



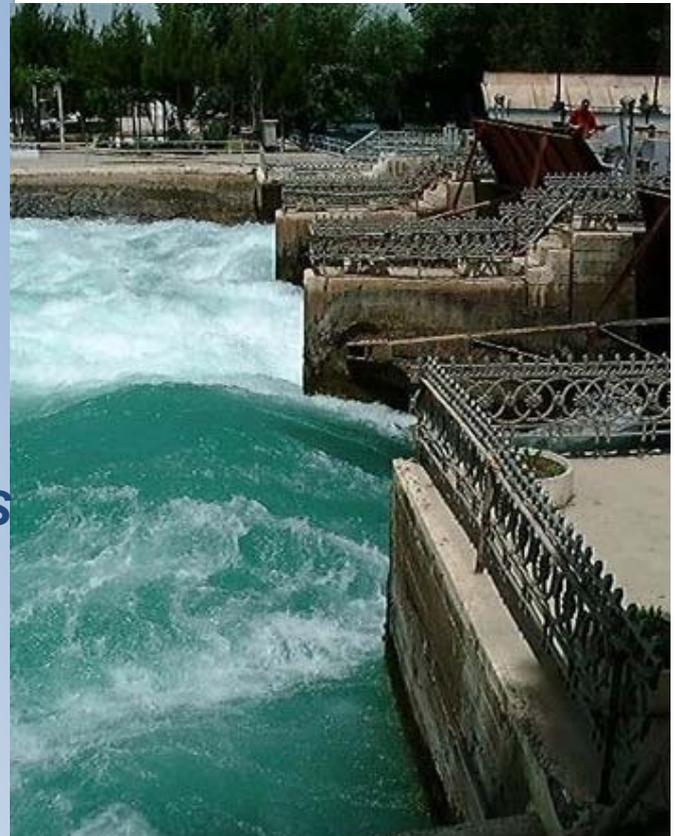
MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN  
AFFAIRS OF FINLAND



Project is financed by the  
European Union



***OVERVIEW OF REGIONAL  
TRANSBOUNDARY WATER  
AGREEMENTS, INSTITUTIONS  
AND RELEVANT  
LEGAL/POLICY ACTIVITIES  
IN CENTRAL ASIA***



**«Promoting Integrated Water Resources Management  
and Fostering Transboundary Dialogue in Central Asia»**

EU-UNDP Project (2008 - 2012)

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*The contents of this report do not reflect the official positions or views of EC, UNDP, nor those of the UN agencies and donor organisations referred to in this report.*

*February 2011*

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## Acronyms

A	Assessment
BWO	Basin Water Organization
CA	Central Asia
CAS	Central Asian States
CB	Capacity Building
EC	European Commission
ICSD	Interstate Commission on Sustainable Development
ICWC	Interstate Coordination Water Commission
IFAS	Interstate Fund for the Aral Sea
INV	Investment/Infrastructure
GEF	Global Environment Facility
KZ	Kazakhstan
KG	Kyrgyzstan
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
RF	The Russian Federation
RWSS	Rural Water Supply and Sanitation
SIC	Scientific-Information Center
TA	Technical Assistance
TJ	Tajikistan
TM	Turkmenistan
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNRCCA	United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for CA
UWSS	Urban Water Supply and Sewage
WR	Water resources



## 1. Introduction

The current paper was prepared within the EC-UNDP Project "Promoting IWRM and Fostering Transboundary Dialogue in Central Asia". The key objective of the study was to carry out an overview of the regional transboundary water agreements, institutions and relevant legal/policy activities in CA.

The paper was prepared on the basis of an inventory and analysis of available publications and information presented at various web sites. A detailed reference list of web-sites visited and publications referred to is presented on page 25 and in the table included in Appendix A.

## 2. Institutional Mechanisms for Transboundary Water Cooperation

The Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002, recognises that effective institutional frameworks are key to fully implementing Agenda 21 and to meeting sustainable development challenges.

### 2.1. Types of Institutional Arrangements

One of the basic fundamental international agreements in the field of water is the Water Convention<sup>1</sup>. The Water Convention requires that bilateral or multilateral agreements or arrangements concluded by riparian countries shall provide for the establishment of joint bodies. Under the Convention, a joint body means "any bilateral or multilateral commission or other appropriate institutional arrangements for cooperation between the Riparian Parties".

In 2000, some 150 agreements on transboundary waters in the UNECE region were in force or had recently been signed. The Transboundary Freshwater Dispute Database, a project of the Oregon State University (United States of America), includes information about 450 international, freshwater-related agreements worldwide, covering the years 1820-2007 [1]. Within this variety of transboundary waters agreements, the following three types of institutional arrangements with regard to inter-State cooperation can be identified:

- No designation of institution to implement the agreement.

A few agreements on transboundary waters do not include provisions for the establishment of any body or institutional mechanism. This approach is typical for agreements which regulate a narrow area of cooperation. Often countries enter into agreements that do not envisage any bodies or other institutional mechanisms, but subsequently realize the need to establish an institutional mechanism to streamline implementation.

- Plenipotentiaries (governmental representatives) are appointed to facilitate the implementation of the agreement.

The institution of plenipotentiaries is common in agreements dating from the beginning of the 1990s. Today, however, plenipotentiaries no longer prevail. A number of agreements involving CA countries provide conditions for the establishment of joint commissions.

- A joint commission is established to facilitate inter-State cooperation in implementation of the agreement.

While the institution of plenipotentiaries is typical for agreements concerning boundary waters, joint commissions worldwide are mostly created to ensure the basin approach in protection and use of transboundary river basins. Both institutions may exist for the same States with partially overlapping geographical coverage.

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<sup>1</sup> The UNECE Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Rivers and International Lakes (1992).

### 3. International Water Agreements and Institutions in CA

Across Central Asia countries are engaged in a growing number of multilateral and bilateral agreements to regulate the use and protection of transboundary waters. To ensure their effective implementation, governments are establishing joint bodies for transboundary water cooperation that serve both as forums and tools for enriching dialogue and decision making. Existing joint bodies take a variety of forms, cover many areas and offer a wide range of experiences with regard to institutional mechanisms and organisational structures. These experiences are very useful to support efforts to establish or strengthen transboundary water cooperation.

#### 3.1. Interstate Transboundary Water Governance Agreements, Commissions and Institutions

While a prerequisite to the effective cooperation is mostly political will, it is also important to ensure that the joint bodies or other arrangements involving CA countries, the Russian Federation, China, and Iran have the right institutional structures and mechanisms to effectively address their tasks (Table 1).

**Table 1 Intergovernmental Transboundary Waters Agreements and Corresponding Institutions**

No.	Title ( Year of Signature)	Institution
1	Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan Concerning the Joint Use and Protection of Transboundary Waters (1992)	Joint commission
2	Agreement between the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Republic of Tajikistan and Turkmenistan on Cooperation in Joint Management of Use and Protection of Water Resources of Interstate Sources (1992)	Interstate Commission for Water Coordination of Central Asia (ICWC) (Section 3.4)
3	Statute of the Basin Water-Management Joint Company “Amu Darya” (1992)	Head appointed by ICWS
4	Statute of the Basin Water-Management Joint Company “Syr Darya” (1992)	Head appointed by ICWS
5/6	Agreement on joint activities in addressing the Aral Sea and the zone around the Sea crisis, improving the environment, and ensuring the social and economic development of the Aral Sea region (1993)	Interstate Council on Aral Sea basin, Interstate Commission on Sustainable Development (ICSD), Interstate Commission for Water Coordination of Central Asia (ICWC) (Section 3.3)
7	Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the People’s Republic of China Concerning Protection, Regulation and Reproduction of Living Water Resources in Frontier Waters of Rivers Amur and Ussury (1994) - updated 2007	Earlier established mixed commission
8	Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of Mongolia on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Waters (1995)	Plenipotentiaries
9	Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Government of Turkmenistan Concerning Cooperation on Water Management Issues (1996)	No institutions Established
10	Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the People’s Republic of China on Leading Principles of Joint Economic Use of Individual Islands and Adjacent to Them Territories within Border Rivers (1997)	No institutions Established

No.	Title ( Year of Signature)	Institution
11	Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Government of Kyrgyz Republic, the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, and the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan Concerning Use of Water and Energy Resources in Syr Darya River Basin (1998)	Earlier established institutions
12	The Agreement about the status of IFAS and its organizations (April, 9, 1999, Ashgabat)	The Interstate Fund for the Aral Sea (IFAS)
13	The Ashgabat Declaration (1999)	Plenipotentiaries
14	Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Government of Kyrgyz Republic on the Use of Water Management Facilities of Intergovernmental Status on the Rivers Chu and Talas (2000)	Commission was established later (in 2006)
15	Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Government of the People's Republic of China Concerning Cooperation in Use and Protection of Transboundary Rivers (2001)	Kazakhstan-China Joint Commission on the Use and Protection of Transboundary Rivers (the "Joint Commission")
16	Framework Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Caspian Sea (Tehran Convention) (2003)	Conference of the Parties
17	Agreement between the Government of Turkmenistan and the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran on Joint Exploitation of Dostluk <sup>2</sup> Water Reservoir (2007)	Joint coordinating Commission/administration
18	Statute of UN Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia (UNRCCA)	UN Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia (UNRCCA) (Section 3.14)
19	Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the People's Republic of China Concerning Rational Use and Protection of Transboundary Waters (2008)	Joint commission

More details on each of the international agreements above are summarised in Appendix A. A more detailed description of the institutional bodies established and operating in CA is presented below.

### 3.2. Draft Agreements on Individual Transboundary Rivers.

In addition to already agreement in force the five Central Asia countries have prepared drafts of three Inter-state Agreements of Water Use and Conservation [5]:

- Between Republic of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Republic of Tajikistan, Republic of Uzbekistan, and Turkmenistan on the development of cooperation and division of functions of inter-state organisations for protection, management and development of water resources of the Aral sea
- Between Republic of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Republic of Tajikistan, Republic of Uzbekistan, and Turkmenistan on water use in modern conditions
- Between Republic of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Republic of Tajikistan, Republic of Uzbekistan, and Turkmenistan on joint planning and use of transboundary water resources.

A further description of existing international agreements and institutional governance bodies for CA countries is presented in Sections below of this report.

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<sup>2</sup> Friendship.

### **3.3. Agreement on Joint Activities in Addressing the Aral Sea and the Zone Around the Sea Crisis (1993)**

This is one of the key agreements in relation to the joint addressing the Aral Sea crisis area. It defines cooperation between the five CA countries in terms of:

- Conservation of limited land and water resources of the Aral Sea basin to provide conditions for required social-economic development and welfare of population;
- Maintain good water quality in rivers, other surface and ground water bodies by reduction and further prevention of untreated industrial, municipal, polluted and high-salinity return and drainage waters
- Guaranteed water discharge into the Aral sea in volumes allowing to support sustainable though already reduced in size aquatic territory at environmentally acceptable level and preserve the Aral Sea as a natural water body
- Rehabilitation of ecosystem balance in the region with particular attention to the deltas of Amy Darya and Syr Darya rivers, wetlands, development of sustainable artificial landscape complexes
- Control of water use and its efficiency in the basin, development of corresponding interstate legislation/regulations related to common for the region compensatory mechanisms in case of damage
- Improvement of sanitary and hygiene norms and living conditions of local population particularly in the Priaraliye region, implementation of measure for providing access of the local population to safe drinking water
- Development and implementation of coordinated social-economic development strategy with account of environmental safety of the peoples living within the region
- Implementation of measures to protect migrating species of animals including those living in neighbouring countries, establishment of protected areas
- Re-initiation of works related to provision of additional water resources to the region from other water sources (diversion)
- Promotion to the maximum extent scientific research, as well as other measures activities directed at the solution of aforementioned tasks
- Establishment of favourable climate for priority protection measures to attract investors to fund programmes and activities related to the improvement of state of environment and social-economic development of the region.

