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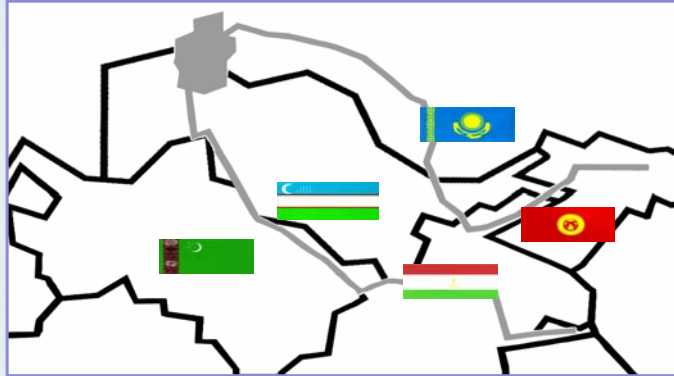
7 March 2007

ENGLISH only

Conference Services

Please find attached the presentation by Prof. Viktor Dukhovny and Dr. Pulatkhon Umarov, Scientific Information Centre of the Interstate Commission for Water Coordination in Central Asia (SIC ICWC CA) with regard to the Plenary Session 4 Part II - Prevention of water related conflicts: water management in regional initiatives, Second Preparatory Conference to the 15th OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum, Zaragoza, Spain, 12-13 March 2007.

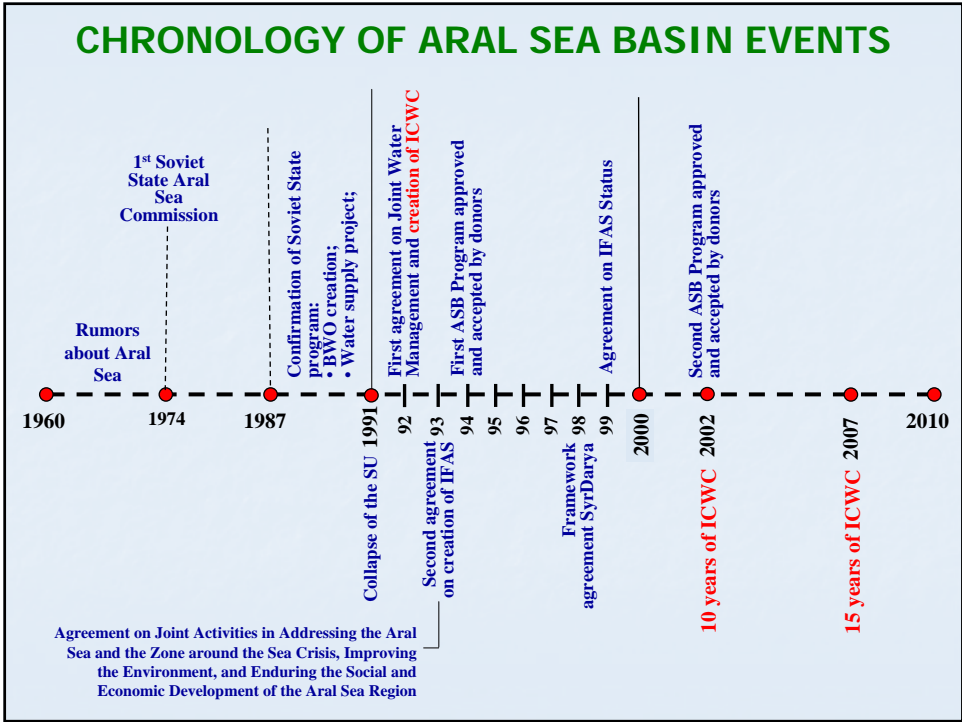
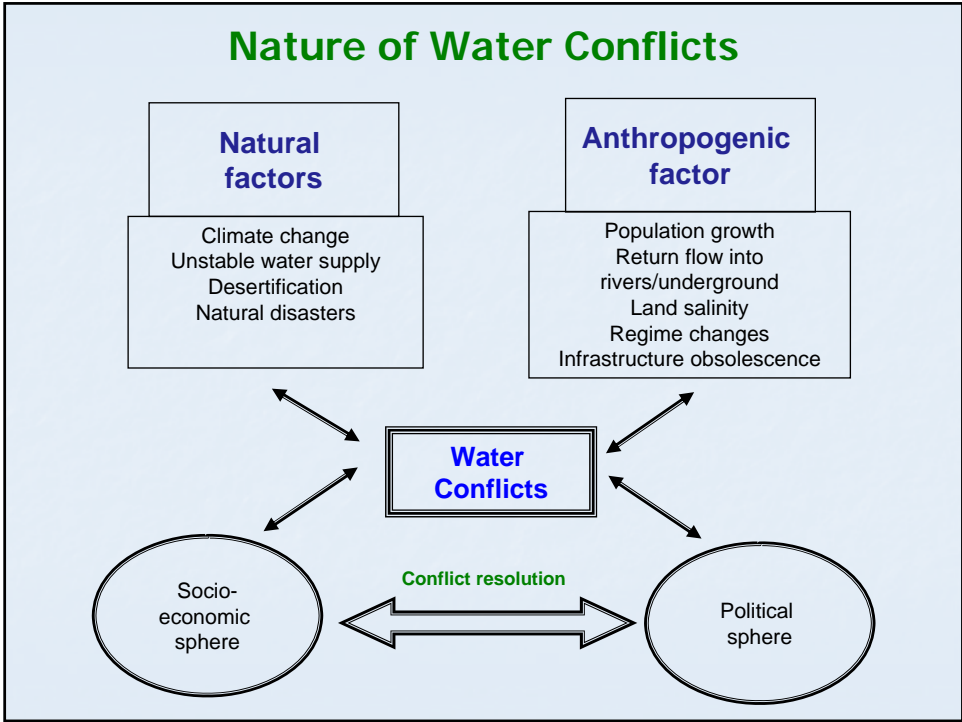
Lessons on cooperation building to prevent water conflicts in the Aral Sea Basin



