



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Secretariat**

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Conference Services

The 16th Meeting of the OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum

**“Maritime and inland waterways co-operation in the OSCE area:
Increasing security and protecting the environment”**

Part 2 / Prague, 19 – 21 May 2008

**Plenary Session IV
Emerging environmental threats to security:
Need for enhanced maritime and inland waterways co-operation**

Please find attached the presentation by the speaker, Mr. Hamidreza Ghaffarzadeh, Project Manager, Project Coordination Unit, Caspian Environment Programme.

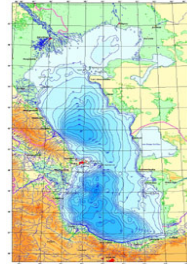


Caspian Sea : A Sea of Opportunities and Challenges

Prague: May 19-21 , 2008

A Sea of Opportunities and Challenges

Opportunities: why is the Caspian Sea important?



A Sea of Opportunities and Challenges

A privileged Sea

- **Strategically located & a Transport corridor**
- **Considerable Hydro-carbon resources**
- **Fish and caviar**
- **Unique biodiversity**
- **Ecotourism**

A Sea of Opportunities and Challenges

A sea of challenges too !

- **Political stress including**
 - the unsettled legal regime;
 - ethnic and national conflicts and
 - the riches not being equally divided
- **Environmental stress including**
 - Decline in fisheries; erosion of biodiversity and invasive species,
 - pollution and oil transport risks ;
 - Unsustainable coastal development
 - water level fluctuations and climate change impacts

A Sea of Opportunities and Challenges

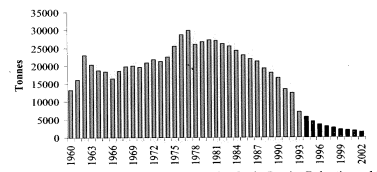
Caviar , at price of Euro 3000 per kilo, could be worth billions. Sturgeons are from Jurassic period!



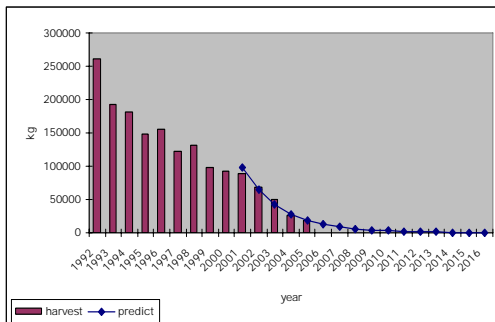
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But the decline in fisheries is alarming!!!!!!

Figure 1
Reported landings – sturgeon, CIS and Iran
FAO FishStat Nominal Landings Database



A Sea of Opportunities and Challenges



A Sea of Opportunities and Challenges

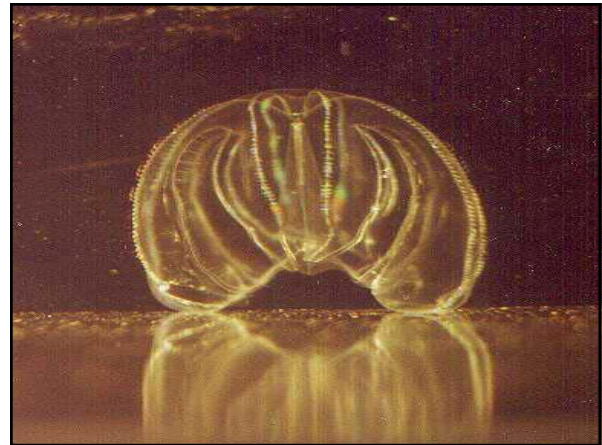
Seals are disappearing too!

- Unique Caspian Seal down from 300,000 to 110,000

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Invasive Species

- Invasive species, Mnemonics Leydie, has come through waterways wiped out most of Kilka fisheries- down by % 60%.
- ML now in the Baltic Sea
- Study by IMO available for measure to deal with further IS



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And there is oil,

- KZ can produce 1.3 Million a day by 2009 and twice by 2015 .This a huge increment in the tight global oil market
- Considerable gas reserves in TK and AZ

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- A major challenge is access to Market: competing routes some through the Sea
- Oil spill from aging vessels: disaster waiting to happen
- Pipelines across the Sea ? Seismic active

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Pollution

- Hotspots of industrial pollution : DDT is still noted in tests
- Overall not a hugely polluted Sea but hotspots some very hot; still some hope !
- Algae blooms point to change in chain food mechanism

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Coastal Development and WLF

- Fast and unsustainable development
- Sea Level fluctuations- 1.m meter in some 20 years- pose a serious threat that could turn into a major costly issue due to climate change

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What have we tried to do

- CEP is an inter- governmental regional environmental programme assisted by GEF and EU and in operation since 1998.
- CEP is being aligned with the The Tehran Convention Secretariat fully ratified in 2006
- GEF new support to CEP focusing on bioresources management and regional governance

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CEP is essentially an engine for

- regional environmental dialogue;
- Diagnostic work and strategy& policy development
- resource mobilization

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- the centre piece for dialogue is the Tehran Convention with the 1st Conference of Parties (COPI) held in Baku in May 2007 with COPII planned for Tehran later this year .
- Four protocols of Biodiversity Protection, EIA in Transboundary Context, Land Based Sources of Pollution and Oil Pollution Incidents from Vessels slated for approval by COPII with OPI having stated national approval processes.

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- On the diagnostic front we have done massive researches and studies culminating in strategies, plans, road maps etc.
- Good progress but a lot to do yet.

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- On the Resource mobilization front we have had some success but need to do more.
- The region investment in environment of the Caspian has been considerable in the last few years but investment still not a high priority

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C: What else can we do ?

- On Oil spill response
 - OPI Protocol
 - Regional cooperation Centre
 - Capacity building
- On fish and Biodiversity: preventing
 - Deal with the ML
 - Prevent new IS
 - Protecting the fish
- On Climate Change:
 - Monitor
 - Mitigate

A Sea of Opportunities and Challenges

What can OSCE do to assist ?

- Generate /Foster political will towards environment
- Support the Tehran Convention process; becoming fully engaged in the regional dialogue
- Assist in resource mobilization; investment forum ; ballast water investment,
- Monitor climate change implications in the region
- Support the commendable work by IMO and IPIECA on oil spill response

- WWW.CASPIANENVIRONMENT.COM