This agreement (Article 2) also establishes:

- Interstate Council for the Aral Sea (ICAS) including Permanent Executive Committee in Tashkent,
- Interstate Commission on Sustainable Development (ICSD),
- Interstate Commission for Water Coordination of Central Asia (ICWC) (in accordance with the Agreement 2 signed on Feb 18, 1992 in Almaty)

The Russian Federation (Article 3) participates in activities of the Interstate Council as an observer, provides required technical and methodological assistance related to the implementation of this Agreement.

### **3.4. The Interstate Coordination Water Commission (ICWC)**

#### **3.4.1. Background**

After collapse of the Soviet Union, to prevent arising of conflicts and serious complications in water resources management and to put water allocation, limitation and account in order, the Ministers of five Central Asian independent states (N. Kipshakbayev, V. Melnichenko, A. Nurov, A. Ilamanov, R. Giniyatullin) in consequence of negotiations, meetings and discussions adopted at the conference in Tashkent on October 10-12, 1991 the Statement, in which, based on historical community of Central Asian peoples, their equal rights and responsibility for ensuring rational water resources use in the region, and taking natural and economic conditions into account, they recognized that only joint actions in coordination and management can help to effectively solve the region's water problems in a context of increasing ecological and social tension.

On February 18, 1992 five Ministers of Water Resources of Central Asian states (N. Kipshakbayev, M. Zulpuyev, A. Nurov, A. Ilamanov, R. Giniyatullin) signed in Almaty "Agreement on cooperation in joint management, use and protection of interstate sources of water resources". Actually, this agreement founded a united body, ICWC. This Agreement was confirmed by the Decision of the Presidents, Kzyl-Orda, March 26, 1993 and their "Agreement on joint actions on resolving the problems related to the Aral Sea and its coastal zone on environmental sanitation and social-economic development in the Aral Sea region", and later by Agreement of the region's five countries of April 9, 1999 "On status of IFAS and its organisations" [3].

The Interstate Commission for Water Coordination (ICWC) is a parity collective body of Central Asian States acting on the basis of equity, equality and consensus. According to the Decision by the Heads of State of March 23, 1993, ICWC was included in the International Fund for saving the Aral Sea (IFAS) and has the status of an international organisation.

#### **3.4.2. The Main Goal and Functions of ICWC**

The main aim of ICWC establishment was to strengthen the principle of collective leadership in decision-making process on general issues of regional interstate water management, use and protection and in implementing joint programs related to water resources of Central Asia. Formation of ICWC and its work is under close attention of the Presidents of Central Asian states. The Head of States through their agreements of 23 March 1993 and 9 April 1999 acknowledged a specific role of ICWC under the aegis of IFAS and thus showed the deep understanding of the importance of joint management in using and protecting water resources, in developing all the countries and the region as a whole, as well as concerns about sustainable supply of their people with water and ensuring of adequate environmental conditions. The Ministers of Water Resources of the five Central Asian countries are the members of ICWC.

The main tasks of ICWC are the following [2]:

- Development of a common water management policy of the region, as well as its main parameters with account of requirement of population, economies of the countries, and rational use and protection of water resources;
- Development and approval of annual limits of water use for each state for the main water bodies, as well as regimes of bigger reservoirs and water distribution;
- Coordination of implementation of bigger water resource related projects and coordinated use of water resources available;
- Establishment of a united informational base on water resources use.

Meeting of ICWS are held quarterly chaired by the countries on rotational basis. All decisions are taken unanimously and they are obligatory for each country. Each member has a right of veto.

The international donor community through its active collaboration with ICWC has been providing considerable support to the implementation of IWRM, development of training activity, water conservation, improved forecasts and measurements of water flows, automation of hydro-structure operation, development of information system, etc. It is worth to note such international organisations as the UN, World Bank, the European Union, Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), Asian Development Bank (ADB), the Governments of Norway and Finland, UK Department For International Development (DFID), U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), UNDP, the Japanese Water Forum, the Network of Global Water Partnership (GWP), etc.

Executive Bodies of ICWC are:

- Scientific-Information Center ICWC;
- Training Center ICWC;
- Coordination Metrological Center ICWC;
- Secretariat ICWC;
- Basin Water Organization “Amu Darya”;
- Basin Water Organization “Syr Darya”.

### **3.4.3. Legal Framework of ICWC Activities**

The legal framework of ICWC activities include the following:

- Statute of the Interstate Commission for Water Coordination of Central Asia (2008);
- Provision about rotation of executive bodies of the Interstate Coordination Water Commission (ICWC) of Central Asia and their heads (2008);
- Statute of the Coordination Metrological Centre ICWC (2000);
- Statute of the Scientific-Information Centre of ICWC (1999);
- Statute of the SIC ICWC branches in the Aral Sea basin states (1999);
- The Agreement about the status of IFAS and its organisations (1998);
- Agreement between the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan on co-operation in interstate sources' water resources use and protection common management (1992);
- Agreement between Republic of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Republic of Uzbekistan on joint activities in addressing the Aral Sea and the zone around the Sea crisis, improving the environment, and enduring the social and economic development of the Aral Sea region (1993);
- Statute of the Secretariat of ICWC (1993);
- Statute of the Basin Water Association “Amu Darya” (1992);
- Statute of the Basin Water Association “Syr Darya” (1992);
- Statute of the Interstate Commission for Water Coordination of Central Asia (ICWC) (1992);
- Statement of heads of water economy organisations of Central Asian Republics and Kazakhstan (1991).

### **3.4.4. Basin Water-Management Joint Company (BWO) “Amu Darya”**

BWO “Amu Darya” is responsible for:

- Jointly achieve required water use discipline at all levels of water management;
- Plan (establish) objective water intake limits for veloyats, states, since there are cases of inequitable approach to limits allocation by Ministries at level of administrative territories.
- Keep coordinated water intake regimes.
- Introduce system of sanctions for violation of water use limits and norms.
- Systematically take measures on improving water resources monitoring by using available technical tools in operational organizations.
- Create Automated river basin management system.
- Introduce proper systems and methods of water use control and gauging devices/meters in all water supply systems.

Territorial divisions' geographical responsibility is divided in following way:

- Kurgan-Tyube Hydrounit Division (new name Verkhnedarya Division) operates 8 water intake structures, controls water intakes from rivers Vakhsh, Pyandj, Kafirnigan and on Amudarya River reach with length 246 km to Kelif gauging station;
- Turkmenabad Hydrounit Division (new name Srednedarya Division) controls water intakes at Amudarya River reach with length 552 km, between gauging stations Kelif and Darganata. Division operates 9 big river water intakes;
- Amudarya Inter-republican Canal Division (Upradik) operates 11 river water intakes, 52 hydrostructures on main canals, finances and operates 386 km of main canals, controls water intakes within river reach from Tuyamuyun hydrounit to Kypchak gauging station (reach length 167 km). Three big irrigation systems: Tashsaka, Klychniyazbay, and Kypchak-Bozsu are also under Upradik subordination;
- Nukus Hydrounit Division (new name Nizhnedarya Division) operates Takhiatash hydrounit, head water intakes of canals Khan-yab and Jumabaysaka, controls all water intakes from river within reach from Kypchak gauging station to Aral Sea (reach length 283 km).

### **3.4.5. Basin Water-Management Joint Company (BWO) “Syr Darya”**

BWO "Syrdarya" according to its functions executes:

- The Syr Darya basin water resources operative management, control of water-intake limits and submission annually to the Minvodkhozs of the states, ICWC-members, of water resources/use balance. Develops water-intake limits correction according to year humidity and agrees it with ICWC-members.
- Prepares and submits to ICWC proposals on water-intake limits for each year (with division on vegetation and non-vegetation periods) for each state on the base of jointly adopted decisions related to forecasted water situation, ensures sanitary and environmental discharges to the Aral Sea and Syr Darya delta.
- Provides development and concordance with interests of all ICWC member states operational regime of water reservoirs, hydropower plants, water-intakes and submits it to the ICWC meeting for approval.
- Monitoring of water intake and supply, water balance and responsibility for their reliability.
- Hydrostructures maintenance, technology upgrade and mechanisation, introduction of modern techniques, water account and allocation by using automatical and telemechanical means, introduction of new practices.

- Controls financial activity of its divisions, revises their working activity, introduces new methods.
- Ensures implementation of safety rules and prevents damages;
- Assists in the development of norms, recommendations and regulations related to water use and management.

BWO “Syrdarya” consists of:

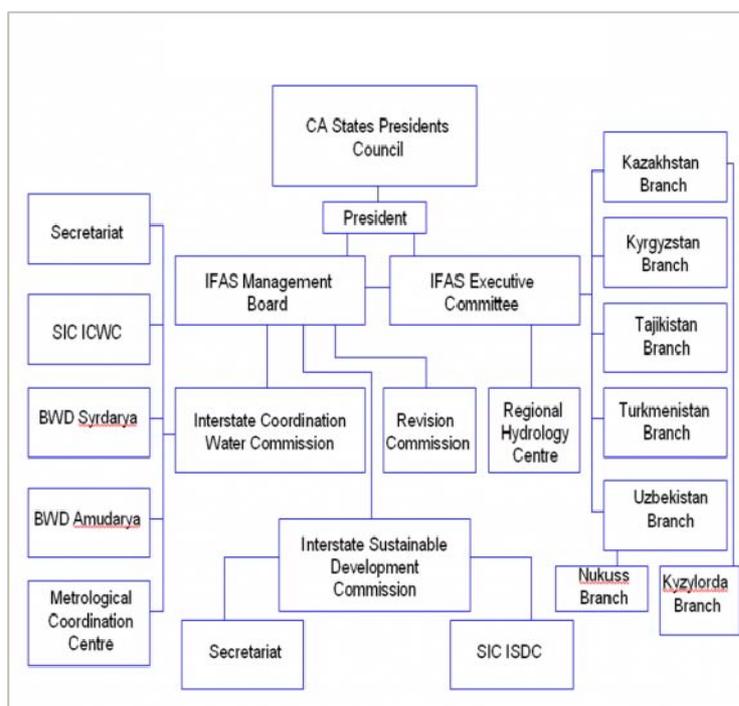
- Naryn-Karadarya waterworks administration in Kuyganyar, Andijan oblast;
- Golodnostepkiy waterworks and “Dustlik” canal administration in Gulistan, Syrdarya oblast;
- Verkhnechirchikskiy waterworks administration in Chirchik, Tashkent oblast;
- Charvak reservoir administration in Charvak, Tashkent oblast;
- Toktogul reservoir administration.

The BWO also includes Uchkurgan mobile mechanised unit, Gulistan mobile mechanised unit, transport firm and agricultural subdivision.

### 3.5. The Interstate Commission on Sustainable Development (ICSD)

Overall coordination of sustainable development activities is carried out by the Interstate Commission on Sustainable Development (ICSD). The main goal of ICSD – coordination and supervision of cooperation in the field of environment protection and sustainable development programmes in Central Asia. ICSD comprises of 15 members – 3 representatives from each Central Asian country: the Ministers of Environment, Deputy Ministers of Economy, representatives of Scientific Institutes and other sectors. These representatives are appointed by the governments of the countries. ICSD meets twice a year. See Appendix A for more details.

**Figure 1 IFAS Structure [8]**



### **3.6. The Interstate Fund for the Aral Sea (IFAS)**

The Interstate Fund for the Aral Sea (IFAS) is a high-level body, which carries out activities based on decisions of the Leaders of the participating countries, regulations of IFAS, Secretariat of IFAS, the Agreement on the statute of IFAS and its subsidiary organisations.

