



Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE
Economic and Environmental Activities

Vienna, 17 October 2006

First Preparatory Conference to the Fifteenth OSCE Economic Forum

“Land Degradation and Soil Contamination”

Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, 16-17 November 2006

TENTATIVE AGENDA

Thursday, 16 November

09.00 - 09.30 **Opening Plenary Session** (open to Press)

Welcoming remarks by:

- Representative of the host country – **Minister of Environment** of Kyrgyzstan
- **Ambassador Christian Meerschman**, Embassy of Belgium to the Republic of Kazakhstan, Belgian OSCE Chairmanship
- **Ambassador Jose Angel López-Jorrin**, Head of the OSCE Task Force, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Spain/incoming OSCE Chairmanship
- **Ambassador Markus Müller**, Head of the OSCE Centre in Bishkek
- **Mr. Bernard Snoy**, Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities

09.30 - 11.00 **Plenary Session I – The challenges of land degradation and soil contamination; ensuring environmental security and sustainable development**

Keynote speeches followed by Discussion

- **Ms. Jacqueline McGlade**, Executive Director, European Environment Agency (**tbc**)
- **Mr. Mikhail Outkine**, Officer in Charge for Central Asia, Central and Eastern Europe, United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)
- **Ms. Claudia Olazábal**, Soil and Agriculture Unit, DG Environment, European Commission (**tbc**)

11.00 – 11.30 Coffee Break

11.30 – 13.00 **Plenary Session II – The impact of hazardous activities on environmental security**

- **Mr. Christopher King**, Ph.D., P.E., Dean of Academics, U.S. Army Command and General Staff College (tbc)
- **Mr. Yerzhan Kumarbekov**, Ministry of Defence of Kazakhstan – Melange Destruction Programme (tbc)
- **Mr Philip Peck**, Associate Professor, The International Institute of Industrial Environmental Economics at Lund University, Mining & Environment Consultant, UNEP, GRID Arendal
- World Bank Representative in Kyrgyzstan

Topics:

- Soil contamination from industrial and military legacies
- Transport of hazardous substances and trafficking on hazardous waste

Discussion

13.00 – 14.30 Lunch

14.30 – 16.00 **Plenary Session III – Forest management**

- **Mr. Peter Herbst**, Consultant on Forestry Law, Austria
- **Mr. José María Solano López**, Head of Area, Forest Management and Planning Section, Biodiversity Directorate, Ministry of Environment, Spain.
- Ministry of Emergency Situations of Kyrgyzstan

Topics:

- Understanding the economic/environmental importance of forest resources
- Forest management as a tool to prevent floods and landslides
- Good forest management practices

Discussion

16.00 – 16.30 Coffee Break

16.30 – 18.00 **Plenary Session IV – The challenge of environmental migration**

- **Mr. Anis Bajrektarevic**, Professor for International Law and Global Political Studies, IMC FH Krems University, Austria
- **NGO Representative**
- **UNHCR (tbc)**

Topics

- Understanding the linkages and challenges
- Possible solutions

Discussion

19.00 **Reception**

Friday, 17 November

09.00 – 10.30 **Plenary Session V - Sustainable use of land, agriculture and food security**

- **Mr. Robert Everitt**, Senior Project Specialist, Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources Division, East and Central Asia Department, Asian Development Bank - Central Asian Countries Initiative for Land Management (**tbc**)
- **Mr. Guriqbal Singh**, Technical Co-ordinator, Programme for Water and Soil fertility management, Collaborative Research Program for Sustainable Agricultural Development in Central Asia and the Caucasus, ICARDA – CAC, Office in Tashkent
- Local NGO from Kyrgyzstan

Topics:

- Understanding the links between land degradation, unsustainable agriculture and food security
- Good governance issues; strategic planning/thinking

Discussion

10.30 – 11.00 Coffee Break

11.00 – 12.30 **Panel I – Integrated Watershed Management**

Panellists' Introductory remarks followed by Discussion

- **Mr. Miguel Antolín Martínez**, Head of Area, International Affairs Water Directorate, Ministry of Environment, Spain
- **Mr. Victor A. Dukhovny**, Ph.D., Director, Scientific Information Center of the Interstate Coordination Water Commission in Central
- **Mr. Almabek Nurushev**, Head of the International Foundation for the Aral Sea (**tbc**)
- Representatives of Governments, NGOs, local authorities, business community and international organizations active in the region

12.30 – 14.00 Lunch

14.00 – 16.00 **Panel II- Public and private response to meeting the challenges of land degradation an soil contamination**

Panellists' Introductory remarks followed by Discussion

- **Ms. Gulsara Edilbaeva**, Executive Director, Kazakh Business Council for Sustainable Development (**tbc**)
- **Mr. Ysmail Dairov**, Manager of Environmental Policy Programme, Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (**tbc**)
- Representatives of Governments, NGOs, local authorities, business community and international organizations active in the region

Topics:

- Effective governance practices
- Participation of the civil society
- Responsibility of the private sector

Discussion

16.00 – 16.30 Coffee Break

16.30 – 18.00 **Panel III – The role of the OSCE and co-operation with other International Organizations; Follow up to the 15th Economic Forum**

- **Ambassador Adriaan van der Meer**, Head of Delegation of the European Commission in Almaty (tbc)
- **Mr. Malik Ashraf**, Country Director, Kyrgyz Republic Resident Mission, Asian Development Bank (tbc)
- **Mr. Bo Libert**, Environmental Department, UNECE (tbc)
- **Ms. Inkar Kadyrzhanova**, ENVSEC Regional Desk Officer for Central Asia, UNDP Kazakhstan
- Cleaner Production Programme, UNIDO, Cleaner Production Center, Uzbekistan (tbc)

Topics:

- Developing co-operation with other international organizations
- The ENVSEC initiative
- OSCE presences and field mission's activities

Discussion

18.00 – 18.30 **Conclusions and Closing** (open to Press)

- **Mr. Bernard Snoy**, Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities
- **Ambassador Jose Angel López-Jorrián**, Head of the OSCE Task Force, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Spain/incoming OSCE Chairmanship
- **Representative of the host country**