



Executive Committee of the International Fund for saving the Aral Sea

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INFORMATIONAL BULLETIN

April, 2007

International Decade of Actions «Water for Life» 2005 – 2015

"In connection with the World Day of Water I call system of the United Nations Organization and all interested parties to adjust stronger partner communications and to undertake more coordinated efforts not only this year, but also during all International decade of actions "Water for a life", 2005-2015".

From the message of General Secretary UN Sr. Pan Gi Moon in connection with the World Day of water resources, March, 22, 2007

The World Day of Water

Annually on March, 22 all over the world celebrate the World Day of Water. The idea of carrying out of the World Day of Water for the first time has sounded at Conference of the United Nations on environmental protection and development which has taken place in 1992 in Rio de Janeiro.

The resolution 47/193 from February, 22, 1993 the General Assembly of the United Nations Organization has announced the March, 22 the World Day of Water. Every year celebrating of the World Day of Water is dated for the certain theme. One of establishments of the United Nations is appointed the coordinator of actions of the World Day of Water and is responsible for promotion of a new theme under the direction of Administrative committee on coordination.

Theme of celebrating in 2007 is "Decision of problems of shortage of water". The coordinator of carrying out of the World Day of Water of 2007 is the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) of the United Nations. It is assisted by secretary of Committee of UN-WATER, carrying out functions of contact body in system of the United Nations on questions of fresh water.

The theme of this year testifies that deficiency of water is felt more and more sharply everywhere in the world and that it is necessary to raise integration and co-operation for maintenance of steady, effective and fair regulation of scarce water resources, both on international, and at a national level.

The basic purpose of carrying out of the World Day of Water is contribution to acceptance of corresponding measures on maintenance of the population with potable water, increase of knowledge of the population about importance of protection and preservation of water resources, attraction of the government, the international agencies, the nongovernmental organizations and a private sector to the decision of the problems connected to water resources.

Problems of water supply in RT

Before the World Day of Water and holiday Navruz on March, 16, 2007 - in the Ministry of melioration improvement and water resources of Republic Tajikistan of "Round table" devoted to the decision of problems of water supply work has taken place in Republic of Tajikistan.

Action is organized by the Ministry of melioration improvement and water resources of Republic Tajikistan together with Executive Committee of the International Fund for saving Aral in work which has participate heads, experts, scientists, representatives of the Government, the ministries and departments of RT, Executive committee of IFAS, the international and nongovernmental organizations.

In the "Round table" land improvements accepted by the Ministry of melioration and water resources of Republic Tajikistan, State Unitary enterprise the "Khojagii manziliyu kommyalni" have been discussed, other organizations of a measure on realization of the

All about water

DID YOU KNOW...? FACTS AND FIGURES ABOUT WATER AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

During the 20th century the World's urban population increased more than tenfold, where as the rural population grew only twofold. Today, half of the World's population lives in urban centres. In 1800 only London and Beijing had more than 1 million inhabitants. In 1950 there were 85 cities with 1 million or more inhabitants, and 388 cities by 2000 there were 388 cities. Only in the late 20th century did 'megacities' of 10 or more million inhabitants develop, with 16 cities becoming 'megacities' in 2000, concentrating some 4% of the world's population. Over 900 million urban dwellers live in slums. One of the major challenges that human settlement faces is to ensure adequate provision for water and sanitation - Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 7: Reduce by half the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water by 2015. To meet this MDG, 961 million urban dwellers must gain access to improved water supply, and over 1 billion people must gain access to improved sanitation.

- About 1.2 billion urban dwellers rely on groundwater and 1.8 billion on surface water sources.

- In many African cities, only 10% to 30% of all urban households' solid wastes are collected, and services are inevitably most deficient for informal settlements.

- In Africa as many as 150 million urban residents, representing up to 50% of the urban population, do not have adequate water supplies, while 180 million, or roughly 60% of people in urban areas, lack adequate sanitation.

- In urban Asia, 700 million people, constituting half the population, do not have adequate water, while 800 million people or 60% of the urban population go without adequate sanitation. - For Latin America and the Caribbean, 120 million urban dwellers representing 30% of the urban population, lack adequate water. Those without adequate

governmental program of maintenance of the population by pure potable water.

By participants are stated a number of valuable suggestions of the organizational, financial, educational, propaganda character assisting expansion of works in sphere of water supply. In particular it has been marked, that in Republic Tajikistan significant, methodological and other potential for promotion of questions of water supply is turned out.

There is a financial estimation for achievement of the Purposes of Development of the Millennium in the field of water supply, Strategy of development of water supply, and also authorized in December, 2006 the Government of Republic Tajikistan the Program of improvement of maintenance of the population of Republic Tajikistan pure potable water for the period for 2020. This program is stipulated to carry out by individual share republican and local budgets, investments and own forces of the organizations, the enterprises and the population. It will allow increasing access of the population of Tajikistan to pure potable water up to 80 % (now 59 %).