The key functions/activities of IFAS include:

- Funding and crediting of joint interstate environmental and scientific programmes and projects directed at saving the Aral Sea and improvement of environmental and ecological situation in the regions suffering from the disaster, as well as at addressing general social and environmental challenges of the region;
- Funding of joint fundamental and applied research related to the Aral Sea rehabilitation and conservation of natural resources (including water) of the region, protection of environment
- Establishment and operation of the interstate environmental monitoring network, as well as databases and other systems with information on the Aral Sea basin environment;
- Resource mobilisation for joint actions to protect atmosphere, water and land resources, flora and fauna of the region;
- Participation in implementation of international programmes and projects on the Aral Sea and improvement of environmental state of the Aral Sea basin.

### **3.7. Agreement between Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan on Cooperation for Water Management**

There was a clear understanding at the highest political levels of Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan that close cooperation in the field of water management and distribution is critical for both countries. This is why, this Agreement re-confirmed such a need and good intentions of the countries to jointly work on water resource use and management issues [9].

Particularly, in the introductory part the Agreement reads that such cooperation is built on friendship and neighbourliness, on the need to jointly use transboundary rivers and other water sources, the readiness to refrain from any economic and other mechanisms of pressure for solving important interstate issues and disputes, inter-connection of water issues and responsibilities of the countries to rationally use scarce water resources available. An increase of water flow to the Aral Sea was mentioned to be of utmost importance as well.

The following aspects of inter-state relationships were re-confirmed by the Agreement:

- If hydro-construction objects including canals and reservoirs owned by one country is situated on the territory of another country, the land under such objects remain the property of the country on which territory these hydro-construction objects are situated;
- In such cases payment for use of the territory is due. The order of payment and conditions are defined by additional agreements between the countries;
- Both countries will do their best to provide required conditions for proper operation of such objects;
- Water management enterprises and organisations dealing with exploitation of objects of transboundary character operate on the basis of the existing international agreements and norms with account of the national legislation of the host country.
- Both countries agreed to divide the water flow of the Amy Darya river (at the Kerki hydrological point) in equal parts (50%-50%) and to ensure proportional to this distribution discharge to the Aral Sea;

- Jointly plan and implement land reclamation measures, reconstruction and rehabilitation of inter-state collectors, improvements of irrigation systems and infrastructure, construction of water diversion and water discharge networks;
- Countries agreed to develop and implement measure to prevent river bed deformations and flooding of adjacent territories while operating water regulating systems. Until construction of permanent bank protection installations the countries agreed to implement temporary measures to prevent bank erosion and floodings;
- In accordance with previous inter-state agreements from 1999 on - to stop discharge of drainage waters from both banks of the Amy Darya river.

### **3.8. Agreement between KZ, KG, TJ, Uz on Use of Water and Energy Resources in the Syr Darya River Basin (1998)**

This agreement was concluded in Bishkek on March 17, 1998 (Tajikistan joined in 1999) [10]. The Agreement underlined a coordinated order of water and energy resources use in the Syr Darya River basin, which is a prerequisite for further social-economic development of the countries and peoples' welfare. The Syr Darya River basin is located in four countries and possesses water and energy resources, which can support further development of economies and societies. The main principles of the inter-state cooperation is based on international norms and international law. Flow regulation of the Syr Darya River in long-term was emphasized to be focused on proper use of water for the purposes of power generation and irrigation<sup>3</sup>. It is, though, vitally important to assure good ecological state of water resources and environmental safety. The coordinated conservation, use and management of water resources are to take into account remediation measures to prevent further development of the Aral Sea crisis.

The following aspects of inter-state relationships were re-confirmed by the Agreement:

- Article 1 of the Agreement contains a number of definitions accepted by all participating countries, e.g. vegetation period duration, cascade of reservoirs, water management annual cycle, etc.
- In order to ensure a coordinated water supply for irrigation, decisions on discharges from the cascade of reservoirs, generation and transport of energy, as well as energy losses to be compensated on a corresponding equivalent basis are to be agreed by the countries every year,
- The countries are obliged NOT to take measures disturbing the agreed by all countries regime of water allocation and energy production (including transportation of electricity)
- Mechanisms of re-distribution of energy generated over agreed quantities from Kyrgyzstan to Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan, as well as compensation for these quantities of electricity by other products (coal, gas, etc.) or cash. In order to operationalize these mechanisms unified energy tariffs are to be developed.
- Other aspects of inter-state cooperation, notably: conflict resolution mechanisms, unimpeded and duty-free movement of goods between the countries within the framework of this Agreement, operation and rehabilitation of hydro-construction objects, etc.

This framework Agreement failed to realize one of the key objectives, i.e. provision of sustainable operation of the Naryn-Syr Darya Cascade of Hydropower Stations in interests of all participating countries [11]. Though this Agreement played a positive role in structuring water-energy exchange between the countries of the Syr Darya basin (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan), implementation practice showed that mechanisms included in the Agreement do not satisfy [12]:

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<sup>3</sup> Often in CA this represents the major challenge, since these types of water use are contradictory in terms of timing of the discharge required. Discharge from reservoirs in winter is preferred for power generation (causing serious problems in the lower stretches of the rivers), whereas for irrigation the preferred timing is in spring and summer during vegetation season, which coincides with the natural maximum river discharge.

- Countries where the Syr Darya flow is formed (Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan) - in average flow years;
- Countries of the middle and lower reaches of the Syr Darya (Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan) - in low flow years;
- All countries - in high flow years.

### **3.9. The Ashgabat Declaration (1999)**

The Declaration is focused on the Aral crisis consequences, which negatively affected the standard of living of population in Central Asia. The problems of social protection and provision with pure drinking water became aggravated. The States of Central Asia give unceasing consideration for improvement of situation in the region, for attraction the world community to settle these problems. In common with international organisations and funds, including considerable GEF support, major national attention was paid to the issues of water resource management in Central Asia directed to a drastic improvement of the water and other resources usage, enhancement of efficiency and culture of the nature use within the region, and normalisation of ecological situation as a whole. Nevertheless, it was recognised that the efforts, undertaken to settle the Aral Sea basin problems, are insufficient. This is why, the five Presidents of the Central Asian countries declared to [4]:

- admit the importance of comprehensive solution of the problems, connected with normalisation of social-ecological situation in Aral Sea basin,
- strengthen both in the CAS and in their representations abroad the activity to attract the attention of international community, means and abilities of donor-countries, funds and organisations for implementation the programs and projects related to the Aral Sea basin problems,
- provide every kind of assistance and support to implementation of “Control on Water resources and Environment in Aral Sea basin” project, being realised under the aegis of World Bank and GEF,
- give more consideration to the problems of mountain territories – the zone of river flow formation within Aral Sea basin,
- realise a number of all-round measures and priority projects on social protection of population living in Aral Sea basin,
- brisk up the works against desertification and transboundary pollution of water bodies,
- assist to international organisations and institutions in their activity on implementation of the programs and projects related to the Aral Sea basin problems,
- promote (through educational and other programs) rising of awareness of the population about urgent problems of nature protection, conservation and improvement of environment for present and future generations.

### **3.10. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Government of Kyrgyz Republic on the Use of Water Management Facilities of Intergovernmental Status on the Rivers Chu and Talas (2000)**

#### **3.10.1. The Agreement on Rivers Chu and Talas**

Both countries acknowledged the social, economic and environmental value of water resources, stressed the high importance of mutually beneficial cooperation in the field of water resource use and maintaining reliable and safe water management facilities. The countries mutually aspired to find a more unassailable and fair solution to the efficient use of water management facilities in compliance with generally acknowledged norms of international law on water resources. Respecting the principles

of good neighbourly relations, equality and mutual assistance, the countries have agreed on the following:

- Use of water resources and operation of water management facilities of intergovernmental status shall be aimed at the achievement of mutual benefit on the fair and equitable basis;
- Attribute to the water management facilities of intergovernmental status the following water management facilities owned by the Kyrgyz Republic: the Orto-Tokoiskoye Reservoir on the River Chu, the By-Pass Ferroconcrete Chu Canals on the River Chu from the Bystrovskaya Hydroelectric Power Plant to the city of Tokmok, the Western and Eastern Bolshie Chu Canals with the Chumysh Hydrosystem on the River Chu and the Kirovskoye Reservoir on the River Talas.
- A country that possesses water management facilities of intergovernmental status has the right to compensation from the other country that uses these facilities. The compensation shall cover necessary expenses to ensure their reliable and safe operation.
- The countries share expenses connected with the operation and maintenance of water management facilities of intergovernmental status and with other mutually agreed activities pro rata according to the amount of water they receive.
- In order to ensure safe and reliable work of water management facilities of intergovernmental status, the countries create permanent commissions to determine the working regimes and the range of necessary expenses for operation and maintenance.
- The countries annually allocate necessary funds for operation and maintenance of water management facilities of intergovernmental status.
- The countries implement joint activities to protect water management facilities of intergovernmental status and adjacent territories from adverse effects of floods, mudflows and other natural disasters.
- The countries notify the other party of the Agreement on emergency situations arising on water management facilities of intergovernmental status due to unexpected natural disasters or technical failures.
- The countries acknowledged the need to use construction, repair, operation and industrial facilities of each other to provide for the timely and efficient repair and restoration of water management facilities of intergovernmental status.
- Implementation of joint research and development activities on the efficient use of water resources and water management facilities.
- To create conditions for unimpeded and duty-free movement across their borders and territories of personnel, vehicles, equipment, raw materials and other objects necessary for the exploitation and maintenance of water management facilities of intergovernmental status.
- Disputes and disagreements regarding the interpretation or application of the current Agreement are to be resolved through negotiations and consultations.

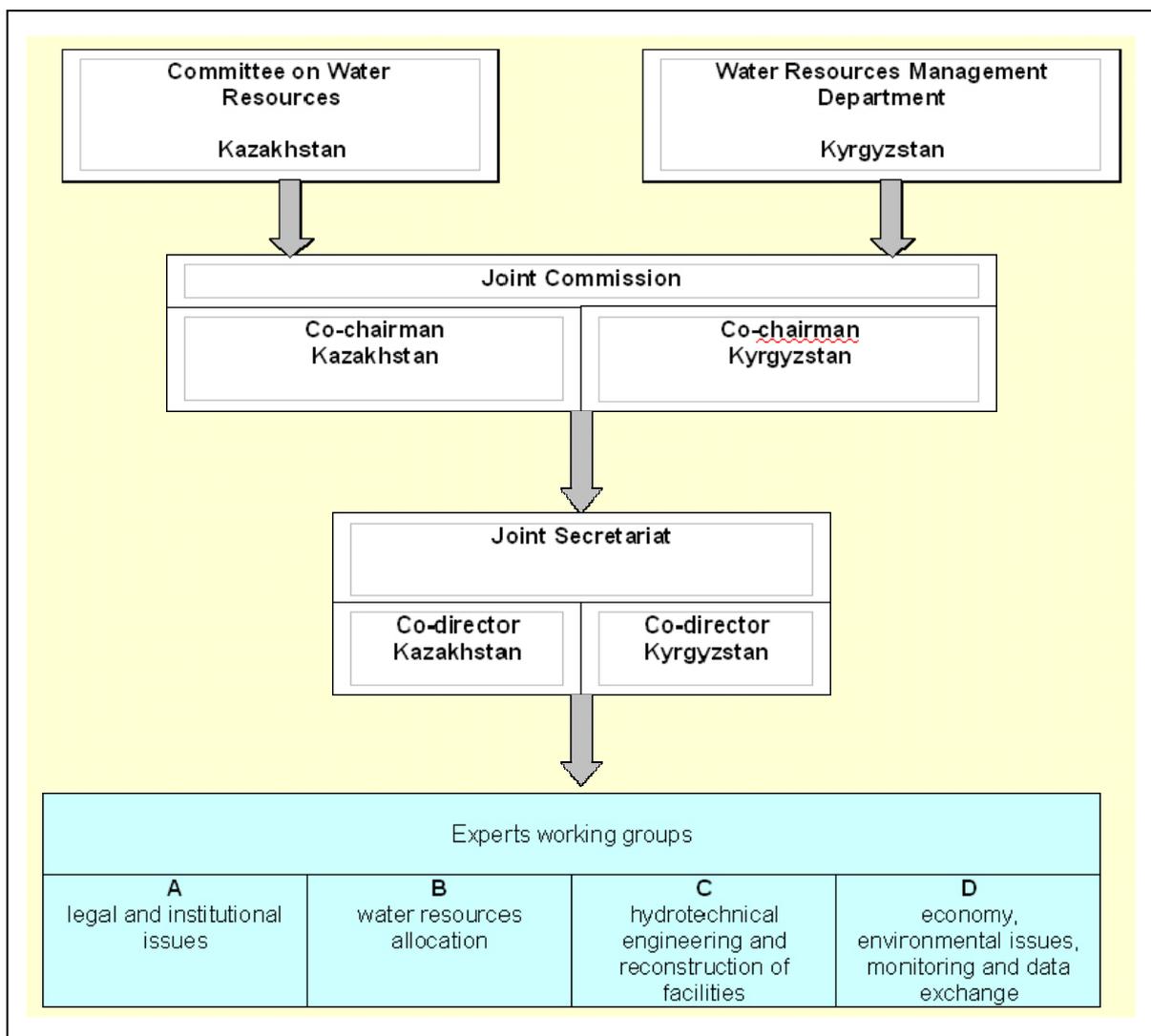
### **3.10.2. The Chu-Talas Commission**

