development and peace corridors in Ethiopia.

The new Abbay order shall help Ethiopia emerge as a strategic regional economic and political hub and our foreign relations should be founded on sharing the fruits of our success with our neighbours. This can only come true through the collective and cooperative engagement of Ethiopians at home and in the diaspora.

Ed.'s note: Samuel Tefera Alemu (Ph.D) is an Assistant Professor at the Center for African and Asian Studies, College of Social Sciences, Addis Ababa University. He is reachable through: samuel.tefera@aau.edu.et

Load-Date: March 31, 2021



Uzbekistan about to develop a National Water Conservation Program

Trend Business Review - Azerbaijan September 15, 2023 Friday 12:00 AM GMT +4

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Section: UZBEKISTAN

Length: 372 words

Body

TASHKENT, Uzbekistan, September 15. Uzbekistan expressed its readiness to develop a National <u>Water</u> Conservation Program as part of the Development Strategy being implemented in Uzbekistan, <u>Trend</u> reports.

The <u>statement</u> was made by President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev at a meeting of the Council of Heads of the Founder States of the International Fund for Saving the <u>Aral</u> Sea in Tajikistan's Dushanbe on September 15. The president noted that the International Fund for Saving the <u>Aral</u> Sea is, first of all, a unique experience of the multilateral **cooperation** of the Central Asian countries in solving one of the most acute problems on a global scale.

"I would like to note that large-scale work is currently being carried out in Uzbekistan to improve the environmental and social situation in the Aral Sea region. Based on the resolution of the United Nations General Assembly on the declaration of the Aral Sea region as a zone of environmental innovations and technologies, an Action Plan and a Program of measures for sustainable socio-economic development, employment, and improving the standard of living of the population are being implemented," the president elaborated.

The President of Uzbekistan called upon other Central Asian countries to strengthen cooperation in the field of water conservation by identifying it as one of the priorities of the fund's activities.

In the last few years, forest plantations have been carried out on the dried-up bottom of the Aral Sea on an area of 1.7 million hectares. It is planned to create protective green lanes on another 400,000 hectares in the next two years. Natural parks, nature reserves, and state reserves were created on an area of more than 3.5 million hectares to mitigate the consequences of the Aral Sea disaster as well as preserve biodiversity in the region. As of today, the total area of protected natural territories in the Aral Sea region amounts to 4.6 million hectares.

In addition, Uzbekistan is implementing full-scale measures to improve the efficiency of water use in the country. Over the past 7 years, water-saving technologies have been implemented on an area of more than 1 million hectares, which is about a quarter of all irrigated land in the country.

Load-Date: September 21, 2023



<u>UNDP enhances the capacity of decision-makers in Turkmenistan on water</u> resources planning under changing climate

News Central Asia June 17, 2023 Saturday

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Length: 442 words

Body

Ashgabat, 13 June 2023: Within the framework of the project "Development of the National Adaptation Planning Process in Turkmenistan" implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), with the financial support of the Green Climate Fund (GCF), in *cooperation* with the Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection of Turkmenistan, a series of workshops on climate change adaptation and *water* resources have been launched. The workshops are organized in partnership with the Scientific-Information Center of the Interstate *Commission* on Sustainable Development, two regional bodies of the International Fund for Saving the *Aral* Sea.

The main goal of the workshops is to inform and enhance the capacity of the target group on complex risks related to the climate change in Turkmenistan and integration of adaptation measures into water resources planning with the consideration of a gender perspective and interests of various groups of population. The target group is presented by respective decision-makers from the Mejlis of Turkmenistan, the Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection of Turkmenistan, the Ministry of Justice of Turkmenistan, the Ministry of Health and Medical industry of Turkmenistan, the Ministry of Education of Turkmenistan, the State Committee of Water Management of Turkmenistan, the State Committee on Statistics of Turkmenistan, the Hydrometeorology service of the Ministry of agriculture and environmental protection of the Turkmenistan, the General Directorate of Civil Defense andRescue Operations of the Ministry of Defense of Turkmenistan, the State Scientific-Research Project Institute "Turkmensuvylymtaslama", the Production Enterprise "Dashoguzsuwhojalyk", Hyakimlik of Ashgabat, and the Caspian Sea Institute.

As a result of six successive workshops, local specialists involved in adaptation planning in the country are expected to improve their knowledge of water management issues and will be able to take into account the climate factor in adaptation planning efforts and management of the entire NAP process, especially in the most important area of water resources management.

During the first workshop, participants were informed of the conditions of formation, use and protection of water resources in the context of climate change at the global, regional, and national levels. The workshop participants discussed the impact of climate change on water resources, which affects the economy and society, as various sectors of economy are highly dependent on water resources. ///UNDP Turkmenistan

UNDP enhances the capacity of decision-makers in Turkmenistan on water resources planning under changing climate

Load-Date: June 17, 2023



Kyrgyzstan invites neighbours to step up work on water use under the 1998 agreement

Kazakhstan Newsline (English)
October 5, 2018 Friday

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Section: Agriculture; Pg. 46

Length: 213 words

Body

This <u>agreement</u> worked successfully until 2006, and today it is legally valid.

Kyrgyzstan offers Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan to resume sharing <u>water</u> and energy resources in the <u>Naryn-Syrdarya river</u> basin on the basis of compensatory mechanisms, Erlan Abdyldayev, head of the Kyrgyz Foreign Ministry, said at a meeting of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly on Thursday.

"In order to build mutually beneficial relations in the field of water use, Kyrgyzstan advocates the resumption of cooperation in the framework of an intergovernmental agreement between Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan on the use of water and energy resources in the Naryn-Syrdarya river basin of March 1998, which provides for a compensatory mechanism for the use of water and energy resources," the Kyrgyz diplomat said.

