

REPORT

The 12th Session of the Project Working Group “Energo” (PWG-Energo) of the Project “Rational and Efficient Use of Water and Energy Resources in Central Asia” Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, 8-10 July 2003

The 12th Session of the PWG-Energo was conducted from 8 to 10 July 2003 in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. 46 participants attended the PWG Session including delegations of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan as well as Belorussia, Russian Federation and Ukraine. Representatives of the following international organizations also took part in the Session: Eurasia Economic Community, Executive Committee of CIS, International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea (IFAS), American Agency of International Development (USAID), Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Asia Development Bank (ADB), Islamic Development Bank (IDB), German Development Bank KfW, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Regional Environmental Center for Central Asia.

Participants of the 12th Session agreed on the following agenda:

- Approval of the Agenda.
- Third Sub-regional meeting of the Project “Energy Efficiency and Energy Security of CIS Participating Countries”.
- Consideration of the fifth version of the Regional Cooperation Strategy on Rational and Efficient Use of Energy and Water Resources in Central Asia as well as the further program of work on its development.
- Progress of the implementation of the second phase of the concept for creation of a local information network for lead organizations for energy and water issues in Central Asia.
- Discussion of results on implementation of the Project “Rational and Efficient Use of Energy and Water Resources in Central Asia” and approval PWG-Energo work program for the second half of the year 2003.
- Approval of the final documents and adoption of the agenda for 13th PWG-“Energo” session.

Summary report of the Third Subregional Meeting of the Project “Energy Efficiency and Energy Security of CIS Participating Countries” is attached (annex 1).

The fifth edition of the Regional Cooperation Strategy on Rational and Efficient Use of Energy and Water Resources in Central Asia, prepared by the group of national experts and international consultants on the basis of the version of the Strategy accepted as a basis for further work during the 11th PWG-Energo Session, was presented to the participants for consideration.

During the discussion heads of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan delegations, proposed that the session approved it after making some proposed editorial changes, submit it for approval on the Government level of participating countries. Representatives of a number of international organizations: EC IFAS, USAID, GEF, OSCE, JICA, ADB stressed the significance, usefulness and timeliness of the presented document in the remarks.

Taking into account the comments and suggestions made during the session, the sixth version of Regional Cooperation Strategy on rational and efficient use of energy and water resources in Central Asia

was elaborated. It was approved by participants of the session and recommended for approval on the Government level of participating in the Project countries.

During the session, a review of activities of international programs on Water and Energy, aimed at their rational and efficient use, was made. Presentations were made by representatives of the Executive Committee of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea (IFAS), USAID, British Department for International Development (DFID). IFAS representative invited PWG-Energo representatives to take part in an International Forum on Fresh Water that is to be held in Dushanbe from 29 August to 2 September 2003.

S. Molodtsov, representative of the Energy Policy Center made a presentation of scenarios of future energy and water management in Central Asia. It was proposed to use these scenarios as an annex to the Strategy of regional cooperation on rational and efficient use of energy and water resources in Central Asia.

An excursion to the training Center of the Water Management Department under the Ministry of Water Management, Agriculture and Processing Industry of Kyrgyzstan, and regional information center on water resources, established within the framework of the Project was organized for participants of the session by the Department.

UN ECE Regional Adviser Mr. Bo Libert and Mr. U. Steklov, UN ESCAP Officer, reported about outcomes of the second Meeting of the project “Support for the Creation of a Commission on the Chu and Talas Rivers between Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan”, implemented under the aegis of SPECA Project, that was held 7-8 July, Almaty, Kazakhstan. (Annex 2).

The third Meeting of the project “Support for the Creation of a Commission on the Chu and Talas Rivers between Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan” will take place 5-7 November 2003 in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.

Mr. Kamalov made a presentation on work conducted on dam safety in Uzbekistan. Mr. Zyryanov reported about results of the implementation of the GEF project, Component “Dam safety”. The Kazakh, Kyrgyz and Tajik delegations stressed the necessity of implementing a project on dam safety within the framework of PWG-Energo of UN Special Program for Economies of Central Asia jointly with IFAS. The representative of the Asian Development Bank suggested including the project “Regional Cooperation on Dams Safety in Central Asia” in new three-year regional program of ADB.

Mr. Zyryanov, representative of Kyrgyzstan proposed to elaborate terms of reference for the development of the proposed water-energy consortium for Central Asian countries. In order to achieve this, he suggested the establishment of an inter-government working group and address international organizations for support in the elaboration of such term of reference.