The Commission was established in 2006 for the implementation of the Agreement of 2000 (Section 3.10.1). The sources of the Chu and Talas lie in the territory of Kyrgyzstan, where water management facilities such as dams, water reservoirs and canals have also been constructed. In accordance with the Agreement of 2000, Kyrgyzstan has the right to compensation from Kazakhstan for a share of expenses spent to ensure safe and reliable exploitation of these water management facilities [6].

The Chu-Talas Commission consists of two parts (Figure 2): the Kazakh part of the Commission, which includes its Chairperson and members, and the Kyrgyz part of the Commission, which includes its Chairperson and members. The members of the Commission are appointed by the respective

Governments. Sessions of the Commission are organized at least twice a year. The Commission has a permanent executive body, the secretariat which includes the secretariats of both the Kazakh and Kyrgyz parts of the Commission. The secretariat holds regular meetings alternately in Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan. The secretariat's main tasks are described by regulations approved by the Commission covering, inter alia, preparation of the meetings of the Commission, administrative and organizational management, development of annual reports and some coordination functions. The secretariat coordinates the activities of working sub-groups set up by the Commission. To date, these include working subgroups on: (a) legal and institutional issues; (b) allocation of water resources; (c) hydrotechnical works and reconstruction of facilities; and (d) economics, environment, monitoring and data exchange.

**Figure 2 Structure of the Chu-Talas Commission [6]**



### **3.11. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Government of the People's Republic of China Concerning Cooperation in Use and Protection of Transboundary Rivers (2001)**

With the goal of furthering the development of and strengthening the amicable and neighbourly relations between Kazakhstan and China, implementing cooperation in the use and protection of the water resources of the transboundary rivers, governed by generally accepted principles and norms of international law on the basis of the principles of mutual respect for independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit, and peaceful coexistence, in a spirit of mutual understanding, mutual amenability, and friendly consultation, equitably and rationally resolving issues between the two States in the use and protection of the water resources of transboundary rivers, the countries have agreed:

- The term “transboundary river” means all rivers and river flows that cross state borders or are located along the border between the Republic of Kazakhstan and the People's Republic of China.
- In the use and protection of transboundary rivers, the Parties shall adhere to the principles of equity and rationality, as well as closely cooperate in a sincere, neighbourly, and friendly manner.
- The countries undertake appropriate measures and shall make efforts to prevent or mitigate serious harm caused to a State Party as a result of flooding disasters and anthropogenic accidents.
- Taking into account mutual interests, no country shall limit the other country in the rational use and protection of the water resources of transboundary rivers.
- Cooperation between the countries are carried out in the following areas:
  - a. Monitoring: measuring the volume and quality of waters, development of unified methods of monitoring, measuring, analysis, and assessment;
  - b. Conducting analyses of data generated from hydrological monitoring and measuring at the posts agreed by the countries;
  - c. Conducting joint research into the prevention of or mitigation of the consequences of flooding, freezing, and other natural disasters;
  - d. Trend analysis related to future changes in the volume and quality of water in transboundary rivers; and
  - e. Joint research and sharing lessons learned in the use and protection of transboundary rivers.
- The countries agree and determine the content of, quantity of, and times for exchange of data and information (preserve the confidentiality of any such information).
- The countries create a Kazakhstan-China Joint Commission on the Use and Protection of Transboundary Rivers. Meetings of the Joint Commission are to be held once a year on rotational basis and discuss issues related to the fulfilment of the Agreement, as well as issues related to the use and protection of transboundary rivers. Special or extraordinary meetings can also be held.
- In case of disagreements arise over the interpretation and application of the provisions of the Agreement the countries are to resolve them through consultations.

### **3.12. Framework Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Caspian Sea (Tehran Convention)**

The Framework Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Caspian Sea, also known as the “Tehran Convention” named after the city where it was adopted in 2003, is the first legally binding regional agreement signed by all five Caspian littoral States (Azerbaijan, I.R. Iran, Kazakhstan, Russian Federation and Turkmenistan), laying down the general requirements and the institutional mechanisms for environmental protection in the Caspian region.

The need for joint protection and management of the Caspian environment and its resources has been an ongoing issue for the Caspian littoral states. Particularly, since the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, the five littoral States have shown increased interest in joint cooperation for the protection of the Caspian. While a number of non-binding regional agreements were reached in the 1990s, they did not bring about the desired results. In 1998, the Caspian Environment Program (CEP) as a regional umbrella program was established with its aim to halt the deterioration of environmental conditions of the Caspian Sea and to promote sustainable development in the area for the long-term benefit of the Caspian population.

The signing of the Convention marked the culmination of a complex and politically sensitive inter-governmental negotiation process which has lasted for eight continuous years. Driven under the auspices of UNEP within the framework of the CEP and following a fast ratification process by all five Governments of the Caspian littoral states, the Tehran Convention entered into force on 12th August 2006.

Four ancillary Protocols to the Convention are currently under negotiation, some of which are expected to be signed in the near future. The Protocols cover the four priority areas of concern namely: 1) Protocol on the Conservation of Biological Diversity, 2) Protocol on the Protection of the Caspian Sea against Pollution from Land based Sources and Activities, 3) Protocol concerning Regional Preparedness, Response and Co-operation in Combating Oil Pollution Incidents, and 4) Protocol on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Trans-Boundary Context.

The establishment of a Conference of the Parties (COP) and a Secretariat of the Convention is stipulated in Part VI of the Tehran Convention. The first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Tehran Convention in 2007 requested UNEP to carry out the functions of the Convention Secretariat ad interim until a Convention permanent Secretariat has been put in place. This request was reconfirmed in the second Conference of the Parties in 2008. Since then, the Tehran Convention interim Secretariat (TCIS) has been located within UNEP-ROE in Geneva, Switzerland. At the third Conference of the Parties, a decision of the five Caspian littoral States regarding the location of the permanent Secretariat is expected.

The core financial support to the Tehran Convention process and the Secretariat is provided by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the European Union through its Environment and Natural Resources Thematic Programme (ENRTP) and UNEP. In 2009, the Caspian States pledged to provide financial support to meet the cost of the Convention Secretariat.

### **3.13. Agreement between the Government of Turkmenistan and the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran on Joint Exploitation of Dostluk Water Reservoir (2007)**

Distribution of annual flow of the Tejen river has been changed in equal proportions (50%-50%) between Turkmenistan and Iran on the basis of the Agreement between the two countries on construction and exploitation of the reservoir dam Dostluk. In April 2005 the official ceremony of putting into operation of this reservoir took place. The volume of the reservoir is 1.25 km<sup>3</sup>, which allows to provide multi-year flow regulation of the Tejen river and prevent flooding. Management of the reservoir is realized by means of a joint Iraqi-Turkmen administration. Priorities of economic drivers of inter-state cooperation is clearly demonstrated by this Agreement, which also demonstrates

the potential of international agreements in the field of addressing current water related aspects and harmonization of national interests of the countries on the basis of mutual respect and neighbourliness.

A consecutive Agreement was signed in August 2007 during a visit of the President of IRI to Turkmenistan on joint exploitation of the Dostluk reservoir, which is the basis for further development of a new concept of water resource use. The new concept will maximize mutual benefit of both countries [15].

### **3.14. The United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia (UNRCCA)**

The Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy opened on December 10, 2007 in Ashgabat seeks to assist the governments of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan in building “capacities to peacefully prevent conflict, in facilitating dialogue, and in catalysing international support behind projects and initiatives.” While establishing UNRCCA the Governments took into consideration the multiple threats that face Central Asia, including international terrorism and extremism, drug trafficking, organised crime and environmental degradation. It is headed by a senior representative of UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and had an initial budget of \$2.3 million as well as small international staff.

In accordance with the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and the recommendations of the High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change on the need to strengthen the United Nations capacity for conflict prevention, UNRCCA has been established to carry out the following main functions:

- To liaise with the Governments of the region and, with their concurrence, with other parties concerned on issues relevant to preventive diplomacy;
- To monitor and analyse the situation on the ground and to provide the Secretary-General of the United Nations with up-to-date information related to conflict prevention efforts;
- To maintain contact with UN for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Commonwealth of Independent States, the Shanghai Cooperation, UN and other regional organisations, encourage their peacemaking efforts and initiatives, and facilitate coordination and information exchange with due regard to their specific mandates;
- To provide a political framework and leadership for the preventive activities of the United Nations country teams in the region; and to support the efforts of the Resident Coordinators and those of the United Nations system, including the Bretton Woods institutions, in promoting an integrated approach to preventive development and humanitarian assistance;
- To maintain close contact with the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan to ensure a comprehensive and integrated analysis of the situation in the region.

## **4. Brief Analysis of Water International Agreements in CA**

### **4.1. Thematic Areas Covered by Current International Agreements**

Despite the fact that majority of the agreements included in this report deal with water resources and related sectors, they also address a number of other relevant issues. A detailed overview of the scope of these agreements is presented in Table 2 below. All issues under focus of the international agreements were split in 12 categories (Table 3, page 22):

1. IWRM/Joint Use of WR/Basin approach – provisions for joint use of available WRs, allocation of water for each of Party depending on forecasts, various aspects of IWRM
2. Water quantity/allocation/flood protection – provisions for water distribution between Parties, preventive and response measures in case of flooding and other emergency situations, hydrological monitoring, gauging of water allocations, etc.
3. Water quality control/monitoring – provisions for control of water quality and monitoring of state of water bodies, development of harmonised standards and norms, control of discharges of waste and drainage waters
4. Other related natural resources – provisions accounting other natural resources, e.g. land resources, forests, groundwater, etc.
5. Socio-economic issues – provisions for social and economic development of local population including access to safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene, increase of welfare of people, development of private sector
6. Ecosystems, living resources, migrating sp. – provisions accounting environmental requirements, protection of habitats and ecosystems, including migratory species
7. Operation of hydro-constructions – provisions for joint design, development, installation, and operation/ maintenance of various hydro-constructions including those for energy production,
8. Water-Energy Nexus – provisions regulating both regime of WR and hydropower production
9. Information Exchange/DBs/Info Systems – exchange of information and experiences, development of joint databases and information management systems, early warning systems, procedures of informing of Parties in case of emergency situations and natural water-related disasters
10. Design, science and research – joint research programmes and individual projects, participation of international projects, development of methodologies and standards.
11. Monitoring & Compliance – monitoring and evaluation procedures of implementation of an agreement, provisions for regular reporting, meetings, etc.
12. Other issues – all issues not included in the items above, like procedures for crossing national borders by people and goods, mechanisms for attraction of additional funding, division of costs between Parties for agreement-related activities/constructions, etc.