"This agreement worked successfully until 2006, and today it is legally valid. In this regard, we propose to improve mutually beneficial cooperation based on it," the minister added.

According to Abdyldaev, the sharing of water resources for Kyrgyzstan is extremely important and in this matter Bishkek sees that "the current practice of using water and energy resources in the Central Asian region does not meet our national interests."

Reported by <u>ABC TV (Kazakhstan)</u>.

Load-Date: October 5, 2018



Water becoming critical resource for Central Asia

Uzbekistan Newsline (English)
June 1, 2021 Tuesday

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Section: Regional News; Pg. 140

Length: 1578 words

Body

The mechanism for distributing <u>water</u> between the countries of Central Asia, which appeared in the 1990s, is still viable. But complaints about his work have been heard for a long time.

In mid-May, the 80th meeting of the Interstate <u>Commission</u> for <u>Water</u> Coordination was held in Central Asia. This body is engaged in the protection, management and rational use of the region's <u>water</u> resources. At a regular meeting with the participation of representatives of sectoral departments of the five republics, the results of the non-growing season 2020-2021 were considered, as well as the <u>water</u> withdrawal limits of the countries were approved and the operating modes of the <u>Naryn-Syrdarya</u> cascade of <u>reservoirs</u> for the growing season 2021 were considered.

Thus, the agrarians of Central Asia will not be left without <u>water</u> in the coming months. The exact figures for <u>water</u> intake have not been made public, although they have not changed much in recent years. The largest flow of the Syrdarya <u>river</u> up to 92% falls on Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan, and about 84% of the flow of the <u>Amu Darya river</u> is equally divided by Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan. The rest goes to Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, which need <u>water</u> to generate electricity and <u>irrigate</u> fields.

A similar scheme has been in effect for a long time, only the volume of water changes the number of cubic metres. But in the long term, it may undergo changes due to the demographic and economic situation in Central Asia and global warming. According to experts, by the middle of this century, the area of the Pamir's snow caps will decrease, which will lead to a lack of water. The need for water in the region will grow.

It is worth noting that the current mechanism for regulating water resources in the region was laid back in the early 90s and, at the very least, continues to function. The same ICWC as a body appeared in 1992 almost after the five republics of Central Asia became independent states. In February 1992, they signed an agreement On cooperation in the field of joint management of the use and protection of water resources of interstate sources and agreed to create a single body the Interstate Coordination Water Commission. Its executive bodies are the Basin Water Management Associations BWO Amu Darya and BWO Syrdarya.

The quickness shown in the early 90s allowed to reduce the tension in the sphere of water use. In the Soviet period, a complex problem was solved simply within the framework of a single state. Located in the lower reaches of the republic's rivers, by directive orders, they received water for irrigation of fields, in return they supplied fuels and

lubricants and electricity to Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. Since the USSR collapsed, and the problem remained, it had to be solved by the five independent countries of Central Asia. They took the old principle as a basis: water in exchange for fuel and lubricants and electricity. In March 1998, the countries of the region secured it with an intergovernmental agreement on the use of water and energy resources in the Naryn-Syrdarya river basin.

If in the 90s they had not found a common language in Central Asia, the situation around the water could have deteriorated. Experts do not exclude that the problem could even affect the independence of states. But this is just a guess. In fact, the 1998 agreement stopped working by 2006. This was followed by disapproving statements. So, in February 2020, discussing the new Water Code within the walls of the Tajik parliament, the Deputy Minister of Energy and Water Resources of the country Jamshed Shoimzoda noted that in Soviet times, we received gas, gasoline and other funds in return for water. Unfortunately, such a mechanism does not exist at present. He assured that as relations with neighbours improve, there will be progress in this direction."

Kyrgyzstan expressed its dissatisfaction in its own way. In 2016, Bishkek froze participation in the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea. "Kyrgyzstan does not see prospects in resuming its participation in the activities of the IFAS, which does not take into account the hydropower aspects of water use and the needs of individual Central Asian states," said the first deputy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kyrgyzstan, Dinara Kemelova.

The International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea is another product of the 90s, which was created with the aim of localizing an ecological disaster. But since he was dealing with the problem of the drying up sea, for obvious reasons he had to solve the problem of water use in the region. Eventually it became obvious that ICWC and IFAS duplicate each other. Therefore, it was decided to unite them by introducing the Water Committee into the Foundation.

In 2018, the ex-president of Kyrgyzstan Sooronbai Jeenbekov voiced his claims to the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea in 2018. He explained the decision of Bishkek to suspend participation in the Fund by the fact that in its current form, IFAS does not meet the interests and urgent needs of our country. According to him, the work of the Fund is mainly focused on the use of water resources for irrigation and ecology, while the problems of hydropower remain on the sidelines. The latter direction is of more interest to Kyrgyzstan, but its position is not taken into account in IFAS. Jeenbekov explained that not a single hydropower project proposed by the Kyrgyz side within the framework of the Fund was supported.

The politician called for a return to the 1998 Agreement, which provides for compensation to Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan for the water they release. However, the document was signed by the governments of five countries and is not related to the work of the Fund. Jeenbekov also recalled that initially the task of IFAS was to accumulate financial resources and investments for the implementation of priority projects in the field of water use. In this regard, he proposed to carry out a comprehensive modernisation of the Fund. "The goal of such a reform is one equal consideration of the interests and pressing needs of all Central Asian states," the politician noted. As one of the measures, he proposed to withdraw the Interstate Water Coordination Commission from the IFAS structure" and create a new structure that would take into account the interests of water users and power engineers.