The international decade of actions « Water for a life », 2005-2015, declared by General Assembly of the United Nations under the initiative of the President of the Republic Tajikistan, Emomali Sharifovich Rakhmonov is the unique international mechanism for activation of actions at local, national and regional levels under the decision of problems of water supply and other water problems. In particular 2007 passes under the motto "What is covered for lack of water".

Participants of the " Round table" accept the Resolution with the reference to the state organizations connected to drinking water supply, scientific, design establishments, international, nongovernmental and other organizations, donors to make all necessary for support of promotion of the program of maintenance of the population by pure potable water.

Session ICWC

On March, 8-10, 2007 in Ashkhabat 46 session of Interstate Coordination Water-economic Commission (ICWC) in which work members ICWC which is Acting as Chairman EC IFAS have taken part, heads of agencies ICWC, and also representatives of the regional and national water-economic organizations of region has taken place.

According to the Agenda of session decisions are considered and accepted concerning realization of limits of water-fences during the interpenetrative period of 2006-2007, water-division into the interstate small rivers, results of the project of technical assistance ADB RETA 6163 for 2006 and the program of works for 2007, a course of preparation of the scientific-practical conference devoted to 15-anniversary ICWC, results of the first phase of project CAREWIB, a course of signing of the report on use of water resources of a river basin Sir-Darya, a place of carrying out and the agenda of next 47-th session ICWC and assistance to Executive Committee of IFAS and GWP CACENA in charge of activity within the framework of the Asian-Pacific Water Forum.

Perfection of water resources management in CA

In days of carrying out of next session ICWC on March, 8-10, 2007 in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, the next meeting of working groups on discussion of a regional water-economic policy has taken place within the framework of technical assistance ADB "Perfection of water resources management in the Central Asia". Representatives of national working groups (NVG) have taken part in its work and members of regional working group (RWG) (behind exception UDC "Energy").

The draft agreement "About use water and power resources of a river basin Sir-Darya" is discussed under remarks NVG of Kazakhstan and Tajikistan. For the coordination of the draft agreement the meeting of members' NVG of four countries in the first decade of April, 2007 in Tashkent will be organized.

Under the draft agreement on use water and power resources of a river basin of Amu Darya the decision to continue work is accepted.

sanitation number as many as 150 million, or 40% of the urban population.

- In Mahira, a section of Haruma slum in Nairobi, there is 1 toilet with 10 units and 2 bathrooms for a settlement of 332 households or 1,500 inhabitants.

- In Dhaka, Bangladesh, if 'access to water' is defined as the availability of water within 100 metres, the proportion counted as having access would be much lower than the 99% given in official statistics.

DID YOU KNOW...? FACTS AND FIGURES ABOUT WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

Water, sanitation and hygiene are three intertwined determinants of the water/ill-health/poverty spectrum, considering hygiene in its broadest sense, including environmental as well as personal hygiene.

A lack of adequate sanitation is the most critical determinant of contamination of drinking water with micro-organisms.

More than 2.6 billion people – 40% of the world's population – lack basic sanitation facilities.

Over 1 billion people around the world still use unsafe drinking water sources.

The diseases and conditions of ill-health directly associated with water, sanitation and hygiene include infectious diarrhoea (which, in turn, includes cholera, salmonellosis, shigellosis, amoebiasis and a number of other protozoal and viral infections), typhoid and paratyphoid fevers, acute hepatitis A, acute hepatitis E and F, fluorosis, arsenicosis, legionellosis, methaemoglobinemia, schistosomiasis, trachoma, intestinal helminth infections (including ascariasis, trichuriasis and hookworm infection), dracunculiasis, scabies, dengue, filariases (including lymphatic filariasis and onchocerciasis), malaria, Japanese encephalitis, West Nile virus infection, yellow fever and impetigo.

Globally, between 1,085,000 and 2,187,000 deaths due to diarrhoeal diseases can be attributed to the 'water, sanitation and hygiene' risk factor, 90% of them among children under five.

Improvements in safe water supply, and in particular in hygiene and sanitation, could reduce the incidence of diarrhoea by about 20% and the number of deaths due to diarrhoea by more than 50%.

The simple act of washing hands at critical times (after using the toilet and handling infant faeces, before handling and eating food) can reduce diarrhoeal episodes by 33%.

Meeting the sanitation target means that an average of 140 million people per year need to gain access to sanitation every year until 2015. Compared to the average of 85 million per year that gained access between 1990 and 2002, this poses a huge challenge to governments and the international community alike

Source: UNESCO