**Table 2 General Information on International Agreements**

#	Year	International Agreement/Institutions (Year)	Legal Basis	Member States	Geographical Scope	Field of Application	Institutions
1	1992	Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan Concerning the Joint Use and Protection of Transboundary Waters (1992)	International Agreement	Russia, Kazakhstan	All surface waters and groundwater which form or cross the frontier between the two States, including transboundary waters in the catchment areas of the Rivers Ishim, Irtish, Ural, Tobol and Volga (eastern part of the delta); Basins: Ob, Ural, Volga	Qualitative and quantitative protection of water resources; water supply, irrigation; floods; regulating	Joint commission, Commission establishes working groups and expert groups for specific issues
2	1992	Agreement between the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan on co-operation in interstate sources' water resources use and protection common management (1992)	International Agreement	Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan	Basins of Rivers Amu Darya, Syr Darya, Aral Sea; All transboundary watercourses and lakes between Parties of the Agreement, basin of the Aral Sea	Regulating; qualitative and quantitative protection of water resources; water supply, irrigation;	Interstate Commission for Water Coordination of Central Asia (ICWC)
3	1992	Statute of the Basin Water-Management Joint Company "Amu Darya" (1992)	International Agreement	Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan	Rivers, lakes, interstate channels, hydro-technical installations in basin of Amu Darya	Water Use	Head of the Joint Company appointed by ICWS
4	1992	Statute of the Basin Water-Management Joint Company "Syr Darya" (1992)	International Agreement	Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan	Rivers, lakes, interstate channels, hydro-technical installations in basin of Syr Darya	Water Use	Head of the Joint Company appointed by ICWS
5	1993	Agreement on joint activities in addressing the Aral Sea and the zone around the Sea crisis, improving the environment, and ensuring the social and economic development of the Aral Sea region (1993)	International Agreement signed in Kyzylorda on 26 March 1993	Kazakhstan;Kyrgyzstan; Tajikistan;Turkmenistan;UzbekistanRussia - observer	Aral Sea Basin	Rational use and protection of land and water resources of the Aral Sea Basin	Interstate Council for the Aral Sea (ICAS), Interstate Commission on Sustainable Development (ICSD), Interstate Commission for Water Coordination of Central Asia (ICWC)

Overview of Regional Transboundary Water Agreements, Institutions and Relevant Legal/Policy Activities in Central Asia

#	Year	International Agreement/Institutions (Year)	Legal Basis	Member States	Geographical Scope	Field of Application	Institutions
6						Air pollution, mngt of water resources, land degradation; waste mngt; biodiversity; problems associated with glaciers' melting; involvement of civil society	Interstate Commission on Sustainable Development (ICSD)
7	1994	Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the People's Republic of China Concerning Protection, Regulation and Reproduction of Living Water Resources in Frontier Waters of Rivers Amur and Ussury (1994) - updated 2007	International Agreement	Russia, China	River Amur (lower of confluence of Rivers Argun' and Shilka), River Ussury (lower of confluence with River Sungacha) and surrounded reservoirs	Management of living water resources	Earlier established mixed commission
8	1995	Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of Mongolia on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Waters (1995)	International Agreement	Russia, Mongolia	Transboundary Waters	Management and protection of transboundary waters	Plenipotentiaries
9	1996	Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Government of Turkmenistan Concerning Cooperation on Water Management Issues (1996)	International Agreement	Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan	Transboundary Waters of the Amy Darya River	Regulating of water use	No institutions Established
10	1997	Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the People's Republic of China on Leading Principles of Joint Economic Use of Individual Islands and Adjacent to Them Territories within Border Rivers (1997)	International Agreement	Russia, China	Border Rivers	Joint use of transboundary water bodies (Temporary)	No institutions Established

Overview of Regional Transboundary Water Agreements, Institutions and Relevant Legal/Policy Activities in Central Asia

#	Year	International Agreement/Institutions (Year)	Legal Basis	Member States	Geographical Scope	Field of Application	Institutions
11	1998	Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Government of Kyrgyz Republic, the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, and the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan Concerning Use of Water and Energy Resources in Syr Darya River Basin (1998)	International Agreement; Currently not in force. It has been replaced by ad-hoc annual bilateral or multi-lateral agreements.	Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan	Syr Darya River Basin;  Rivers, lakes interstate channels, hydro-technical installations in basin of Syr Darya	Regulating of the use of waters in basin of Syr Darya	Earlier established institutions
12	1999	Agreement about the status of IFAS and its organizations (April, 9, 1999, Ashgabat)	Regulations approved by the IFAS President on March 21, 2009	Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan	Aral Sea Basin	To promote IWRM in the Region at the national levels, implemented regional initiatives to create a platform for dialogue on planning and policy	
13	1999	Ashgabat Declaration (1999)	Declaration	Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan	Aral Sea Basin, mountain territories -zone of the rivers flow formation within Aral Sea basin	Improvement of the water and other resources usage, enhancement of efficiency and culture of the nature use within the region, and normalization of ecological situation	Plenipotentiaries
14	2000	Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Government of Kyrgyz Republic on the Use of Water Management Facilities of Intergovernmental Status on the Rivers Chu and Talas (2000)	International Agreement	Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan	Rivers Chu (KZ) and Talas (KG)	Operation of hydro-constructions of transboundary (inter-state) use	Commission was established later (in 2006)
15	2001	Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Government of the People's Republic of China Concerning Cooperation in Use and Protection of Transboundary Rivers (2001)	International Agreement	Kazakhstan, China	Transboundary rivers	Rational use and protection of the water resources of transboundary rivers	Kazakhstan-China Joint Commission on the Use and Protection of Transboundary Rivers (the "Joint Commission")

Overview of Regional Transboundary Water Agreements, Institutions and Relevant Legal/Policy Activities in Central Asia

#	Year	International Agreement/Institutions (Year)	Legal Basis	Member States	Geographical Scope	Field of Application	Institutions
16	2003	Framework Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Caspian Sea (Tehran Convention) (2003)	Convention	Azerbaijan, Iran, Kazakhstan, Russia, Turkmenistan	Caspian Sea Basin	Marine environment, coastal zones, fisheries	Conference of the Parties
17	2007	Agreement between the Government of Turkmenistan and the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran on Joint Exploitation of the Dostluk Water Reservoir (2007)	International Agreement	Turkmenistan Iran	Dostluk Water Reservoir	Dostluk Reservoir	Joint coordinating Commission/ administration
18	2007	Statute of UN Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia (UNRCCA) (2007)	Letter dated 7 May 2007 from the Secretary-General to the President of the Security Council. A special political mission of the UN established at the initiative of the govern. of the five CAS.	Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan	Central Asia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cross-border Threats from Illicit Activities: Terrorism, Organized Crime and Drug Trafficking</li> <li>- Environment Degradation and Management of Common Resources such as Water and Energy</li> <li>- Implications from the Precarious Situation of Afghanistan</li> </ul>	UN Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia (UNRCCA)
19	2008	Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the People's Republic of China Concerning Rational Use and Protection of Transboundary Waters (2008)	International Agreement	Russia, China	Transboundary Waters	Use and protection of transboundary waters, i.e. rivers, lakes, streams, swamps, etc. on the border between the 2 countries	Joint commission

**Table 3 Overview of Thematic Areas Covered by Current International Agreements**

#	Issue/Thematic Focus	International Agreements <sup>4</sup> (Table 1, Error! Reference source not found. and Appendix A)																			
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	%
1	IWRM/ Joint Use of WR/Basin approach	+	+	+		+	+		+	+				+	+		n.a.*			+	56%
2	Water quantity/allocation/flood protection	+	+	+	+	+			+	+		+		+	+	+	n.a.			+	67%
3	Water quality control/monitoring			+	+			+	+				+		+	+	+			+	47%
4	Other related natural resources					+	+			+							+				21%
5	Socio-economic issues		+			+	+				+		+	+					+		37%
6	Ecosystems, living resources, migrating sp.					+		+	+				+				+				26%
7	Operation of hydro-constructions			+	+					+		+			+				+		37%
8	Water-Energy Nexus			+	+							+							+		21%
9	Information Exchange/DBs/Info Systems	+	+						+				+		+	+	+		+		42%
10	Design, science and research	+	+		+	+			+				+		+	+	+	+		+	58%
11	Monitoring & Compliance	+		+									+				+				21%
12	Other issues					+		+		+		+	+	+	+		+	+	+		53%

\* n.a. – not applicable

<sup>4</sup> List of Agreements referred to in this table:

- |    |  |    |   |
|----|--|----|---|
| 1  | Agreement between Russia and KZ on Joint Use and Protection of Transboundary Waters (92)   | 11 | Agreement KZ, KG, TJ, TM, UZ on Syr Darya River Basin (1998)                            |
| 2  | Agreement between KZ, KG, TJ, TM, UZ on Co-operation in WR Management and Use (1992)       | 12 | Agreement about the status of IFAS and its organizations (April, 9, 1999, Ashgabat)     |
| 3  | Statute of the Basin Water-Management Joint Company “Amu Darya” (1992)                     | 13 | Ashgabat Declaration (1999)   |
| 4  | Statute of the Basin Water-Management Joint Company “Syr Darya” (1992)                     | 14 | Agreement between KZ and KG Rivers Chu and Talas (2000)                                 |
| 5  | Agreement Aral Sea and zone around the Sea crisis (1993)                                   | 15 | Agreement between KZ and China on Transboundary Rivers (2001)                           |
| 6  | Interstate Commission on Sustainable Development (ICSD)                                    | 16 | Tehran Convention (2003)  |
| 7  | Agreement between RF and on Frontier Waters of Rivers Amur and Ussury (1994)               | 17 | Agreement between TM and Iran on Joint Exploitation of Dostluk Water Reservoir (2007)   |
| 8  | Agreement between RF and Mongolia on Transboundary Waters (1995)                           | 18 | Statute of UN Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia (UNRCCA) (2007) |
| 9  | Agreement between UZ and TM on Cooperation on Water Management Issues (1996)               | 19 | Agreement between RF and China on Transboundary Waters (2008)                           |
| 10 | Agreement between RF and China on Individual Islands and Territories on Border Rivers (97) |    |   |

## 4.2. Gaps Identified

Having analysed provisions and the current state of implementation of each of the international agreements included in this report, a number of major gaps have been identified. These are summarised as follows:

**M&E.** Despite the fact that significant number of the international agreements contain to a bigger or smaller extent monitoring and evaluation provisions, actual implementation of the agreements is not evaluated. Being a good start for international cooperation, many of the agreements do not serve as a basis for close cooperation between the countries on the topics outlined in the documents in the long run. Even if this happens, there is a lack of information on this available.

**Climate change issues.** Climate change is a cross-cutting issue, which affects all sectors of economies in CA, social-economic condition of the population, and state of the environment and corresponding ecosystems. Nonetheless, the need for adaptation to the current and future impacts and risks has not been articulated in any of the agreements, even in the most recent ones. CA is one of the global hot-spots in terms of climate change and the scale of negative impacts, and climate change-driven factors represent boundary condition for future economic and social development of all CA countries.