There is no point in challenging the position of Kyrgyzstan. IFAS ignores the problems of the energy sector, and therefore the interests of Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan. But the dissolution of the ICWC will deprive the Fund of effective leverage. It is obvious that the Kyrgyz authorities are looking for additional sources of funding. The republic cannot complete the construction of the Upper Naryn cascade of hydroelectric power plants, there are other projects awaiting their turn. However, compensation for water is unlikely to solve the problems of Kyrgyzstan, and it is not worth pinning great hopes on the funds of the Aral Fund. As the Deputy Director of the Executive Directorate of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea Marat Narbaev noted in 2018," in fact, the Fund for Saving the Aral Sea has no funds, there is only a name."

Over 25 years, about 15 billion dollar have been spent on the 3 main programs of the IFAS. Most of the funds are the money of the states themselves. Hydraulic projects were often implemented at the expense of local budgets or with the funds raised from international financial organisations. So, the Kokaral dam, which divided the Aral into two parts, was built by Kazakhstan with the money of the World Bank. In turn, Tashkent and Dushanbe agreed in 2018

Water becoming critical resource for Central Asia

to build two hydroelectric power plants with a total capacity of 320 MW in Tajikistan. Kyrgyzstan is less fortunate in this regard. The construction of the Upper Naryn HPP cascade jointly with the RusHydro company failed. Bishkek denounced the agreement in 2016, and the litigation between the parties is still ongoing.

The mechanisms for solving the water and energy problem that appeared in the 90s are imperfect and cannot guarantee sustainable development to the countries of Central Asia. But alas, so far no one is ready to discuss or revise them. Indeed, apart from Kyrgyzstan, only Kazakhstan shared its proposals. In 2018, at the next IFAS summit, the first president of the republic, Nursultan Nazarbayev, again proposed creating an international water and energy consortium of Central Asia. According to him, it will ensure a balance between irrigation and hydropower when using the water resources of transboundary rivers. The water compensation mechanism worked flawlessly under the directive planned Soviet economy. The consortium assumes the use of market-based supply and demand instruments for limited water resources.

The idea of abandoning annual water limits in favour of trade in water is tempting, but still remains on paper. Partly because of the divergence of positions between the five republics, partly because of their unwillingness to discuss an extremely difficult problem. Thus, Kyrgyzstan, whose proposals are put aside in the framework of IFAS, is not alone in the region, most countries adhere to a simple truth a bird in hand is better than pie in the sky.

But sooner or later they will have to abandon the inert position, since the water in the two large rivers of the region is becoming less and less, and the need for it will only grow.

Reported by Asiais (Russia).

Link to Image

Load-Date: June 3, 2021



USAID helping Turkmenistan to manage its water resources

Azernews - News from Azerbaijan, Business, Energy, Analysis

December 18, 2019 Wednesday 1:00 AM GMT +4

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Length: 259 words

Body

The US Agency for International Development (USAID)'s Smart <u>Waters</u> program, implemented by Central Asia Regional Environmental Center (CAREC), in <u>cooperation</u> with the International Fund for Saving the <u>Aral</u> Sea (IFAS) handed over a \$170,000 dredger to the State Committee on <u>Water</u> Management in Tashkopri, the southeast <u>settlement</u> of Mary province, Turkmenistan.

The dredger purchased by USAID will be used by Mary province water management authorities to clean up the Murgap river. It will help prevent flooding in the densely populated Mary province. It will also help prevent mud deposits in the Mary province's water reservoir.

The US Ambassador Matthew S. Klimow highlighted the Government of Turkmenistan's successful adoption of a new Water Code that facilitated the implementation of Integrated Water Resource Management, a holistic approach to water management including considerations of environmental and economic development impact.

This approach encourages the participation of people from local communities in implementing water management solutions. In his remarks, Ambassador Klimow highlighted that the dredger will contribute to the efficient management of water that will benefit over a million people residing in Mary province.

The USAID-funded Smart Waters project is a five-year program designed to help the five countries of Central Asia and Afghanistan deepen their technical skills in water management, facilitate community dialogue at transboundary rivers, and build a cadre of professionals, capable of managing shared water resources.

Load-Date: December 17, 2019



<u>Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan talk co-op in use of water resources of Amu</u> Darya River

MENAFN - Business & Finance News (English)
September 15, 2021 Wednesday

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Length: 208 words

Body

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Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan discussed issues of <u>cooperation</u> in the use of <u>water</u> resources of the <u>Amu Darya</u> **River**, Trend reports referring to State News Agency of Turkmenistan, Trend reports citing Turkmen media.

The mentioned issue was discussed during the first meeting of the Joint Turkmen-Uzbek intergovernmental commission on water issues held in Tashkent.

The parties also discussed issues of the operation of water facilities in the territory of the two countries. In this regard, the importance of the activities of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea, the Interstate Commission for Water Coordination, and the Interstate Commission for Sustainable Development was noted.

In addition, the issues of scientific and technical cooperation in the field of water management were considered. In this context, the meeting participants expressed their readiness to develop and implement projects and programs of bilateral cooperation in the field of rational use of water resources, introduction of new technologies, etc.

Following the meeting, the parties signed the Protocol of the first meeting of the Joint Turkmen-Uzbek Intergovernmental Commission on Water Management Issues.

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Load-Date: September 15, 2021



Regional Finance (English)

December 16, 2019 12:00 PM GMT +4

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Load-Date: February 10, 2020



Why the courts could have the final say on the Great Salt Lake's future

The Salt Lake Tribune
October 12, 2022 Wednesday

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Length: 1156 words **Byline:** Leia Larsen

Body

Editor's note · This Great Salt <u>Lake</u> <u>Collaborative</u> story is part of day three of our series, "At <u>water</u>'s edge Searching for solutions at the Great Salt <u>Lake</u>'s sister <u>lakes</u> across the Great Basin." The in-depth project features the work of multiple journalists from multiple Utah news organizations. Read additional stories and view photos, videos and interactive maps at https://greatsaltlakenews.org.

Lee Vining, Calif. · Amid climate change and growing <u>water</u> <u>demands</u> that are withering terminal <u>lakes</u> away, Mono <u>Lake</u> carries a rare hopeful message.

