

Green Central Asia - Weekly Newsletter

featuring the Central Asian Republics and the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

Period:	29/01/2021-05/02/2021
----------------	-----------------------

Content:

Climate Change and Environment.....2

WORLD WETLANDS DAY ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE RAMSAR CONVENTION;

The Aral, ecology, productivity – a link of tasks for scientists-landowners of Dashoguz; Uzbekistan aims to become carbon-neutral by 2050;

DROUGHT AND LAND DEGRADATION: THE INTRINSIC BOND;

Water Resources.....4

President of Turkmenistan reprimands the heads in charge for the agriculture and water area;

Turkmenistan and Tajikistan discussed issues of effective water use in the region;

Energy Sector.....4

IAEA mission to conduct comprehensive assessment of Uzbekistan’s nuclear infrastructure;

The President of Turkmenistan issues severe reprimands to the leaders of the oil and gas;

Top-manager of “Tatneft”: we want to double extraction of all oil of Turkmenistan twice;

Afghanistan’s multilateral relationship with CA countries...5

A delegation of Afghanistan arrives in Uzbekistan;

Uzbek-Afghan-Pakistani talks on the implementation of the project for railway

Disclaimer: The Green Central Asia Weekly Newsletter provides a summary of publicly available media reports and press releases and may not under any circumstances be regarded as stating an official position of Deutsche Gesellschaft für internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH.

construction to be held in Tashkent;

Mazar-i-Sharif - Kabul - Peshawar: Unique opportunities for peace and stability in Afghanistan;

President of Uzbekistan receives a delegation of Afghanistan;

ISMI: Afghanistan – A bridge between Central and South Asia;

Uzbekistan and Afghanistan develop energy cooperation;

Uzbekistan and Afghanistan discuss issues of development of bilateral relations;

Cooperation between Central Asian countries.....7

Tajik-Uzbek Governmental Working Groups Hold Negotiations on Border Demarcation;

The Ministries of Culture of Turkmenistan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan signed an agreement;

Tajikistan suspends electricity supply to Uzbekistan;

Tashkent hosted a cultural event dedicated to Turkmen-Uzbek friendship;

Uzbekistan remains among authoritarian countries in global democracy rating;

Abdulla Aripov congratulates Ulugbek Maripov on his appointment as Prime Minister of Kyrgyzstan;

Kyrgyzstan appoints new prime minister;

Statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic;

Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan express interest in strengthening strategic partnership;

Tajikistan and Uzbekistan Discuss Development of Bilateral Relations;

Climate Change and Environment

WORLD WETLANDS DAY ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE RAMSAR CONVENTION 02/02/21

The Ramsar Convention was signed by 18 countries 50 years ago and since then has been ratified by 171 countries. The Convention is considered the first dealing with nature conservation and is an international treaty entirely devoted to one type of ecosystem. The Ramsar List of Wetlands of International Importance currently includes about 2,414 areas covering 254 million hectares.

The whole world celebrates Wetlands Day on February 2, which presents wetlands as a

Disclaimer: The Green Central Asia Weekly Newsletter provides a summary of publicly available media reports and press releases and may not under any circumstances be regarded as stating an official position of Deutsche Gesellschaft für internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH.

source of fresh water in 2021 and encourages actions for their restoration.

Read more: <https://carececo.org/en/main/news/vsemirnyy-den-vodno-bolotnykh-ugodiy-v-yubiley-ramsarskoy-konventsii/>

The Aral, ecology, productivity – a link of tasks for scientists-landowners of Dashoguz 02/01/21

President Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov called for more wide involvement of scientific potential of the country in the solution of issues of ecological problematics of regional scale.

One of the actual tasks in this area for all Central Asia is rescue of the Aral, the head of the state said. In his opinion, scientists of Turkmen agricultural institute (located in the city of Dashoguz) can bring the contribution to this common cause.

The Turkmen leader also focused attention of the authorities of the agricultural branch on importance of closer interaction of manufacturers with scientists-landowners in the field of productivity increase.

Read more: <https://orient.tm/en/the-aral-ecology-productivity-a-link-of-tasks-for-scientists-landowners-of-dashoguz/>

Uzbekistan aims to become carbon-neutral by 2050 02/02/21

“Uzbekistan is actively responding to climate change issues and contributing to achieving the objectives of the Paris Agreement. The electricity sector is the backbone of the economy and is responsible for a large share of the country’s greenhouse gas emissions. Thus, decarbonization of electricity production will play a decisive role in achieving the climatic goals of Uzbekistan,” the Ministry of Energy says in its report.