UN ECE Regional Adviser Mr. Bo Libert informed participants of the session on a project to establish a regional internet site page on water resources of Central Asia based on the web-site of SIC ICWC. Implementation of this project is planned jointly between SIC ICWC, UN ECE and GRID-Arendal. The Swiss Government is considering the possibility to fund this project.

The Project Manager, UN ECE Regional Adviser Mr. E. Nadezhdin provided information about the second phase of the concept for creation of a local information network for the leading organizations for energy and water issues in Central Asia. He also presented a report on project implementation during the period starting from the 14 April 2003 to July 2003 and final Work Program of activities to be implemented within the framework of the project before the end of 2003 (Annex 3).

After discussions of all items of the Agenda, 12th PWG-Energo Session made the following decisions:

1. Approve and accept the sixth edition of the Regional Cooperation Strategy on Rational and Efficient Use of Energy and Water Resources in Central Asia.

2. National coordinators and national consultants of the Project “Rational and Efficient Use of Energy and Water Resources in Central Asia” are to initiate the approval of the sixth edition of the Regional Cooperation Strategy on Rational and Efficient Use of Energy and Water Resources in Central Asia on the national level. The summary of the result of this process should be submitted, signed by National coordinators of the SPECA Programme (level of Deputy Head of Government) to the Secretariat of PWG- Energo Secretariat before 15 September 2003.

3. Request National coordinators of the Project “Rational and Efficient Use of Energy and Water Resources in Central Asia” to form national delegations for participation in “International Conference on international cooperation problems of rational and efficient use of energy and water resources in Central Asia” (8 members from every participating country) and submit a list of the delegation to the Secretariat of PWG- Energo before 1 October 2003.

4. Entrust Mr. Mateyev, Chairman of PWG- Energo with preparation of invitations to take part in “International Conference on international cooperation problems of rational and efficient use of energy and water resources in Central Asia”, that is to be held 4-5 November in Bishkek (Kyrgyzstan) and sending them to heads of international organizations and donor countries.

5. Entrust UN ECE and ESCAP Secretariats jointly with Chairman of PWG- Energo Mr. Mateyev to develop and agree on a preliminary agenda for “International Conference on international cooperation problems of rational and efficient use of energy and water resources in Central Asia” and place it on web-sites of these international organizations as well as on web-site of the project before 1 September 2003.

6. Basing on Joint statement of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan Leaders, approved on the Meeting of States Heads of Organization “Central Asian Cooperation”, which was held 5-6 July 2003 in Almaty, it was determined to assist and to take part in elaboration of the concept for Water-energy Consortium activity of Central Asia countries.

7. Request UN ECE and ESCAP Secretariats to investigate the possibility of including a new project “Regional Cooperation on Dam Safety in Central Asia” in the Special Programme for Economies of Central Asia, and to request UN ECE and ESCAP Secretariats to prepare project proposals for this project and send them to participating countries before 15 September 2003. Suggestions, formulated by IFAS should also be taken into account in this work.

8. Approve a Report of the Project Manager, Regional Adviser of UNECE on the course of the Project realization and the updated Work Programme of activities that are to be implemented within the framework of the Project until the end of the year 2003.

8. Conduct 13th PWG-“Energo” session 3 November 2003 in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.

Adoption of the final documents and approval of an Agenda of the 13th PWG-“Energo” Session

Participants of the workshop agreed to conduct the 13th session of the PWG “Energo” 5 November 2003 in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. The following agenda of the 13th PWG “Energo” Session was approved:

Agenda of the 13th PWG “Energo” Session

5 November 2003, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

- Approval of the Agenda.
- Discussion of the Project proposals “Regional Cooperation on Dam Safety in Central Asia”. (Mr. Mateyev, Chairman of PWG- Energo, UN ECE and UN ESCAP Secretariats).
- Concluding discussion on final results of the project “Rational and Efficient Use of Energy and Water Resources in Central Asia” (Mr. Mateyev, Chairman of PWG- Energo, UN ECE and UN ESCAP Secretariats).
- Approval of final documents.
- Miscellaneous

Participants of the Session expressed their appreciation to the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic, Chairman of the PWG “Energo” Mr. U. Mateyev and Secretariat for good organization of the Session.

**Chairman of PWG “Energo”,
Director of State Agency on Energy
under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic**

U. Mateyev

Bishkek 10 July 2003