Owens <u>Lake</u> was one of the first cautionary tales about a salty <u>lake</u> with no outlet, when it dried completely from human <u>water</u> consumption in Los Angeles. <u>Lake</u> Urmia in Iran and the <u>Aral</u> Sea in Central Asia followed, drained by scaled-up agriculture. All have since become sites of major dust storms. The Great Salt <u>Lake</u> finds itself heading down a similar path, overtapped by agriculture, cities and industry.

But Mono (pronounced "moan-oh") Lake has emerged as a success story of sorts. Alarmed by the lake's decline when its tributary rivers were diverted away to L.A., environmental advocates fought back.

"We basically said, 'Hey, the state is in charge of water rights and you gave [away] these water rights," said Geoff McQuilkin, executive director of the Mono Lake Committee. "What we see [as a result] is Mono Lake being destroyed. That doesn't meet the public trust obligation of the state to protect resources for future generations."

[To view photos, videos and interactive maps, click here.]

They took their case all the way to the California Supreme Court in the 1980s using that public trust doctrine argument.

And it worked.

The concept of a public trust has its roots in English law, and may date as far back as the Roman Empire. Various courts in various states have applied the doctrine throughout U.S. history, mostly to settle issues of water access. The Mono Lake decision was the first time the public trust argument secured a lake's right to exist. Now L.A.'s water utility has to scale back its diversions until Mono Lake reaches a sustainable level.

(Spenser Heaps | Deseret News) Dust kicks up on the north shore of Mono Lake in Mono County, Calif., on Monday, Aug. 8, 2022.

So could someone apply the public trust doctrine in Utah to save the Great Salt Lake?

"[Mono Lake] was far simpler," McQuilkin conceded, "than the multiple water right holders and complexities that are at the Great Salt Lake."

A draconian measure or a tool to force the state's hand?

Some Utahns formed FRIENDS of Great Salt Lake in the 1990s after drawing inspiration from the Mono Lake Committee's efforts. The group has a similar mission to educate and engage Utahns, helping them understand that the Great Salt Lake is not just a dead, empty sea.

While the public trust doctrine has not been applied to the Great Salt Lake so far, "certainly, the lake is deserving of this kind of justice," said Lynn de Freitas, executive director of FRIENDS. "It's not that we haven't talked about this very seriously internally and with others. It's a big step to take."

One complication is how, exactly, the public trust doctrine would solve the Great Salt Lake's problems. At Mono Lake, the culprit depleting the lake was clear a single utility in L.A. that could be obliged to reduce its consumption.

In Utah, a patchwork of cities, towns, agricultural fields and industries across the watershed have dropped the Great Salt Lake by as much as 11 feet, according to a Utah State University analysis.

(Leah Hogsten | The Salt Lake Tribune) The northern arm of Great Salt Lake, Thursday, Aug. 4, 2022. The northern arm of the causeway is hypersalinity, or saturated with salt, and colored pink by the microorganisms that in the hypersaline water. (Leah Hogsten/)

"So who do you target [in] a public trust challenge?" de Freitas wondered. "I'm not quite sure."

If the public trust doctrine were applied to the Great Salt Lake, it would have to be done so uniformly to every tributary, including the Bear, Weber, Jordan and Provo rivers, along with everything in between, argued Utah water rights attorney Steven Clyde.

"All the water has been appropriated and applied for beneficial use" in the Great Salt Lake basin, Clyde said. "We have an awful lot of people who are dependent on that water. It's the worst of all the horrible solutions."

And lawsuits carry risk, because no one truly knows what the courts will decide. Utah has its own history and politics that set it apart from states like California.

"It's not a gamble I think is wise to run," Clyde said. "We would literally have to sue everybody in the drainage, because every diversion is impacting the lake."

In 2016, Clyde wrote a white paper offering solutions he considers "less draconian" than the public trust doctrine. They include concepts like water banking, which pools bought or leased water rights and rents the resource to those facing shortages. Or split-season leases in which a farmer uses a water right to get a cutting or two of hay, then sells the remaining water back to state regulators, who use it to bolster stream flows and, potentially, raise the Great Salt Lake.

(Trent Nelson | The Salt Lake Tribune) Treated water flows into a canal at the Salt Lake City Public Utilities' Water Reclamation Facility on Tuesday, Aug. 30, 2022. About 30 million gallons flows out daily, making its way to Farmington Bay and the Great Salt Lake. (Trent Nelson/)

Utah lawmakers have eliminated the legal barriers to these options in recent years, and even set aside a \$40 million nest egg this year specifically for the Great Salt Lake that could be tapped for things like leases. The agricultural industry consumes around 63% of the water otherwise destined for the lake, and seems to be the sector most able to move the dial.

So far, though, no water right holders in the lake's basin seem interested.

Why the courts could have the final say on the Great Salt Lake's future

"To my knowledge, not 1 acre-foot of water has moved," Clyde said. "I don't believe they've spent any of that money."

The state's farmers, Clyde acknowledged, are wary. Water, after all, is key to their livelihoods.

"Until we have a few brave souls come forward and show that it works," Clyde said, "I think it's going to be tough to get there."

All the while, the Great Salt Lake's shores recede by the day, its ecosystem under stress, its vast exposed lakebed drying to dust. With Utahns unable or unwilling to experiment with other tools to save the lake, maybe it's time to explore so-called draconian measures.

"It's not too far of a stretch," Clyde said, "that someone may file a lawsuit to force the state's hand."

This article is published through the Great Salt Lake Collaborative, a solutions journalism initiative that partners news, education and media organizations to help inform people about the plight of the Great Salt Lake - and what can be done to make a difference before it is too late. Read all of our stories at greatsaltlakenews.org.