The experts on carbon-neutral energy in Uzbekistan will define the roadmap of carbon neutrality for the electricity sector, based on the conclusions of the Ministry of Energy Concept for 2020-2030, and will expand the analysis until 2050.

Read more: <https://kun.uz/en/news/2021/02/02/uzbekistan-aims-to-become-carbon-neutral-by-2050>

DROUGHT AND LAND DEGRADATION: THE INTRINSIC BOND

03/02/21

Land is essential for food production, hydrologic regulation, carbon storage, soil nutrient cycling, and many other ecosystem functions. Land is the common denominator that links energy, environment, water, and agriculture. Moreover, land is fundamental to the well-being of billions of people, especially those who depend on the health and fertility of the soil for their livelihoods.

According to the FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations), in the

Disclaimer: The Green Central Asia Weekly Newsletter provides a summary of publicly available media reports and press releases and may not under any circumstances be regarded as stating an official position of Deutsche Gesellschaft für internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH.

last two hundred years, mankind has converted 70% of the pastures, 50% of the savannas and 27% of the rainforests into farmland. From 1985 to 2005, arable land and pastures worldwide increased by 154 million hectares.

Read more : <https://carececo.org/en/main/news/zasukha-i-degradatsiya-zemel-nerazryvnaya-svyaz/>

Water resources

President of Turkmenistan reprimands the heads in charge for the agriculture and water area 04/02/21

At a working session on development of agriculture held today, President Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov has reprimanded Vice-Premier, Esenmyrad Orazgeldiyev, who oversees the agro-industrial complex in the government, “for improper performance of official duties, shortcomings in work.”

The Minister of Agriculture and Environmental Protection Magtymguly Bayramdurdiyev has received a severe reprimand for unsatisfactory performance of his official duties and shortcomings in his work. He has been given a final warning to remedy the shortcomings.

The Head of State also reprimanded the Chairman of the State Committee for Water Management Guizgeldi Baydjanov.

During the meeting, the outcomes in the agro-industrial complex for 2020 were summed up. The President expressed dissatisfaction with the results of the work carried out, commented the situation in a number of areas and gave detailed instructions to the heads accordingly.

Read more: <https://orient.tm/en/president-of-turkmenistan-reprimands-the-heads-in-charge-for-the-agriculture-and-water-area/>

Turkmenistan and Tajikistan discussed issues of effective water use in the region 04/02/21

Experts of Turkmenistan and Tajikistan held an online video meeting on water use.

Representatives of the Department of Energy and Water Resources of the Republic of Tajikistan, Executive committee of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea and the State committee for water management of Turkmenistan took part in the discussion.

Read more: <https://orient.tm/en/turkmenistan-and-tajikistan-discussed-issues-of-effective-water-use-in-the-region/>

Energy sector

IAEA mission to conduct comprehensive assessment of Uzbekistan’s nuclear infrastructure 30/ 01 /21

The Director-General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Rafael

Disclaimer: The Green Central Asia Weekly Newsletter provides a summary of publicly available media reports and press releases and may not under any circumstances be regarded as stating an official position of Deutsche Gesellschaft für internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH.

Mariano Grossi, summarized the results of the organization's work in 2020.

Cooperation between Uzbekistan and the IAEA reached a new level in 2020 thanks to regular meetings between the leadership of the agency and Uzbek officials. During those negotiations, the IAEA expressed its readiness to provide full cooperation at all stages of the establishment of our country's nuclear industry.

Read more: <https://kun.uz/en/news/2021/01/30/iaea-mission-to-conduct-comprehensive-assessment-of-uzbekistans-nuclear-infrastructure>

The President of Turkmenistan issues severe reprimands to the leaders of the oil and gas 03/02/01

President Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov issued a severe reprimand to Deputy Prime Minister for Fuel and Energy Complex Myratgeldi Meredov for improper performance of official duties and shortcomings in his work. He was also given a final warning indicating that these deficiencies should be rectified immediately.

The heads of the Turkmengaz and Turkmenneft state concerns Batyr Amanov and Guychgeldi Baigeldiev, the chairman of the Turkmengeologia state corporation Merdan Rozyev, the general director of the Turkmenbashi refinery complex Dovran Chishiev received severe reprimands.

The President expressed dissatisfaction with the organization of the activities of these leading structures of the oil and gas sector at a meeting on the development of the country's fuel and energy complex, held on Tuesday, February 2nd.