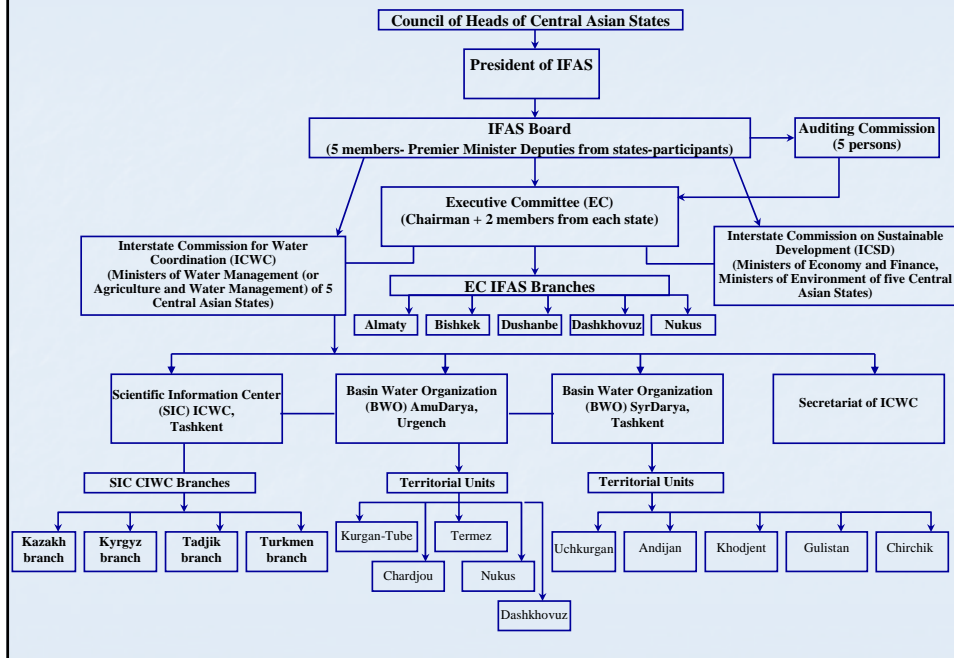
Prof. Viktor Dukhovny
Dr. Pulatkhon Umarov
SIC ICWC CA