Load-Date: October 14, 2022

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Regional Finance (English)

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Length: 259 words

Body

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Load-Date: December 17, 2019



Trend News Agency - Turkmenistan (English)

December 13, 2019 Friday 7:00 PM GMT +4

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Section: FINANCE **Length:** 269 words

Body

ASHGABAT, Turkmenistan, Dec. 13

By Huseyn Hasanov - Trend:

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Load-Date: December 13, 2019



Water becoming critical resource for Central Asia

Kyrgyzstan Newsline (English)
June 1, 2021 Tuesday

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Section: Regional News; Pg. 140

Length: 1578 words

Body

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A similar scheme has been in effect for a long time, only the volume of water changes the number of cubic metres. But in the long term, it may undergo changes due to the demographic and economic situation in Central Asia and global warming. According to experts, by the middle of this century, the area of the Pamir's snow caps will decrease, which will lead to a lack of water. The need for water in the region will grow.

It is worth noting that the current mechanism for regulating water resources in the region was laid back in the early 90s and, at the very least, continues to function. The same ICWC as a body appeared in 1992 almost after the five republics of Central Asia became independent states. In February 1992, they signed an agreement On cooperation in the field of joint management of the use and protection of water resources of interstate sources and agreed to create a single body the Interstate Coordination Water Commission. Its executive bodies are the Basin Water Management Associations BWO Amu Darya and BWO Syrdarya.

The quickness shown in the early 90s allowed to reduce the tension in the sphere of water use. In the Soviet period, a complex problem was solved simply within the framework of a single state. Located in the lower reaches of the republic's rivers, by directive orders, they received water for irrigation of fields, in return they supplied fuels and

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If in the 90s they had not found a common language in Central Asia, the situation around the water could have deteriorated. Experts do not exclude that the problem could even affect the independence of states. But this is just a guess. In fact, the 1998 agreement stopped working by 2006. This was followed by disapproving statements. So, in February 2020, discussing the new Water Code within the walls of the Tajik parliament, the Deputy Minister of Energy and Water Resources of the country Jamshed Shoimzoda noted that in Soviet times, we received gas, gasoline and other funds in return for water. Unfortunately, such a mechanism does not exist at present. He assured that as relations with neighbours improve, there will be progress in this direction."

Kyrgyzstan expressed its dissatisfaction in its own way. In 2016, Bishkek froze participation in the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea. "Kyrgyzstan does not see prospects in resuming its participation in the activities of the IFAS, which does not take into account the hydropower aspects of water use and the needs of individual Central Asian states," said the first deputy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kyrgyzstan, Dinara Kemelova.

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There is no point in challenging the position of Kyrgyzstan. IFAS ignores the problems of the energy sector, and therefore the interests of Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan. But the dissolution of the ICWC will deprive the Fund of effective leverage. It is obvious that the Kyrgyz authorities are looking for additional sources of funding. The republic cannot complete the construction of the Upper Naryn cascade of hydroelectric power plants, there are other projects awaiting their turn. However, compensation for water is unlikely to solve the problems of Kyrgyzstan, and it is not worth pinning great hopes on the funds of the Aral Fund. As the Deputy Director of the Executive Directorate of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea Marat Narbaev noted in 2018," in fact, the Fund for Saving the Aral Sea has no funds, there is only a name."

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Water becoming critical resource for Central Asia

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The mechanisms for solving the water and energy problem that appeared in the 90s are imperfect and cannot guarantee sustainable development to the countries of Central Asia. But alas, so far no one is ready to discuss or revise them. Indeed, apart from Kyrgyzstan, only Kazakhstan shared its proposals. In 2018, at the next IFAS summit, the first president of the republic, Nursultan Nazarbayev, again proposed creating an international water and energy consortium of Central Asia. According to him, it will ensure a balance between irrigation and hydropower when using the water resources of transboundary rivers. The water compensation mechanism worked flawlessly under the directive planned Soviet economy. The consortium assumes the use of market-based supply and demand instruments for limited water resources.

The idea of abandoning annual water limits in favour of trade in water is tempting, but still remains on paper. Partly because of the divergence of positions between the five republics, partly because of their unwillingness to discuss an extremely difficult problem. Thus, Kyrgyzstan, whose proposals are put aside in the framework of IFAS, is not alone in the region, most countries adhere to a simple truth a bird in hand is better than pie in the sky.

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Load-Date: June 3, 2021

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Regional Finance (English)

December 16, 2019 12:00 PM GMT +4

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Length: 259 words

Body

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Load-Date: December 18, 2019



Trend News Agency - Turkmenistan (English)

December 13, 2019 Friday 1:00 AM GMT +4

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Section: FINANCE **Length:** 269 words

Body

ASHGABAT, Turkmenistan, Dec. 13

By Huseyn Hasanov - Trend:

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Trend News Agency - Central Asia (English)
December 13, 2019 Friday 7:00 PM GMT +4

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Central Asia Economic Outlook (English)

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Water becoming critical resource for Central Asia

Tajikistan Newsline(English)
June 1, 2021 Tuesday

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Section: Regional News; Pg. 140

Length: 1578 words

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Water becoming critical resource for Central Asia

Kazakhstan Newsline (English)

June 1, 2021 Tuesday

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Water becoming critical resource for Central Asia

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The mechanisms for solving the water and energy problem that appeared in the 90s are imperfect and cannot guarantee sustainable development to the countries of Central Asia. But alas, so far no one is ready to discuss or revise them. Indeed, apart from Kyrgyzstan, only Kazakhstan shared its proposals. In 2018, at the next IFAS summit, the first president of the republic, Nursultan Nazarbayev, again proposed creating an international water and energy consortium of Central Asia. According to him, it will ensure a balance between irrigation and hydropower when using the water resources of transboundary rivers. The water compensation mechanism worked flawlessly under the directive planned Soviet economy. The consortium assumes the use of market-based supply and demand instruments for limited water resources.