Read more: <https://orient.tm/en/the-president-of-turkmenistan-issues-severe-reprimands-to-the-leaders-of-the-oil-and-gas-sector/>

Top-manager of "Tatneft": we want to double extraction of all oil of Turkmenistan twice 03/02/01

In Turkmenistan in the interview for «BUSINESS Online» **told** about ambitious plans of company "Tatneft" the head of department of the company for Petrochemical Projects outside the Republic of Tatarstan Rafael Yabbarov.

The editorial office of ORIENT considered that this material, in particular, concerning Turkmenistan, will be interesting for readers of the site, as in it the information on partnership of oil industry workers of our country and Tatarstan is presented that is called, first-hand.

Read more: <https://orient.tm/en/top-manager-of-tatneft-we-want-to-double-extraction-of-all-oil-of-turkmenistan-twice/>

Afghanistan's multilateral relationship with CA countries

Disclaimer: The Green Central Asia Weekly Newsletter provides a summary of publicly available media reports and press releases and may not under any circumstances be regarded as stating an official position of Deutsche Gesellschaft für internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH.

A delegation of Afghanistan arrives in Uzbekistan 30/01/21

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) -- A delegation of Afghanistan led by the Head of the Administration of the President, Mohammad Shaker Kargar and Minister of Foreign Affairs Mohammed Haneef Atmar has arrived in Uzbekistan on 30 January 2021.

The program of the visit includes holding meetings and negotiations in the ministries of foreign affairs, investment and foreign trade, transport, energy, higher and secondary special education in Tashkent.

Read more: <http://uzdaily.uz/en/post/63323>

Uzbek-Afghan-Pakistani talks on the implementation of the project for railway construction to be held in Tashkent 01/02/21

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) -- Tomorrow, on 2 February 2021, high-level Uzbek-Afghan-Pakistani talks will be held in Tashkent with the participation of heads of key international financial institutions, dedicated to the implementation of the Mazar-i-Sharif-Kabul-Peshawar railway construction project.

The delegation of the Republic of Uzbekistan will be headed by Deputy Prime Minister - Minister of Investments and Foreign Trade Sardor Umurzakov, the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan - Minister of Foreign Affairs M.H. Atmar, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan - Adviser to the Prime Minister A.R. Davud.

Read more: <http://uzdaily.uz/en/post/63343>

Mazar-i-Sharif - Kabul - Peshawar: Unique opportunities for peace and stability in Afghanistan 02/02/21

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) -- Today, on 2 February, high-level Uzbek-Afghan-Pakistani talks were held in Tashkent with the participation of heads of key international financial institutions on the implementation of the Mazar-i-Sharif-Kabul-Peshawar railway construction project".

The delegation of the Republic of Uzbekistan was headed by Deputy Prime Minister - Minister of Investments and Foreign Trade S. Umurzakov, the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan - Minister of Foreign Affairs M.Kh. Atmar, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan - Adviser to the Prime Minister A.R. Davud.

Read more : <http://uzdaily.uz/en/post/63380>

President of Uzbekistan receives a delegation of Afghanistan 02/02/21

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) -- Today, on 2 February, President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev received a delegation of the Islamic Republic of

Disclaimer: The Green Central Asia Weekly Newsletter provides a summary of publicly available media reports and press releases and may not under any circumstances be regarded as stating an official position of Deutsche Gesellschaft für internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH.

Afghanistan - Minister of Foreign Affairs Muhammad Hanif Atmar and Head of the Presidential Administration of this country Mohammad Shokir Korgar.

Read more: <http://uzdaily.uz/en/post/63378>

ISMI: Afghanistan – A bridge between Central and South Asia 02/02/21

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) -- A virtual conference has been held on “The Afghan Peace Process and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization”.

The event was organized by the leading analytical centers of Uzbekistan and Pakistan – the Institute for Strategic and Regional Studies (ISMI) under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan and Islamabad Institute of Policy Studies.

Read more: <http://uzdaily.uz/en/post/63377>

Uzbekistan and Afghanistan develop energy cooperation 02/02/21

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) -- On 1 February 2021, Minister of Energy of the Republic of Uzbekistan Alisher Sultanov held talks with the head of the Presidential Administration of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, Muhammad Shokir Korgar.

The meeting took place within the framework of the visit to Uzbekistan of the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, headed by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan, Muhammad Hanif Atmar.