**Information exchange/lessons.** Over 40% of the agreements analysed herein contain certain provisions for information exchange/management and sharing of experience. However, it is still considered by the author as a major drawback. Information exchange (with exception of the very few examples (ICWC, IFAS, etc)) is implemented in a spontaneous manner. Early warning systems and procedures, though declared in the agreements, are not serving as effective tools for cooperation in case of accidents and natural disasters. Sharing of experiences and lessons is implemented only at the level of individual (mostly internationally funded) projects/activities. Exchange of monitoring data and information (this relates more to hydro-chemical information than hydrological) is also at an incipient level.

**Enforcement mechanisms.** Nearly all agreements analysed in this report do not have enforcement mechanisms and mechanism for public involvement. Coupled with weak M&E this leads to the fact that quite a number of the provisions included in the agreements are not implemented at all.

**Regional cooperation and coordination platform.** Regional cooperation in managing scarce water and other resources of CA is the key to success and prosperity of the region. However, regional cooperation is a stumbling block for many initiatives and programmes. Political priority of CA countries are very often different, which is understandable, however, the lack of support at the highest political level to regional undertakings, to efforts in establishing a sound water resource management system based on the basin principle have failed so far. There have been some attempts observed in CA to establish a cooperation/coordination platform to discuss water related issues but they have not been materialised in effective legislative, institutional and economic means for cooperation.

**Water-Energy Nexus.** Cooperation in this field is one of the most disputed issues in CA, particularly between the upstream (KG and TJ) and downstream countries (KZ, UZ, TM). Strong competition for water as the driver for power-generation (in the upstream countries) and the source for irrigation of the main cultivated crops (in the downstream countries) is caused by the fact that timing optimum for power generation and water supply during vegetation season is different. This leads to hot political disputes at the level of the countries. These disputes are observed, particularly, when there is no agreement between the countries on constructing big reservoirs in the upper and middle stretches of the main rivers (e.g. the Rogun reservoir). Without an integrated approach and taking all interests into account such situations represent deadlocks and cannot be resolved in separation.

## 5. Conclusions and Recommendations

Political commitment of the governments of CA countries to the regional cooperation is a foundation of and a necessary condition for the successful implementation in the region of environmental protection measures. In CA, where the history of interstate cooperation is quite short, institutions and the legal basis for the cooperation are still under development, and the actors lack experience of an interstate cooperation; key international players use their status and resources to promote the political commitment of the states and developing trust and consensus over the ways to address shared regional water management challenges. It is, therefore, of utmost importance for further socio-economic development of CA countries and introduction of modern governance and water resource management systems to:

- Despite a large number of international agreements in the field of water resource conservation and use in CA, the existing legislative base is still deficient and requires significant improvement. This relates to both provisions included and actual mechanisms for implementation.
- Promote the political commitment of the countries at the highest levels to the regional cooperation, however, the national ownership of regional initiatives should be ensured by supporting a larger share of projects and activities at the national level. Support to nationally implemented projects is important as different countries have different legal and institutional frameworks and there are considerable gaps between the countries' levels of social and economic development.
- Activities implemented at the national level in different countries, are to be complimented by a regional umbrella water management strategy focused on water management priorities important for the whole transboundary basin(s). This kind of a transboundary umbrella programme is to mostly contain communication and coordination, and public outreach activities. Regular communication should be organised between teams developing transboundary water management strategies and national water management projects [7].
- Experience in implementation of international projects in CA showed that technical and technological projects were usually implemented successfully while the soft components of the projects aimed at developing institutional frameworks for regional cooperation and public awareness were often unsuccessful. The reason for that is a sufficient know-how and knowledge for implementation of the technical projects; low awareness and a lack of relevant experiences in organising "soft" water management activities reflecting IWRM principles to water management.
- Starting regional cooperation initiatives in the geographical areas with little experience of an interstate cooperation requires a discussion of possible institutional models of the future interstate regional cooperation to be developed. In the Aral Sea Basin many regional cooperation organisations operate with rules and procedures that are a mix of the approaches from the old Soviet centralised system and are partly based on the principles of the cooperation between the independent states. Therefore, measures promoting development of the real interstate cooperation should be supported; unless the states do not cooperate on the fully independent international grounds, they will not be motivated to put their resources to promote the regional cooperation. The legal and institutional frameworks to be developed in CA are to help the countries to bring together and negotiate diverse state and regional interests.

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**Appendix A. Detailed Information on International Agreements**

#	International Agreement/Institutions (Year)	Functions/Descriptions/Aspects of Cooperation	Organizational Structure	Decision Making	Data Information Sharing, Exchange, and Harmonization	Funding and Financing	Compliance and Monitoring	Websites and References
1	Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan Concerning the Joint Use and Protection of Transboundary Waters (1992)	Commission is responsible for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- organisation of regular exchange of hydrological forecasts, as well as information on water quality and water use regimes in transboundary basins</li> <li>- coordinated developments/implementation of water projects and water protection measures within transboundary basins</li> <li>- organisation of joint research and activities on water conservation and water resource protection within transboundary basins, development of water management complex within these basins</li> <li>- development of regulatory documents on interstate use of transboundary waters, as well as water quality requirements</li> <li>- coordination of activities directed at flood protection and prevention of ice-jams</li> <li>- provision of control measures on agreed water abstraction at transboundary sites, implementation of conservation measures and activities to minimise pollution of transboundary waters</li> </ul>	Joint Commission is chaired by the Chair of Committee on Water Resources of the Ministry of Ecology and National Resources of RF and the Chair of the State Committee on Water Resources of RK. Composition of national delegations is defined by the Chairs respectively. Commission sets up specific working group on specific themes as required.	Meetings of the Commission are organised every year on rotational basis. Decisions are formalised in the form of protocols.	Parties are obliged to share hydrological, water use and other information and promote cooperation on scientific and technical developments in the field of water mngt, rational use and conservation and protection of waters, integrated programmes on water resources, exploitation of hydro-technical objects, prevention of pollution and over-abstraction of water, minimise negative impacts.	Costs related to meetings are covered by the corresponding party organising events/meetings. Travelling costs related are covered by the travelling party.	Monitoring of compliance is organised on basis of common methodologies and programmes at predefined transboundary sites	<a href="http://bestpravo.ru/fed/1992/data02/tex/12168.htm">http://bestpravo.ru/fed/1992/data02/tex/12168.htm</a>
2	Agreement between the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan on co-operation in interstate sources' water resources use and protection common management (1992)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Development of a common water management policy of the region, as well as its main parameters with account of requirement of population, economies of the countries, and rational use and protection of water resources;</li> <li>- Development and approval of annual limits of water use for each state for the main water bodies, as well as regimes of bigger reservoirs and water distribution;</li> <li>- Coordination of implementation of bigger water resource related projects and coordinated use of water resources available;</li> <li>- Establishment of a united informational base on water resources use</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Scientific-Information Centre ICWC;</li> <li>- Training Centre ICWC;</li> <li>- Coordination Metrological Centre ICWC;</li> <li>- Secretariat ICWC;</li> <li>- Basin Water Organization "Amu Darya";</li> <li>- Basin Water Organization "Syr Darya"</li> </ul>	All disputes have to be solved by the republican water-economic organizations heads and if necessary with participation of independent side's representative	Parties will facilitate wide information exchange on scientific-technical progress in water-economy, complex use and protection of water resources, common research carrying out for scientific-technical provision and expertise of water related projects (Article 5)	Basin Water Organizations are paid by water-economic entities of the republic under parity and share contribution conditions.	Parties are obliged to provide strict observance of agreed order and rules of water resources use and protection.	<a href="http://www.cawater-info.net/library/eng/agreement.pdf">http://www.cawater-info.net/library/eng/agreement.pdf</a>

#	International Agreement/Institutions (Year)	Functions/Descriptions/Aspects of Cooperation	Organizational Structure	Decision Making	Data Information Sharing, Exchange, and Harmonization	Funding and Financing	Compliance and Monitoring	Websites and References
3	Statute of the Basin Water-Management Joint Company "Amu Darya" (1992)	<p>Jointly achieve required water use discipline at all levels of water management;</p> <p>Plan (establish) objective water intake limits for veloyats, states, since there are cases of inequitable approach to limits allocation by Ministries at level of administrative territories. Keep coordinated water intake regimes. Introduce system of sanctions for violation of water use limits and norms.</p> <p>Systematically take measures on improving water resources monitoring by using available technical tools in operational organizations. Create Automated river basin management system.</p> <p>Introduce proper systems and methods of water use control and gauging devices/meters in all water supply systems.</p>	<p>Territorial divisions' reaches are divided in following way: Kurgan-Tyube Hydrounit Division (new name Verkhnedarya Division); Turkmenabad Hydrounit Division (new name Srednedarya Division); Amudarya Inter-republican Canal Division (Upradik); Nukus Hydrounit Division (new name Nizhnedarya Division)</p>	<p>BWO "Amudarya" activity is based on BWO Statute approved by ICWC, acting legislation of state-ICWC members, ICWC decisions, agreements, protocols, and other normative acts. BWO has independent balance, rights of juridical person, seal with own name, and special and checking accounts in banks. BWO "Amudarya" is headed by chief approved for this assignment by ICWC decision.</p>	<p>Between BWO board and subordinate divisions operational-supervision communication is organized day and night on rented telephone channels, on radio links.</p>	<p>Organization structure consists of 27 organizations, of which 7 are maintained at the expense of budget, rest belong to self-support organizations. Total staff number on January 1, 2001 was 1353, of them 696 are directly engaged in operations. From total number share of Tajikistan is 83 (6.1%), Turkmenistan 437 (32.3%), and Uzbekistan 833 (61.6%). BWO is financed at the expense of subsidies of three states (Uzbekistan in sum, Tajikistan in somoni, and Turkmenistan in manat).</p>	<p>Tasks on optimal interstate and inter-sectoral water resources distribution were maintained to meet water demands of population and agricultural sectors in accordance with limits approved by ICWC members with account of water availability and environmental situation, and also operational control of keeping water supply limits and all set of organizational-technical measures related to these tasks as well as providing sanitary-ecological releases to Aral Sea and its coastal zone. Water availability assessment, actual water availability account over Amudarya basin is carried out on given flow in supposed Kerky gauge upstream Garagum Canal (Kerky flow upstream Garagum is equal to measured flow in Kerky gauge plus water intakes to Karshi Canal, Garagum Canal, water intakes upstream Garagum to border with Surkhandarya oblast plus water intakes of Surkhandarya oblast plus filling or minus release of Nurek reservoir).</p>	<p><a href="http://www.icwc-aral.uz/bwoamu.htm">http://www.icwc-aral.uz/bwoamu.htm</a></p>

#	International Agreement/Institutions (Year)	Functions/Descriptions/Aspects of Cooperation	Organizational Structure	Decision Making	Data Information Sharing, Exchange, and Harmonization	Funding and Financing	Compliance and Monitoring	Websites and References
4	Statute of the Basin Water-Management Joint Company "Syr Darya" (1992)	<p>The Syr Darya basin water resources operative management, control of water-intake limits and submission annually to the Minvodkhozs of the states, ICWC-members, of water resources/use balance. Develops water-intake limits correction according to year humidity and agrees it with ICWC-members.</p> <p>Prepares and submits to ICWC proposals on water-intake limits for each year (with division on vegetation and non-vegetation periods) for each state on the base of jointly adopted decisions related to forecasted water situation, ensures sanitary and environmental discharges to the Aral Sea and Syr Darya delta.</p> <p>Provides development and concordance with interests of all ICWC member states operational regime of water reservoirs, hydropower plants, water-intakes and submits it to the ICWC meeting for approval.</p> <p>Monitoring of water intake and supply, water balance and responsibility for their reliability. Hydrostructures maintenance, technology upgrade and mechanisation, introduction of modern techniques, water account and allocation by using automatical and telemechanical means, introduction of new practices.</p> <p>Controls financial activity of its divisions, revises their working activity, introduces new methods. Ensures implementation of safety rules and prevents damages;</p> <p>Assists in the development of norms, recommendations and regulations related to water use and management.</p>	<p>"Syrdarya" Basin Water Organization consists of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Naryn-Karadarya waterworks administration in Kuyganyar, Andijan oblast;</li> <li>- Golodnostepskiy waterworks and "Dustlik" canal administration in Gulistan, Syrdarya oblast;</li> <li>- Verkhnechirchikskiy waterworks administration in Chirchik, Tashkent oblast;</li> <li>- Charvak reservoir administration in Charvak, Tashkent oblast;</li> <li>- Toktogul reservoir administration.</li> </ul> <p>The BWO also includes Uchkurgan mobile mechanized unit, Gulistan mobile mechanized unit, transport firm and agricultural subdivision.</p>	All disputes have to be solved by the republican water-economic organizations heads and if necessary with participation of independent side's representative	Parties will facilitate wide information exchange on scientific-technical progress in water-economy, complex use and protection of water resources, common research carrying out for scientific-technical provision and expertise of water related projects (Article 5)	Basin Water Organizations are paid by water-economic entities of the republic under parity and share contribution conditions.	BWO "Syrdarya" is responsible for transboundary water resources management and interstate water allocation from Toktogul reservoir to the border of Kazakhstan (Chardara reservoir). Besides, BWO "Syrdarya" along with the Committees for the Environment, hydro meteorological services and sanitary inspections of the states monitor Syrdarya river water quality.	<a href="http://www.icwc-aral.uz/bwosyr.htm">http://www.icwc-aral.uz/bwosyr.htm</a>

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5	Agreement on joint activities in addressing the Aral Sea and the zone around the Sea crisis, improving the environment, and ensuring the social and economic development of the Aral Sea region (1993)	- conservation of land and water resources of the Aral Sea Basin It defines cooperation between the five CA countries in terms of: maintaining of water quality in water bodies- guaranteed discharge of water into the Aral Sea in accordance with environmental requirements- rehabilitation of degraded ecosystems- more strict control of water use in the basin- improvement of sanitary and hygiene conditions of local population, provision with drinking water- development and implementation of coordinated socio-economic development strategies- protection of migrating species- re-initiation of works related to provision of additional water resources to the region from other water sources (diversion)	- Permanent Executive Committee in Tashkent- Interstate Commission on Sustainable Development (ICSD)- Interstate Commission for Water Coordination of Central Asia (ICWC)	Not defined	Not defined	Not defined	Not defined	<a href="http://www.cawater-info.net/library/rus/gov7.pdf">http://www.cawater-info.net/library/rus/gov7.pdf</a>
6		Coordination and supervision of cooperation in the field of environment protection and sustainable development programmes in Central Asia	Chair, Consultative Committee, Steering Committee, Secretariat, Scientific-Information Centre, National Bodies	Unanimous decisions	Through Scientific-Information Centre's activities	Each Party covers costs from national fees to IFAS	Meeting twice a year, progress reports on activities and results	<a href="http://www.ca-econet.info/mkur/26.htm">http://www.ca-econet.info/mkur/26.htm</a>
7	Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the People's Republic of China Concerning Protection, Regulation and Reproduction of Living WR in Frontier Waters of Rivers Amur and Ussury (1994) - updated 2007	Parties develop and implement joint activities on protection of aquatic living resources, control of commercial catches and reproduction of fish stocks in water bodies defined by the Agreement, as well as on establishment of commercial fishery enterprises. Cooperation is based on the agreed by the Parties Rules on Protection, Regulation and Reproduction of Fish Stocks in Frontier Waters of the Amur and Ussury Rivers being integral part of the Agreement.	Mixed commission established by the Agreement on cooperation in the field of fisheries dated 4 October 1988	Regular meetings of the commissions, decisions are formalised by protocols	Exchange of experts on monitoring and reproduction of stocks of living aquatic resources, Joint research, regular exchange of information about state and activities related to living aquatic resources in frontier waters of China and Russia	Activities within implementation of the Agreement are funded by each Party respectively	Parties are obliged to implement regular monitoring and control of water bodies state defined by the Agreement and Rules, as well as to prevent transboundary pollution and habitat degradation of living aquatic resources	<a href="http://bestpravo.ru/fed2008i/data181/ex181777.htm">http://bestpravo.ru/fed2008i/data181/ex181777.htm</a>

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8	Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of Mongolia on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Waters (1995)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rational use and protection from pollution and degradation of water resources in transboundary water bodies, conservation and management of water resources</li> <li>- Research in the field of hydrological, hydrochemical, hydrobiological and river-bed regimes of water bodies, water resources, their quality</li> <li>- Information exchange as defined by the Agreement</li> <li>- Studying and assessment, as well as forecasts of transboundary water state and regime</li> <li>- Development of methodologies, technologies on prevention and liquidation of negative consequences of floods and underflowings, as well as other negative impacts</li> <li>- Protection of transboundary waters from pollution, water quality monitoring and control</li> <li>- Provision of natural conditions for fish migration and habitats of other living aquatic resources</li> </ul>	To implement the Agreement each Party appoints representatives and two deputies and informs the other Party	<p>Meetings of the Commission are organised every year on rotational basis. Decisions are formalised in the form of protocols. Plenipotentiaries establish working groups, involve various experts and specialists, organise meetings and coordinate scientific, project development and other activities. Disputes are resolved by negotiations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Exchange of hydrological information and forecasts to prevent underflowings and minimise negative impacts.</li> <li>- Exchange of info on water mngt and conservation measures</li> <li>- Develop and implement joint research on conservation and protection of WR</li> <li>- Establish research and commercial organisations on mngt and protection of transboundary water resources</li> <li>- Set up water quality standards in accordance with internationally excepted levels.</li> </ul>	Costs related to meetings are covered by the corresponding party organising events/meetings. Travelling costs related are covered by the travelling party.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Develop joint basin concepts of conservation and integrated management and use of water based on joint methodologies of monitoring and analysis, list of agreed monitoring sites, sampling frequencies, volume and timing of ecological river discharge.</li> </ul>	<a href="http://www.undp.kz/library_of_publications/files/1524-25897.pdf">http://www.undp.kz/library_of_publications/files/1524-25897.pdf</a> ; <a href="http://lawru.info/base73/part5/d73ru5832.htm">http://lawru.info/base73/part5/d73ru5832.htm</a>
9	Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Government of Turkmenistan Concerning Cooperation on Water Management Issues (1996)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- If hydro-construction objects including canals and reservoirs owned by one country is situated on the territory of another country, the land under such objects remain the property of the country on which territory these hydro-construction objects are situated;</li> <li>- In such cases payment for use of the territory is due. The order of payment and conditions are defined by additional agreements between the countries;</li> <li>- Both countries will do their best to provide required conditions for proper operation of such objects;</li> <li>- Water management enterprises and organisations dealing with exploitation of objects of transboundary character operate on the basis</li> </ul>	None	Negotiations	Parties are obliged to share hydrological, water use and other information and promote cooperation on scientific and technical developments in the field of water mngt, rational use and conservation and protection of water	Costs covered by each party	Not defined	<a href="http://www.undp.kz/library_of_publications/files/1524-25897.pdf">http://www.undp.kz/library_of_publications/files/1524-25897.pdf</a>

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		<p>of the existing international agreements and norms with account of the national legislation of the host country.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Both countries agreed to divide the water flow of the Amy Darya river (at the Kerki hydrological point) in equal parts (50%-50%) and to ensure proportional to this distribution discharge to the Aral Sea;</li> <li>- Jointly plan and implement land reclamation measures, reconstruction and rehabilitation of inter-state collectors, improvements of irrigation systems and infrastructure, construction of water diversion and water discharge networks;</li> <li>- Countries agreed to develop and implement measure to prevent river bed deformations and flooding of adjacent territories while operating water regulating systems. Until construction of permanent bank protection installations the countries agreed to implement temporary measures to prevent bank erosion and floodings;</li> <li>- In accordance with previous inter-state agreements from 1999 on - to stop discharge of drainage waters from both banks of the Amy Darya river.</li> </ul>						
10	Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the People's Republic of China on Leading Principles of Joint Economic Use of Individual Islands and Adjacent to Them Territories within Border Rivers	- Economic activities of states and population living in these areas	Not defined	Not defined	Not defined	Not defined	Not defined	<a href="http://www.cawater-info.net/bk/water_law/pdf/russia_china_1997.pdf">http://www.cawater-info.net/bk/water_law/pdf/russia_china_1997.pdf</a>

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11	Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Government of Kyrgyz Republic, the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, and the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan Concerning Use of Water and Energy Resources in Syr Darya River Basin (1998)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In order to ensure a coordinated water supply for irrigation, decisions on discharges from the cascade of reservoirs, generation and transport of energy, as well as energy losses to be compensated on a corresponding equivalent basis are to be agreed by the countries every year,</li> <li>- The countries are obliged NOT to take measures disturbing the agreed by all countries regime of water allocation and energy production (including transportation of electricity)</li> <li>- Mechanisms of re-distribution of energy generated over agreed quantities from Kyrgyzstan to Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan, as well as compensation for these quantities of electricity by other products (coal, gas, etc.) or cash. In order to operationalize these mechanisms unified energy tariffs are to be developed.</li> <li>- Other aspects of inter-state cooperation, notably: conflict resolution mechanisms, unimpeded and duty-free movement of goods between the countries within the framework of this Agreement, operation and rehabilitation of hydro-construction objects, etc.</li> </ul>	A framework for yearly negotiations and signing of protocols where the downstream countries (Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan) pay for electricity produced in the Toktogul Dam during the irrigation season and the upstream countries (in particular, Kyrgyzstan) use this income to pay for energy deliveries from Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan in the wintertime.	Negotiations and signing of protocols	Not defined	Costs covered by each party	Not defined	<a href="http://www.ca-econet.info/dogovory/58.htm">http://www.ca-econet.info/dogovory/58.htm</a>
12	The Agreement about the status of IFAS and its organizations (April, 9, 1999, Ashgabat)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Funding and crediting of joint interstate environmental and scientific programmes and projects directed at saving the Aral Sea and improvement of environmental and ecological situation in the regions suffering from the disaster, as well as at addressing general social and environmental challenges of the region;</li> <li>- Funding of joint fundamental and applied research related to the Aral Sea rehabilitation and conservation of natural resources (including water) of the region, protection of environment</li> <li>- Establishment and operation of the interstate environmental monitoring network, as well as databases and other systems with information on the Aral Sea basin environment;</li> <li>- Resource mobilisation for joint actions to protect atmosphere, water and land resources, flora and fauna of the region;</li> </ul>	<p>IFAS Board, Chairmen, Country Reps, EC EFAS Members, Deputy Chairman Technical Director, Secretariat Information and Analysis Centre, Admin Dept, Financial Dept.</p> <p>National Branches in each of 5 countries, Regional Centre of Hydrology (RCH)</p>	According to operational rules as an international organisation	Information and Analysis Centre	Countries contributions and donor funding	Internal and external monitoring of programmes and activities implemented	<a href="http://www.ec-ifas.org">www.ec-ifas.org</a> <a href="http://www.icwc-aral.uz/statute3.htm">http://www.icwc-aral.uz/statute3.htm</a>

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		- Participation in implementation of international programmes and projects on the Aral Sea and improvement of environmental state of the Aral Sea basin.						
13	The Ashgabat Declaration (1999)	- Admit the importance of comprehensive solution of the problems, connected with normalisation of social- ecological situation in Aral Sea basin,- Strengthen both in the CAS and in their representations abroad the activity to attract the attention of international community, means and abilities of donor-countries, funds and organisations for implementation the programs and projects related to the Aral Sea basin problems,- Provide every kind of assistance and support for implementation of “Control on Water resources and Environment in Aral Sea basin” project, being realised under the aegis of World Bank and GEF,- Give more consideration to the problems of mountain territories – zone of the rivers flow formation within Aral Sea basin,- Realise a number of all-round measures and priority projects on social protection of population living in Aral Sea basin,- Brisk up the works against desertification and pollution the border transiting water objects,- Assist to international organisations and institutions in their activity on implementation of the programs and projects related to the Aral Sea basin problems, promote (through educational and other programs) rising of the population being in the know about urgent problems of nature protection, rational nature use and improvement the social dwelling environment for present and future generations.	None	Not defined, varies within individual projects	Promotion (through educational and other programs) rising of the population being in the know about urgent problems of nature protection, rational nature use and improvement the social dwelling environment for present and future generations	International organizations and funds, including the GEF support	Not defined, varies within individual projects	<a href="http://www.cawater-info.net/library/eng/ashgabat_declaration.pdf">http://www.cawater-info.net/library/eng/ashgabat_declaration.pdf</a>

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14	Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Government of Kyrgyz Republic on the Use of Water Management Facilities of Intergovernmental Status on the Rivers Chu and Talas (2000)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Use of water resources and operation of water management facilities of intergovernmental status shall be aimed at the achievement of mutual benefit on the fair and equitable basis;</li> <li>- Attribute to the water management facilities of intergovernmental status the following water management facilities owned by the Kyrgyz Republic: the Orto-Tokoiskoye Reservoir on the River Chu, the By-Pass Ferroconcrete Chu Canals on the River Chu from the Bystrovskaya Hydroelectric Power Plant to the city of Tokmok, the Western and Eastern Bolshie Chu Canals with the Chumysh Hydrosystem on the River Chu and the Kirovskoye Reservoir on the River Talas.</li> <li>- A country that possesses water management facilities of intergovernmental status has the right to compensation from the other country that uses these facilities. The compensation shall cover necessary expenses to ensure their reliable and safe operation.</li> <li>- The countries share expenses connected with the operation and maintenance of water management facilities of intergovernmental status and with other mutually agreed activities pro rata according to the amount of water they receive.</li> <li>- In order to ensure safe and reliable work of water management facilities of intergovernmental status, the countries create permanent commissions to determine the working regimes and the range of necessary expenses for operation and maintenance.</li> <li>- The countries annually allocate necessary funds for operation and maintenance of water management facilities of intergovernmental status.</li> <li>- The countries implement joint activities to protect water management facilities of intergovernmental status and adjacent territories from adverse effects of floods, mudflows and other natural disasters.</li> <li>- The countries notify the other party of the</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Joint Commission</li> <li>- Joint Secretariat</li> <li>- Expert Working Groups (legal and institutional issues; water resource allocation; hydrotechnical engineering and reconstruction of facilities; economy, environmental issues, monitoring and data exchange)</li> </ul>	Negotiations/consultations	During emergency situations, joint scientific and research projects	Parties on annual basis provide required state budget funding for operation and maintenance of hydro-constructions of interstate use	To ensure safe and reliable operation of hydro-constructions the Parties created permanent commissions, which define regimes and funding required for irremovable operation of hydro-constructions	<a href="http://kazakhstan.news-city.info/docs/sistemsh/dok_oybqz.htm">http://kazakhstan.news-city.info/docs/sistemsh/dok_oybqz.htm</a>

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		<p>Agreement on emergency situations arising on water management facilities of intergovernmental status due to unexpected natural disasters or technical failures.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The countries acknowledged the need to use construction, repair, operation and industrial facilities of each other to provide for the timely and efficient repair and restoration of water management facilities of intergovernmental status.</li> <li>- Implementation of joint research and development activities on the efficient use of water resources and water management facilities.</li> <li>- To create conditions for unimpeded and duty-free movement across their borders and territories of personnel, vehicles, equipment, raw materials and other objects necessary for the exploitation and maintenance of water management facilities of intergovernmental status.</li> <li>- Disputes and disagreements regarding the interpretation or application of the current Agreement are to be resolved through negotiations and consultations.</li> </ul>						
15	Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Government of the People's Republic of China Concerning Cooperation in Use and Protection of Transboundary Rivers (2001)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Agreeing the existence and placement of posts for monitoring and measuring the volume and quality of waters;</li> <li>- research into unified methods of monitoring, measuring, analysis, and assessment;</li> <li>- conducting analyses of and staffing related thereto of data generated from hydrological monitoring and measuring at the posts agreed by the Parties;</li> <li>- conducting possible joint research into the prevention of or mitigation of the consequences of flooding, freezing, and other natural disasters;</li> <li>- studying trends related to future changes in the volume and quality of water in transboundary rivers; and</li> <li>- when necessary, conducting joint research and sharing lessons learned in the use and protection of transboundary rivers.</li> </ul>	The Joint Commission composed of one representative and two assistants appointed by each Party; if needed specific expert groups could be established	Meetings of the Commission are organised every year on rotational basis. Decisions are formalised in the form of protocols (in Russian and Chinese language). Disputes are resolved by negotiations.	The Parties shall agree and determine the content of, quantity of, and times for exchange of data and information. In the event that one Party demands that the other Party provide extraordinarily important hydrological information not an item previously agreed to be exchanged, the latter should satisfy this demand when	A Party responsible for holding a meeting of the Joint Commission shall provide both facilities and means of transport. Each Party shall independently bear all costs for food and lodging. Other costs, not connected to the holding of meetings, shall be allocated in accordance with agreements between the Parties.	Fulfillment of Agreement is discussed at each Commission meeting.	<a href="http://www.water-info.net/library/eng/kazakhstan_china.pdf">http://www.water-info.net/library/eng/kazakhstan_china.pdf</a>

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					possible and in certain circumstances. The Parties shall be obligated to preserve the confidentiality of any such information described above that is exchanged or provided and shall not transmit such to a third Party, except in the case of another Agreement between the Parties.			
16	Framework Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Caspian Sea (Tehran Convention) (2003)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Reviewing the content and implementation of the Tehran Convention, its protocols and the Action Plan;</li> <li>- Considering and adopting additional protocols or amendments to the Tehran Convention or its protocols, and adopting and amending the annexes to the Tehran Convention and its protocols;</li> <li>- Receiving and considering reports submitted by the Member States and reviewing and evaluating the state of the marine environment, in particular the state of pollution and its effects;</li> <li>- Considering reports prepared by the Secretariat on matters relating to the Tehran Convention;</li> <li>- Where appropriate, seeking the technical and financial assistance of relevant international bodies and scientific institutions for the purposes of implementing the objectives of the Tehran Convention;</li> <li>- Establishing such subsidiary bodies as may be necessary for implementing the Tehran Convention and its protocols;</li> <li>- Appointing the Executive Secretary of the Tehran Convention and other personnel as necessary; and</li> <li>- Performing such other functions as necessary to achieve the objectives of the Tehran Convention</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Conference of Parties</li> <li>- Secretariat</li> </ul>	Decisions made by the Conference must be unanimous.	The Tehran Convention contains a number of articles dealing specifically with the exchange of information among the Member States, cooperation on environmental policies and harmonization of national laws.	Direct contributions from the Member States on an equal share basis, and allows additional funds to be voluntarily deposited by any individual Member State	Each Member State is required to —designate a National Authority to coordinate implementation of the provisions of the Tehran Convention	<a href="http://www.tehranconvention.org">www.tehranconvention.org</a> ; <a href="http://www.caspianenvironment.org/newsite/index.htm">www.caspianenvironment.org/newsite/index.htm</a>

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17	Agreement between the Government of Turkmenistan and the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran on Joint Exploitation of Dostluk Water Reservoir (2007)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- joint construction of the dam and hydro-constructions units</li> <li>- equal financing of works (50%-50%)</li> <li>- define the construction zone in each country's territory</li> <li>- Simplified border passing procedure for citizens, goods, and materials of TM and IRI</li> <li>- All costs related to operation and maintenance are born by each country on its territory</li> <li>- Avoiding any activities with risks of negative effects and/or damages on another country's territory</li> </ul>	Not defined	Netogiations/consultations	Not defined	50%-50% from each country during construction; operation and maintenance - each country within national territory	Not defined	<a href="http://www.cawater-info.net/bk/water_law/pdf/turkmenistan_iran_2007.pdf">http://www.cawater-info.net/bk/water_law/pdf/turkmenistan_iran_2007.pdf</a>
18	Statute of UN Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia (UNRCCA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To liaise with the Governments of the region and, with their concurrence, with other parties concerned on issues relevant to preventive diplomacy;</li> <li>- To monitor and analyse the situation on the ground and to provide the Secretary-General of the United Nations with up-to-date information related to conflict prevention efforts;</li> <li>- To maintain contact with UN for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Commonwealth of Independent States, the Shanghai Cooperation, UN and other regional organisations, encourage their peacemaking efforts and initiatives, and facilitate coordination and information exchange with due regard to their specific mandates;</li> <li>- To provide a political framework and leadership for the preventive activities of the United Nations country teams in the region; and to support the efforts of the Resident Coordinators and those of the United Nations system, including the Bretton Woods institutions, in promoting an integrated approach to preventive development and humanitarian assistance;</li> <li>- To maintain close contact with the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan to ensure a comprehensive and integrated analysis of the situation in the region.</li> </ul>	Headed by a senior representative of UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and has small in number international staff.	Assist and support the governments of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan in building their conflict prevention capacities through enhanced dialogue, confidence building measures and establishing genuine partnership in order to respond to existing threats and emerging challenges in the Central Asian region	To facilitate the coordination of initiatives and exchange of information among national governments, regional organizations and the United Nations system and Bretton Woods Institutions	UN	To monitor and analyze the situation in Central Asia in order to give early warning and recommend necessary action to prevent risks and threats; To monitor and analyze the situation in Central Asia in order to give early warning and recommend necessary action to prevent risks and threats.	<a href="http://unrcca.unmissions.org">unrcca.unmissions.org</a>

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19	Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the People's Republic of China Concerning Rational Use and Protection of Transboundary Waters (2008)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- cooperation on use and protection of transboundary waters</li> <li>- application of new technologies</li> <li>- proper maintenance of hydro-constructions</li> <li>- development and application of preventive measure on conservation and use of waters</li> <li>- cooperation in the field of hydrology, prevention of negative impacts and liquidation of consequences of emergency situations at transboundary locations;</li> <li>- develop and implement measures on preventions of emergency situations and response measures;</li> <li>- prepare joint studies and research to set up unified standards and norms of water quality, development and introduction of unified methodologies</li> <li>- carry out studies on defining the main polluters and sources of pollution</li> </ul>	Joint Commission is chaired by the Chair of Committee on Water Resources of the Ministry National Resources of RF and the Chair of the State Committee on Water Resources of RK. Composition of national delegations is defined by the Chairs respectively. Commission sets up specific working group on specific themes as required.	Annual meetings of the Joint Commission on rotational basis;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- inform in agreed manner about major developments</li> <li>- exchange results of studies and research</li> <li>- organise and hold joint workshops and conferences</li> <li>- promote research in the field of sustainable water use in each country, as well as corresponding transboundary cooperation</li> </ul>	Activities within implementation of the Agreement are funded by each Party respectively	Parties exchange information in relation to the implementation of the current Agreement; Carry out regular monitoring of transboundary waters, collect systematic information on water quality in accordance with agreed methodologies	<a href="http://www.ca-water-info.net/library/rus/russia_china_2008.pdf">http://www.ca-water-info.net/library/rus/russia_china_2008.pdf</a>



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