The idea of abandoning annual water limits in favour of trade in water is tempting, but still remains on paper. Partly because of the divergence of positions between the five republics, partly because of their unwillingness to discuss an extremely difficult problem. Thus, Kyrgyzstan, whose proposals are put aside in the framework of IFAS, is not alone in the region, most countries adhere to a simple truth a bird in hand is better than pie in the sky.

But sooner or later they will have to abandon the inert position, since the water in the two large rivers of the region is becoming less and less, and the need for it will only grow.

Reported by Asiais (Russia).

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Trend News Agency - Turkmenistan (English)

December 13, 2019 Friday 1:00 PM GMT +4

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Section: FINANCE Length: 269 words

Body

ASHGABAT, Turkmenistan, Dec. 13

By Huseyn Hasanov - Trend:

The US Agency for International Development (USAID)'s Smart <u>Waters</u> program, implemented by Central Asia Regional Environmental Center (CAREC), in <u>cooperation</u> with the International Fund for Saving the <u>Aral</u> Sea (IFAS) handed over a \$170,000 dredger to the State Committee on <u>Water</u> Management in Tashkopri, the southeast <u>settlement</u> of Mary province, Turkmenistan.

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This approach encourages the participation of people from local communities in implementing water management solutions. In his remarks, Ambassador Klimow highlighted that the dredger will contribute to the efficient management of water that will benefit over a million people residing in Mary province.

The USAID-funded Smart Waters project is a five-year program designed to help the five countries of Central Asia and Afghanistan deepen their technical skills in water management, facilitate community dialogue at transboundary rivers, and build a cadre of professionals, capable of managing shared water resources.

Load-Date: December 14, 2019



<u>USAID Tajikistan Launches a New Program to Strengthen Regional Water</u> Cooperation in Central Asia

Targeted News Service

May 13, 2021 Thursday 9:10 AM EST

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Length: 300 words

Byline: Targeted News Service **Dateline:** DUSHANBE, Tajikistan

Body

The U.S. Agency for International Development issued the following news release:

The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) launched a new Regional <u>Water</u> and Vulnerable Environment Activity. This five-year, \$24 million activity will work in all five Central Asian countries and Afghanistan to strengthen regional <u>cooperation</u> on the management of shared <u>water</u> resources in the <u>Syr Darya</u> and <u>Amu</u> <u>Darya river</u> basins.

In his opening remarks, Keith E. Simmons, USAID/Tajikistan Acting Mission Director, underscored that managing water resources in Central Asia and Afghanistan is a struggle due to limited water supplies, growing populations, and an increased threat posed by a changing climate.

"For the last decade, USAID successfully worked with the Government of Tajikistan to address water challenges by strengthening regional cooperation and building the capacity of stakeholders to take incremental, practical steps toward the wise use, conservation, and sustainability of the most precious natural resource - water. This new USAID activity will provide more opportunities for promoting stability, economic prosperity, and healthy ecosystems for the people of Central Asia and Afghanistan," stated Mr. Simmons.

Representatives from the Ministry of Energy and Water Resources, the Ministry of Agriculture, the State Committee on Environmental Protection, the Agency for Land Reclamation and Irrigation, regional water organizations, civil society, private sector, and academic and research institutions participated in the activity's virtual event. They discussed national and regional challenges facing the management of shared water resources from the water-energy-food nexus perspective and provided their input on the next steps.

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Azernews - News from Azerbaijan, Business, Energy, Analysis

December 17, 2019 Tuesday 1:00 AM GMT +4

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Length: 259 words

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Load-Date: December 26, 2019



Water and politics in Central Asia

Kyrgyzstan Newsline (English) January 12, 2018 Friday

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Section: Trade and Consumer Goods; Pg. 50

Length: 1063 words

Body

"<u>Water</u> resources could become a problem in the future that could escalate tensions not only in our region, but on every continent," former Uzbek president Islam Karimov <u>famously</u> told reporters in 2012. "I won't name specific countries, but all of this could deteriorate to the point where not just serious confrontation, but even <u>wars</u> could be the result." The "specific countries" Karimov neglects to name are Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan, and Turkmenistan, states in which the uneven distribution of two key resources -<u>water</u> and fuel- escalate the risk of regional <u>conflict</u>. In 2018, the issue of these two resources remains at the forefront of relations between countries in Central Asia, with no short-term solutions in sight.

The origins of the <u>conflict</u> are the product of geography. Two states, located upstream at high altitudes -Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan- have plentiful <u>water</u>. Two <u>rivers</u>, the <u>Syr Darya</u> and the <u>Amu Darya</u>, supply 90 percent of Central Asia's <u>water</u>, passing through these two states before moving northwest. The three downstream states - Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Uzbekistan- have scant <u>water</u> resources, but are endowed with coal and natural gas. Most energy in the region, including the <u>water</u>-rich upstream states comes from natural gas and coal reserves in these downstream states.

Formerly, these states operated on a delicate balance of resource distribution. In years past, when these states were part of the Soviet Union, movement of resources was coordinated by Moscow to distribute excess and prevent shortages of water and fuel. Today, the balanced relationship that formerly ensured adequate resources for each state has started to falter, as certain states hoard from former partners the resources they can produce and face shortages of those they cannot. As a 2014 International Crisis Group <u>report</u> states, "[the] root of the problem is the disintegration of the resource-sharing system the Soviet Union imposed on the region until its collapse in 1991."

The problem lies in the fact that the downstream states -Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, and Turkmenistan- now sell their energy resources abroad for extra revenue. Conversely, the upstream states -Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan- have been using excess water to produce their own power via hydroelectric power plants. The result is drought downstream and energy shortages upstream. The "resource-sharing system" has all but disintegrated, and the effects are visible.

Upstream, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan face an energy shortage. In 2009, Uzbekistan, a major supplier of energy to Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, pulled <u>out</u> of the Central Asian supply system and started selling energy to higher bidders. This proved catastrophic in the upstream countries, whose high altitudes and bitter winters create a natural

Water and politics in Central Asia

reliance on imported energy for heating. As the BBC <u>reports</u>, the energy crisis left not only people's homes but public buildings like schools and hospitals without power.

It was this energy crisis that originally drove the upstream countries to pursue hydroelectric power, in response to the dearth of energy exports from downstream that they had formerly relied on. A feedback loop was created, in which less power from one side leads to less water from the other, and back again.

Downstream, rural farmers in Uzbekistan face diminished yields as their fields dry up. In 2016, Al-Jazeera <u>reported</u> that, according to local officials, farmers "are ready to kill each other for water." Cotton farms, orchards, and subsistence plots that formerly relied on nearby water sources find themselves cut off from those familiar sources by borders created less than 30 years ago. Moreover, as agriculture makes up a <u>significant sector</u> of the Uzbek economy, it's rural farmers who feel the brunt of this crisis.

Controversy over the Rogun dam and hydroelectric power plant in Tajikistan illustrates the potential of the water crisis to lead to armed conflict. According to <u>CS/S</u>, "Uzbekistan contends that the dam would severely harm their agricultural system, whilst Tajikistan believes hydroelectric production is essential for regional and international growth." Islam Karimov, Uzbekistan's former president, was vehemently opposed to the construction of the dam. This was not only because it would negatively impact rural farmers, but also because of Uzbekistan's somewhat lucrative cotton farming industry. In 2012, he directly referred to the possibility of war in the case that construction on the dam was completed. Later, in an October 2015 statement, Karimov <u>warned</u> that "[control] over water resources in the republics of Central Asia may lead to a full-scale war." After Karimov's death, Tajikistan continued construction, but the project has since been halted due to disagreements with Moscow, from which most of the project's foreign aid originates. Finally, in 2016, Uzbekistan deployed troops to the Kyrgyz border partly in response to a dispute regarding Toktogul reservoir and power plant in Kyrgyzstan.

The future, however, is not necessarily bleak. Neighbours in the region, namely Kazakhstan and China, are taking steps to successfully navigate a water and energy sharing partnership. In a similar situation, China controls the sources of the most important supply rivers into northwest Kazakhstan. As China's ambitions to extend influence along the "silk road" came to the forefront of regional foreign policy, a diplomatic approach to water allocation to Kazakhstan saw <u>success</u>. The 2001 agreement on common use of cross-border rivers illustrates a degree of institutionalized cooperation that is largely absent among Central Asian neighbours. Furthermore, in 2011, the China-Kazakhstan Friendship Joint Water Diversion Project was launched. These types of agreements illustrate a diplomatic path that Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, and Tajikistan would be wise to follow.

Overpopulation and climate change, like anywhere in the world, are contributing to the water scarcity issue in Central Asia. The driving factor here, however, is uniquely political: mismanagement of resources on the government level and communication breakdowns between states with water and states without it. Unless leaders in Central Asia can learn to cooperate and manage resource sharing, a future of continued peace in the region is uncertain.

Written by Isabel Post for the McGill International Journal.

Load-Date: March 22, 2018



Regional Finance (English)

December 16, 2019 12:00 PM GMT +4

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Water and politics in Central Asia

Uzbekistan Newsline (English)
January 12, 2018 Friday

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Section: Energy Industry; Pg. 50

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Load-Date: December 17, 2019



USAID launches new regional water and environment activity in Uzbekistan

Central Asian News Service (English language)

April 1, 2021 Thursday

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Length: 271 words

Body

the U.S. Agency for International Development launched its new five-year <u>water</u> and environment activity in Uzbekistan, "USAID Regional <u>Water</u> and Vulnerable Environment." The program covers the five countries of Central Asia and Afghanistan and will strengthen regional <u>cooperation</u> on the management of shared <u>water</u> resources in the <u>Syr Darya</u> and <u>Amu Darya river</u> basins, the U.S Embassy in Tashkent said.

In her opening remarks, Susan Fine, Acting USAID Mission Director for Uzbekistan, underscored that the management of water resources remains a complex challenge in the region. The five countries of Central Asia and Afghanistan struggle to balance their limited water supplies with growing populations and economies against persistent climate change. "The new USAID activity will provide more opportunities to strengthen regional cooperation, and promote stability, economic prosperity, and healthy ecosystems for the people of Central Asia and Afghanistan. We are happy to see that the Government of Uzbekistan recognizes the importance of sustainable development and are looking forward to cooperating with our Uzbekistani counterparts and other governments throughout the region," Fine said.

Representatives from the Ministries of Water Resources, Agriculture, Energy, and State Committee on Ecology and Environmental Protection of Uzbekistan, international organizations, civil society, academic, and research institutions attended the virtual launch. During the event, participants discussed national and regional challenges facing the management of shared water resources from the water-energy-food nexus perspective and

Load-Date: April 1, 2021



<u>Turkmenistan learning from Japan's experience in water purification</u> technologies

Global English (Middle East and North Africa Financial Network)