Read more: <http://uzdaily.uz/en/post/63367>

Uzbekistan and Afghanistan discuss issues of development of bilateral relations 02/02/21

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) -- On 1 February, the Deputy Prime Minister - Minister of Investments and Foreign Trade of the Republic of Uzbekistan Sardor Umurzakov met with the Afghan delegation headed by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan Muhammad Hanif Atmar and Chief of Staff of the President of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan Muhammad Shakir Korgar at the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Trade.

The agenda included topical issues of political, investment, trade and economic, transport, logistics, financial and technical cooperation between the two countries.

Read more: <http://uzdaily.uz/en/post/63363>

Cooperation between Central Asian countries

Tajik-Uzbek Governmental Working Groups Hold Negotiations on

Disclaimer: The Green Central Asia Weekly Newsletter provides a summary of publicly available media reports and press releases and may not under any circumstances be regarded as stating an official position of Deutsche Gesellschaft für internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH.

Border Demarcation 01/02/21

DUSHANBE, 01.02.2021 (NIAT Khovar) – On January 26-30, the Tajik-Uzbek governmental working groups on state border demarcation held negotiations in Dushanbe.

The parties agreed on the schedule of meetings for 2021.

An agreement was also reached on the dates and locations for joint field work, as well as other issues of demarcation of the Tajik-Uzbek state border. Following the negotiations, a corresponding protocol was signed.

Read more: <https://eng.khovar.tj/2021/02/tajik-uzbek-governmental-working-groups-hold-negotiations-on-border-demarcation/>

The Ministries of Culture of Turkmenistan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan signed an agreement 01/02/21

The signing of the “Agreement between the Ministry of Culture of Turkmenistan, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tajikistan and the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Uzbekistan on the joint promotion, management and protection of the components of the Serial transnational nomination” Silk Road: Zarafshan-Karakum corridor” on the UNESCO World Cultural and Natural Heritage List” took place as part of the nomination for inclusion in the UNESCO World Heritage List of several historical and architectural monuments of Turkmenistan.

We are talking about the Amul fortress, the fortification of Mansaf, the Konegala, Akjagala, Gyzyljagala caravanserais, the at-Takhmaladzh camp, the medieval city of Kushmeikhan, located along the caravan route running from the upper reaches of the Zarafshan River and passing through the territory of Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan.

Read more: <https://orient.tm/en/the-ministries-of-culture-of-turkmenistan-tajikistan-and-uzbekistan-signed-an-agreement/>

Tajikistan suspends electricity supply to Uzbekistan 02/02/21

“Due to the reduction of water flow in all rivers of the country last year, the Government imposed restrictions on exports in summer to ensure uninterrupted supply of electricity to the population in autumn and winter,” the Minister [said](#).

He also noted that electricity exports declined by 48 percent in 2020 compared to 2019.

“At present, the power lines from Tajikistan to neighboring countries work at their minimum. This is necessary for the transmission lines to remain connected,” he noted.

Read more: <https://kun.uz/en/news/2021/02/02/tajikistan-suspends-electricity-supply-to-uzbekistan>

Disclaimer: The Green Central Asia Weekly Newsletter provides a summary of publicly available media reports and press releases and may not under any circumstances be regarded as stating an official position of Deutsche Gesellschaft für internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH.

Tashkent hosted a cultural event dedicated to Turkmen-Uzbek friendship 03/02/21

The holiday of Turkmen-Uzbek friendship was held in Tashkent. The event organizers, the Embassy of Turkmenistan in Uzbekistan and the Republican Turkmen Cultural Center, dedicated it to the 30th anniversary of the independence of Turkmenistan.

The meeting, which took place at the Committee on Interethnic Relations and Friendly Ties with Foreign Countries, was attended by representatives of the Turkmen diaspora in Uzbekistan, national cultural centers, students and their teachers, journalists.

Read more: <https://orient.tm/en/tashkent-hosted-a-cultural-event-dedicated-to-turkmen-uzbek-friendship/>

Uzbekistan remains among authoritarian countries in global democracy rating 03/02/21

Uzbekistan ranked 155th out of 165 countries in the Democracy Index 2020.

The [rating](#) was compiled by the British research organization The Economist Intelligence Unit.

In the updated rating, Uzbekistan scored 2.12 points, climbed 2 lines compared to 2019, but remained on the list of countries with an “authoritarian regime”.

In the previous edition of the rating, Uzbekistan scored 2.01 points and ranked 157th.

In Central Asia, Kyrgyzstan ranked 107th with 4.21 points and Kazakhstan – 128th with 3.14 points.

Meanwhile, Tajikistan ended up in the 159th position with 1.94 points and Turkmenistan – 162nd with 1.72 points.