Importance of Water in Central Asia

- Source of life for population of 54-60 mln. by 2030 and 74-80 mln. by 2050
- Agricultural sector - 30% of GNP
- Agro-industry - 8-10% of GNP
- Related services - 20% of GNP
- Total – 58-60% of GNP**
- Employment - 44% of able-bodied potential
- 70% of food basket consumption;
- Hydropower energy - 29-36% of total energy production



PRESENT SITUATION IN INTERSTATE ORGANIZATIONS



	Destabilizing factors	Consequences	Measures of control
1	Growth of population	Growth of food and water requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regulation of population; Regulation of diet; Water saving; Productivity of water
2	Weakness of infrastructure as a result of age	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decrease of ability to WM Unequity in water allocation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rehabilitation and repair work; Implementation of SCADA; Organizing of hydrometerservice; Modernization of measuring network; Agreements and regulation between States for BWO actions in operation
3	Climate changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase of water demand Decrease of water resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water strategy (regional and national); Measures for water saving
4	Economic weakness	Lack of financial resources for support of productivity of water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Involvement of stakeholders resources; International loans; Increase of O&M efficiency
5	Increase of local egocentrism	Territorial and inter-sectoral conflicts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrated water management; Public participation; SCADA system implementation
6	Growth of water pollution	Health and nature problem	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ecological regulation and law; Limitation of pollution real case; Pollution pay; International environment agreements

Lessons of Regional Cooperation

Positive

1991 - 1992	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preservation of water allocation status quo • Retention of BWOs and validation of their international status • Establishment of ICWC and IFAS 	Smooth transition from federal to international water management
1993 - 1995	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political acknowledgement and development of cooperation on international waters (Agreements of Heads of States 1993, 1994, 1995) • Approval of ASB and Priaralie development Concept • Approval of ASB Program 	Elimination of acute conflicts and disputes Engagement of donors in the development of regional projects
1996 - 1998	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development and endorsement of 1998 Agreement 	Establishment of cooperation in water and energy sectors

Lessons of Regional Cooperation

Negative

- ❖ **Failure of GEF WEAMP project in the part of regional water strategy development;**
- ❖ **Barriers on the development of agreements (4 drafts of agreements are completed) and deficiency of integrated agreements;**
- ❖ **Absence of legislative norms on ecological releases;**
- ❖ **Overlapping of international organizations' activities;**
- ❖ **Absence of public participation within BWO;**
- ❖ **Insufficient legal authorities and responsibilities for compliance with adopted agreements;**
- ❖ **Lack of attention to underground and return waters and quality of water.**

Gaps and Bridges of Regional Co-operation

Gaps

- Different economic capabilities and approaches;
- Maximal priority of national interests;
- Suspicious attitude towards cooperation due to fear of losing sovereignty

Bridges

- IWRM with wide public participation;
- Principles of equitable and proportional share of costs and benefits;
- Obligatory participation of each country in funding and management;
- Aspiration for optimizing benefits of everybody, instead of maximizing only self benefit;
- Striving for consensus;
- Development of regional water law.

WATER CONFLICT PREVENTION THROUGH DEVELOPMENT OF PARTNERSHIP AND ACHIEVEMENT OF CONSENSUS

The partnership at interstate level	Promotion of interstate agreements Training activity
Inter-sectoral partnership	Collaboration between water, power, environment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Payment for water flow regulation; • Water power consortium; • Ecological requirement and penalty; • Modeling of water and power regulation.
Vertical partnership within chain "state-water system-water users association-water users and water consumers"	Implementation of IWRM in the Aral Sea Basin
Partnership of governmental organizations and NGOs	Public participation in effective water resource management, environmental awareness
Partnership of science and production with water users and organizations	Program of water saving and potential productivity; SCADA System.
Partnership of international financial organizations and beneficiaries	Capacity building and regional cooperation support

**Five Priorities of Regional Cooperation
Development in the Aral Sea Basin
What activities could the OSCE undertake ?**

1. **IWRM** – *human wellbeing and environmental stability*
2. **Training Network** – *capacity development and mutual understanding*
3. **Water Saving** – *increase of land and water productivity*
4. **Strategy and Agreements** – *sustainable water policies*
5. **Information Exchange** – *public access to information, transparency and mutual trust*