April 4, 2019 Thursday

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Length: 232 words

Body

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By Trend The representatives of the Turkmen State Committee of <u>Water</u> Management and Japanese Marubeni Corporation, Sojitz Corporation, Itochu Corporation, Komatsu Ltd. are holding the <u>negotiations</u> on <u>cooperation</u> in the introduction of <u>water</u> purification technologies, Trend reports referring to the Turkmen State Committee of <u>Water</u> Management. Moreover, the corresponding consultations are underway with the representatives of the Japanese Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, the Japan Bank for International <u>Cooperation</u> (JBIC), the Nippon Export and Investment Insurance (NEXI). Earlier it was reported that Turkmenistan is preparing a project to create <u>water</u> reserves and increase the capacity of the Garashsyzlyk <u>reservoir</u>, located in the Lebap region, which will improve the <u>water</u> supply of the country's land. Turkmenistan borders Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Iran and Afghanistan and uses <u>water</u> resources coming in accordance with <u>agreed</u> quotas from four trans-boundary <u>rivers</u>, namely the <u>Amu Darya</u>, Tejen, Atrek and Murgab <u>rivers</u>. Turkmenistan is affected by the problem of the ecology of the <u>Aral</u> Sea, which is most noticeable in the country's northern Dashoguz Region, where problems have arisen with the provision of drinking <u>water</u>, the <u>fight</u> against salinization of cultivation lands, land degradation and desertification.MENAFN0404201901950000ID1098343918

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Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, April 4By Huseyn Hasanov - Trend:The representatives of the Turkmen State Committee of <u>Water</u> Management and Japanese Marubeni Corporation, Sojitz Corporation, Itochu Corporation, Komatsu Ltd. are holding the <u>negotiations</u> on <u>cooperation</u> in the introduction of <u>water</u> purification technologies, Trend reports referring to the Turkmen State Committee of <u>Water</u> Management.Moreover, the corresponding consultations are underway with the representatives of the Japanese Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, the Japan Bank for International <u>Cooperation</u> (JBIC), the Nippon Export and Investment Insurance (NEXI). Earlier it was reported that Turkmenistan is preparing a project to create <u>water</u> reserves and increase the capacity of the Garashsyzlyk <u>reservoir</u>, located in the Lebap region, which will improve the <u>water</u> supply of the country's land.Turkmenistan borders Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Iran and Afghanistan and uses <u>water</u> resources coming in accordance with <u>agreed</u> quotas from four trans-boundary <u>rivers</u>, namely the <u>Amu Darya</u>, Tejen, Atrek and Murgab <u>rivers</u>.Turkmenistan is affected by the problem of the ecology of the <u>Aral</u> Sea, which is most noticeable in the country's northern Dashoguz Region, where problems have arisen with the provision of drinking <u>water</u>, the <u>fight</u> against salinization of cultivation lands, land degradation and desertification. Follow Trend on Telegram. Only most interesting and important news MENAFN0404201901870000ID1098343490

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Turkmenistan, Afghanistan discuss use of transboundary rivers

Global English (Middle East and North Africa Financial Network)

April 12, 2019 Friday

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Length: 401 words

Body

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Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, April 12By Huseyn Hasanov - Trend:A regular meeting of the Turkmen-Afghan water coordination group is taking place in the Turkmen capital of Ashgabat, Trend reports referring to the local Altyn Asyr TV channel. The event is attended by representatives of Turkmenistan's State Committee for Water Management and the Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection, as well as the representatives of the Afghan Ministry of Energy and Water, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Afghanistan Geodesy and Cartographic High Office (AGCHO) under the Ministry of Urban Development and Land. Turkmenistan attaches particular importance to the interaction with the relevant structures of Afghanistan, on the territory of which up to 20 percent of Amu Darya's runoff is formed, and where the sources of Murgab and Tejen rivers are located, as noted by Turkmen Dovlet Khabarlary state news agency. This is the third meeting of this kind, held with the support of the regional program titled Transboundary Water Management in Central Asia of the German Society for International Cooperation (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH).In Central Asia, <u>rivers</u> are the main source of water resources used for agriculture and industry, the production of electricity, and the supply of drinking water to the population, and almost all of them are transboundary, as stated by the Neutral Turkmenistan newspaper. The Interstate Commission for Water Coordination was established within the framework of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea (IFAS), which deals with determining water withdrawal limits in the basins of the largest *rivers* of the region, taking into account and protecting *water* resources, and controlling their rational use. Turkmenistan borders Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Iran and Afghanistan and uses water resources coming in accordance with agreed quotas from four trans-boundary rivers, namely the Amu Darya, Tejen, Atrek and Murgab rivers.

Turkmenistan is affected by the problem of the ecology of the Aral Sea, which is most noticeable in the country's northern Dashoguz Region, where problems have arisen with the provision of drinking water, the fight against salinization of cultivation lands, land desertification. Follow Trend on Telegram. Only most interesting and important news MENAFN1204201901870000ID1098380917

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Tribals stage mock 'doli' protest over various demands

The Times of India (TOI)
September 28, 2023 Thursday

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Section: VISAKHAPATNAM

Length: 229 words

Byline: Umamaheswara Rao

Body

VISAKHAPATNAM: Tribals staged a mock doli (palanquin) <u>protest</u> over their long-pending <u>demands</u> during the ongoing mandal-level 'Jaganannaku Chebudham' programme conducted in Rolugunta in Anakapalli district of Andhra Pradesh on Wednesday. According to CPM leader K Govinda Rao, the government has developed a Jagananna Colony layout in Losangi village for four tribal hamlets. "But the beneficiaries could not build houses due to the lack of a road leading to the village and their consequent inability to transport cement, iron, sand and other items needed for the construction of the houses," said Govinda Rao. "The hilltop hamlets Losangi, Kotha Losangi, Pedagaruvu, and Pithrigedda have 32 school-age children. But the school is located four kilometers away from these villages. We request the authorities to appoint a teacher for the hamlets. Similarly, an anganwadi center should be set up to take care of the 30 pre-school kids. A road needs to be constructed from <u>Aral</u> village to Pithrigedda. Neelibandha village still does not have electricity connection. Lands in these hamlets are in the hands of non-tribals. A safe drinking <u>water</u> facility was created with Rs 25 lakh in Rolugunta due to the <u>pollution</u> being caused from the mining in the region. Even after 10 years, the mineral plant has not been opened for the public," said Rao. For Reprint Rights: timescontent.com

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