Read more: <https://kun.uz/en/news/2021/02/03/uzbekistan-remains-among-authoritarian-countries-in-global-democracy-rating>

Abdulla Aripov congratulates Ulugbek Maripov on his appointment as Prime Minister of Kyrgyzstan 04/02/21

It is noted that Aripov sent his congratulations on February 3.

Prior to his appointment as Prime Minister, 41-year-old Maripov worked in various positions, including as an assistant to former president Almazbek Atambayev.

Disclaimer: The Green Central Asia Weekly Newsletter provides a summary of publicly available media reports and press releases and may not under any circumstances be regarded as stating an official position of Deutsche Gesellschaft für internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH.

Also, the President of Kyrgyzstan Sadyr Japarov signed a decree on the appointment of members of the government.

According to the resolution of the Kyrgyz parliament, almost half of the members of the previous government, including First Deputy Prime Minister Artyom Novikov, Chairman of the State Committee for National Security Kamchibek Tashiev, and Foreign Minister Ruslan Kazakbayev retained their posts. A few days earlier, Taalaibek Omuraliev was appointed head of the reorganized Ministry of Defense.

The number of ministries and departments in the new government of Kyrgyzstan has decreased by almost 2 times in relation to the previous government.

Read more: <https://kun.uz/en/news/2021/02/04/abdulla-aripov-congratulates-ulugbek-maripov-on-his-appointment-as-prime-minister-of-kyrgyzstan>

Kyrgyzstan appoints new prime minister 04/02/21

BISHKEK. KAZINFORM - President of Kyrgyzstan Sadyr Zhaparov signed on Wednesday a decree appointing Ulukbek Maripov as Prime Minister, his press service reported. Until his appointment as Prime Minister of Kyrgyzstan, Maripov, 41, served as Chairman of the Audit Chamber since 2016, KABAR reports

Read more: https://www.inform.kz/en/kyrgyzstan-appoints-new-prime-minister_a3749049

Statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic 04/02/21

On February 3, 2021, the President of the Kyrgyz Republic Sadyr Japarov signed decrees appointing the Members of the new Government of the Kyrgyz Republic headed by the Prime Minister Ulukbek Maripov. Earlier, the same day, the Jogorku Kenesh (Parliament) of the Kyrgyz Republic approved the program, structure and composition of the Government.

In addition to the results of the elections of the President of the Kyrgyz Republic and the referendum determining form of government on January 10, as well as the inauguration of Sadyr Japarov as the President of the Kyrgyz Republic on January 28, 2021, the formation of the new Government became another significant stage in the transition of power in the country after October events last year.

Read more: <https://mfa.gov.kg/en/Main-menu/Press-service/novosti/zayavlenie--ministerstva-inostrannyh-del-kyrgyzskoy-respubliki>

Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan express interest in strengthening strategic partnership 05/02/21

Disclaimer: The Green Central Asia Weekly Newsletter provides a summary of publicly available media reports and press releases and may not under any circumstances be regarded as stating an official position of Deutsche Gesellschaft für internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH.

The Prime Minister of Uzbekistan, Abdulla Aripov, held talks with the Prime Minister of the Kyrgyz Republic, Ulugbek Maripov, within the framework of his working visit to Almaty to participate in the regular meeting of the Eurasian Intergovernmental Council.

During the talks, the heads of government discussed a wide range of bilateral cooperation issues in the field of trade, investment, agriculture and others.

Read more: <https://kun.uz/en/news/2021/02/05/uzbekistan-kyrgyzstan-express-interest-in-strengthening-strategic-partnership>

Tajikistan and Uzbekistan Discuss Development of Bilateral Relations 05/02/21

DUSHANBE, 05.02.2021 (NIAT Khovar) – On February 3, the Ambassador of Tajikistan Sodik Imomi met with the Director of the International Institute for Central Asian Studies of Uzbekistan Anvar Nasyrov.

The parties exchanged views on the development of relations between Tajikistan and Uzbekistan in the political, economic, cultural and scientific spheres.

Read more: <https://eng.khovar.tj/2021/02/tajikistan-and-uzbekistan-discuss-development-of-bilateral-relations/>

Disclaimer: The Green Central Asia Weekly Newsletter provides a summary of publicly available media reports and press releases and may not under any circumstances be regarded as stating an official position of Deutsche Gesellschaft für internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH.

Disclaimer: The Green Central Asia Weekly Newsletter provides a summary of publicly available media reports and press releases and may not under any circumstances be regarded as stating an official position of Deutsche Gesellschaft für internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH.